

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



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.

byzcatch.org/Allentown

Liturgical Schedule for  
The Week of December 14, 2014

Saturday~ December 13  
Vigil Sunday of the Forefathers

4:00 PM [P] Parish Families

Sunday ~ December 14  
Vigil Sunday of the Forefathers

10:00 AM Health & Blessings for Robert  
DiGiacamo by Catherine & Joseph M.  
Brosky

Saturday~ December 20  
Vigil Sunday of the Holy Ancestors

4:00 PM [P] Parish Families

Sunday ~ December 21  
Vigil Sunday of the Holy Ancestors

10:00 AM + Mrs. Frances Kushner by  
Franklin and Barbara Kushner

Prayer List: In your kindness, please remember  
the following persons in prayer: John & Alicia  
Sefcik, Shirley Balascak, Loretta Brosky, Antoinette  
DeFronzo, Melissa Kavounas, 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, Charles Hysick,  
Father Steven Galuschik, Subdeacon Lewis Rabayda,  
Father Diodoro Mendoza, Members of our Parish  
Families, Father Frank and his family.

From the Saints

Whoever with fear of God corrects and directs a sinner  
gains virtue for himself, that of opposition to sin. But  
whoever insults a sinner with rancor and without good will  
falls, according to a spiritual law, into the same passion  
with the sinner. St. Mark the Ascetic

Whoever prays for those who hurt him lays the demons  
low; but he who opposes his affronter is bound to the  
demons. St. Mark the Ascetic

We have such a law: If you forgive, it means that God has  
forgiven you; but if you do not forgive your brother, it  
means that your sin remains with you. St. Silouan the  
Athonite,

Forget your good deeds as soon as possible ... Do not  
record your good deeds, for if you record them, they will  
soon fade. But if you forget them, they will be written in  
eternity. St. Nicholas of Serbia

Stewardship: To date Saints Peter and Paul has offered  
\$820.00 toward the eparchial stewardship campaign. This  
represents 82% of our goal of \$1000.00. Saint Michael's  
has offered \$2510.00. This represents 25% of our goal of  
\$10,000. Please remember that if we make our goals, 40% of  
the money comes back to the parish. Our church is receiving  
in the neighborhood of \$50,000.00 in rectory renovation costs  
from the eparchy right now and it would be a good gesture to  
meet our goal. In addition, they are looking the other way at  
the fact that we owe \$16,000.00 in unpaid insurance and  
other costs. The appeal closes on December 31 after which  
time the money must be sent in. Please consider giving to  
this appeal and thank you for your generosity.

The Christmas Schedule is as follows: Christmas Eve:  
Divine Liturgy in Allentown at 7:00 PM. Christmas Day: Divine  
Liturgy at Palmerton: 8:00 AM; Divine Liturgy at Allentown: 11:00 AM.

GOSPEL MEDITATION: By Msgr. Eugene A. Chromoga

In reading the gospel account, we see that Jesus relates a parable of the "Great Banquet" to the Pharisees: "A man provided a great supper and invited many and he sent his servant to inform the guests of the supper. 'Come then', said he, 'when all will be ready.' But they all, one by one, began to make excused." The meaning of this parable is that the Great Banquet represents the great gift of God. It is the free gift of salvation. All the people on the earth are given an invitation card to attend the heavenly banquet in the Kingdom of God. It is up to us to say "no" or "yes" to this calling by God. Just as in the gospel story, there are many who refuse to attend and participate at the "Great Supper". These people say that they do not have the time to come. We are too busy at our jobs and family life. They would rather attend to their own personal affairs than be concerned with things of God. Maybe, when they face God at their judgment of their souls, the Lord will not find a place for them at the Great Banquet in the Kingdom of God. They will be dismissed from God's presence into a kingdom of darkness where there is the weeping and gnashing of teeth. The words of St. Paul the Apostle will ring forever in their consciences: "Eyes have not seen, ears have not heard what is in store for those who love God."

The sad fact is that the majority of the world's people have declined the invitation of salvation. Jesus himself said these words: "Enter through the narrow gate; because the gate is wide and the road well paved that leads to destruction; and through it the majority go." Let us not be the majority or fools who make the wrong choice.

This happening has occurred many times in the past. In the Old Testament, the Lord God himself sent sixteen prophets to the chosen race, the Jews, to warn them that destruction will come upon the cities and towns. However, this will not come to pass if the people return to God. The prophet Joel, one of our forefathers, writes this: "But now," says Jehovah, "return - and with all your hearts come near to me. With fasting and weeping and grief; tear your hearts - and not only your robes and return to Jehovah your God. For He has compassion and is slow to anger and great in his mercy." We should all listen to the invitation of the prophet which is to come nearer to God. The Lord Jesus Christ is waiting for us to come into his great supper. All we have to do is give our hearts to him, so that we can dine with him in the kingdom of God forever and ever.

Sacrificial Giving for the Weekend of December 6 & 7	
Allentown (regular)	\$1901.00
Total Bills	\$879.00
Offerings Vs. Expenses	+\$1022.00
Palmerton	\$251.00
Total Bills	\$20.00
Offerings Vs. Expenses	+\$231.00
Bills paid this week:	
Allentown: Snow Plowing: \$395.00; Budget Oil Plan (Rectory): \$428.00; Eastern Catholic Life: \$56.00	
Palmerton: Eastern Catholic Life: \$20.00	