

Saint Michael the Archangel Church

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Website: www.saintmichaelsrcc.org

Sunday after Ascension

May 8, 2016

Fr. José Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Mass Intentions

Sun. May 8th	Sunday after the Ascension, <i>II Class</i>
8:00 a.m.	† Verlis Noll - <i>Nancy Noll</i>
10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. May 9th	St. Gregory Nazianzen, <i>Bp., Conf. & Doc., III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	† Denis H. Williams - <i>His Daughter</i>
Tues. May 10th	St. Antoninus, <i>Bishop & Confessor, III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	† Gabriel Testo - <i>Jerome Lackner</i>
Wed. May 11th	Ss. Philip and James, <i>Apostles, II Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Chris & Janette Keifer - <i>Chris & Joyce Keifer</i>
Thu. May 12th	Nereus, Achilleus, Domitilla, & Pancras, <i>Martyrs, III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	† Mrs. Marilyn Lessel - <i>Her Husband</i>
Fri. May 13th	St. Robert Bellermine, <i>Bp., Conf. & Doctor, III Class</i>
6:00 p.m.	Chris & Joyce Keifer
Sat. May 14th	Vigil of Pentecost, <i>I Class</i>
9:00 a.m.	† Arlene Louise Craig - <i>F.O.S.S.</i>
Sun. May 15th	Pentecost Sunday, <i>I Class</i>
8:00 a.m.	Sr. Marie-Bernarde, OSB - <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

Sunday after the Ascension

INTROIT

Ps. 26: 7, 8, 9

Hear, O Lord, my voice with which I have cried to Thee, alleluia: my heart hath said to Thee: I have sought Thy face, Thy face, O Lord, I will seek: turn not away Thy face from me, alleluia, alleluia. *Ps. 26:1* The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? {V} Glory be to the Father ... Hear, O Lord ...

COLLECT

Almighty and merciful God, grant that our service of Thy divine majesty may ever be that of a devoted will and of a pure heart. Through our Lord.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 4: 7-11

Dearly beloved, be prudent and watch in prayers. But before all things have a constant mutual charity among yourselves; for charity covers a multitude of sins. Using hospitality one towards another without murmuring. As every man hath received grace, ministering the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the words of God. If any man minister, let him do it as of the power which God administers; that in all things God may be honored through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALLELUIA

Ps. 46: 9

Alleluia, alleluia. The Lord hath reigned over all the nations; God sits on His holy throne. Alleluia. *John 14: 18* I will not leave you orphans; I go and I come to you, and your heart shall rejoice. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 15: 26-27; 16: 1-4

At that time Jesus said to His disciples: When the Paraclete cometh, whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, Who proceeds from the Father, He shall give testimony of Me: and you shall give testimony, because you are with Me from the beginning. These things have I spoken to you, that you may not be scandalized. They will put you out of the synagogues: yea, the hour cometh, that whosoever kills you will think that he does a service to God. And these things will they do to you, because they have

not known the Father, nor Me. But these things I have told you, that, when the hour shall come, you may remember that I told you.

OFFERTORY

Ps. 46: 6

God is ascended with jubilee, and the Lord with the sound of trumpet, alleluia.

SECRET

May this spotless sacrifice, O Lord, purify our souls, and endue us with the strength of grace from on high. Through our Lord.

COMMUNION

John 17:12-13

Father, while I was with them, I kept them whom Thou gavest Me, alleluia; but now I come to Thee; I pray not that Thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldst keep them from evil, alleluia, alleluia.

POSTCOMMUNION

Filled, O Lord, with Thy heavenly gifts: may we, by Thy grace, ever abide in thanksgiving for the same. Through our Lord.



Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen

Grant Lord, that my heart may ever be turned toward heaven where You await me.

This Sunday is like a prolongation of the Feast of the Ascension. The Introit reflects the feelings which the Apostles must have experienced during the time between the departure of Jesus and the descent of the Holy Spirit: "Hear, O Lord, my voice calling to You... I seek Your face, O Lord, do not hide Your face from me." As on the day of the Ascension, the eyes of the Apostles are turned toward heaven, where they saw their Master disappear, and their hearts sigh after Him. As long as we are on our earthly pilgrimage, far from God, He must be the constant yearning of our souls. But we should not remain idle while we are waiting to go to our fatherland. In the Epistle of the day, Peter teaches us what we must do to make our life on earth a real preparation for our meeting with God: "Watch in prayers. But before all things, have a constant mutual charity among yourselves." This is exactly what the Apostles did as they waited for the Holy Spirit: together in the Cenacle they were persevering in prayer in the unity of fraternal love. God does not look with favor on the prayers and sacrifices of one who does not love his neighbor—no matter who he may be—with sincere benevolence. Jesus has expressly said: "If therefore thou offer thy gift at the altar, and there thou remember that thy brother hath anything against thee; leave there thy offering... and go first to be reconciled to thy brother" (Mt 5:23:24). Prayer alone will not suffice to draw down divine graces, nor will it acquire eternal life for us. Fraternal charity, the surest pledge of the sincerity of our love for God, is an absolute requisite. The Holy Spirit, who is the spirit of charity, who is substantial love, cannot enter a heart which is narrow and mean in its relations with its neighbor; lack of charity is one of the greatest obstacles to His action, because it is directly opposed to His essence. Just as water paralyzes the action of fire, so does lack of charity paralyze the action of the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, as long as we live

on earth, we are all liable to fall; all of us, therefore, need pardon; "charity," says the Epistle, "covers a multitude of sins."

In today's Gospel Jesus reiterates His promise concerning the descent of the Holy Spirit: "When the Paraclete cometh, whom I will send you from the Father you shall give testimony [of Me]." As on the day of His Ascension, He connects the coming of the Holy Spirit with the mission of the Apostles, that mission which will consist essentially in giving testimony of Christ." You shall receive the power of the Holy Spirit... and you shall be witnesses unto Me... even to the uttermost part of the earth." Today's Gospel explains the scope of this testimony which the Apostles, as well as all future Christians, will be called upon to give. "They will put you out of the synagogues: yea, the hour cometh that whosoever killeth you, will think that he doth a service to God." Jesus died on the Cross to give testimony to the Father; His disciples will have to suffer, undergo persecution, and even death itself, to give testimony to Him. We cannot follow a road different from the one which Jesus has trodden: "If any man will come after Me, let him... take up his cross and follow Me" (Mt 16:24), He repeats to us. A calm, tranquil testimony, which is made without facing danger—still less of risking life—will always have only relative value and ordinarily gives no guarantee of its genuineness or its strength; on the contrary, the more it costs, the greater its value in proving the fidelity of him who renders it. To witness to Christ, without regarding the difficulties, sufferings or struggles that may be encountered, is the program of the true Christian. But who will give us courage? To us as to the Apostles, courage will come from the Holy Spirit, from His gift of fortitude; it will come from assiduous meditation on the example which Christ has given us; it will also come from His own words, spoken of coming persecutions: "I have told you these things, that you may not be scandalized in Me."

SEMINARIAN FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN: St. Michael's Knights of Columbus Council 14829 is asking for your help in providing financial assistance for seminarians from our parish. The Knights will match the first \$500 in donations it receives. The campaign goal is \$3,000 in donations. Please be very generous and support our future priests. Make checks payable to "KOC Council 14829" and write "vocations" in the memo section of the check. Please drop your donation in the collection basket using envelopes in the pews for this purpose. **We will begin the campaign in the month of May. Your donation is tax deductible. Thank you!**

APPRECIATION: St. Michael's wishes to express sincere gratitude to Mrs. Erika Drain and Mrs. Catherine Seeley for preparing this years CCD classes. Special thanks also to the ladies who helped to make the Confirmation reception such a beautiful success. May God reward you!

CONGRATULATIONS: To all the Confirmati and their families. God bless you.

MOTHER'S DAY: Today there will be a carnation sale after both Masses. This fundraiser is intended to honor Mothers and to promote the value and dignity of human life. Carnations are \$1.00. All proceeds will

support the Scranton Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life.

JUVENTUTEM: A call to holiness! St. Michael's has been given approval to start it's own Chapter of the International Federation of Juventutem. This group will be open to teens 18 and up and adults. The primary objective will be the sanctification of our members and all catholic youth. Focus will be on the Sacrifice of the Mass, talks from guest speakers, occasional group outings to shrines, etc., all to support our working to grow Holy together. If you are interested or for more information, please contact us at: JuventutemScranton@gmail.com.

ST. MICHAELS VESTMENT GUILD is holding a raffle for a beautiful "play vestment set", including smaller altar linens, made by the guild members. For more information please see the display in the church basement.

MAY CROWNING is rescheduled for May 22nd.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 15th - First Holy Communion 10:15 a.m.

May 22nd - May Crowning

August 20th - Parish Picnic 1:30 p.m.

COLLECTION: May 1st - \$2,516.00

Altar Boy Schedule

**SUNDAY AFTER THE
ASCENSION**

**May 8th
8:00 a.m. Mass**

ACI Collin Chidester
AC2 Patrick Schneider

TEAM C

MC Robert Seeley
TH Patrick Schneider
AC1 Dominic Gardner
AC2 Joseph Seeley
C Jack Gardner
S1 Michael Gardner
S2 Brendan Seeley

WEEK TWO

Monday
7:45 a.m.

Tuesday
7:45 a.m.

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

Thursday John Mitchell
7:45 a.m.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

ACI Francis LaFata
AC2 Mathias Morris

TEAM D

MC Matthew Gillenkirk
TH Joshua Sica
AC1 Andrew Pheasant
AC2 John Skuba
C Timothy Sica
S1 Joseph Skuba
S2 Peter Sica