

**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:  
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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, Lila Smerkanich,, Fatima Eslami, Roger Susanin, Father Phillip Scott, Lois Brink

**From the Saints**

Pure love ... knows that only one thing is needed to please God: to do even the smallest things out of great love - love, and always love. --Divine Mercy in My Soul, St. Faustina

Spread love everywhere you go: first of all in your own house. Give love to your children, to your wife or husband, to a next door neighbor... Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness; kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting. --Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"The person who loves God cannot help loving every man as himself, even though he is grieved by the passions of those who are not yet purified. But when they amend their lives, his delight is indescribable and knows no bounds. A soul filled with thoughts of sensual desire and hatred is unpurified. If we detect any trace of hatred in our hearts against any man whatsoever for committing any fault, we are utterly estranged from love for God, since love for God absolutely precludes us from hating any man."  
--St. Maximos the Confessor

**Coffee & Cake!** Come one come all! Join in the fun at a little social hour after liturgy on August 14! We can catch up with our fellow parishioners and have a little snack! It is important that we spend time together outside Liturgy to have fellowship and get to know each other as a parish family. Please try to attend.

The Scripture readings for next week (Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost) are: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 & Matthew 19:16-26

Now I would remind you, brethren, in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> by which you are saved, if you hold it fast—unless you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain.

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Certainly, the master must have been flabbergasted when he heard of the hardness of heart of his recently absolved servant. Face to face with the ungrateful fellow, he pointedly asked: "Were you not bound to have pity on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?" (Matt. 18: 33) How quickly this servant forgot how he begged the master to spare his own life. One must wonder if his entreaty was, in fact, sincere. Leaving aside all previous considerations of this parable, ask yourself this question: Is it possible that the servant was fully aware that he could never repay his debt to the master? Since he knew he could not pay, he had already decided not to make any further payment. His pleadings were all an act, geared to play on the master's sentimental nature. His gamble had succeeded far better than he had figured. When the master tore up the promissory note, the servant took him for a fool. He was not moved to gratitude for the gracious gift he had been given. When he confronted his fellow servant, he made certain

that he would not be duped as he had duped his master. We live in an age that has trivialized sin and relativized morality. Because we do not see ourselves as sinners in need of forgiveness, we do not readily offer forgiveness to those who offend us. Yet, in the balance of eternity, our brother's offense against us is grain of dust compared to our offenses against God. This is the gist of Jesus' question: "Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own?" (Matt. 7:3) Just like the servant who totally ignored his own indebtedness, we often tend to ignore or compensate for our defects or handicaps. We develop ways of modifying our behavior and take these modifications to be normal. We make ourselves believe that reduced freedom and limited motion are agility and fitness. Because we have forgotten what it is like to be healthy and sinless, we fail to see our present circumstances for what they are. When Jesus calls us to repentance, He is inviting us to strip away the masks, make-up and defensive coverings that we have adopted. Perhaps, this is the reason the Apostle and Evangelist John interrupted the crucifixion sequence and had Pilate present the tortured Jesus to the crowd (cf. Jn. 19: 5). Jesus stands, center stage, naked, bleeding, robed in a mock crown and tattered cloak. The usual translation of Pilate's comment is "Behold the man!" The Latin text reads: "Ecce Homo." The words could be taken to identify one individual person, Jesus. An alternate reading could be: "Look at the human race." Whenever we look at the tortured body of our savior, that we are looking at ourselves. That is what we look like! And don't forget it! Recall these beautiful words found in the Letter of James: "The man who looks steadily at the perfect law of freedom and makes that his habit will be happy in all that he does" (Jm. 1: 25). Only when we recognize the depths of our misery can we appreciate the infinite mercy God has offered us in Christ. Julian of Norwich wrote: "Then our good Lord put a question to me: Are you well satisfied that I suffered for you? I said: Yes, good Lord, all my thanks to you; yes, good Lord, blessed may you be. Then Jesus our good Lord said: If you are satisfied, I am satisfied. It is a joy, a bliss, an endless delight to me that ever I suffered my Passion for you; and if I could suffer more, I should suffer mote" (Showings [Long Text], C. 22). May the Lord continue His saving work in us. Having been freed from the corruption of sin, may we work to build up the Kingdom of God, in our hearts, in our community, and in our world. Amen Fr. Jerome Machar OCSO

<b>Sacrificial Giving for the Weekend of July 23 &amp; 24</b>	
<b>Allentown</b>	\$793.00
<b>Total Bills</b>	\$707.04
<b>Offerings Vs. Expenses</b>	<b>+\$ 85.96</b>
<b>Palmerton</b>	\$180.00
<b>Total Bills</b>	\$255.10
<b>Offerings Vs. Expenses</b>	<b>-\$75.10</b>
<b>Bills paid this week: UGI (Rectory):\$14.42; UGI (Center): \$9.30; Candles: \$445.00; Sewer/ Water (Center):\$75.56; Sewer/ Water (Church &amp; Rectory): \$162.76</b>	
<b>Palmerton: Sewer/ Water/ Trash: \$255.10</b>	

**Liturgical Schedule for The Week of July 31, 2016**

**Saturday July 30**  
**Vigil~ Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

4:00 PM [P] For the People

**Sunday July 31**  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 AM [A] +Margaret Walson by Loretta Brosky

**Saturday August 6**  
**Vigil~ Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

4:00 PM [P] For the People

**Sunday August 7**  
**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 AM [A] Health & Blessings for Eleanor Zumar Wursta on her 87<sup>th</sup> Birthday by T.P Wursta & Family