

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 Begins September 21, 2025.

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.

Condemn Ourselves for Our Sins, and to Forgive Others

Two things therefore does He here require, both to condemn ourselves for our sins, and to forgive others; and the former for the sake of the latter, that this may become more easy (for he who considers his own sins is more indulgent to his fellow-servant); and not merely to forgive with the lips, but from the heart.

Let us not then thrust the sword into ourselves by being revengeful. For what grief has he who has grieved you inflicted upon you, like you will work unto yourself by keeping your anger in mind, and drawing upon yourself the sentence from God to condemn you? For if indeed you are watchful, and keepest yourself under control, the evil will come round upon his head, and it will be he that will suffer harm; but if you should continue indignant, and displeased, then yourself will undergo the harm not from him, but from yourself.

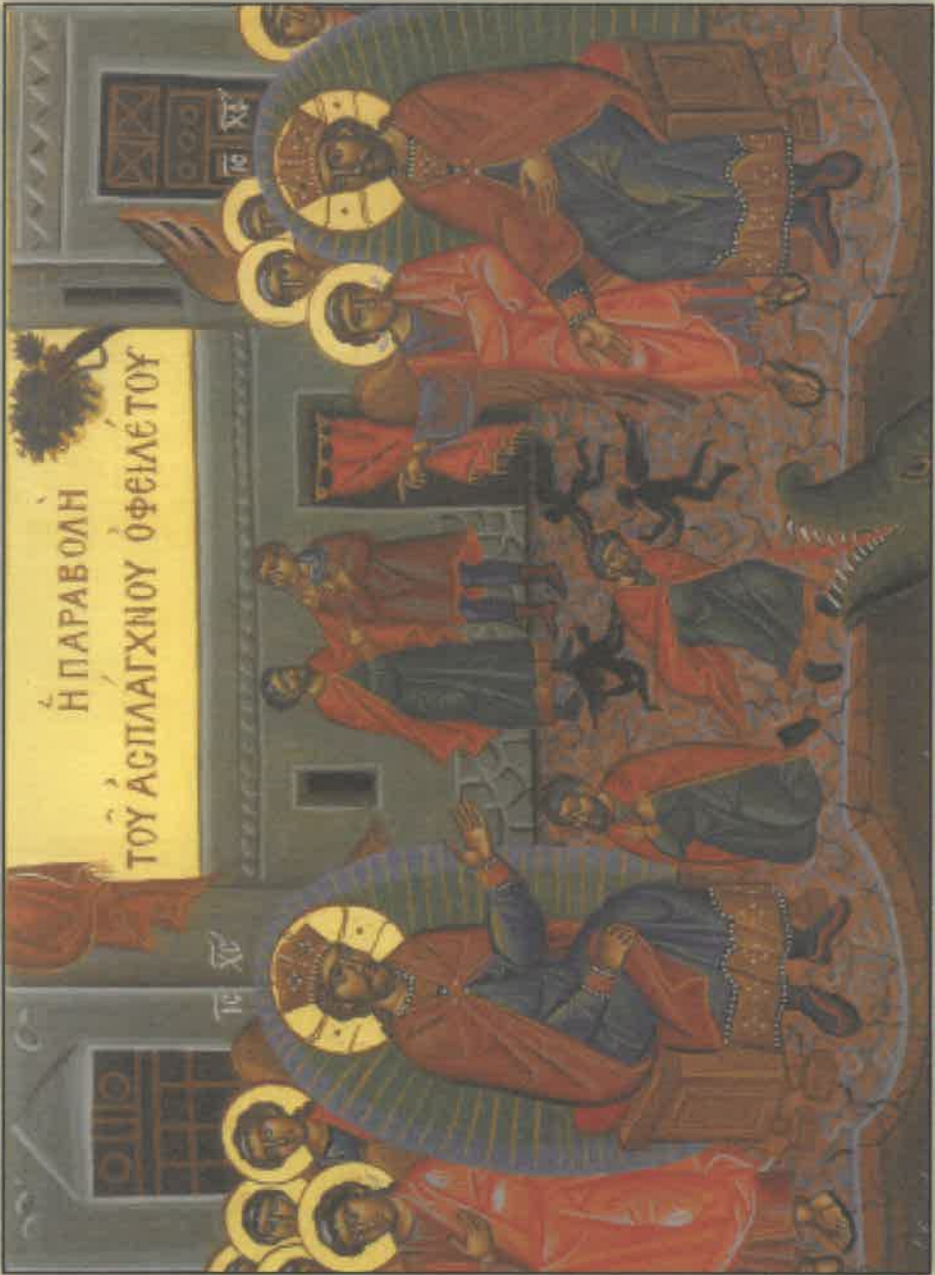
For if we be willing, no one shall be able to injure us, but even our enemies shall advantage us in the

greatest degree. And why do I speak of men? For what can be more wicked than the devil; yet nevertheless, even hence have we a great opportunity of approving ourselves; and Job shows it. But if the devil has become a cause of crowns, why are you afraid of a man as an enemy?

See then how much you gain, bearing meekly the spiteful acts of your enemies. First and greatest, deliverance from sins; secondly, fortitude and patience; thirdly, mildness and benevolence; for he that knows not how to be angry with them that grieve him, much more will he be ready to serve them that love him. Fourthly, to be free from anger continually, to which nothing can be equal. For of him that is free from anger, it is quite clear that he is delivered also from the despondency hence arising, and will not spend his life on vain labors and sorrows.

St. John Chrysostom

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Unmerciful Servant (Matthew 18:23-25)

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



120
St. Michael
the Archangel
BYZANTINE
Catholic Church
founded 1905
Hermitage, Pennsylvania



Vol 14. #35



SAT., AUG 23

4:00 p.m.

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy) – Blessing of Teachers & Students

+Robert A. Mentrek

(remembrance of 94th birthday 8.28)

requested by: Mentrek & Knight
Families & Grandchildren

SUN., AUG 24

9:00 a.m.

THE 11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Fr. Richard Lambert, celebrant – Blessing of Teachers & Students

+Anne Hudak

(14th anniversary of passing 8.23)

requested by: Randy & Patty Tomko

FRI., AUG 29



**Holyday of the Beheading of the Glorious,
Prophet, Precursor, Forerunner and Baptist John**

Simple Holy Day — Voluntary Strict Fast Day

10:00 a.m.

+Anne M. Goda

(1st anniversary of passing 7.17)

requested by: Rossi Family

SAT., AUG 30

4:00 p.m.

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy)

+Mary Lou Ference

(5th anniversary of passing 9.2)

requested by: Wareham Family

Health & God's Blessings Upon

Thomas Stambaugh (65th birthday 8.29)

requested by: Mom: Martha

SUN., AUG 31

9:00 a.m.

THE 12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Labor Day Weekend

+Donald Durkot

(remembrance of 60th wedding anniversary 9.4)

requested by: Sam & Sharon Kudelko



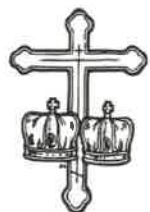
Thanksgiving: 30th wedding anniversary

Of Jon & Mary Beth Dowell (9.2)

requested by: M/M Dowell

Thanksgiving: 5th wedding anniversary

Of Hunter & Cori Herzberger (8.28)



**The Sanctuary Candle
for this week of:**

AUGUST 24 – 30, 2025

signifying the Real Presence of our Lord is



In Loving Memory Of

+MARY BEGENY

(33rd anniversary of passing August 20)

From: Daughter: Joan Walker

**The Mother Of God
Candle for this week of:**

AUGUST 24 – 30, 2025

signifying her Intercession is for



In Loving Memory Of

+ROBERT A. MENTREK

(remembrance of 94th birthday August 28)

From: The Mentrek & Knight Families

Pray For Our Homebound, Sick, Hospitalized, & In Recovery updated: August 22, 2025

RESIDING AT HOME – Joan Durkot, Dan Huscroft, Len Gates, Greta Marks, Judy McBride, Hank & Anne Pajak,

Mary Ann Polochak, John Schaner, George Sewecke, Irene Shaffer, Frank Wahal, Monica Walls.

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.

The Village of St. Edward at Green (3813 Fortuna Dr., Unit 108 Akron, OH 44312) – Richard Markovich.

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

Offerings from August 16 & 17, 2025

Sunday Offering.... \$2,610.00

Candles.... \$285.00

Holydays.... \$380.00

TOTAL: \$3,275.00

Restoration

Pledged \$147,600

Deposited \$123,349

Pledges 67

Weekly Requirement to Meet Yearly Expenses			
Date	Collection	Required	(Shortage)
Aug 17	\$3,275	\$4,500	(\$1,225)
YTD	\$117,183	\$148,500	(\$31,317)

Church Attendance

Saturday 8/16 – 62 (4:00 pm)

Sunday 8/17 – 72 (9:00 am)

Quote of the Week

“Count your blessings, not
your problems. Count your own
blessings, not someone else's.
Remember that jealousy is when
you count someone else's
blessings instead of your own.”

-Roy T. Bennett



“I enjoyed the deviled ham, the deviled eggs,
and the devil's food cake, but I think we need to
work on a menu more in tune with our mission.”

BACK TO SCHOOL WORD SEARCH

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

classroom
 lesson
 recess
 bus
 lunch

education
 backpack
 playground
 student
 field trip

school
 grade
 teacher
 books
 exam

Why ECF classes every year?

Luke 18:16 – “But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

What does every parent want for their child? That they are able to have all that they need to be happy, healthy, and successful in life. Especially through education, parents seek to form their children into good people by providing them with the knowledge that they will need to live life well. But, often times, while parents emphasize the need for academic and social education, sports and activities, these same parents can forget that their children, in order to be fully prepared to live the Christian life, need to have yearly education in the Catholic Faith. Our St. Michael Church offers Eastern Christian Education (ECF), formerly CCD, to provide the moral responsibility to teach our parish children our faith, worship, and traditions. For some, there seems to be a very bad mindset that religious education is to stop after 2nd grade, since a child received his/her First Confession & Solemn Communion. Religious Education continues into 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th grades and so on.

Now, sometimes ECF is viewed as an unnecessary burden. But, instruction in the Faith is never a burden, nor is it simply about learning lists of religious factoids. When a child comes to ECF, they learn about the God Who created them, the God Who loves them, the God who will accompany them and support them throughout their lives. More importantly, children who are in religious education MEET and ENCOUNTER this same God in a personal way. Simply attending religious instruction when convenient, or for a party, or when it seems important, like only attending through 2nd grade, does a great disservice to the relationship of the child with God. Just like it is important for a parent to allow a child to be with a friend on a regular and consistent basis so as to foster a truly loving and fruitful friendship, so, too, a parent should make sure that their child “gets to know” Jesus Christ through religious education on a regular basis, consistently over several years, which allows the relationship to grow over time. In so doing, parents will be giving their children the greatest gift in the universe: the opportunity to know Christ, their Savior. So, parents, knowing His deep love for *you*, hear the words of Jesus and let your children go unto Him, and watch as miracles happen!

Our St. Michael catechists take religious education for our children very seriously. Don’t miss the opportunity in sending your child(ren) for ECF this year or any year. Yes, IT’S THAT IMPORANT AND NECESSARY!

Eastern Christian Formation (ECF) classes will begin Sunday, **September 21st following the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Liturgy.** Please sign-up your child(ren) with our ECF Coordinator, Bill Dzuricko by emailing him at: william.d.dzuricko@gmail.com or texting him at 724-456-7899.

Blessing of teachers & students this weekend

As the new school year begins, God's blessing will be bestowed upon all students and teachers **THIS WEEKEND August 23rd & 24th**. Students and teachers are asked to come forward to receive this special blessing and to dedicate the upcoming academic school year for the glory of God.

Pastor at conference in Long Island

This coming week, our pastor will be attending the National Conference for Diocesan Vocation Directors held in Huntington, NY. Over 300 Vocation Directors will be gathered from across the United States for this important conference. Please pray for safe flying and for a good conference as our pastor continues his education and knowledge on being our Archieparchial Vocation Director.



Commemorating the death of St. John the Baptist – August 29th



Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, who ordered the massacre of the children of Bethlehem, dismissed his first wife and unlawfully cohabited with Herodias, the wife of his brother, Philip. St. John the Forerunner publicly rebuked Herod for the scandal; and for this he had to pay with his life. Herodias took revenge on him in a foul manner, by inducing Herod to have him beheaded. A pious legend relates that the severed head of John the Baptist even on the platter spoke, saying: "You cannot have your brother's wife." As a result Herodias was believed to have pierced John's tongue with a needle. Fearing, lest he rise from the dead and his head join his body, she buried the head on the premises of the palace. The disciple of St. John took his body and buried it in Sebaste, in Samaria. Testimony concerning this feast dates from the fifth century. From the earliest times the Eastern Church has observed this as a holy day in honor of the suffering and death of the saintly Forerunner. The Church proscribes a voluntary strict fast day to honor St. John's death. It's not required to strict fast, but you may choose to do so if you want. Also, it is the custom this day to not eat anything in the shape of a head (lettuce, apple, etc.) or eat anything off a plate, but rather use a bowl.

Update on church outside painting

The painting contractor was completing a previous job last week and had moved the start date for our church to Monday August 25th from the August 18th start date. As mentioned before, please exercise care around the church exterior during this period as there will be scaffolding and manlifts to support this project

Narthex area all set for upcoming fall/winter months

The gas line for the Narthex area furnace was installed this past week, thus completing the Narthex heating/air conditioning renovation project. Everything is working great and we will now be ready for heat for the colder weather in the coming months.



Yard work advertisement

Responsible worker needed for a periodic light yard work at a Sharpsville residence near Buhl Park. (one of our parishioners). Inquire at 724-962-932.



Priest celebrated 25 years

Our St. Michael Church extends Congratulations to **FR. VALERIAN M. MICHLIK**, as he celebrated his 25th Anniversary of Priesthood Ordination. He was ordained on August 13, 2000. Fr. Valerian is pastor of St. Gregory Church, Upper St. Clair, PA and is also the Canon Lawyer for the Archeparchy. He is a good friend of our pastor. May the Lord God grant to His priestly servant, Fr. Valerian, peace, health, and happiness, for many years, na mnohaja i blahaja l'ita!

Sympathy extended

+**FAYE WARD**, 88, fell asleep in the Lord on Saturday, July 26, 2025. She is the mother of Bob Ward. May God grant to His departed handmaid, +Faye, blessed repose and eternal memory.

2025 Sanctuary & Mother of God candles still available...

Sanctuary Candle

Nov 2-8; Dec 21-27

Mother of God Candle

Oct 26-Nov 1; Nov 2-8; Nov 16-22; Dec 21-27

Please call Jeff Volsko with your intention: 724-877-6504

Fall Rummage Sale drop off this Monday

Monday, August 25th from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon will be a drop off at the Social Center for rummage sale items. The sale is scheduled for October 17 & 18. Text Megan @ 724-699-0613.

Purse Bingo.....Where girls just want to have fun! 🍷🍷🍷

Chairpersons: Renee Manilla, Megan Pisarcik, Rozanne Voisey & Donna Volsko

This fundraiser will be **Saturday, September 27th** at St. Michael's Social Center! Gorgeous Top of the Line Designer Purses with Matching Accessories! Chinese Auction + Door Prizes + Gift Card Bonanza! Jackpot Designer Purse Raffle + Gift Cards! 50/50 💰 Cash + 2nd Prize Designer Purse Raffle! Yummy Concessions! 🍷 BYOB! ❤️ Doors open @ 5PM & Bingo begins @ 6PM! Admission (Ages 18 & up) \$30.00 and includes 13 Game Bingo Packet + dauber! Phone or Text your reservation to Megan @ 724-699-0613 or Donna @ 724-877-6736. For payment, use ZELLE: (St Michael Smart@roadrunner.com) or Mail Check to St. Michael Church, Purse Bingo, 2230 Highland Rd, Hermitage, PA 16148.

Volunteers are still needed to assist with selling Chinese Auction Tear Sheets, Jackpot Raffle tickets, 50/50 Raffle tickets, Extra Bingo packets & Kitchen assistance; Sign-up is on the Narthex table! Lending Hands! 🤝 Lifting Hearts! ❤️

Special thanks to Brenda Tomko and an anonymous donor for their monetary donations this week! We very much appreciate your generosity! All proceeds benefit the St. Michael Restoration Fund. Donation envelopes are available on the Narthex table! We accept Gift Cards too! The Wish List is TJ Maxx, Kohl's, Sheetz, Walmart, D'Onofrio's, Giant Eagle & Kraynak's!

A Great Big Shout Out to Martha Stambaugh and her son, Tom, for all of their hard work and dedication in delivering 130+ Solicitation letters and picking up the prizes from many Local Area Businesses! God Bless You Both! 🙏❤️

IF YOU LOVE BINGO, YOU WILL LOVE THIS EVENT! DON'T FORGET TO ASK YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, CO-WORKERS & NEIGHBORS TO JOIN YOU FOR A FUN NIGHT OUT! 🎉