

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, Protopresbyter

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.
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE: Inside Bulletin

Misplaced Expectations

A young boy returned from his first major league baseball game very disappointed. Even though his favorite team won the game, the young boy said to his grandfather, "I'll never go to another game again!" "Why not," his grandfather asked, "your team won the game -why are you disappointed?" The boy answered, "I wanted my favorite player to hit a home run to where I was sitting and I wanted to catch the ball and I wanted to get it autographed after the game!" "I've been hoping for that all my life, too," said his grandfather with a smile.

Quite often, the disappointment that we feel towards a person or about a situation or circumstance is due to the fact that our expectations of that person or about that situation are misplaced, misguided, or misunderstood. We see an example of this in today's Gospel reading about our

Lord's entrance into Jerusalem.

Many of the same people who enthusiastically greeted Jesus when He entered into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday would just as passionately demand His crucifixion only a few days later. Why? It is because their expectations of Him were misplaced. That is, many people presumed that the long-awaited Messiah would be a great military leader or a political revolutionary who would lead them out of Roman subjugation and into independence. They did not consider the possibility of a Messiah who would conquer not armies, but death itself.

What do we expect from God? Like the little boy at the baseball game, are we disappointed when we don't get what we want? Let us recall that the Lord knows what we need even before we ask or are aware of it!

THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM PALM SUNDAY



Icon of the Entrance into Jerusalem

Holy Mon., MARCH 30
6:00 p.m.

Holy and Great Monday
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Holy Wed., APRIL 1
11:00 a.m.

Holy and Great Wednesday (no meat products)
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts with the Sacrament of Holy Anointing

Holy Thurs., APRIL 2
11:00 a.m.

Holy and Great Thursday
Great Vespers with Divine Liturgy of Our Lord's Mystical Supper

Health & God's Blessings requested by: Bob Druga
 Upon: Janet Druga

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3
8:30 a.m.

Holy and Great Friday (no meat or dairy products)
Passion Matins - 12 gospels

7:30 p.m.

Entombment Vespers Followed by Outside Candlelight Burial Procession of Our Lord Jesus

After Vespers, the church will have the All Night Vigil prayer tomb watch

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4

7:15 p.m.

***7:30 p.m.**

Holy and Great Saturday
 Solemn Outside Candlelight Procession of the Resurrection
RESURRECTIONAL MATINS WITH EASTER DIVINE LITURGY & THE SOLEMN BLESSING OF PASCHAL FOODS @ SOCIAL CENTER

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

***8:00 a.m.**

THE RADIANT RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

The Great Day - Mirovanije

EASTER SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY WITH THE READING OF THE GOSPEL IN LATIN, CHURCH SLAVONIC, & ENGLISH



*Fulfills Easter Obligation



The Sanctuary Candle for
March 29 – April 4, 2026
signifying the Real Presence of our Lord is

In Loving Memory of
+DOROTHY VOLSKO
(3rd anniversary of passing April 1)
 By: Son: Jeffrey & Donna Volsko

The Theotokos Candle for
March 29 – April 4, 2026
signifying her Intercession is

In Loving Memory of
+CHRISTINE BURGER
(1st anniversary of passing March 28)
 By: Mother: Joan Walker

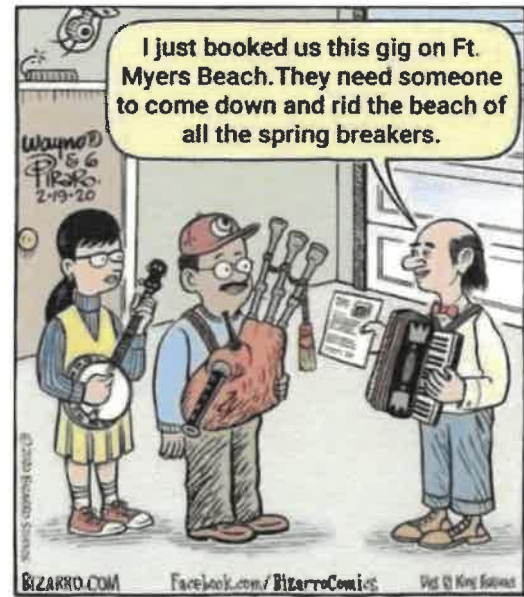
Pray For Our Homebound, Sick, Hospitalized, & In Recovery updated: March 27, 2026
RESIDING AT HOME – Charlotte Bruce, Janet Druga, Jo Ann Kessler, Greta Marks, Judy McBride, Mary Ann Polochak, Viktor Rymniak, Carolyn & Bill Vasko, Ethel Wahal.
 Cleveland VA Medical Center (10701 E. Blvd., Cleveland, 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.
 Whispering Oaks (260 S. Buhl Farm Dr., Hermitage, PA 16148) – John "Buddy" Wansack.

Offerings from March 21 & 22, 2026

Sunday Offering.... \$2,155.00
 Candles.... \$410.00
 Holydays.... \$70.00
 Easter.... \$50.00
 Easter flowers.... \$115.00
TOTAL: \$2,800.00

Restoration
 Pledged \$176,228
 Deposited \$167,418
 Pledges 69

Weekly Requirement to Meet Yearly Expenses			
Date	Collection	Required	(Shortage)
Mar. 22	\$2,800	\$4,100	(\$1,300)
YTD	\$42,023	\$49,200	(\$7,177)



Church Attendance

Saturday 3/21 – **68** (4:00 pm)
 Sunday 3/22 – **60** (9:00 am)
 Wednesday 3/25 – **50** (11:00 am)
 Friday 3/27 – **30** (5:00 pm)

Quote of the Week

"While the world changes, the Cross stands firm."

— St. Bruno

Tournament Time

Word Search

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

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

- BASKETBALL
- BRACKET
- CHAMPIONSHIP
- COLLEGE
- DIVISION
- ELIMINATION
- ELITE EIGHT
- FAVORED
- FINAL FOUR
- FIRST FOUR
- JUMBOTRON
- MADNESS
- MARCH
- NCAA
- ONE SHINING MOMENT
- SEED
- SELECTION

SEVEN ROUNDS

SIXTY EIGHT

SWEET SIXTEEN

THREE WEEKS

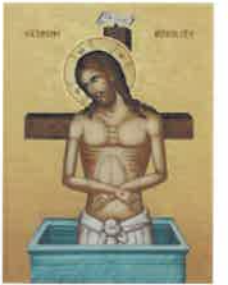
TOURNAMENT

UCLA

UPSET

Holy & Great Monday & Tuesday

Holy (Passion) Week has started, the most solemn week of the year. The most important thing for us to realize is that our salvation is at hand. The Holy Apostle Paul tells us: "Rejoice in the Lord always...the Lord is near" (Philippians 4:4-5). The theme around these days centers on Christ as the Bridegroom. Jesus comes to redeem His bride – the Church. And who is the church? The people of God - us. The Bridegroom Jesus thus comes to secure salvation for us – His bride and to bring us into His bridal chamber, the New Jerusalem, the Holy Zion, the New Life with Him in eternity.



Holy & Great Wednesday – Holy Anointing

In the Gospel on Palm Sunday, we hear the story of the anointing of our Lord in at a meal in Bethany, "Mary took a liter of costly perfumed oil made from genuine aromatic nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and dried them with her hair; the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. ... Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Let her keep this for the day of my burial. John 12:3.7)" Likewise, in the Gospel on Holy Wednesday, the same anointing of Jesus is described, "a woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of costly perfumed oil, and poured it on his head while he was reclining at table. [Jesus] said ..., "Why do you make trouble for the woman? She has done a good thing for me. The poor you will always have with you; but you will not always have me. In pouring this perfumed oil upon my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. (Matthew 26:7.10-12)" In being anointed, then, we are professing in deeds our hope of following Jesus in his death, that we may obtain also his resurrection. We are renewing our baptismal promise to renounce the evil one and to follow Christ.



Holy & Great Thursday



On Holy and Great Thursday, three events are recalled: the betrayal of Judas, the washing of the feet of the disciples by Jesus, and the Institution of the Eucharist. The morning service of the Betrayal Matins remind us of Judas' plot to hand over Jesus to the Roman authorities. The central aspect of the day is the Mystical Supper. We shall be with the Lord as He institutes the Divine Eucharist which is to be perpetuated until His second coming in an unbloody manner. We also celebrate the Institution of the Priesthood.

Holy & Great & Good Friday

On Holy & Great Friday, STRICT ABSTINENCE (no meat, eggs, or dairy products) is required. The theme throughout the day is the passion, death, and burial of Christ. Passion Matins are usually celebrated in the morning or the evening before. A feature of this service is that twelve gospels are read recalling the passion of our Lord, with twelve men holding candles for each gospel. The afternoon of this day is dedicated to the time our Lord hung upon the Cross. We should spend some time in silence during the afternoon hours this day. On Good Friday evening, Entombment Vespers are celebrated. At the end of Vespers, the priest carries the burial shroud of Christ followed by the faithful. The church will have an all night vigil so you may pray before the tomb of our Lord.



Holy & Great Saturday

The Christians of the early Church gathered at the tomb of our Lord in Jerusalem to recount His decent into Hades following His salvific death. Christ now breaks the chains of Hades where the righteous were awaiting His arrival to take them into the splendor of heaven. In the afternoon of this day, the message of Christ's Radiant Resurrection already begins to be announced by the breakthrough and annihilation of Hades.



Resurrectional Matins



CHRIST IS RISEN!

After the long period of darkness brought about by original sin, after the seemingly endless expectation of the prophets, after the glad tidings of the nativity that came to pass when the time had come, after the thirty hidden years and the three years of public life, after the frightful passion which had seemed to be the end of all hope, after the two days in the depth of the tomb, behold: CHRIST IS RISEN! Indeed, indeed, He is risen, and all is true, every promise of God has been fulfilled; the Savior has come, the Lamb of God has been sacrificed to take away the sins of the world, and supremely triumphant in his apparent defeat. He has crushed death by his death and restored everlasting life through his resurrection! The time of weeping is over: now is the time for joy! Now that we have been cleansed by the passion of Christ, now that we have repented and atoned for our sins during the penitential season of Lent, let us rejoice: confirming our love towards all, celebrating the end of the enmity between God and man, proving our reconciliation through Christ. Easter is truly for us the Passover: for Christ, through his passion and resurrection, made us return from the curse of Adam and the bondage of Satan to the state of children of God. All lights are lit, bells are rung, the tomb is empty, and the joy of Christ Is Risen resounds the entire Church. The Canon of the Resurrection is then sung. It is a hymn of victory. A festivity is the basket of paschal foods--preparing them, blessing them, and enjoying them--great, solemn, and sanctified.

Solemn Blessing of Easter Baskets

Every household is encouraged to bring a basket(s) on Holy Saturday evening, April 4th. Children may prepare their own baskets to bring as well. Don't exempt yourself from this rich tradition. A form is located on the back of the Holy Week Schedule if you need guidance in making it.



Easter Sunday Divine Liturgy



Today as we commemorate the total and complete triumph of Our Lord's Radiant Resurrection flowing from the Empty Tomb of Christ, this Principle Feat of our Faith festively echoes and resounds Jesus' message of HOPE for mankind in the "New Life" that He secured for us by His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. The founders and benefactors of our Byzantine Catholic Church referred to this day as THE GREAT DAY since the Lord Jesus Who is the New Paschal Lamb was victorious in securing for us a NEW PASSOVER. From darkness to Light, from death to Life! The gospel for this Liturgy is taken from John's Prologue, divided into twelve verses, read in different languages that signify that the redemptive work of Christ applies to all people.

Don't miss Holy Week services

HOLY WEEK is an invitation to walk into the joy and wonder of life in Christ. Each one of these gatherings has a profound meaning and a specific spiritual purpose, and together they provide a profound opportunity for growth in union with God through Jesus Christ. Please take time to read the description of each service and make plans to be present for as many as possible. Every decision you make about the Holy Week services should ask this question: Can I and will I open myself – heart, soul, mind, and body – to receive the grace that is being offered to me through this service? Holy Week worship is not about rules, it is about life! It is not a burden; it is a release!

Rummage Sale THANKS & totals

-submitted by Megan Pisarcik

"Our rummage sale was a huge success! A massive thank you to everyone who donated items, volunteered their time pricing items, set up, sales, and tear down, or came out to shop. Also, thanks to Donna Volsko and Alyson Hardman for all their hard work cooking and baking. Because of all our hard work the rummage Sale brought in \$5,902. The food and baked items \$1,761."

Grand total: \$7,663.00

Feast on Holy Saturday evening

Our pastor would like to once again invite all to stay after the Blessing of baskets on Holy Saturday evening April 4th, to enjoy the Paschal foods and drinks together as a parish family. If you are able to lend a hand in preparing and setting up, please see Donna Volsko or Patty Tomko.

ECF Classes winding down

The final two ECF classes will be April 12th & 26th. The complete schedule is on the parish website. Thanks to parents, catechists, and students for a good year as you wrap things up.

Permanent livestream to begin soon

Our Parish is currently in the process of acquiring a permanent live stream video system. A camera will be mounted near the choir loft and also in the sanctuary to record the divine services live. The new system will be installed this spring (hopefully within a few weeks). The work is contracted through Paul Kostick III. He also installed livestream at the Cathedral and has done work at the Chancery office and personally for Archbishop William.

Spaghetti dinner in Campbell today

TODAY is a Palm Sunday Spaghetti Dinner from 12 Noon until 2:00 p.m. at St. Michael's, Campbell (Dine-in or Take-out). The dinner will be Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad, Bread/Butter and dessert. The price per dinner for adults is \$12.00; children is \$6.00. Walk-ins welcome.



Women's day of reflection

Saturday, April 18, 2026, 9:00 a.m.- 2:30 p.m., Kearns Spirituality Center, Pittsburgh. "Resilience through Hope & Prayer." (John 2:11) Pre-registration is required by April 13th. \$40 includes lunch (no refunds). For more information call 412-322-8773 or email ore@archpitt.org