



Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church (Portage)  
St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church (Beaverdale)  
Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church (Dunlo)  
*Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh*  
*Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla, D.D.*  
Served by: Very Rev. Fr. James A. Spontak  
Fr. Deacon Daniel F. Perich  
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**Mysteries of Christian Initiation:** There is to be **preparatory instruction** for parents and godparents prior to the celebration of the **Mysteries of Christian Initiation – Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist**. It is desirable that Christian Initiation be celebrated together with the Sunday Divine Liturgy, as the entire faith community welcomes its newest member. Those selected to be sponsors must be persons who are qualified to be a sponsor according to the norms of Church law and practice.

**Crowning in Marriage:** A **six month period of preparation** is to precede the marriage. Couples are to meet with the pastor before other arrangements are scheduled. The **Pre-Cana Program** offered by the Archeparchy in the spring of each year is a **required** part of the marriage preparation for all couples.

**Holy Anointing & Pastoral Care of the Ill:** Please contact the pastor prior to surgery or in the event of illness to require the **Mystery of Holy Anointing**. When you or a family member are hospitalized or enter a nursing home or other facility, **please inform the pastor**. Due to privacy regulations, hospitals and other facilities do not always notify the pastor; and it is best for the family.

**Mystery of Repentance (Confessions):** **Saturdays: 3:00 pm (Portage) and 4:30 pm (Beaverdale/Dunlo)**. Also, **½ hour before services [except Sunday]**, and by appointment. Confessions are in the priest's sacristy area, before an icon of Christ, before whom we are confessing our sinfulness.

**Opportunities for Stewardship:** Parishioners are asked to make a commitment of **Time, Talent, and Treasure...** **Work Parties** are scheduled the first Saturday of each month, and **Church Cleaning** is scheduled the first Monday, unless a Church Feast Day falls on the same date.

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#### **Epistle Readers Schedule**

<b><u>Sunday, February 19</u></b>	<i>Alex Bisaha</i>	<b><u>Sunday, February 26</u></b>	<i>Alyssa Murphy</i>
<b><u>Sunday, March 5</u></b>	<i>Maddy Single</i>	<b><u>Sunday, March 12</u></b>	<i>Alex Bisaha</i>

#### **Eastern Christian Formation Program**

<b><u>Sunday, February 19</u></b>	Troitsja: <i>Ryan Lenz</i>	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> <i>Christina Goral &amp; Issabella Crum</i>
<b><u>Sunday, February 26</u></b>	Troitsja: <i>Hunter Whitcomb</i>	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> <i>Hunter Whitcomb &amp; Cierra Goral</i>
<b><u>Sunday, March 5</u></b>	Troitsja: <i>Cierra Goral</i>	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> <i>Evan Lenz &amp; Sydney Leturgey</i>



### ***Meatfare Sunday—The Gospel of the Last Judgment***

Today's parable elicits brevity and reserve in responding or in commentary. The parable of the *Last Judgment* [Matthew 25:31-46] portrays Jesus Christ as he comes again in glory to judge the living and the dead. The Creed we chant every Sunday proclaims this truth, and so we are acquainted with it as an element of our faith.

The scene and its atmosphere are weighty and severe, both magnificent and tremendous in awe and great reverence. The Son of Man comes in "*glory*" a word too easily misrepresented as merely a passing gaudy display. This glory is highlighted by the "*glorious throne*" on which the Son of Man is seated and also by the angels who escort him. Even more, all the nations are gathered before him, to be separated by this judgment "*as a shepherd separates sheep from goats*" [Matthew 25:32].

The overwhelming nature of such proportions and images, delivers a sobering and yet quite simple message or truth. As to the criteria of judgment that is at work here, it is love. And this is not as an abstract, humanitarian concern for ideals. Instead it is a concrete and personal love for the human person, the one whom God brings me to encounter in my life, at a particular moment and place.

Only a week before the beginning of the Great Fast today's Gospel and Liturgy establishes a focus of attention for us for the Lenten journey, and for all of Christian life. The contemplation of Christ as judge of "*all the nations*" instills a sense of the need for continued repentance renewal, growth in our faith. The Hymns used at Vespers for this Sunday thus describe, "*The books will be opened and the secret laid bare before your awesome judgment seat*". But the remedy prescribed for us is simply that we live attending to the most ordinary daily needs and concerns of those identified as "*one of the least of these my brethren.*" [Matthew 25:40, 45]

### ***A Note of Thanks...***

I would like to thank **Father Robert Karl** for his assistance during these several weekends in February. It has been greatly helpful during my recent chemo-therapy treatment and its aftermath. After monitoring progress during this past week, it seemed better to ask Father Bob to return to celebrate the All Souls Divine Liturgy on Saturday and the Divine Liturgy on Sunday.

The prayerful support, encouragement and concern of our parishioners during this time is likewise sincerely appreciated.

### ***Schedule Change***

For the weekend of February 25-26, there will be only one Divine Liturgy. The Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage on Sunday, February 26 will be the only Divine Liturgy. Parishioners of Saint Mary, Beaverdale and of Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo, are asked to attend the Sunday Divine Liturgy in Portage. This adjustment is being made as part of the follow-up to Father Jim's recent chemo-therapy treatment.

## Parish Advisory Council

**Parish Advisory Council** meetings which had been scheduled in February for Saints Peter and Paul, Portage [Thursday, February 9] and for Saint Mary, Beaverdale and Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo [Thursday, February 16] are being rescheduled. Members will be informed of the rescheduled dates, in early March.

## PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

### Church Cleaning for February

The **Church Cleaning** for February is re-scheduled for **Monday, February 20**, at **9:00 am**.

### The Byzantine Catholic World

The annual subscription rate is **\$14**. The envelope dated **January 29** in your packet of offering envelopes may be used to begin or renew your subscription to **The Byzantine Catholic World [BCW]**. Published once-a-month, the **BCW** provides news of our Archeparchy, parishes, and news of the church throughout the world.

### Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **June Nezeski; Barbara Raptosh**, who is a resident at Cambria Care in Ebensburg; **Sasha Yetsko; George Yatsky; Ruby Moore; Charles** and **Joan Plishka; Frank Alberts; Tom Goncher; Joan Ditko; Cliff Inman; Shawn Crum; o; Msgr. Raymond Balta; Basil**, infant from St. Mary's, Cambria City; **Abbot Leo Schlosser**, [St. Barnabas Nursing Home]; **Deacon Michael George**, St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair; and all the ill & homebound.

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## Prayer Partners for the Great Fast

We will again have the opportunity of having **Prayer Partners** so that we might support one another in prayer during the Great Fast. Please write your name on the form below, and then place it in the designated place **next Sunday, February 26, Cheesefare Sunday [Forgiveness Sunday]**.

Names will be drawn at the conclusion of the Sunday Divine Liturgy at Saints Peter & Paul in Portage.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for praying for me!**

*"I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you, praying always with joy in my every prayer for you. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perfection, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God."*

**[Philippians 1:3-4, 9-**

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## Liturgical Chant –Pre-Lenten Cycle

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for Sunday, February 26, The Sunday of Forgiveness--Cheesefare Sunday are: Resurrection Troparion Tone 8, may be found on p. 161-163, and for Cheesefare Sunday on p. are on pages 218-219.
- The “*Our Father*”, in Tone 8 may be found on p. 73.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns, alternate melodies etc.

### **Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer**

**At Home: SS Peter & Paul (Portage):** Dorothy Billy; Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; June Nezeski; Cathy Walters; Elsie Timura **St. Michael (South Fork):** Michelle Maskal; Anna Garanich; Catherine Czapp **St. Mary (Beaverdale):** Nancy Andrako; Catherine McGough; **SS Peter & Paul (Dunlo):** Mary Louise Cimba; Walter Prozialeck.

#### **Nursing & Other Care Facilities:**

- **Saint Benedict Manor, Carrolltown,** Catherine Thrower [Dunlo];
- **Forest Hills Personal Care, Sidman:** Pauline Valko [Dunlo]
- **Meadow View Nursing Center [Berlin]:** Margaret Timura
- **Arbutus Park Manor:** Margaret Rachael [Dunlo]
- **Maple Winds:** Mary Yetsko
- **The Winds at Mattern Orchard, Duncansville:** Mary Vrabel
- **Amber Hills Ebensburg:** Edward Andrykovitch [Beaverdale]; *Father Ronald Borsuk*

## **Liturgical Schedule Cheesefare Week—February 19, 2017**

### **The Sunday of Meatfare**

**Sunday February 19, 2017**

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy

**Monday, February 20-Friday, February 24**

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

**Saturday February 25**

Portage 3:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

### **The Sunday of Cheesefare**

**Sunday February 26, 2017**

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy

[+Regina Havrilla, by John & Barbra Havrilla]