

**Saint Michael the Archangel & Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches**

*"I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." 1 Corinthians 2:2*

Parish Office at:  
156 Green St, Allentown, PA \* 18102  
Telephone ~ 610-432-6773\*  
Fax ~ 610-841-5176  
Fr. Frank A. Hanincik ~ Pastor  
Cantor ~ Mr. William Komnath



**Confessions:**  
Saturdays [P] 3:15-3:45 PM  
Sundays: [A] 9:00-9:30 AM  
and by appointment  
Baptisms and Weddings:  
See Father Frank

*If you are looking for a spiritual home, please know you are always welcome to be a part of our Parish Family.*  
stmichaelallentown@ptd.net  
byzcatch.org/Allentown

**Prayer List:** *In your kindness, please remember the following persons in prayer:* Carol Baran, John & Alicia Sefcik, Shirley Balascak, Loretta Brosky, Antoinette DeFronzo,, Dolores Flannery, Theresa Pinto, Patrice Danyluk, Hoyt Walter, Rosalie Walter, Kristin & Bobbie Di Giacomo & family, The Mehalshick Family, Doris Smicker & family, Peter Skimbo & Family, Nicholas Yackanicz, Josephine Wilk, Stephen Wursta, Maryann Wilk, Barry Hoffman, Chet Greene

**Pope Francis on Mercy**

I think we too are the people who, on the one hand, want to listen to Jesus, but on the other hand, at times, like to find a stick to beat others with, to condemn others. And Jesus has this message for us: mercy. I think — and I say it with humility — that this is the Lord's most powerful message: mercy.

It is not easy to entrust oneself to God's mercy, because it is an abyss beyond our comprehension. But we must!  
... "Oh, I am a great sinner!" "All the better! Go to Jesus: He likes you to tell him these things!" He forgets, He has a very special capacity for forgetting. He forgets, He kisses you, He embraces you and He simply says to you: "Neither do I condemn you; go, and sin no more"

**What Is SCRIP?**

When you purchase SCRIP cards, you are purchasing prepaid gift cards that are used just like cash. You can use SCRIP to purchase everyday items such as groceries, gas, clothing, prescriptions, toys, as well as other essentials and best of all, there's no expiration date! The cards make excellent birthday and Christmas gifts, but *we encourage all families to use them to pay for everyday purchases.*

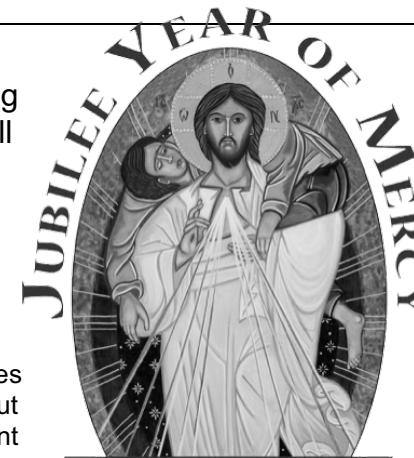
Purchasing SCRIP cards is one of the easiest ways for your family to support Saint Michael's -- AND it doesn't cost you anything more than you already planned to spend! **The SCRIP program plays an important role in our fundraising.** This program is run by volunteers, and 100% of the proceeds go to Saint Michael's. See Will and Jenny Komnath to purchase cards and Janice Kavounas for more info. Thank you to all who support Saint Michael's through this program!

... "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

The Jubilee of Mercy begins this month! As we strive to live out the mercy and love of God, we should take heart in the motto for the Jubilee of Mercy, "Merciful Like the Father" (MV, nos. 13-14). What does it mean to be merciful like the Father—how is God merciful? Throughout Scripture, we see many examples of God's mercy, such as his judgment of individuals and nations. Additionally, powerful examples are found in God's salvific actions throughout history—in the history of Israel in the Old Testament, in the prophets, in the life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Christ, in the sending of the Holy Spirit to the Church at Pentecost, etc. Mercy is not just an act of clemency for those who have done wrong. It is a way of life that is manifested in the compassion, love, and joy we see that God has for all creation.

While it is easy to see how God is merciful through the witness of the Scriptures and the life of the Church, it is sometimes challenging for us to apply it to our daily actions. How do we live out what Christ calls us to in Scripture? Our ability to live out this motto is dependent on our accepting God's superabundant love and mercy that he pours out on us. Once we are nourished with God's mercy and allow his merciful love to transform us, we are better able to show others this merciful love (MV, no. 14). Adopting a merciful attitude is not simply a spiritual action; it also includes physical acts that witness to God's love. Luke 6:37-38 provides us with examples of how our actions can reflect the way that God treats us: through not judging or condemning, by forgiving others, and by giving generously to others (MV, no. 14). However, our actions of mercy are not simply things we do so that we will be judged worthy by God. They are actions that flow from our embrace of God's mercy and love for us. By showing mercy and love to others, we illustrate how we have accepted God's merciful love and how we want to continue this outpouring of mercy (MV, no. 14).

<b>Sacrificial Giving for the Weekend of December 5 &amp; 6</b>	
<b>Allentown</b>	\$1733.00
Total Bills	\$784.00
Offerings Vs. Expenses	<b>+\$949.00</b>
<b>Palmerton</b>	\$415.00
Total Bills	\$1341.19
Offerings Vs. Expenses	<b>-\$926.19</b>
<b>Bills paid this week: Misc. \$99.00; Oil (Rector): \$259.00; Substitute Cantors: \$50.00; Oil (Church): \$377.00</b>	
<b>Palmerton: Heating Oil: \$1341.19</b>	



**Liturgical Schedule for The Week of December 12, 2015**

**Saturday ~ December 12**  
**Vigil~ Sunday of the Forefathers**

4:00 PM [P] For the People

**Sunday ~ December 13**  
**Sunday of the Forefathers**

10:00 AM [A] +Teresa Stockmal by the Stockmal Children

**Saturday ~ December 19**  
**Vigil~ Sunday Before Christmas/Of the Ancestors**

4:00 PM [P] For the People

**Sunday ~ December 20**  
**Sunday Before Christmas/ Of the Ancestors**

10:00 AM [A] +Anna Cszaszar by Stephen Cszaszar

The readings at the Divine Liturgy for next week are Colossians 3:4-11 and Luke 14:16-24