

# Saint Michael the Archangel Church

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## Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetare*)

March 15, 2015

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Fr. Michael Stinson, FSSP, Assistant Pastor

### Mass Intentions

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Sun. Mar. 15th  | Fourth Sunday of Lent ( <i>Laetare</i> ), <i>Class I</i><br>8:00 a.m. † Edward Bellington - <i>Jerome Lackner</i><br>10:15 a.m. <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| Mon. Mar. 16th  | Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i><br>7:45 a.m. Robert McHale - <i>Alice Toman</i>   |
| Tues. Mar. 17th | Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i><br>7:45 a.m. Fr. Simon Harkins - <i>Sica Family</i>   |
| Wed. Mar. 18th  | Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i><br>7:45 a.m. Sr. Mary Damiana - <i>Tim and Mary Morris</i>  |
| Thu. Mar. 19th  | St. Joseph Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary, <i>I Class</i><br>7:45 a.m. Sr. Marie Bernarde, OSB - <i>Mitchell Family</i>                            |
| Fri. Mar. 20th  | Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i><br>6:00 p.m. Irene and Jerry Shekletski   |
| Sat. Mar. 21st  | Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i><br>9:00 a.m. Mrs. Mary Seeley - <i>Her Daughter</i>   |
| Sun. Mar. 22nd  | Passion Sunday, <i>Class I</i><br>8:00 a.m. † Walter Heisler - <i>Jerome Lackner</i><br>10:15 a.m. <i>Pro Populo</i>                              |

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### Sunday

Low Mass: 8:00 am

High Mass: 10:15 am

#### Weekdays

Monday-Thursday: 7:45 am

Friday: 6:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am

### **CONFESSIONS**

Monday-Saturday

One half hour before Mass

Sunday: 7:15-7:50

& 9:15-10:05

### **DEVOTIONS**

#### **Exposition-Benediction**

Friday 5:00 pm

Saturdays 8:00 am

#### **DAILY ROSARY**

Monday-Thursday - After Mass

Friday-Sunday - Before Mass

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Mon-Friday 9 am-4 pm

**THURSDAY - CLOSED**

Saturday - 10 am-Noon

## Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetare*)

### INTROIT

*Is. 66:10-11*

Rejoice, O Jerusalem, and come together all you that love her; rejoice with joy, you that have been in sorrow: that you may exult, and be filled from the breasts of your consolation. *Ps. 121:1* I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: We shall go into the house of the Lord. {V} Glory be.

### COLLECT

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that chastened by suffering, as because of our transgressions was meet, we may inwardly be gladdened by Thy comforting grace. Through our Lord.

### EPISTLE

*Gal. 4: 22-31*

Brethren: it is written that Abraham had two sons; the one by a bond-woman, and the other by a free-woman. But he who was of the bond-woman was born according to the flesh; but he of the free-woman was by promise. Which things are said by an allegory. For these are the two testaments; the one from Mount Sina, engendering unto bondage, which is Agar: for Sina is a mountain in Arabia, which hath affinity to that Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children: but that Jerusalem which is above is free, which is our mother. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not; for many are the children of the desolate, more than of her that hath a husband. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born according to the flesh persecuted him that was after the spirit, so also it is now. But what saith the Scriptures? Cast out the bond-woman and her son; for the son of the bond-woman shall not be heir with the son of the free-woman. So then, brethren, we are not the children of the bond-woman, but of the free; by the freedom wherewith Christ hath made us free.

### GRADUAL

*Ps. 121: 1,7*

I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: We shall go into the house of the Lord. Let peace be in Thy strength, and abundance in Thy towers.

### TRACT

*Ps. 124: 1-2*

They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Sion: he shall not be moved forever that dwelleth in Jerusalem. Mountains are round about it: so the Lord is round about his people, from henceforth now and for ever.

### GOSPEL

*John 6: 1-15*

At that time, Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee which is

that of Tiberias; and a great multitude followed Him, because they saw the miracles which He did on them that were diseased. Jesus therefore went up into a mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. Now the pasch, the festival day of the Jews, was near at hand. When Jesus therefore had lifted up His eyes, and seen that a very great multitude cometh to Him, He said to Philip: Whence shall we buy bread that these may eat? And this He said to try him; for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him: Two hundred penny-worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one may take a little. One of His disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, saith to Him: There is a boy here that hath five barley loaves and two fishes; but what are these among so many? Then Jesus said: Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. The men therefore sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when He had given thanks, He distributed to them that were set down; in like manner also of the fishes, as much as they would. And when they were filled, He said to His disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, lest they be lost. They gathered up therefore, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above to them that had eaten. Now those men, when they had seen what a miracle Jesus had done, said, This is of a truth the prophet that is to come into the world. Jesus therefore, when He knew that they would come to take Him by force and make Him king, fled again into the mountain, Himself alone.

### OFFERTORY

*Ps. 134: 3,6*

Praise ye the Lord, for He is good: sing ye to His Name, for He is sweet: whatsoever He pleased He hath done in heaven and in earth.

### SECRET

Favorably regard, we entreat Thee, O Lord, this our sacrifice, and, appeased thereby, vouchsafe to us increase of fervor and growth in Thy saving grace. Through our Lord.

### COMMUNION

*Ps. 121: 3-4*

Jerusalem, which is built as a city, which is compact together: for thither did the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise Thy Name, O Lord.

### POSTCOMMUNION

Merciful God, Who ceases not to lavish upon us the riches of Thy Sacraments; grant that we may ever draw near to Thine Altar with deepest reverence and with faith unwavering. Through our Lord.

## **Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, *Divine Intimacy***

O Jesus, true Bread of eternal life, appease my hunger.

Today there is a pause of holy joy and spiritual comfort which the Church, like a good mother, gives us in the middle of the Lenten austerity so that we may renew our strength. "Rejoice, O Jerusalem," the Introit of today's Mass sings, "and all you who love her, leap with joy and be filled with the abundance of her delights." What are these delights? The Gospel answers the question by the narrative of the multiplication of the loaves, the great miracle by which Jesus meant to prepare the people for the announcement of a much more startling miracle, the institution of the Holy Eucharist, in which He, the Master, would become our Bread, the "living Bread which came down from Heaven" to nourish our souls. This is the cause of our joy, the source of our delight. Jesus is the Bread of life, always at our disposal to appease our hunger.

Although Jesus appreciates spiritual values much better than we, He does not forget or despise the material necessities of life. Today's Gospel shows Him surrounded by the crowd which had followed Him to hear His teachings. Jesus thinks of their hunger, and to provide for it, performs one of His most outstanding miracles. With His blessing, five loaves of bread and two fishes suffice to feed five thousand people, with twelve basketfuls left over.

Jesus knows that when a person is tormented by hunger or material needs, he is unable to apply himself to the things of the spirit. Charity likewise requires of us this understanding of the bodily necessities of others, a practical understanding which translates itself into efficacious action. "If a brother or sister be naked and want daily food, and one of you say to them, 'Go in peace' ...yet give them not those things that are necessary for the body, what shall it profit?"

The Apostles had suggested to the Master that He dismiss the crowd "that they may buy themselves victuals." Jesus did not agree but provided for them Himself. We, too, must strive, as far as we are able, to show ourselves solicitous for the needs of others.

Before performing this miracle, Jesus asked Philip, "Whence shall we buy bread wherewith to feed these people?" And the Evangelist observes, "He said that to try him, for He knew what He was about to do." There is no difficulty in our lives for which God does not know the solution. From all eternity He has foreseen it and has the remedy for each case, no matter how complicated the situation may be. However, sometimes in difficult circumstances He seems to leave us alone as if the outcome were to depend on us, but He does this only to test us. He wants us to measure our strength against the difficulty—which makes us more aware of our weakness and insufficiency—and He wants us also to exercise our faith and our confidence in Him. The Lord never really abandons us unless we forsake Him first. He only hides Himself and covers His actions with a dark veil. This is the time to believe, to believe firmly, and to wait with humble patience and complete confidence.

The Apostles tell Jesus that a young boy has five loaves and two fishes, that this is very little, in fact, nothing at all for feeding five thousand men. But the Lord asks for this nothing and uses it to accomplish a great miracle. It is always thus: the all-powerful God, who can do everything and create from nothing, when dealing with His free creatures, will not act without their help. Man can do but very little; yet God wants, asks for, and requires this little as a condition of His intervention. Only the Lord can make us saints, as only He could multiply the small supplies of the young boy; still He asks for our help. Like the boy in the Gospel, we too must give Him everything in our power; we must offer Him each day our good resolutions, renewed faithfully and lovingly, and He will bring about a great miracle for us also, the miracle of our sanctification.

**The Law of the Eucharistic Fast: Current Legislation.** Under the New Code of Canon Law, the fast for Holy Communion is one hour before the reception of the Holy Eucharist. Those who are able to maintain the previous discipline of the three-hour fast are still encouraged to do so.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** are held every Friday during Lent at 5:00 p.m. prior to the 6:00 p.m. Mass. The Holy Rosary will be prayed after Mass. Confessions will be heard from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**YOUTH FOR LIFE ART AND ESSAY:** Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Scranton Chapter, is having their 2015 essay and art contest. Students from grades 7-12 may enter. Several prizes will be awarded. Contest deadline is May 13, forms are available in the vestibule.

**APPRECIATION: St. Michael's Parish** is grateful to Fr. Calvin Goodwin, FSSP, for the parish mission this past weekend. We thank Fr. Goodwin for giving us an occasion of grace for all who attended the conferences.

**St. Michael's Parish Choir** has been invited to sing a Lenten Meditation Concert at the church of The Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary in south Scranton. The musical meditation is scheduled for Passion Sunday, March 22nd at 3:00 pm. The church's address is 1221 Prospect Avenue. Spend an hour with Our Lord while listening and meditating on the Psalms and other texts pertaining to Holy Week.

**CHRISM MASS** at the Cathedral of St. Peter will be on Tuesday, March 31, at 4:00 PM. All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend.

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- Palm Sunday** - Low Mass 8:00 a.m.  
- High Mass 10:15 p.m.
- Holy Thursday** - Solemn High Mass 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday** - Stations of the Cross 2:15 p.m.  
- Solemn Liturgy 3:00 p.m.
- Easter Vigil** - Solemn Liturgy 10:00 p.m.
- Easter Sunday** - Sung Mass 10:15 a.m.

**COLLECTION:** March 8th - 2,898.00

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*(Laetare)*

**March 15th**  
**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**AC1** Joshua Sica  
**AC2** Timothy Sica

#### **TEAM A**

**MC** John Gillenkirk  
**TH** Joseph McWhirter  
**AC1** Andrew Pheasant  
**AC2** Timothy Emig  
**C**  
**S1** Robert Seeley  
**S2** Matthew Gillenkirk  
**S3** Patrick Seeley  
**S4**

### WEEK THREE

**Monday** Joseph Schneider  
**7:45 a.m.** Patrick Schneider

**Tuesday**  
**7:45 a.m.**

**Wednesday** Dominic Gardner  
**7:45 a.m.** Jack Gardner

**Thursday**  
**7:45 a.m.**

#### **Stations of the Cross**

**March 20th**  
Dominic Gardner  
Jack Gardner  
Michael Gardner  
Brian LaFata

### PASSION SUNDAY

**March 22nd**  
**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**AC1** Dominic Gardner  
**AC2** Jack Gardner

#### **TEAM B**

**MC** Andrew Mitchell  
**TH** Joshua Sica  
**AC1** Francis LaFata  
**AC2** Stephen LaFata  
**C** Timothy Sica  
**S1** John Mitchell  
**S2** Brian LaFata  
**S3** Ian McQuirk  
**S4**