

SAINT NICHOLAS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
123 North Morris Street, Saint Clair, Pennsylvania 17970
Facebook - St. Nicholas Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church – St. Clair, PA

Website: StMichaelsFirst.com
Father Bohdan Vasylyv, Parochial Vicar

Sunday – August 2, 2026 **10th Sunday after Pentecost**

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday, August 2 nd	10:00 am - God's Blessings on His People
Tuesday, August 4 th	3:00 pm - God's Blessings on Angela Naradko (BV)
Thursday, August 6th Transfiguration	4:00 pm - God's Blessings & Health for Ann Swaldi & MaryAnn Riffon (BV)
Sunday, August 9 th	10:00 am - God's Blessings on His People

SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER WEEKLY SERVICES

Saturday, August 1 st	4:00 pm - +Fred & +Cecilia Bremer by Bernadette Bremer & Family
Wednesday, August 5 th	9:30 am - +John Zubar, Legacy Liturgy
Thursday, August 6th Transfiguration	10:00 am - +Myron Yourshaw by Dr. Liz
Saturday, August 8 th	4:00 pm - +Herbert & +Mary Jansson by Elizabeth Jansson & Family

Lector Schedule

Saturday, August 1 st	1 Cor 4:9-16
Sunday, August 2 nd	1 Cor 4:9-16
Saturday, August 8 th	1 Cor 9:2-12
Sunday, August 9 th	1 Cor 9:2-12

St. Michael

No Divine Liturgy
Ernie Swaldi
No Divine Liturgy
Michele Caputo

St. Nicholas

Bernadette Bremer
No Divine Liturgy
Lucille O'Connor
No Divine Liturgy

Weekly Income

Thank you for supporting your churches!

St. Michael: Collection \$418.00 Candles \$25.00
Dues \$50.00 Air conditioning \$150.00 Seminary \$62.00
Total \$705.00 Cemetery \$160.00 Thank you!

St. Nicholas: Collection for July 25th will be in next week's bulletin.

Sanctuary Light

St. Michael – God’s blessing on all the donors to St. Michael Church

St. Nicholas – In memory of +Charles, Sr. & son, Charles by Georgine D., Michael & Angela

St. Michael

Candles by 4 Icons – In memory of +Dorothy & +George Minarchick, +Jason Mitchell, & +Robert Kalavage

2 candles by altar & by 2 Icons – Special Intention

St. Nicholas – Icon of the Blessed Mother – Special Intention
Icon of St. John the Baptist – Special Intention

St. Michael's – Candles 2026

Sanctuary Lights - \$15.00 - 8/23, 8/30, 9/6, 9/20, 9/27

Seven Branch Candle - \$35.00 - 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30

Weekly Bible Study – Reading Through the Scriptures

St. Michael's Parishioners – Tuesdays - 4:00 pm

St. Nicholas' Parishioners – Wednesdays – 10:30 am

August Envelopes

**St. Michael's Parishioners – Please use a white envelope
for cemetery care and seminary**

**St. Nicholas' Parishioners – Please use a white envelope
for air conditioning**

Reporting & Benefit Soirees: *Growing the Good News*
Philadelphia – October 17, 2026 – 5:30 pm

Early Bird Pricing (through Sept. 1st) \$175 per person
Regular Pricing (after Sept. 1st) \$200 per person

Enjoy an elegant evening featuring a cocktail hour, silent auction, and live musical accompaniment

Contact – development@ukrcatholic.org or 215-627-0143

Why bless grapes on this day?

"You must bring the best of the first fruits of your soil to the house of the Lord, your God". (Ex.23:19)

The Church blesses grapes, as well as other fruits, on the Transfiguration as a beautiful sign of **our final transfiguration of all things in Jesus Christ.**

This is a very ancient observance. We bless grapes because we bless God! The gesture of bringing and blessing of grapes points to the ultimate flowering and fruitfulness (generativity) of all creation in the Paradise; here we all will be transformed in the garden by the glory of the Lord.



Bunches of grapes are **symbols of completion** — especially experienced in the completion of the growing season—which has finally brought things to fruition. Christians see in the grapes the biblical image of Jesus as the Vine. We also understand in the blessing of grapes and fruit high praise for God the Creator of all good things of the universe. So, the connection between creation and Eucharist is present in these holy actions on the Transfiguration feast.

Prayer Requests: Please remember in your prayers – those who are sick that God will restore them to health, those who are homebound, and those who requested prayers for special intentions. Thank you!

St. Michael: Mary Bickowski Mary Luscavage Andrea Pytak Michelle Pasinski Dolores K. Paul Kerrick Kathy Lynch
Dolores O’Connell Leahy Richard Michalik Irene Acalin Gerald Acalin Stephen M. Tom Prete Charlie Calise Nancy Sawka
Teddy Weinrich Michael Welikonich Susan Chernesky Anna Demanski Catherine Mozdy Jennifer Mackeravage Sally Litwak

St. Nicholas: Mary Mistishen Jim Rehnert Elaine Naradko Georgine Draovitch Marie Plasha
Marie Carol Unuscavage Elizabeth Jansson

Jesus Heals a Boy Possessed by Demons Mt 17:14-23

*At that time, a man came up to Him and kneeling before Him said,
“Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly;
for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water.
And I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not heal him.”*

In today’s Gospel reading Our Lord helps us put into perspective the giants that intimidate and try to control our lives. He tells His disciples and us, *“If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible to you.”*

The Gospel is telling us that there is no difficulty bigger than God. He is bigger than any temptation, any sin, any failure, and any problem. When we place our lives in His hands, through a personal act of faith, He gives us the power to become bigger than we ever dreamed we could be – bigger than an illness, bigger than our weaknesses, bigger than our hatred, bigger than our prejudices, bigger than our defeats. With Christ we can have a giant within us. Saint John writes in his first epistle: “He who is in you (that is Christ) is greater than he who is in the world (that is Satan)” (1 John 4:4).

In today’s Gospel, Jesus Himself restores a boy to his right mind after His own disciples fail because they doubted the powers He had given them. In those disciples we easily see ourselves when we confront the giants and mountains of life. The secret to understanding and undoing them is to believe that no person, no situation, no set of circumstances is bigger than God.

A man whose life was guided by that kind of belief was Saint Paul. He was afflicted with a serious physical infirmity which he talks about in his second letter to the Corinthians. He calls it his “thorn in the flesh”. Even though he prayed to be delivered from it, God instead gave Him the power to live with it. That thorn in the flesh did not make the apostle Paul an invalid; it drove him to greater dependence on Christ and to greater power.

Let us face the mountains in our own lives with the conviction that faith can and will move them. Amen.

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord – August 6th – Blessing of Fruit



The Transfiguration is one of the miracles of Jesus in the Gospels. This miracle is unique among the others in that the miracle happens to Jesus Himself. In the Gospel accounts Jesus along with Peter, John and James go to Mount Tabor. On the mountain Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light, and the prophets Elijah and Moses appear and speak to Him. Jesus is then called “Son” by a voice in the sky.

The Transfiguration is seen as a theophany, a manifestation of the Holy Trinity: of the Son in the person of Jesus; the Spirit in the bright, overshadowing cloud; and the Father in the voice from the cloud. There is a link between the Feasts of Christ’s Baptism and his Transfiguration, for both involve the activity and manifestation of the Trinity.

In Christian teachings, the Transfiguration is a pivotal moment, and the setting on the mountain is presented as the point where human nature meets God: the meeting place for the temporal and the eternal, with Jesus himself as the connecting point, acting as the bridge between heaven and earth.

For the apostles the transfiguration formed part of their training. It should have disposed them to believe in the divinity of Christ, even during His passion and death. In particular, the three favored apostles should have become sufficiently mature to remain faithful during their Master’s deepest humiliation on Olivet and Calvary.

For us the transfiguration is, and will always remain, heaven’s testimony to Christ’s divinity. All the miracles of Christ served this end, to reveal the divinity of Christ. Jesus passed His life on earth as a poor, ordinary, simple Jew. But at the transfiguration, He threw off the dark mantle of humanity and revealed Himself in full divine splendor. In spirit we gaze upon Him glorified and say: “Lord, I believe. Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Yet another truth is proclaimed in today’s mystery: that some day we too will be glorified.

What is the importance of the transfiguration to the liturgy itself? Remember, the liturgical texts not only serve to give instruction; their principal function is to signify that which actually takes place. What once happened during the night on Mount Tabor happens again every time the holy Sacrifice is offered. We may see only the simple appearances upon the altar, but with the eyes of faith we behold the glorified Christ; we see, in fact, the King of glory with His court, the saints of the Old and New Covenant. Liturgy actualizes in our very presence the sanctifying act of Christ at His transfiguration.

It is, therefore, not only Christ who becomes transfigured — He allows us to share His glory. The Holy Eucharist is the sacrament of the transfiguration, for it is “the seed of glory.” The purpose of the liturgy is the divine transfiguration of the participants.