

**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

**Liturgical Schedule for The Week of February 28, 2016**

**Saturday ~ February 27**  
**Vigil~ Veneration of the Cross**

**4:00 PM [P]** For the People  
All Souls Panachida

**Sunday ~ February 28**  
**Veneration of the Cross**

**10:00 AM [A]** +Michael Komnath by Mr. & Mrs. William Komnath Jr.  
All Souls Panachida

**Friday ~ March 4**  
**Presanctified Liturgy**

**7:15 PM [A]** Special Intention

**Saturday ~ March 5**  
**Vigil~ John Climacus**

**4:00 PM [P]** For the People

**Sunday ~ March 6**  
**John Climacus**

**10:00 AM [A]** +Charles Hysick by Granddaughter Anna Hysick

The Sunday readings for next week are: Hebrews 6:13-20 & Mark 9:17-31

**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, Faye Ketz

**Quotes on Almsgiving**

"He who gives alms in imitation of God does not discriminate between the wicked and the virtuous, the just and the unjust, when providing for men's bodily needs."—St. Maximus the Confessor

"Sins are purged by alms and acts of faith."

—St. Clement of Alexandria

"Almsgiving is good and salutary when to it is united the amendment of the heart from pride, malice, envy, slothfulness, indolence, gluttony, fornication, falsehood, deceitfulness, and other sins. But if the man is not careful to amend his heart, trusting only to his alms, then he will obtain but little benefit from them, for he builds with one hand and destroys with the other."—St. John of Kronstadt

"Be earnest in righteous works, by which sins may be purged. Frequently apply yourself to almsgiving, by which souls are freed from death."—St. Cyprian

**OPPORTUNITY!** Remember to participate in our fundraising opportunities! **GIFT CARD** orders are placed every Monday. Register on line to order any time you would like using Prestopay or place your order with a paper order form located in the back of the church and make check payable to St. Michael's BC Church. **ST. MICHAEL'S AFFINITY GROUP** - Whenever you or anyone you know is buying or selling real estate, contact Janice or Nick Kavounas at Coldwell Banker Heritage Real Estate. 20% of the brokerage fee will be donated back to the church. Call Janice Kavounas at [484-553-3828](tel:484-553-3828) or [jmk@cbheritage.com](mailto:jmk@cbheritage.com) for details.

**Curbside Mercy: An 89-year-old's Lenten Practice**

*By Maggie Lane*

My mother is 89 and still drives, a blessing. Her driving radius in suburban Maryland is only about five miles. She drives to Mass, to the grocery store, the library, the bank, the hairdresser, bridge games, the occasional Knights of Columbus party or neighborhood luncheon, the gas station. For these outings she has equipped her little Hyundai with all the necessities: a handicapped parking sticker, an umbrella, recyclable bags for the grocery store, a lawn chair for grandkids' soccer games, a magnetic cross on her glove compartment for safe driving, and for the past two years, a single dollar bill in her cup holder.

I was thinking about that dollar bill recently when Pope Francis asked that for Lent we fast from indifference. And then again when he said in an address to the elderly, "Old age, in particular, is a time of grace, in which the Lord will renew His call: He calls us to preserve and transmit the faith, calls us to pray, especially to intercede; *calls us to be close to those who may be in need.*" [italics mine] My mother's dollar bills puts the Pope's words in action. For the past two years she gives them to panhandlers who flash their cardboard signs and coffee cans on busy intersections.

I asked her how she got started on this practice, and she said, "I used to see them begging and I'd think 'Why don't they get a job?'—because some of them looked pretty healthy." Then she heard a priest on a Catholic station say that many of the panhandlers suffer from mental illness or addictions and can't work. The priest said one thing in particular that made an impression on her. "You have much more than they have," he said. "They don't like to stand out there and beg." My mother thought about it—"I could see that they wouldn't like to," she told me—and decided to act on her change of heart.

It's a small but beautiful ministry. When she rolls down her window to hand over a dollar, her brief conversation with the panhandler becomes a prayer, simple and profound. "God bless you!" one says. "God bless you, too," says the other. I think about how for that moment at least, those who are forgotten, avoided, despised, judged, and suffering can feel they have been *seen*—*seen* as part of the human family; *seen* as a brother or sister to the more fortunate ones driving in cars; *seen* as a beloved child of God. I think about how my mother, through the presence of the panhandler, has also been given something: the gift of God's grace. I've started keeping money in my own cup holder. There aren't as many homeless in my protected little township north of Detroit as there are in the suburbs of Washington, D.C., but once a week or so I'll come across one on busy Woodward Avenue. I've also packed a bag of granola bars to hand out.

At the beginning of the Lenten season, Pope Francis said, "Dear brothers and sisters, how greatly I desire that all those places where the Church is present, especially our parishes and our communities, may become islands of mercy in the midst of the sea of indifference!" For these last few weeks before Easter, consider turning your car into an island of mercy. Keep a dollar in your cup holder for those who ask. Wave, smile, give a blessing. And as you drive away, say a prayer for the one who is left behind. If your street corners are empty of men and women begging for help, the dollar will serve as a reminder that the needy are with us, whether we see them or not.

<b>Sacrificial Giving for the Weekend of February 20 &amp; 21</b>	
<b>Allentown</b>	\$1714.00
Total Bills	\$0.00
Offerings Vs. Expenses	<b>+\$1714.00</b>
<b>Palmerton</b>	\$229.00
Total Bills	\$0.00
Offerings Vs. Expenses	<b>+\$229.00</b>
<b>Bills paid this week: No bills paid this week</b>	
<b>Palmerton: No bills this week</b>	