

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, Maryann Wilk, Barry Hoffman, Chet Greene, Faye Ketz, Lila Smerkanich

Saint Quotes

"He who wants to overcome the spirit of slander, should not ascribe the blame to the person who falls, but to the demon who suggests it. For no one really wants to sin against God, even though we do all sin without being forced to do so." + St. John Climacus

"The first stage of this tranquility consists in silencing the lips when the heart is excited. The second, in silencing the mind when the soul is still excited. The goal is a perfect peacefulness even in the middle of the raging storm." + St. John Climacus

"Do not be surprised that you fall every day; do not give up, but stand your ground courageously. And assuredly the angel who guards you will honour your patience. While a wound is still fresh and warm it is easy to heal, but old, neglected and festering ones are hard to cure, and require for their care much treatment, cutting, plastering and cauterization. Many from long neglect become incurable. But with God all things are possible [Matthew 19:26]." + St. John Climacus

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 for details.

Looking Ahead: Father Frank will be in New Jersey during the week of April 25 as he attends the annual eparchial Presbyteral Days. This is the business meeting the eparchy has for priests every year. He will return on Thursday of that week.

THE SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN

By Msgr. John Sekellick

The Gospel for the third Paschal Sunday (John 5:1-15) recounts the healing of the paralyzed man at the pool of Bethesda, one of the outer precincts of Jerusalem. The details of this cure focus on the therapeutic effect of the water as it bubbles from its underground spring. The pool is a clear image of Christian baptism which in ancient times was reserved to the vigil of Easter. We were reminded of this in our own day as we heard the joyous chanting of Galatians 3:27, "All you who have been baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ" at the Easter Liturgy.

The healing water of Bethesda, however, were stirred only occasionally and in this one place, whereas the baptismal waters of the Church are active everywhere. The water of the pool only healed the body; baptism heals both body and soul. The former relieves the body of physical sickness; the latter delivers the soul from sin. The water of the pool cured only one person each year; the grace of baptism flows daily for all who come to it in faith. In the holy Mystery of Baptism is found a far more generous fund of grace than the pool of Bethesda.

At Bethesda, the stirring of the water by an angel was the signal for healing. The Holy Spirit descends into the waters of Baptism with no visible movement because the grace given at Baptism is a sign of the Spirit's presence, where God's mark of ownership is stamped on the baptized (Ephesians 1:13-14).

In biblical imagery, water, then, is life and salvation. Interestingly, at the account of creation, water itself is not enumerated among the works of creation; it is presupposed. The saving acts of God in the Old Testament for the Chosen People take place in the context of water. We need think only of Noah's deliverance at the Great Flood and the crossing through the Red Sea at the Exodus. The care and providence of God are expressed as His leading one beside still waters. (Psalm 23:2) Jesus applies the same principle to Himself, promising to give living water which is eternal life to the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:5-42) and His invitation, "If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture says - from within him there shall flow rivers of living water." (John 7:37-38)

The paralyzed man, after his cure at the pool, identified Jesus to the religious leaders who were indignant that He "worked" on the Sabbath. Baptism is our declaration of union with Jesus, expressing solidarity with Him - crucified and risen (Romans 6:3-4). Immersion into water, then, is the death of the believer to sin and self while the water is at the same time the water of eternal life.

As we continue our celebration of the Paschal Mystery, may we be mindful of our own spiritual healing in the waters of baptism.

Sacrificial Giving for the Weekend of April 9 & 10	
Allentown	\$1695.00
Total Bills	\$635.00
Offerings Vs. Expenses	+\$1060.00
Palmerton	\$121.00
Total Bills	\$0.00
Offerings Vs. Expenses	+\$121.00
Bills paid this week: Heating Oil (Church): \$376.00; Heating Oil(Rectory): \$259.00	
Palmerton. No Bills This Week	

Liturgical Schedule for The Week of April 17, 2016

Saturday April 16
Vigil~ Sunday of the Paralytic Man

4:00 PM [P] Health & Blessings for Gary Dvorak by Joseph & Barbara Herman

Sunday April 17
Sunday of the Paralytic Man

10:00 AM [A] For the People

Saturday April 23
Vigil~ Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

4:00 PM [P] For the People

Sunday April 24
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

10:00 AM [A] +Sister Ambrosia OSBM by Sisters of Saint Basil the Great

The Sunday readings for next week are: Acts 11:15-26,29-30 & John 4:5-4:2