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 byzcath.org/Allentown

Liturgical Schedule for The Week of September 4, 2016

Saturday September 3 Vigil~ Sixteenth Sunday after **Pentecost**

4:00 PM [P] + Anastasia Heminitz by by Joe & Barbara Herman

Sunday September 4 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM [A] For the people

Wednesday September 7 Vigil~ Birth of the Theotokos

7:00 PM [A] For the people

Saturday September 10 Vigil~ Seventeenth Sunday after **Pentecost**

4:00 PM [P] NO Liturgy- Father Away

Sunday September 11 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM [A] For the people

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, Gabrielle Yaskanich

From the Saints on the Blessed Virgin Mary

However great a sinner may have been, if he shows himself devout to Mary he will never perish. -St. Hilary of Poitiers

Mary was made Mother of God to obtain salvation for many who, on account of their wicked lives, could not be saved according to the rigor of Divine justice, but might be saved with the help of her sweet mercy and powerful intercession. -St. John Chrysostom

The Saints assert that anyone who prays to the Mother of God in time of temptation will be preserved from sin, and that whoever approaches her with perfect trust throughout his life will surely be saved. -St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe

My children, if you desire perseverance, be devout to our Blessed Lady. -St. Philip Neri

O Mother of God! If I place my confidence in thee, I shall be saved: if I am under thy protection. I have nothing to fear: for the fact of being thy client is a possession of a certainty of salvation which God grants only to those whom He intends to save. -St. John Damascene

Coffee and Cake Social: Don't forget to attend the monthly social after church next Sunday, September

11! Come and enjoy some fellowship with your parish family!

September 8th – Birth of the Theotokos

By Fr. Michael Huszti

"Nothing is impossible with God," (Lk. 1:37). Even though our scientific minds try to explain a miraculous event by replacing it with a natural occurrence, we cannot escape the fact that God can act in ways beyond the nature which He created. When we analyze a burning bush, a parted Red Sea, or a Transfiguration, we have a tendency to play down God's role and play up nature's. God created human beings to be subject to the laws of nature. This "Nothing is impossible with God," explains God's absolute freedom to act within or without the laws of nature.

Scripture repeatedly shows us how God suspends,

Sacrificial Giving for the Weekend of August 27 & 28	
Allentown	\$3803.00
Total Bills	\$4898.58
Offerings Vs. Expenses	(-1095.58)
Palmerton	\$222.00
Total Bills	\$0.00
Offerings Vs. Expenses	+\$222.00

Bills paid this week: Fire Extinguisher Inspection and Replacement: \$356.00; Real Estate Tax: \$2189.58; Liability Insurance (Quarterly Payment): \$2138.00; Grass Cutting (4X): \$215.00

Palmerton: No Bills This Week

The Scripture readings for next week

(Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost) are: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 & Matthew 15:21-28

"I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹⁷ Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, ¹⁸ and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

withholds, or suppresses the laws of nature to accomplish His will, aimed, as far as we know to, to call us to salvation. With Isaac's birth to Abraham and Sarah. God stretched the laws of nature to its limits since Sarah was considered well beyond child-bearing age. The will of God intervened not only for Sarah, but centuries later for Anne, who, though barren, gave birth to Mary. By the express will of God, nature thrives beyond all expectation. Joachim and Anne rejoiced at this great miracle of the birth of a daughter.

> September 8th marks the birth of the Mother of God. Our church usually commemorates saints on the anniversary of their death but there are three narratives we remember liturgically, Jesus on December 25th, St. John the Baptist on June 24th and this beautiful feast today, the birth of Mary, the Virgin Mother of God. Today's feast is a celebration of spiritual joy. An infant girl. named Mary, was born and would grow up in such a way that her soul would proclaim the greatness of the Lord and her spirit would exult in God her Savior. Since she ways always so mindful of God's mercy, St. Luke describes Mary as one who matured

steadily and humbly in the Spirit while storing God's daily wonders in her heart. She would give physical birth to the living God, his particular feast has its roots firmly established well-established in the Byzantine Church of the 7th century, coming from Syria and Palestine in the East. The Western Roman Church adopted this feast in the 8th century. It seems that God wanted to show us, using Mary as an example, that wonderful things can be accomplished through faith. Our church, by annually placing this feast before us, is gently placing her confiding hands on our shoulders and whispering to us that our faith can blossom as wonderfully as Mary did.

On September 1st our Church begins the liturgical year. We barely start and already Mary's birth is quickly remembered. At the very end of the liturgical year, in mid-August, we see Mary at the culmination of her life? iourney as she entered the courts of heaven after her death. So we begin the year and end the year with Mary, the Mother of God. Mary's life experience can become our own pattern of spiritual growth. Her "let it be," to God's will ought to become our own. May we always be open to God's will in our lives.