

St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church

2230 Highland Road ♦ Hermitage, Pennsylvania 16148

Parish office: 724-981-6680 ♦ Parish email: stmichaelhermitage2230@gmail.com

Pastor: Very Reverend Father Kevin E. Marks, Protospesbyter

Pastor's email: kevmarks@hotmail.com ♦ Pastor's Cell Phone: 412-480-4508

Website: www.stmichaelbyzhermitage.com

Facebook: facebook.com/st.michaelbyz.hermitage

- Holy Mystery of Reconciliation Saturdays 3:30 p.m., holydays, or by appt.
- Holy Mysteries of Initiation Contact the church office.
- Holy Mystery of Anointing Ask prior to surgery or serious illness.
- Holy Mystery of Marriage Contact the church office at least 8 months prior to wedding.
- Religious Education Classes Sundays at 10:15 a.m.
- GCU See Bill Dzuricko.
- St. Michael's Activity & Recreation Team (SMART) Everyone encouraged to help out.
- Bethany Ministry Ministry to the sick; see Joan Walker for info.
- St. Michael's Social Center Call parish office for rentals.
- St. Michael's Cemetery, 2296 Longview Rd., Hermitage Steve Sherman II, manager.
- Your Will Please be so kind as to remember St. Michael's in your last will and testament. Secure our future.



WEEKEND LITURGIES: Sat eve: 4:00 p.m. Sun: 9:00 a.m. **HOLYDAYS:** 10:00 a.m.

Welcome Christ in Your Hearts and Homes

The Lord, who already welcomed Zacchaeus in his heart, was now ready to be welcomed by him in his house. He said, "Zacchaeus, hurry up and come down, since I have to stay in your house." He thought it was a marvelous piece of good luck to see Christ. While imagining it was a marvelous piece of good luck quite beyond words to see him passing by, he was suddenly found worthy to have him in his house. Grace is poured out, and faith starts working through love.

Christ, who was already dwelling in his heart, is welcomed into his house. Zacchaeus says to Christ, "Lord, half my goods I give to the poor, and if I have

cheated anyone of anything, I am paying back four times over." It is as if he were saying, "The reason I am keeping back half for myself is not in order to have it, but to have something from which to pay people back."

There you are. That is really what welcoming Jesus means, welcoming him into your heart. Christ was already there. He was in Zacchaeus and spoke through him. The apostle says that this is what it means, "For Christ to dwell by faith in your hearts" (Eph 3:17).

St. Augustine

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS



Icon of Christ and Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Glory to Jesus Christ!
 Glory Forever!
 Slava Isusu Christu!
 Slava Na Viki!

St. Michael the Archangel Byzantine Catholic Church



Vol 15 #3



SAT., JAN 17
4:00 p.m.

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy)

For the parishioners

SUN., JAN 18

The Sunday Of Zacchaens – The 1st Pre-Lenten Sunday

9:00 a.m.

+Pauline Keckes Lazor
 (20th anniversary of passing today)

requested by: Daughters: Stephanie Longstreet
 & Paula Cruickshank

Health & God's Blessings
 Upon: Lisa James

requested by: Mom: Patty



**Mon., Jan 19 -
 Fri., Jan 23**

No Divine Services Scheduled



SAT., JAN 24
4:00 p.m.

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy)

Health & God's Blessings
 Upon: Bryson Stemock

requested by: Jimmy Stemock

SUN., JAN 25

The Sunday Of The Publican & Pharisee – The 2nd Pre-Lenten Sunday

9:00 a.m.

Health & God's Blessings
 Upon: Charlotte Bruce (87th birthday Jan. 21)

requested by: Family



**The Sanctuary Candle for
 January 18 – 24, 2026**
signifying the Real Presence of our Lord is for



**Health & God's Blessings For:
 KONSTANTINE HERRLE**
(celebrating his 1st birthday January 19)
 By: Grandparents: Sherry & Bob Marriotti

**The Theotokos Candle for
 January 18 – 24, 2026**
signifying her Intercession is for



**Health & God's Blessings For:
 ALICIA MAHONEY**
 By: Sam & Sharon Kudelko

Pray For Our Homebound, Sick, Hospitalized, & In Recovery updated: Jan. 16, 2026

RESIDING AT HOME – Charlotte Bruce, Greta Marks, Judy McBride, Mary Ann Polochak, George Sewecke, Ethel Wahal, Frank Wahal, Marko Zrile.

Cleveland VA Medical Center (10701 E. Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44106) – David Chesmar Jr.

The Lakes At Jefferson (7271 West Market St., Mercer, PA 16137) – Michael Kennis.

Avalon Springs Place (745 Greenville Rd., Mercer, PA 16137) – Dolores Vasil.

Ridgecrest At Cranberry Woods (3020 Fairport Ln., Cranberry Twp., PA 16066) – J. Richard Will.

St. Paul Homes (339 East Jamestown Rd., Greenville, PA 16125) – Lillian Sulick.

The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley (1 Elston Way, Hermitage, PA 16148) – Katherine Asafaylo.

Liberty Arms Assisted Living (1353 Churchill-Hubbard Rd., Youngstown, OH 44505) – Anne Pajak.

Windsor House at Liberty (1353 Churchill-Hubbard Rd., Youngstown, OH 44505) – Hank Pajak.

Whispering Oaks (260 S. Buhl Farm Dr., Hermitage, PA 16148) – John "Buddy" Wansack.

Offerings from Jan. 10 & 11, 2026

Sunday Offering.... \$1,980.00

Loose Currency.... \$81.00

Candles.... \$129.00

BCW.... \$171.00

Christmas.... \$100.00

Holydays.... \$380.00

TOTAL: \$2,841.00

Restoration

Pledged: \$161,698

Deposited: \$145,326

Number of pledges: 69

Weekly Requirement to Meet Yearly Expenses			
Date	Collection	Required	(Shortage) Overage
Jan. 11	\$ 2,841	\$4,100	(\$1,259)
YTD	\$9,250	\$ 8,200	\$ 1,050



"That's Frosty. He wanted to be cremated."

Church Attendance

Saturday 1/10 – **62** (4:00 pm)

Sunday 1/11 – **52** (9:00 am)

Quote of the Week

"We do not want a Church that will move with the world. We want a Church that will move the world."

— G.K. Chesterton

Martin Luther King Jr.



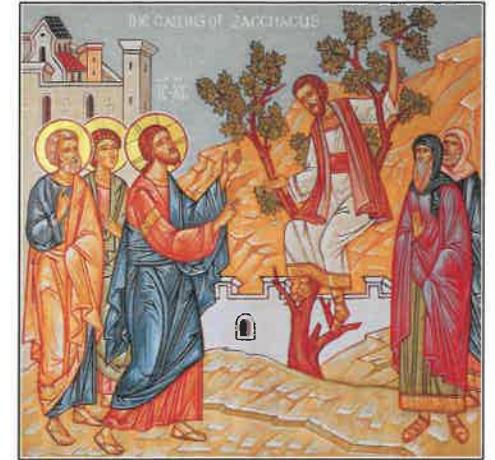
Solve the following puzzle by finding all the hidden words!

A	A	I	L	A	N	L	J	I	A	E	Q	U	A	L	I	T	Y
L	I	E	R	C	T	S	E	S	T	C	S	C	H	A	N	G	E
E	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	H	O	O	D	R	R	T	A	B	I
E	C	I	V	I	L	R	I	G	H	T	S	G	G	D	I	S	R
D	R	R	J	V	Y	U	Y	S	L	A	T	R	E	R	Q	R	I
C	H	C	A	I	R	H	T	I	T	M	F	R	E	E	D	O	M
T	E	T	N	S	L	L	B	P	U	E	R	N	R	A	T	R	A
I	R	H	U	T	S	E	G	R	E	G	A	T	E	M	S	L	J
Q	O	O	A	N	R	S	A	L	A	B	A	M	A	E	V	E	M
G	C	E	R	T	P	E	Q	D	C	S	R	O	N	F	A	R	I
L	R	I	Y	E	J	I	C	C	E	T	B	P	L	E	O	J	N
C	R	B	E	E	U	P	E	T	I	R	S	R	H	R	G	E	I
T	S	C	I	S	S	E	E	M	N	U	G	O	L	E	S	L	S
E	H	R	S	I	T	A	O	N	H	G	N	T	R	V	R	H	T
A	S	A	C	D	I	C	A	H	E	G	B	E	A	E	L	T	E
E	T	I	Y	E	C	E	N	F	E	L	S	S	Y	R	R	T	R
B	E	F	B	S	E	E	H	J	C	E	G	T	E	E	A	S	M
R	M	S	T	S	A	S	S	A	S	S	I	N	A	T	I	O	N

- | | | | |
|---------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| JUSTICE | LIBERTY | ACTIVIST | BROTHERHOOD |
| CHANGE | PROTEST | MINISTER | PEACE |
| LEADER | JANUARY | ALABAMA | EQUALITY |
| FREEDOM | STRUGGLE | SEGREGATE | DREAM |
| SPEECH | CIVIL RIGHTS | ASSASSINATION | HERO |

The Sunday of Zacchaeus

Prior to beginning the Great Fast, the Church provides us with a pre-lenten preparation. We experience this preparation with five Sundays—Zacchaeus, Publican and Pharisee, Prodigal Son, Meatfare, and Cheesefare—wherein we are given lessons to look inward and evaluate ourselves in order to usher us into the Great Fast. The Sunday of Zacchaeus presents us with a tax collector, Zacchaeus, who was, as we know, one of the last to convert before Jesus ascended the Cross (the penitent thief who was crucified with Jesus was the final convert).



Zacchaeus said to himself that it was curiosity that drew him to Christ, but there was something better that was stirring within him. Zacchaeus may have been afraid to acknowledge this. The fame of Jesus as a friend of Publicans had probably reached Zacchaeus and touched him. There is no other instance in the Gospels where Jesus so directly volunteered His company by inviting Himself to Zacchaeus' house. Christ never goes where He is not wanted, nor does He stay away from where He is wanted. This voluntary association with the outcast Zacchaeus is a symbol of Christ's mission. The desire to save Zacchaeus, coupled with His willingness to be identified with sinners, which led Him into the house of the shunned Zacchaeus, was why our Lord descended from Glory to earth and caused Him to dwell among us.

In our world today, we need not worry about being short of stature in order to encounter and see Christ. We attend the Divine Liturgy every Sunday and experience being in the presence of our Lord through the iconography in our church, through the services we pray, through His word in the Gospel and sermon, and, ultimately, in the reception of our Lord and Savior in the form of the Eucharist. Even though we have this awesome experience, we still allow our shortness to interfere in our relationships with Christ.

It is not necessarily the physical detriment of shortness that we experience that keeps us from seeing or experiencing our Lord. We experience shortness in several other ways that challenge our encounters. How many of us find that we are "short on time," that we cannot take the time to volunteer, to visit the sick, or travel to be with families or friends. How many of us we are "short on money," even though we may live a comfortable lifestyle. We consistently push ourselves to the limits with work just to make that extra \$100 or \$1000, or that because of the constant drive for worldly pleasures we sacrifice private and public prayer time because we just need more? How many of us find that we are "short on patience"—patience for older members of our family when it takes them an extra five minutes to get dressed or get to the car. Patience for the co-worker who may be undergoing personal hardship or tragedies but annoys us with his tapping foot or absent-mindedness in his or her reports. Patience for children (even in church) that are filled with the joy of life and cannot contain or confine themselves and sit still. Indeed, there are many forms of shortness that go well beyond the physical impediment that Zacchaeus experienced. What we can learn from Zacchaeus is that we can overcome our shortness, but only if we desire to do so, for we have free will and the ability to choose to love and follow Christ; it is our choice to do so.

Called By Name program begins

Every Byzantine Catholic parish in the United States is participating in **Called by Name**, a program of vocation awareness that begins this weekend. This program offers an opportunity for us to pray for vocations; to recognize gifts and potential for leadership and service in members of our parish; and finally, to call forth and encourage these members to share their gifts in the priesthood, diaconate, and monastic life (men and women). Perhaps you know a man or woman (senior high school age or older) who would, in your opinion, have the qualifications to become a priest, a deacon, a monk, or sister. Please recommend this person by filling out the nomination brochure form and give it to our pastor.

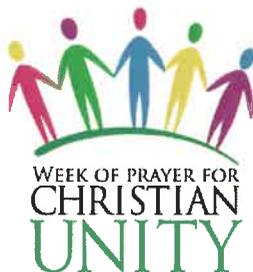


Contribution Statement from 2025



In last week's bulletin was a form to request your contribution statement from 2025. If you need it, please fill out the form and submit it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish. Extra forms are in the narthex.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



The theme for the 2026 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25, 2026, is "There is one body, and one spirit, just as you are called to the one hope of your calling." (Ephesians 4:4). At least once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that 'they may be one so that the world may believe' (John 17.21). Hearts are touched and Christians come together to pray for their unity. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has a history of over 100 years, which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. By annually observing the WPCU, Christians move toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Mystical Supper 'that they all may be one.' This week in your prayers, pray for this special cause that hearts and minds be open to the way our Lord intended churches to be.

Upcoming parishioner benefit fundraiser

Mark your calendars for the weekend of **February 21& 22, 2026** for a Soup, Pirohi, and Baked Goods Fundraiser to benefit one of our very own, Megan Pisarcik. The donations will help Megan with the outstanding medical bills after her surgery and therapy. All donations will be greatly appreciated. More info will be coming! Please see Donna Volsko or Alyson Hardman for any questions.

Rummage sale dates & times

The dates of the upcoming Rummage (Treasure) Sale is **Friday, March 20th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 21st from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Special Thanks

Thank You to **ALL** who helped in dismantling the Christmas decorations this past week and putting them away. Your time and work is greatly appreciated.

REBORN IN WATER & SPIRIT

Our Saint Michael Parish offers our prayerful best wishes and Congratulations to **BRIGGS ROBERT YARLETTS** who received the Holy Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist) on Saturday, January 17, 2026. He is the son of Kelly Clark & Devon Yarletts and great-grandmother of Betsy Lesko. May God grant to His newly enlightened servant, Briggs Robert, peace, health, and happiness for many blessed years, na mnohaja i blahaja l'ita.

Oh dear heaven...someone's turning eighty seven

Our St. Michael Parish extends Happy Birthday wishes to **CHARLOTTE BRUCE** who is celebrating her **87th Birthday** on Wednesday, January 21st. May the Lord God grant to His handmaid, Charlotte, peace, health, and happiness for many blessed years, na mnohaja i blahaja l'ita! Happy 87th Birthday Charlotte!



Sympathy extended

+**PATRICIA J. LADJEVICH-MERRITT**, 75, of West Middlesex, fell asleep in the Lord on Saturday, January 10, 2026. She is the mother of parishioners Rick (Kim) Ladjevich and grandmother of parishioners Rick & Ryan Ladjevich. May God grant to His departed handmaid, +Pat, blessed repose and eternal memory, vicnaja jej pamjat.

St. Michael's, Campbell events

- (1) 'Heavenly Hunky Dinner' **TODAY, January 18th from 12 noon – 2:00 p.m.** You can either eat-in or take out. This \$15 Dinner includes: Holupki (stuffed cabbage), kolbasi with kraut, pirohi, halushki, and dessert.
- (2) **Night At The Races on Saturday, January 31st.** 6:00 p.m. dinner; 7:00 p.m. races start. \$20 admission includes dinner and drinks. \$10 if you want to buy a horse. See our pastor for tickets.
- (3) **Benefit Fundraiser for 3 year old Carmela Circelli on Sunday, February 15th.** 12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m. Chicken parm dinner (\$15) or Pasta/Meatball Dinner (\$10). Basket auction as well. Tickets at door or call Annette at 330-540-4334 for pre-orders.

😊 Children's letters to God (part 1) – Dear God...

"In Sunday School they told us what you do. Who does it when you are on vacation?" – Jane

"How did you know you were God?" – Charlene

"I read the bible. What does begat mean? Nobody will tell me." – Alison

"On Halloween I am going to wear a devil's costume. Is that all right with you?" – Marnie

"Are you really invisible or is that just a trick?" – Lucy

"Is it true my father won't get into Heaven if he uses his bowling words in the house?" – Anita

"Did you mean for a giraffe to look like that or was it an accident?" – Norma

"Instead of letting people die and having to make new ones, why don't you just keep the ones you got now?" – Jane

Qualities To Look For

To give you some idea of the kind of person who might respond well to Christ's call, please keep these qualities in mind:

(1) A Sense of Prayer

The Church looks for people who have a prayerful relationship with God and who are able to translate that prayer into service for their brothers and sisters.

(2) Service

The Church looks for people who are interested in, or who are already involved in, service to their brothers and sisters. One who shows an interest in people and cares about the welfare of others, particularly those in need. One who can relate well with others.

(3) Integrity

The Church looks for people of strong character and virtue, one who demonstrates honesty in relationships and in work. One who possesses sound moral values.

(4) Intelligence & Health

The Church looks for people of average to excellent intelligence and average good health. One who possesses the energy and ability to continue the mission of Jesus.



Don't forget to fill out your Nomination Form on inside cover or scan QR code

Called By Name



**Do you know someone who would
make a good
Priest, Deacon, Monk or Nun?**

Let Us Know!

"If you are looking for the way by which you should go, take Christ, because he himself is the way; This is the way; walk in it...If you are looking for a goal, hold fast to Christ, because he himself is the truth, where we desire to be...If you are looking for a resting place, hold fast to Christ, because he himself is the life."

-St. Thomas Aquinas

"You know, Father, I might have become a priest, a sister or monk, but no one ever asked me." This is the response which Vocation Directors hear most frequently from older teenagers and adults in talking about church vocations. We often wonder why young men and women don't respond to God's call. We really do think that it is because we are not inviting them to think about the priesthood, the diaconate, or a male/female monastic life.

Every Byzantine Catholic parish in the United States is participating in **Called by Name**, a program of vocation awareness. This program offers an opportunity for us to pray for vocations; to recognize gifts and potential for leadership and service in members of our parish; and finally, to call forth and encourage these members to share their gifts in the priesthood, diaconate and monastery life. Perhaps you know a man or woman (senior high school age or older) who would, in your opinion, have the qualifications to become a priest, a deacon or a monastic monk or nun. This is your chance to recommend them. Please suggest this person by filing out the form on the next page and mail it to me. The priests, deacons, and monastics of tomorrow are in your parish. As we go through the **Called by Name** program, please pray that your parish and all parishes will call forth and nurture these vocations to fulfillment. Thank you for your help.

The men and women you recommend will be contacted by the Vocations Office and will be invited to participate in a vocation discernment program. There is no obligation on anyone's part, but maybe someone you know is waiting to be **Called by Name**.

Thank you for your help. May God Bless you!



After prayerful consideration, I believe this person has qualities needed in a future church vocation; perhaps, Jesus is calling him/her to this particular vocation. Fill in as much as you know.

Name _____

Address _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Approximate Age _____

Parish Name _____

City, State _____

Vocation Perceived: Priest Deacon Monk Nun

Please place in an envelope and send to:

**Office of Vocations
c/o Fr. Kevin Marks
66 Riverview Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15214**