

Saint Michael the Archangel Church

1703 Jackson St. Scranton, PA 18504

Rectory: 570-961-1205 Fax: 570-961-2284

Emergency: 570-561-4011 (or just call Rectory and press 7)

Website: www.saintmichaelsrcc.org

Passion Sunday

March 22, 2015

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Fr. Michael Stinson, FSSP, Assistant Pastor

Mass Intentions

Sun. Mar. 22nd	Passion Sunday, I Class
8:00 a.m.	† Walter Heisler - <i>Jerome Lackner</i>
10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Mar. 23rd	Feria of Passiontide, III Class
7:45 a.m.	Antonio & Carmen Sanchez - <i>Patricia Melgoza</i>
Tues. Mar. 24th	Feria of Passiontide, III Class
7:45 a.m.	Carol Cunningham - <i>Jerome Lackner</i>
Wed. Mar. 25th	Annunciation of Blessed Virgin Mary, I Class
7:45 a.m.	† Louis Czaja - <i>Elaine Guzek</i>
Thu. Mar. 26th	Feria of Passiontide, III Class
7:45 a.m.	† Samuel Aronica - <i>McGovern Family</i>
Fri. Mar. 27th	Feria of Passiontide, III Class
6:00 p.m.	Intentions of Alice Tomas
Sat. Mar. 28th	Feria of Passiontide, III Class
9:00 a.m.	Seeley Family
Sun. Mar. 29th	Palm Sunday, I Class
8:00 a.m.	Katherine Schwartztrauber - <i>Her Parents</i>
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

Passion Sunday

INTROIT ANTIPHON

Ps. 42: 1-2

Judge me, O God, and distinguish my cause from the nation that is not holy: deliver me from the unjust and deceitful man: for Thou art my God and my strength. (Ps. 42:3) Send forth Thy light and Thy truth: they have conducted me, and brought me unto Thy holy hill and into Thy tabernacles. Judge me, O God.

COLLECT

We beseech Thee, almighty God, mercifully look upon Thy family: that by Thy great goodness it may be governed in body and by Thy protection be preserved in mind. Through the same.

EPISTLE

Heb. 9: 11-15

Brethren: Christ being come, a High Priest of the good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is, not of this creation: neither by the blood of goats or of calves, but by His own Blood, entered once into the Holies, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and of oxen and the ashes of a heifer, being sprinkled, sanctify such as are defiled, to the cleansing of the flesh: how much more shall the Blood of Christ, Who by the Holy Ghost offered Himself unspotted unto God, cleanse our conscience from dead works, to serve the living God? And therefore He is the Mediator of the New Testament: that by means of His death, for the redemption of those transgressions which were under the former testament, they that are called may receive the promise of eternal inheritance, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GRADUAL

Ps. 142: 9-10

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies: teach me to do Thy will. *V.* My deliverer, O Lord, from the angry nations: Thou wilt lift me up above them that rise up against me: from the unjust man Thou wilt deliver me.

TRACT

Ps. 128: 1-4

Often have they fought against me from my youth. Let Israel now say: often have they fought against me from my youth. But they could not prevail over me: the wicked have wrought upon my back. They have lengthened their iniquities: the Lord who is just will cut the necks of sinners.

GOSPEL

John 8: 46-59

At that time Jesus said to the multitudes of the Jews: Which of you shall convince Me of sin? If I say the truth to you, why do you not believe Me? He that is of God heareth the words of God. Therefore you hear them not, because you are not of God. The Jews therefore answered, and said to Him: Do not we say well, that Thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil? Jesus answered: I have not a devil: but I honor My Father, and you have dishonored Me. But I seek not My own glory: there is one

that seeketh and judgeth. Amen, amen, I say to you: If any man keep My word, he shall not see death for ever. The Jews therefore said: Now we know that Thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets: and Thou sayest: If any man keep My word, he shall not taste death for ever. Art Thou greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? and the prophets are dead. Whom dost Thou make Thyself? Jesus answered: If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing: it is My Father that glorifieth Me, of whom you say that He is your God, and you have not known Him: but I know Him: and if I shall say that I know Him not, I shall be like to you, a liar. But I do know Him, and do keep His word. Abraham your father rejoiced that he might see My day: he saw it and was glad. The Jews therefore said to Him: Thou art not yet fifty years old: and hast Thou seen Abraham? Jesus said to them: Amen, amen, I say to you, before Abraham was made, I am. They took up stones therefore to cast at Him: but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple.

OFFERTORY

Ps. 118: 17,107

I will confess to Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart: render to Thy servant: I shall live and keep Thy words: enliven me according to Thy word, O Lord.

SECRET

May these offerings, we beseech Thee, O Lord, loosen the bonds of our wickedness, and procure for us the gifts, of Thy mercy. Through our Lord.

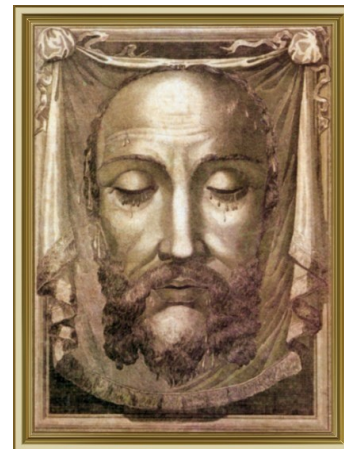
COMMUNION

1 Cor. 11:24-25

This is My Body which shall be delivered for you: this Chalice is the New Testament in My Blood, saith the Lord: do this, as often as you receive it, in commemoration of Me.

POSTCOMMUNION

Draw near to us, O Lord, our God, and by Thy unailing help defend those whom Thy mysteries have refreshed. Through our Lord.



From Ecce Homo: Dulce Domini Vultu. The Holy Face. Picture kept by St. Therese

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

O Jesus Crucified, teach me the science of the Cross; make me understand the value of suffering.

The Passion of Jesus teaches us in a concrete way that in the Christian life we must be able to accept suffering for the love of God. This is a hard, repugnant lesson for our nature, which prefers pleasure and happiness; however, it comes from Jesus, the Teacher of truth and of life, the loving Teacher of our souls, who desires only our real good. If He commands suffering to us; it is because suffering contains a great treasure.

Suffering in itself is an evil and cannot be agreeable; if Jesus willed to embrace it in all its plenitude and if He offers it to us, inviting us to esteem and love it, it is only in view of a superior good which cannot be attained by any other means—the sublime good of the redemption and the sanctification of our souls.

Although man, by his twofold nature, is subject to suffering, God willed to exempt our first parents from it by their preternatural gifts; but through sin, these gifts were lost forever, and suffering inevitably entered our life. The gamut of suffering which has harassed humanity is the direct outcome of the disorder caused by sin, not only by original sin, but also by actual sins. Yet the Church chants *O happy fault! Why?* The answer lies in the infinite love of God which transforms everything and draws from the double evil of sin and suffering the great good of the redemption of the human race. When Jesus took upon Himself the sins of mankind, He also assumed their consequences, that is, suffering and death; and this suffering, embraced by Him during His whole life, and especially in His Passion, became the instrument of our redemption. Pain, the result of sin, becomes in Jesus and with Jesus, the means of destroying sin itself. Thus a Christian may not consider pain only as an undesirable burden from which he must necessarily recoil, but he must see in it much more—a means of redemption and sanctification.

Suffering is the disagreeable feeling which we experience when something—a situation, a circumstance,—does not correspond to our

inclinations, our needs, or our hopes, which does not harmonize with them or gratify them, but on the contrary, contradicts and opposes them. Whereas all men are subject to this misery, the Christian alone possesses the secret of accepting it into his life without destroying the harmony or the happiness which he can enjoy on earth. This secret consists precisely, for a Christian, in attuning all kinds of suffering to his personal aspirations, which, for him, can never be limited to an ideal of earthly happiness. This harmony is possible, for that which appears to be opposition and disagreement from one point of view, often turns into profit when seen in a different light. Thus, for example, physical suffering, cold, hunger, illness, while unpleasant to the body, can be very useful for the attainment of a moral or supernatural good, such as the acquisition of virtue, or progress in holiness. If, from a purely human viewpoint, some sufferings seem inopportune and useless, they are never so when regarded supernaturally. “To them that love God, all things work together unto good” (*Rom 8,28*). Even the greatest calamity, private or public, can become a precious and most effective means of elevating the soul. Every kind of suffering can then be made conformable to the highest ideals of the Christian: eternal salvation, sanctity, the glory of God, the good of souls. But this congruity is impossible without love; or rather, it will be possible only in proportion to our love, for it was by love alone that Jesus transformed the Cross, a terrible instrument of torture, into a most efficacious instrument for the glory of God and the salvation of mankind. It is the same for us: charity, the love of God and of souls, will enable us to accept any kind of suffering, harmonizing it with our loftiest aspirations. In this way, suffering finds a place, a very important place, in our life, without destroying our peace and serenity. On the contrary, our spirit is dilated under an increasingly generous inspiration, unto an ever greater love. As a result, we shall be happy, even while we are experiencing pain. Behold how Jesus has transformed suffering; behold the value conferred on it by His Passion.

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.

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.

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.

ATTENTION: There will be no altar boy practice or meeting of the vestment league in April.

Rev. Mr. David Franco, FSSP, will be assisting us from Friday, March 27, through Holy Week.

EASTER BASKETS will be blessed after the 10:15 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday.

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 15th - \$2,191.00

PASSION SUNDAY

March 22nd 8:00 a.m. Mass

ACI Dominic Gardner
AC2 Jack Gardner

TEAM B

MC Anthony Mitchell
TH Joshua Sica
AC1 Francis LaFata
AC2 Stephen LaFata
C Timothy Sica
S1 John Mitchell
S2 Brian LaFata
S3 Ian McGuirk
S4

WEEK ONE

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

Tuesday Collin Chidester
 7:45 a.m. Andrew Chidester

Wednesday Andrew Pheasant
 7:45 a.m. Sean Michelin

Thursday John Skuba
 7:45 a.m. Joseph Skuba

Stations of the Cross

March 27th
 John Gillenkirk
 Stephen LaFata
 Francis LaFata
 John Mitchell

PALM SUNDAY

March 29th 8:00 a.m. Mass

ACI Joseph Schneider
AC2 Patrick Schneider

TEAM C

MC Timothy Emig
TH Robert Seeley
AC1 Dominic Gardner
AC2 Francis LaFata
C
S1 Brendan Seeley
S2 Michael Gardner
S3 Jack Gardner
S4 Stephen LaFata