

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

Septuagesima Sunday

January 24, 2016

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Mass Intentions

Sun. Jan. 24th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Septuagesima Sunday, II Class Frances Steffani - Vincent Amendola <i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Jan. 25th 7:45 a.m.	Conversion of St. Paul, III Class Mr. John Brand - Mitchell Family
Tues. Jan. 26th 7:45 a.m.	St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr, III Class Special Intention - Mike & Nancy Emig
Wed. Jan. 27th 7:45 a.m.	St. John Chrysostom, Bp & Confessor, III Class Leann Boyle - Pheasant Family
Thu. Jan. 28th 7:45 a.m.	St. Peter Nolasco, Confessor, III Class † John Winger - Mr. Robert S. McHale
Fri. Jan. 29th 6:00 p.m.	St. Frances de Sales, Bp, Conf. & Doctor, III Class Neely Holden - His Mother
Sat. Jan. 30th 9:00 a.m.	St. Martina, Virgin & Martyr, III Class † John F. Roche, Jr. - Robert S. McHale
Sun. Jan. 31st 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Sexagesima Sunday, II Class Sr. Marie Bernarde, OSB - Her Parents <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

Septuagesima Sunday

INTROIT ANTIPHON

Ps. 17: 5-7

The sorrows of death surrounded me; the sorrows of hell encompassed me. In my affliction I called upon the Lord, and He heard my voice from His holy Temple. (*Ps. 17: 2-3*) I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength: the Lord is my firmament, my refuge, and my deliverer. {V} Glory be.

COLLECT

Graciously hear, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the prayers of Thy people, that we who are justly afflicted for our sins, may be mercifully delivered by Thy goodness, for the glory of Thy name. Through our Lord.

EPISTLE

1 Cor. 9: 24-27; 10: 1-5

Brethren: Know you not that they that run in the race, all run indeed, but one receiveth the prize? So run that you may obtain. And every one that striveth for the mastery refraineth himself from all things: and they indeed that they may receive a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible one. I, therefore, so run not as at an uncertainty; I so fight, not as one beating the air; but I chastise my body and bring it into subjection, lest perhaps when I have preached to others I myself should become a cast-away. For I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all in Moses were baptized, in the cloud and in the sea: and did all eat the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink: (and they drank of the spiritual rock that followed them: and the rock was Christ). But with most of them God was not well pleased.

GRADUAL

Ps. 9: 10-11, 19-20

A helper in due time in tribulation: let them trust in Thee who know Thee; for Thou hast not forsaken them that seek Thee, O Lord. {V} For the poor man shall not be forgotten to the end. The patience of the poor shall not perish for ever. Arise, O Lord, let no man prevail.

TRACT

Ps. 129: 1-4

Out of the depths I have cried to Thee, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice. {V} Let Thine ears be attentive to the prayer of Thy servant. {V} If Thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall abide it? {V} For with Thee there is merciful forgiveness, and by reason of Thy law I have waited for Thee, O Lord.

GOSPEL

St. Matthew 20: 1-16

At that time, Jesus spoke to His disciples this parable: The

kingdom of heaven is like a householder who went out early in the morning to hire laborers into his vineyard. And having agreed with the laborers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour, he saw others standing in the market place idle; and he said to them: Go you also into my vineyard, and I will give you what shall be just. And they went their way. And again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did in like manner. But about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing, and he saith to them: Why stand you here all the day idle? They say to him: Because no man hath hired us. He saith to them: Go you also into my vineyard. And when evening was come, the lord of the vineyard saith to his steward: Call the laborers, and pay them their hire, beginning from the last even to the first. When therefore they were come that came about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. But when the first also came, they thought that they should receive more; and they also received every man a penny. And receiving it they murmured against the master of the house, saying: These last have worked but one hour, and thou hast made them equal to us that have born the burden of the day and the heats. But he answering said to one of them: Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst thou not agree with me for a penny? Take what is thine and go thy way: I will also give to this last even as to thee. Or, is it not lawful for me to do what I will? Is thy eye evil, because I am good? So shall the last be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.

OFFERTORY

Ps. 91: 2

It is good to give praise to the Lord, and to sing to Thy name, O Most High.

SECRET

Having received our offerings and prayers, we beseech Thee, O Lord, cleanse us by these heavenly mysteries, and graciously hear us. Through our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps. 30: 17-18

Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant; and save me in Thy mercy. Let me not be confounded, O Lord, for I have called upon Thee.

POSTCOMMUNION

May Thy faithful people, O Lord, be strengthened by Thy gifts; that by partaking of them, they may continue to seek after them, and by seeking them, constantly partake of them. Through our Lord.

Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen

O Lord, I come to You with a keen desire to learn how to respond to Your invitations.

The time of Septuagesima is somewhat like a prelude to Lent, the traditional time for spiritual reform. That is why the liturgy presents us today with a program which we must put into effect in order to bring about within ourselves a new, serious conversion, so that we may rise again with Christ at Easter. The Collect of today's Mass, while reminding us that we are sinners, invites us to sentiments of profound humility, "to the end that we, who are justly afflicted because of our sins, may through Thy mercy, be freed from them." The first step toward conversion always consists in humbly recognizing that we need to be converted. The lukewarm must become fervent, the fervent must reach perfection, the perfect must attain heroic virtue. Who can say that he does not need to advance in virtue and in sanctity? Each new step effects a new conversion to God, *conversio ad Deum*. In the Epistle St. Paul urges us to undertake this ceaseless spiritual labor. To reach sanctity and heavenly glory we must never tire of running and striving, as those who run in the stadium struggle and exert themselves "to receive a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible one. I, therefore, so run... not as one beating the air," says the Apostle, "but I chastise my body and bring it into subjection!" This is the first point in the program: a generous struggle to overcome ourselves, to conquer evil and achieve goodness; denial of self by humility; denial of the body by physical mortification. Only those who struggle and exert themselves will win the prize. Therefore let us also run in such a way as to obtain the reward.

The Gospel gives us the second part of the program for this liturgical season: not to remain idle, but to labor assiduously in the Lord's vineyard. The first vine to be cultivated is our own soul. God comes to meet us with His grace, but He does not will to sanctify us without our

cooperation. On this Sunday the great invitation to sanctity is repeated to every soul. God in His love seeks out His scattered, idle children and gently reprimands them: "Why stand you here idle?" St. Mary Magdalen dei Pazzi says that "God calls us at various times, because creatures differ in state. In this variety we see God's greatness and benignity, which never fail to call us by means of His divine inspirations, in no matter what stage or situation we may be." Blessed are those who, ever since their youth, have always heard and followed the divine invitation! But each hour is God's hour; and He passes by and calls us, even to the very last hour. What a consolation, and at the same time what an incentive to respond at last to the Lord's appeal: "Today if you shall hear His voice, harden not your hearts!" (Ps 94:8).

In addition to the vineyard of our soul, we must also consider the vineyard of the Church, where so many souls are waiting to be won to Christ. No one can consider himself dispensed from thinking of the welfare of others. However lowly our place in the Mystical Body of Christ, we are all members of it; consequently, each one of us must work for the welfare of the others. It is possible for everyone to carry on an efficacious apostolate by example, prayer, and sacrifice. If, up to now, we have done but little, let us listen today to the words of Jesus: "Go you also into My vineyard." Let us go and embrace generously the work which the Lord offers us; let us consider nothing too difficult when there is question of winning souls.

BOYS NIGHT OUT: Friday, January 29th, following the 6:00 PM Mass, Father Zepeda invites boys of the parish and their dads to hear a talk by Fr. Harkins on his journey and vocation to the priesthood. Refreshments will be served prior to the talk, which will begin at 7:30 PM.

Fr. Zepeda is on vacation through Thursday, January 28th. Fr. Joseph Orłowski, FSSP, is covering until Tuesday, January 26th. There will no mass on January 27th or 28th.

FIRST FRIDAY is February 5th. Eucharistic Adoration begins at 5:00 p.m. and ends with Benediction at 5:40 p.m. Our Lord is waiting for you.

FIRST SATURDAY is February 6th. We are invited to pray the Rosary, meditate for 15 minutes on the Mysteries, make sacramental confession and Communion in reparation for sins and blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Our Blessed Mother.

CANDLEMAS: The celebration of Candlemas originated in the late fifth century as a tribute to the light of God's glory that was manifested in Christ Jesus. During Candelaria, candles are blessed, lit, and borne in procession in celebration to Jesus being the

light of the world. Bring as many candles as you want blessed and leave them in the sacristy. You must have your candles in by Sunday, January 31st. Candles will be blessed before Mass February 2nd. You may pick up your candles after the Mass.

ST. MICHAEL TALENT SHOW: The 2016 Talent Show will be Sunday, February 7th (Sunday before Ash Wednesday) after the 10:15 Mass. This year's theme is **DOWN ON THE FARM**. Please see the sign-up sheet in the church vestibule. For more information please contact Terry Zuranski (570-677-6845 or ajzuranski@gmail.com). Everyone is invited. Pizza and lemonade will be provided. Please bring deserts and veggies to share.

ATTENTION: The Altar Boys will meet on the First Saturday of February at the regular hour. Everyone needs to attend.

STATEMENTS: The contribution statements for 2015 will be mailed out at this week.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 10

Mass schedule TBA

Altar Boy Schedule

SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY

Jan. 24th
8:00 a.m. Mass

ACI Patrick Schneider
AC2 Colin Chidester

TEAM C
MC Dominic Gardner
TH Robert Seeley
AC1 Timothy Emig
AC2 Patrick Seeley
C Jack Gardner
S1 Michael Gardner
S2 Sean Michelin

WEEK THREE

Monday Patrick Schneider
7:45 a.m.

Tuesday
7:45 a.m.

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

Thursday Sean Michelin
7:45 a.m.

SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY

Jan. 31st
8:00 a.m. Mass

ACI Stephen LaFata
AC2 Francis LaFata

TEAM D
MC Joshua Sica
TH Andrew Pheasant
AC1 Patrick Schneider
AC2 Timothy Sica
C John Skuba
S1 Joseph Skuba
S2 Peter Sica