

# Saint Michael the Archangel Church

1703 Jackson St. Scranton, PA 18504

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Website: [www.saintmichaelsrcc.org](http://www.saintmichaelsrcc.org)

## Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

December 14, 2014

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Fr. Michael Stinson, FSSP, Assistant Pastor

### Mass Intentions

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>
Mon. Dec. 15th 7:45 a.m.	Feria of Advent, <i>III Class</i> † Margaret Gerrity - <i>John &amp; Patricia McGovern</i>
Tues. Dec. 16th 7:45 a.m.	St. Eusebius, Bishop & Martyr, <i>III Class</i> † Patrick James Ferraro - <i>His Wife</i>
Wed. Dec. 17th 7:45 a.m.	Ember Wednesday of Advent, <i>II Class</i> Maryann Czarnecki - <i>Anon.</i>
Thu. Dec. 18th 7:45 a.m.	Greater Feria of Advent, <i>II Class</i> David McWhirter - <i>Mitchell Family</i>
Fri. Dec. 19th 6:00 p.m.	Ember Friday of Advent, <i>II Class</i> Fr. Jose Zepeda, FSSP - <i>Maryann Czarnecki</i>
Sat. Dec. 20th 6:00 a.m.	Ember Saturday of Advent, <i>II Class</i> † John F. Gasting, Jr. - <i>Robert S. McHale</i>
Sun. Dec. 21st 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Advent, <i>I Class</i> † Andrew Toth - <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Gene DeAngelis</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

# Third Sunday of Advent

## **INTROIT**

*Philip. 4, 4-6*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your modesty be known to all men: for the Lord is nigh. Be nothing solicitous; but in everything by prayer let your requests be made known to God. Lord, Thou hast blest Thy land; Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob. *V.* Glory...

## **COLLECT**

Incline Thine ear to our prayers, O Lord, we beseech Thee; and make bright the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Who livest...

## **EPISTLE**

*Philip. 4, 4-7*

Brethren: Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, rejoice. Let your modesty be known to all men. The Lord is nigh. Be nothing solicitous; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasseth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **GRADUAL**

*Ps. 79, 2, 3*

Thou, O Lord, that sittest upon the cherubim, stir up Thy might, and come. *V.* Give ear, O Thou that rulest Israel: Thou that ledest Joseph like a sheep.

## **ALLELUIA**

Alleluia, alleluia. *V.* Stir up Thy might, O Lord, and come: that Thou mayest save us. Alleluia.

## **GOSPEL**

*John 1, 19-28*

At that time: the Jews sent from Jerusalem priests and Levites to John, to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and did not deny; and he confessed, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What then? Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not. Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No. They said therefore unto him, Who art thou, that we may give an answer to them that sent us? What sayest thou of thyself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Isaias. And they that

were sent were of the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said to him, Why, then, doest thou baptize, if thou be not Christ, nor Elias, nor the prophet? John answered them, saying, I baptize with water; but there hath stood one in the midst of you, Whom you know not; the same is He that shall come after me, Who is preferred before me, the latchet of Whose shoe I am not worthy to loose. These things were done in Bethania beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

## **OFFERTORY**

*Ps. 84, 2*

Lord, Thou hast blest Thy land: Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob: Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of Thy people.

## **SECRET**

May the sacrifice of our devotion, we beseech Thee, O Lord, be continually offered to Thee, both to carry out Thy designs in this holy Mystery and wonderfully to work in us Thy salvation. Through our Lord...

## **COMMUNION**

*Ps. 35, 4*

Say, to the fainthearted, take courage, and fear not, behold our God will come and will save us.

## **POSTCOMMUNION**

We implore Thy clemency, O Lord, that cleansed from our sins, these divine aids may prepare us for the coming festival. Through our Lord...



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

The Lord is always drawing nearer to my soul by the solicitations of His grace; I too wish to draw near to Him by a renewal of my faith and my desires.

“O Lord, we have patiently waited for Thee: Thy name and Thy remembrance are the desire of the soul. My soul hath desired Thee in the night; yea, and with my spirit within me in the morning early I will watch for Thee

If you also, O consecrated soul, are preparing to commemorate the Incarnation of the Word in loving, watchful expectation, today’s happy announcement will resound in your ears more joyfully than ever: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice... the Lord is nigh. “Thus today’s Mass begins and the Epistle (*Phil 4,4-7*) repeats the theme. It is one of exultant joy: “The Lord is nigh!” For the soul who waits for Jesus and seeks Him alone, sincerely and ardently, with lively desire and love, there can be only one motive for its joy, to know that Jesus is near, nearer with each day. Even St. Paul admonishes us to have no other desire, “The Lord is nigh. Be nothing solicitous.... And may the peace of God, which surpasseth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds...” (*Ep*).

The more a soul concentrates its desires and affections on God, the more it will be freed from earthly cares. It will no longer be troubled about anything, knowing that only one thing is necessary, “to seek God,” and that in God it will find everything it needs. Hence to draw near to God, is to find not only true joy, but also peace. In Him it has everything, and God alone suffices.

“The Lord is in the midst of you.” This is the second joyful message in today’s liturgy. It is St. John the Baptist who speaks to us in the Gospel (*Jn 1,19-28*), “There is one in the midst of you whom you know not.” John, a man of faith, was telling the Jews with full conviction that Jesus had been living among them for thirty years and that they did not know Him

because He had not yet manifested Himself by miracles.

His words have value for us, too; Jesus is really present in our midst: present in our tabernacles by the Eucharist, present in our souls by grace. But who recognizes Him? Only those who believe. Revive, then, your faith; you will find Jesus, and will know Jesus according to the measure of your faith in Him. Sometimes He conceals Himself from you, and you think that you will never find Him, never feel Him again. This is the time to redouble your faith, to walk “in pure faith.” “Blessed are they that have not seen, and have believed” (*Jn 20,28*). Such was the faith of St. John the Baptist, who had not seen Jesus’ miracles, and nevertheless believed. Such was Mary’s faith, to which the Vesper antiphon refers, “Blessed art thou, O Mary, that hast believed the Lord; those things will be fulfilled in thee, which were spoken to thee.” Even Mary lived by faith; she had to *believe* in the words of the Angel, and when she agreed to become the Mother of God, she had to accept a mystery which she did not understand. But Mary did believe, and by her faith, God’s words were accomplished in her. And so shall they be in you; you will see all your hopes fulfilled, you will be able to realize your ideal of intimate union with God - if you have faith in Him and in His promises.

O God, my God, to Thee do I watch at break of day. In a desert land, and where there is no water, my soul thirsts for Thee; my flesh hath thirsted for Thee. It is Thou I seek, O Lord; without Thee the world is a desert burned by the sun where nothing can quench my thirst. Thou alone art my salvation, my refuge, my Savior, and my Redeemer. Day and night I sigh for Thee; to Thee I direct all my desires and affections. As the eyes of the handmaid are on the hands of her mistress, so are my eyes always on Thy face. Show me Thy face, O Lord, and illumine my path; be Thou my light and my strength.

**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:** St. Michael's wishes to thank those who purchased the 2015 Calendars for the support of the Fraternity. There are no more calendars in the vestibule, but anyone wishing a calendar may contact FSSP Headquarters in Elmhurst.

**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!

**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.

**Fr. Zepeda** will be away from the parish from December 23rd until January 7th.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Midnight Mass**

**Thursday 25 - Sunday Schedule**

**8:00 a.m. Low Mass**

**10:15 a.m. Low Mass**

**COLLECTION:** December 7 - \$2,268.00

## *Altar Boy Schedule*

**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**

**WEEK TWO**

**Monday**

**7:45 a.m.**

**Tuesday**

**7:45 a.m.**

**Wednesday**

**7:45 a.m.**

**Thursday**

**7:45 a.m.**

Joseph McWhirter

John Mitchell

Anthony Mitchell

Joshua Sica

Timothy Sica

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 21st**

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

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

**TEAM C**

**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