

# Saint Michael the Archangel Church

1703 Jackson St. Scranton, PA 18504

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## Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2014

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Fr. Michael Stinson, FSSP, Assistant Pastor

### Mass Intentions

Sun. Dec. 7th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent, <i>I Class</i> † George Emig - <i>Mike and Nancy Emig</i> <i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Dec. 8th 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Immac. Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary, <i>I Class</i> <i>Pro Populo</i> Personal Intention Vietnam War - <i>Anon.</i>
Tues. Dec. 9th 7:45 a.m.	Feria of Advent, <i>III Class</i> † Anton Blank - <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Thomas Geffert</i>
Wed. Dec. 10th 7:45 a.m.	St Lucy Virgin & Martyr, <i>III Class</i> † Eileen Lammers & † Mary Claire Johnsen
Thu. Dec. 11th 7:45 a.m.	St. Damascus I, <i>Pope &amp; Martyr, III Class</i> † John T. Padula - <i>Robert S. McHale</i>
Fri. Dec. 12th 6:00 p.m.	Our Lady of Guadalupe, <i>III Class</i> † Paul F. Leonard - <i>A Friend</i>
Sat. Dec. 13th 6:00 a.m.	Rorate Mass, <i>III Class</i> † David J. Baruta - <i>Robert S. McHale</i>
Sun. Dec. 14th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Third Sunday of Advent ( <i>Gaudete</i> ), <i>I Class</i> Holy Souls in Purgatory - <i>Anon.</i> <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

## Second Sunday of Advent

### **INTROIT**

*Ps. 30, 30*

People of Sion, behold the Lord shall come to save the nations; and the Lord shall make the glory of His voice to be heard in the joy of your heart. Give ear, O Thou that rulest Israel: Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.  
V. Glory...

### **COLLECT**

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the ways of Thine only-begotten Son, that through His coming we may be worthy to serve Thee with purified minds. Who livest...

### **EPISTLE**

*Rom. 15, 4-13*

Brethren, what things soever were written, were written for our learning; that through patience and the comfort of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now the God of patience and of comfort grant you to be of one mind one toward another, according to Jesus Christ: that with one mind, and with one mouth, you may glorify God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive one another; as Christ also hath received you, unto the honor of God. For I say that Christ Jesus was minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers. But that the Gentiles are to glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: Therefore will I confess to Thee, Or Lord, among the Gentiles, and will sing to Thy name. And again He saith: Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with His people. And again: Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and magnify Him, all ye people. And again, Isaias saith: There shall be a root of Jesse; and He that shall rise up to rule the Gentiles, in Him the Gentiles shall hope. Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing; that you may abound in hope, and in the power of the Holy Ghost.

### **GRADUAL**

*Ps. 49, 2, 3, 5*

Out of Sion the loveliness of His beauty: God shall come manifestly. V. Gather ye together His saints to Him; who have set His covenant before sacrifices.

### **ALLELUIA**

Alleluia, alleluia. I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: we shall go into the house of the Lord. Alleluia.

### **GOSPEL**

*Matt. 11, 2-10*

At that time when John had heard in prison the works of Christ: sending two of his disciples, he said to Him: Art Thou He that art to come, or do we look for another? And Jesus making answer, said to them, Go and relate to John what you have heard and seen. The blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead rise again, the poor have the gospel preached to them; and blessed is he that shall not be scandalized in Me. And when they went their way, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John, What went you out into the desert to see? a reed shaken with the wind? But what went you out to see? a man clothed in soft garments? Behold they that are clothed in soft garments are in the houses of kings. But what went you out to see? A prophet? Yea, I tell you, and more than a prophet. For this is He of whom it is written, Behold I send My angel before Thy face, who shall prepare Thy way before Thee.

### **OFFERTORY**

*Ps. 84, 7, 8*

O God, turning, Thou wilt bring us life; and Thy people shall rejoice in Thee: show us, Or Lord, Thy mercy, and grant us Thy salvation.

### **SECRET**

Be appeased, we beseech Thee, O Lord, by the prayers and offerings of our lowliness, and where no support of merits is at hand, do Thou hasten to us with Thine aid. Through our Lord...

### **COMMUNION**

*Bar. 5, 5; 4, 36*

Arise, O Jerusalem, and stand on high: and behold the joy that cometh to thee from thy God.

### **POSTCOMMUNION**

Filled with the food of spiritual nourishing, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord, that by our partaking of this mystery Thou wouldst teach us to contemn earthly and love heavenly things. Through our Lord...

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

I recollect myself in the interior sanctuary of my soul to seek God there, living in me by grace.

“The kingdom of God is within you” (*Lk 17,21*), Jesus taught us, and St. Teresa of Avila comments, “If a soul wishes to speak with its Father and enjoy His company, it does not have to go to heaven... It needs no wings to go in search of Him but only to find a place where it can be alone and look upon Him present within itself” (T.J. Way, 28).

But if God is within us, why do we have so much difficulty in finding Him and recognizing His presence? St. John of the Cross answers, “It is to be observed that the Word, the Son of God, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, is hidden, in essence and in presence, in the inmost being of the soul. Wherefore, the soul that would find Him must go forth from all things according to the affection and will, and enter within itself in deepest recollection, so that all things are to it as though they were not... God, then, is hidden within the soul and there the good contemplative must seek Him with love” (J.C. SC, 1,6).

The answer is clear: *God is within us but He is hidden. If we wish to find Him, we must go forth from all things, according to the affection and will.* To “go forth,” according to the terminology of the Saint, signifies to *detach oneself, deprive oneself, renounce oneself, annihilate oneself, to die spiritually to oneself and to all things.* This is the path of the “nothing,” of complete detachment: it is the death of the old man, the indispensable condition for life in God. St. Paul too has said, “You are dead; and your life is hid with Christ in God” (*Col 3,3*).

The loving search for God hidden within us goes hand in hand with this dying to the world and to ourselves. The more we die to ourselves, the more we find God.

St. John of the Cross continues, “He that has to find some hidden thing must enter very secretly even into that same hidden place where it is, and when he finds it, he too is hidden

like that which he has found. And since thy beloved Spouse is the treasure hidden in the field of thy soul, for which treasure the wise merchant gave all that he had, it will be fitting that, in order to find it, thou *forget all that is thine, withdraw thyself from all creatures,* and hide in the interior closet of thy spirit” (J.C. SC 1,9). This is a new invitation to detachment - to *forget* everything, to *withdraw* from everything - in order to *enter into* the depths of your soul, the place where God hides Himself.

We live too much in the exterior. Too often there is in us a host of inclinations, ideas, and strong passions which make us turn to creatures and induce us to give them our hearts, build our hopes on them, and find consolation in thinking about them. We live in this superficial world which absorbs us so completely that it makes us forget the more profound life, the really interior life where a soul may live in intimate union with its God. The Lord waits for us, so to speak, in the depths of our soul, but we do not go into these depths, taken up as we are with our affairs, to which we give all our interest.

We must then *go forth* from our self and from all things, *forget* our self and everything else; we must escape from the exterior world, from the superficial life, in order to hide our self with the hidden God.

“O my God, make me understand that I am Your dwelling-place, the hiding place where You conceal Yourself. Have courage and rejoice, my soul, knowing that the object of your hope is so near to you that He dwells in you and you cannot exist without Him. What more could I desire, and what do I seek outside of myself, O my Lord and my God, when You have deigned to put Your kingdom, Your dwelling-place, in my very soul? Here, then, in the innermost sanctuary of my heart, I wish to love, desire, and adore You; no, I shall no longer go to seek You outside myself” (cf. J.C. SC, 1,7.8).

**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH** extends a warm welcome to all visitors and new parishioners in the parish.

**FSSP CHRISTMAS CARDS** are available in the vestibule. All proceeds will benefit Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary **operating expenses** in Denton, Nebraska. May God reward you.

**2015 FSSP LITURGICAL CALENDARS:** Are available in the church vestibule. A donation of \$12 is appreciated. Donations may be placed in an envelope marked 'calendar' and deposited in the collection basket.

**UPCOMING MASSES:**

**Immaculate Conception** - Dec. 8th, High Mass 9:00 a.m., Low Mass 7:00 p.m. **Team A** is scheduled to serve both masses.

**Rorate Mass** in honor of our Blessed Mother will be on Dec. 13th at 6:00 a.m.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR: All children ages 5-16 years old** are invited to sing in the Children's Christmas Choir which will perform with the Adult Choir before the Midnight Mass. Practices will be on the four Sundays in Advent after

the 10:15 High Mass. The first practice will be Sunday, November 30th at 12:15 pm. Each family is allowed to take one music binder with a cd to aid the children in learning the music. Please remember that the binders, sheet music and cds are the property of St. Michael's Church and should be returned to the parish in good condition after Christmas. Please see Mrs. Hanisch at the first rehearsal.

**SUNDAY ENVELOPES:** 2015 Sunday envelopes are available in the vestibule of the church.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to help decorate the Church for Christmas. The Church will be decorated on the last Sunday in Advent, December 21st, starting at 1:00 p.m. Men, women, and teens are needed! Please contact Mrs. McGuirk 570-333-1484 or email athomewith8@epix.net. May God reward you!

**VACATION:** Fr. Stinson is away on Vacation and will return on Tuesday December 16th.

**COLLECTION:** November 30th - 1,817.00

## *Altar Boy Schedule*

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 7th**  
**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**ACI** Stephen LaFata  
**AC2** Francis LaFata

**TEAM D**

**MC** John Gillenkirk  
**TH** Matthew Gillenkirk  
**AC1** Joseph Schneider  
**AC2** Patrick Schneider  
**C** Collin Chidester  
**S1** John Skuba  
**S2** Joseph Skuba  
**S3** Joseph Seeley  
**S4** Brendan Seeley

**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.**

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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 14th**  
**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**