

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2015

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Mass Intentions

Sun. Sep. 13th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, II Class † Jordan Boller - Trish & Jack McGovern <i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Sep. 14th 7:45 a.m.	Exultation of the Holy Cross, II Class Holy Souls in Purgatory - Mike Craig
Tues. Sep. 15th 7:45 a.m.	<i>Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> , II Class † Anna Tosline Sandt - Maureen Holden
Wed. Sep. 16th 7:45 a.m.	SS. Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Martyrs, III Class Joseph Thomas LaFata - His Parents
Thu. Sep. 17th 7:45 a.m.	Stigmata of St. Francis, IV Class † Christopher W. Ryan - Hanisch Family
Fri. Sep. 18th 6:00 p.m.	St. Joseph of Cupertino, Confessor, III Class Jennifer Cilia - Mom & Dad
Sat. Sep. 19th 9:00 a.m.	St. Januarius & Companions, Martyrs, III Class George Staudinger - Gillenkirk Family
Sun. Sep. 20th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, II Class † Loretta Ellis - D'Agostino Family <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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

INTROIT

Ps. 85: 3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I have cried to Thee all the day; for Thou, O Lord, are sweet and mild, and plenteous in mercy to all that call upon Thee. Incline Thine ear to me, O Lord, and hear me; for I am needy and poor. Glory be to the Father ... Have mercy ...

COLLECT

May Thy grace, we beseech Thee, O Lord, ever go before us and follow us, and may it make us ever intent upon good works. Through our Lord.

EPISTLE

Eph. 3: 13-21

Brethren: I pray you not to faint at my tribulations for you, which are your glory. For this cause I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of Whom all paternity in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened by His Spirit with might unto the inward man. That Christ may dwell by faith in your hearts; that being rooted and founded in charity, you may be able to comprehend with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth. To know also the charity of Christ which surpasseth all knowledge; that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God. Now to Him Who is able to do all things more abundantly than we desire or understand, according to the power that worketh in us: to Him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus, unto all generations, world without end. Amen.

GRADUAL

Ps. 101: 16-17

The Gentiles shall fear Thy Name, O Lord, and all the kings of the earth Thy glory. *V.* For the Lord hath built up Sion, and He shall be seen in His majesty.

ALLELUIA

Ps. 97: 1

Alleluia, alleluia. *V.* Sing ye to the Lord a new canticle, because the Lord hath done wonderful things. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 14: 1-11

At that time, when Jesus went into the house of one of the chief of the Pharisees on the Sabbath day to eat bread,

they watched Him. And behold, there was a certain man before Him that had the dropsy: and Jesus answering spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying: Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath day? But they held their peace: but He taking him, healed him, and sent him away. And answering them, He said: Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fall into a pit, and will not immediately draw him out on the Sabbath day? And they could not answer Him to these things. And He spoke a parable also to them that they were invited, marking how they chose the first seats at the table, saying to them: When thou art invited to a wedding, sit not down in the first place, lest perhaps one more honorable than thou be invited by him, come and say to thee: Give this man place: and then thou begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when thou art invited, go, sit down in the lowest place: that when he who invited thee, cometh, he may say to thee: Friend, go up higher. Then shalt thou have glory before them that sit at table with thee: because every one that exalteth himself, shall be humbled, and he that humbleth himself, shall be exalted.

OFFERTORY

Ps. 39: 14-15

Look down, O Lord, to help me; let them be confounded and ashamed that seek after my soul to take it away; look down, O Lord, to help me.

SECRET

Complete the purifying effect of this Sacrifice, we beseech Thee, O Lord, by mercifully making us worthy partakers thereof. Through our Lord.

COMMUNION

Ps. 70: 16-18

O Lord, I will be mindful of Thy justice alone: Thou hast taught me, O God, from my youth, and unto old age and grey hairs, O God, forsake me not.

POSTCOMMUNION

In Thy goodness, we beseech Thee, O Lord, purify and renew our minds by these heavenly Sacraments: and as a result, may we also receive help for our bodies, both now and in time to come. Through our Lord.

Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, Divine Intimacy

Grant, O Lord, that my soul may be deeply rooted in charity and in humility.

The Epistle which we read in today's Mass is one of the most beautiful passages in the letters of St. Paul. In it we find the famous counsel of the Apostle addressed to the Ephesians, which summarizes in three parts, the whole of the spiritual life.

"That the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ... would grant you... to be strengthened by His Spirit with might unto the inward man." The inward man is the human spirit regenerated by grace; it is the spiritual man who has renounced all material things and the pleasures of the senses. This man is in each one of us and should be strong in order to keep up the struggle against our lower nature, which will always be a part of us while we are on earth, and is always trying to drag us down. The Apostle rightly asks this fortitude of the Holy Spirit, because the strength of our virtue is not sufficient unless it is supported by what the Holy Spirit infuses into us through His gifts.

That Christ may dwell by faith in your hearts. Christ with the Father and the Holy Spirit already dwells in the soul in the state of grace, but His presence can always become more profound. And the more profound His presence, the more deeply will the soul be penetrated with divine charity, until it becomes truly "rooted and founded" in love. If we wish to grow in love we should keep ourselves in contact with the fount of love, with God living in our soul.

"That you may be able to comprehend... the charity of Christ, which surpasseth all knowledge." To comprehend the mystery of God's love, insofar as it is possible to our limitations, is the summit of the spiritual life. Christianity is all love: we are Christians in the measure that we live in love, in the measure that we understand God's love. Yet this mystery always leaves us a little incredulous, a little skeptical. Oh! if we could see as the blessed do, that God is love and wishes nothing but love; that the way to go to Him is the way of love; that suffering, mortification and humility are only means to reach perfect love, and to correspond with the love of the God who is Charity! Then indeed we would be "filled unto all the fullness of God."

St. Paul in the Epistle has exhorted us to be rooted in love, and in the Gospel, Jesus exhorts us to be rooted in love and in humility.

Despite the tacit disapproval of the Pharisees, caused by their narrowness of mind and heart, Jesus cured a man of dropsy on the Sabbath, thus teaching its again, the great importance of love of neighbor. In vain would we believe that we were rooted in the love of God if we failed in our love of neighbor. How could one think that an act of fraternal charity might be in opposition to the law for sanctifying the Sabbath? Such are the aberrations of one who pretends to love God while paying attention solely to his own interests, without any thought for the needs of others. This is not Christianity, but Pharisaism and the destruction of charity.

To be rooted in love, we must also be rooted in humility, for only he who is humble is capable of really loving God and his neighbor. The Gospel continues with a practical lesson in humility, condemning those who seek the first places. We should not think that this refers only to material places; it refers also to those places which our pride seeks to occupy in the esteem and regard of others. It is really humiliating to note how our self-love always tries to make us take a higher place than that which is due us, and this to our own confusion, for "he that exalteth himself shall be humbled." "Let us always take the lowest place," says St. Bernard, "there is no harm in humbling ourselves and believing that we are less than we really are. But there is exceeding harm and great evil in wishing to elevate ourselves, even if only a finger's breadth, above what we are and in preferring ourselves to even one. There is no danger in stooping too much to pass through a low doorway, whereas there would be great danger in lifting our head even an inch above the lintel, as we would strike against it and injure our head; similarly, we should not be afraid that we shall humble ourselves too much, but should fear and abominate the slightest movement of presumption." Let us, like the saints, ask God to send us a humiliation every time our pride tries to raise us above others; this will be the surest way to become rooted in humility. At the same time, we shall be rooted in charity and shall thus possess the two fundamental characteristics of a Christian soul.

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

Fr. Gerard Saguto FSSP, has offered to teach a series of religious classes at St. Michael's Parish. These talks will be monthly. He will begin with a four-lecture series on the Parables of Christ, which will take him through December. The first talk is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL: Today we join parishes throughout the Diocese in launching the 2015 Annual Appeal "Good Hearts, Generous Spirits." This year our parish goal is \$10,000. Through your continued generosity, I am confident that we will achieve this goal. Make sure you mark your donation to the appeal with our parish code 060. For more information please take the insert located in this week's bulletin. Envelopes for the appeal are in the church vestibule. Thank you for your support.

ALTAR BOY PRACTICE will resume on first Saturday in October. Everyone needs to attend.

EXTERNAL SOLEMNITY OF ST. MICHAELS THE ARCHANGEL: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th there will be a pot luck in honor of our Patron, Saint Michael, after the 10:15 a.m.

Mark Your Calendar

September 27th - Feast of St. Michael the Archangel

October 4th - External Solemnity of Our Lady of the Rosary and Rosary Procession.

October 7th - Our Lady's Tea

October 25th - Feast of Christ the King and Eucharistic Procession

Collection: September 6th - 2,216.00

Altar Boy Schedule

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sep. 13th
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

WEEK TWO

Monday
7:45 a.m.

Tuesday Joseph McWhirter
7:45 a.m.

Wednesday Joshua Sica
7:45 a.m. Timothy Sica

Thursday John Mitchell
7:45 a.m.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sep. 20th
8:00 a.m. Mass

ACI Joshua Sica
AC2 Timothy Sica

TEAM A

MC John Gillenkirk
TH Timothy Emig
AC1 Andrew Pheasant
AC2 Matthew Gillenkirk
C Sean Michelin
S1 Joseph Seeley
S2 Brendan Seeley