



Ss. 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 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.

Epistle Readers Schedule

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|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Sunday, April 23</u> | <i>Maddy Single</i> | <u>Sunday, April 30</u> | <i>Alex Bisaha</i> |
| <u>Sunday, May 7</u> | <i>Alyssa Murphy</i> | <u>Sunday, May 14</u> | <i>Maddy Single</i> |

Eastern Christian Formation Program

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <u>Sunday, April 23</u> | Troitsja: <i>Ryan Lenz</i> | <u>Bulletins:</u> <i>Christina Goral & Issabella Crum</i> |
| <u>Sunday, April 30</u> | Troitsja: <i>Christina Goral</i> | <u>Bulletins:</u> <i>Hunter Whitcomb & Cierra Goral</i> |
| <u>Sunday, May 7</u> | Troitsja: <i>Cierra Goral</i> | <u>Bulletins:</u> <i>Evan Lenz & Sydney Leturgey</i> |



Pascha—the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

A most joyful, blessed, and peaceful celebration *of Pascha—the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ*. It is my hope that in observing these days of Holy Week and in witnessing the glory of the Risen Lord which is revealed to us on this day, that our faith is strengthened and renewed. This is called *“Bright Week”*; a term which expressed the observance of this week as expressive of the joyful and radiant spirit which fills our churches today:

“This is the week of joy, for Christ has destroyed the kingdom of death and the power of sin, and has established the Kingdom of God. Death no longer reigns over human life, and paradise is re-opened to all, symbolized by the Royal and Beautiful Doors of the Iconostasis remaining open throughout the week. Through the power of the Spirit, all of humankind and the whole cosmos are renewed. In the ancient tradition, the newly-baptized, having entered into a new life in the hope of Resurrection, wore their white garments of joy and purity throughout the week. We do not chant for the departed during this week, for Christ has destroyed the power of death.”

[Typicon, p. 33]

The Week of Pascha—Bright Week

- We share the greeting *“Christ is risen!”*, *“Indeed He is risen!”* from now until Ascension, which is derived from the greeting of the disciples [Luke 24:34].
- There is no fasting during Bright Week.
- Through the fifty days from Pascha [Sunday of the Resurrection] until Pentecost, there is no kneeling at any time of prayer.
- On *Bright Monday*, there is a procession which stops at the four sides of the church, and at each side we read the accounts of the resurrection from each of the four Gospels.

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!
Christos Voskrese! Voistinnu Voskrese!
Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

Annual “Mother’s Day/Father’s Day” Breakfast—Sunday, May 7

The *Annual “Mother’s Day/Father’s Day” Breakfast* is scheduled for Sunday, May 7 following the Divine Liturgy. A sign-up list will be in the back of the church next Sunday.

Also at the breakfast will be the presentation of the 2016-2017 *Attendance Awards* for our *Eastern Christian Formation* students.

Archbishop William Skurla's Paschal Message

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Christos Voskrese! Voistinnu Voskrese!

We are gathered in a spirit of joy and hope in our churches around the world to hear and sing that Christ is Risen! We participate and enter into the time of feasting and celebration that, as Christ is Risen, we also will rise and live forever as members of the kingdom of God!

When we listen to the Gospel story in the readings, Stichera, and hymns of Holy and Great Week, we hear that the experience of the disciples is an emotional roller coaster of feelings ranging from dread to ecstasy. Their world did not understand the disciples and challenged their beliefs at every turn. They overcame their fears by their encounter with the Risen Jesus. What had been foretold by the prophets and by Jesus was confirmed as being true and real. We share in their experience and our faith is enriched each Easter. With each passing year we travel to a deeper level of understanding.

We can only imagine what non-believers in Jerusalem understood or thought of the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The recent movie ***Risen*** retells the Easter story in an imaginative way from the perspective of an unbelieving Roman soldier. It was a time of war, violence, and social upheaval. Although the visual events are too strong for young children, the imaginary story line follows an investigation of the death and Resurrection of Jesus by the soldier. Like a modern detective story the soldier interviews witnesses and looks at evidence to disprove the Resurrection. However, his investigation and his encounter with the Risen Jesus transform him into one who believes that Jesus is the Messiah. He abandons his service to the empire to serve the kingdom of the Lord.

In my lifetime our world has become ever closer to the world seen in the movie and to the world described in the gospel accounts. The news of violence, social unrest, and the growing number of unbelievers is increasing. We live in a world that needs healing. It is a broken world in need for each of us to continue to proclaim that Christ is Risen! If we believe, there is hope for the world.

We pray that this Easter brings the joy of the Resurrection to you and to your loved ones. We thank you for your attendance at the Lenten and Easter services and your support of your church and communities this year. As we bless and share our Easter, we pray that it will enrich you physically and spiritually to be like the soldier in the movie and the apostles who lived and proclaimed to all that Christ is Risen!

Sincerely yours in Christ.

Most Reverend William C. Skurla, D. D.

Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Liturgical Chant – Bright Week & Thomas Sunday

- The Divine Liturgy the ***Bright Monday [9:00 am]*** and ***Bright Tuesday [9:00 am]*** and throughout ***Bright Week*** may be found from pages 172-174 in the Divine Liturgy book.
- The Divine Liturgy for ***Thomas Sunday—the Second Paschal Sunday***, and ***the Feast of the Holy Great Martyr George [Sunday, April 23]*** may be found in the Divine Liturgy books from pages 175-177 and for ***the Holy Great Martyr George*** on pages 332-334.

Eastern Christian Formation Program

There are no *ECF* classes *today*, Sunday, April 16, Pascha—the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord. Classes will resume on Sunday, April 23, *Thomas Sunday*.

Urgent Need for Annual Festival

As was presented in the bulletin and also announcements at the Divine Liturgy these past weeks, there is a need for someone to take the responsibility for cooking and kitchen duties for the Annual Festival. There has been some interest and response to this announcement. The food which we serve is really the anchor for all the other aspects of the festival. The date scheduled for this year's Festival is **Sunday, July 9, 2017**.

A meeting regarding the festival is planned for the week of April 24. The day and time of the meeting will be listed in next Sunday's bulletin. Please contact Father Jim if you are able to help with the responsibility for this task of the kitchen, or if you have a suggestion. *Thank you!*

Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of + **Helen Vrabel**, who fell asleep in the Lord this past week. Her funeral service will be at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage on Tuesday at 1:00 pm. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to all of her family.

Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of +**Josephine Bozella**, the mother-in-law of George Pyo, who fell asleep in the Lord on April 12. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to George Andrea, and to all of her family.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Walter Prozialeck**, [Cambria Care, Ebensburg]; **Helen Zaher** [Cambria Care]; **Fred Tutsock** [Lee Campus--Select Specialty]; **Pauline Barelich**; **George Yatsky**; **Ruby Moore**; **Charles** and **Joan Plishka**; **Frank Alberts**; **Tom Goncher**; **Joan Ditko**; **Cliff Inman**; **Shawn Crum**; **Basil** infant from St. Mary's, Cambria City; **Ellen Colwell**, Fr. Jim's sister; and all the ill & homebound.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Byzantine Catholic Seminary—17th Annual Cyril & Methodius Lecture

Very Rev. Peter Galadza will be the speaker at the 17th annual Ss. Cyril and Methodius Lecture of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Fr. Peter will speak on "**Vatican Guidelines for Church Music: Eastern Christian Prospects and Problems.**" The lecture will be held at St. John Cathedral Center, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, PA 15120.

For more information, please call the Seminary office at 412-321-8383 or visit the website www.bcs.edu.

St. Demetrius Parish, Gallitzin Roast Beef Dinner/Spring Festival

St. Demetrius Parish in Gallitzin will hold its fourth **Annual Roast Beef Dinner/Spring Festival** on Sunday, April 23. It will feature games, baskets, a bake sale, and of course our delicious roast beef dinner. Location: Church hall (former St. Patrick building) at the top of Church Street. Time: 11:00 a.m. to...? Tickets: Adults (eat-in or take-out) \$10.00; Children 6-to-12, \$6.00; 5 and under FREE.

Spring Basket Auction

G.C.U. Lodge 93 is sponsoring the annual **Spring Basket Auction** at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, Northern Cambria on **Sunday, April 30** from 11:30 am until 3:30 pm, with basket drawings beginning at 3:00 pm. Along with the baskets there will be special raffles, free desserts and beverages. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Church Hall.

Women's Day of Reflection

The Archeparchial Office of Religious Education will sponsor the 14th annual **Day of Reflection for Women** on **Saturday, May 6**, 9 am-2:30 pm, at the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist, Munhall.

The theme is **"A Kaleidoscope of Gifted Women"**. Speakers include *Amy Brooks*; *Giselle Fetterman* and *Dee Ruckert* on a variety of inspirational topics. Proceeds from the Benefit Auction of baskets will be given to local women's shelters. Brochures are in the narthex. The cost is \$25; includes lunch. To register [by **April 20**] use the form in the brochure, or call **412-322-8773**.

Genealogy Workshop in Pittsburgh Area

The "Nashi Predky -- Our Ancestors" Family History Group hosts its **Annual Spring Genealogy Workshop** **Saturday, May 6**, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian American Citizens' Club in Carnegie, Pennsylvania. The goal of this workshop is to help people research their family roots in Ukraine and adjoining countries, including Poland, Slovakia, Romania, Belarus, and Russia. Anyone having roots in this region, no matter how they may identify, is welcome.

Registration information is on the flyer on the bulletin board, or at www.mashipredb.org. For information via e-mail at genealogy@ukrhec.org.

Fatima Pilgrimage

100th Anniversary Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal, three dates in October 2017. The all land inclusive cost: \$2149 in twin accommodations. For further information please call Mr. James Adair at 1-855-564-1008 toll free or simply email pmadair@thecatholictour.com.

Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer

At Home: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Dorothy Billy; Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; 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 Cimbal; 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:** June Nezeski; Mary Yetsko; Helen Zaher
- **The Winds at Mattern Orchard, Duncansville:** Mary Vrabel
- **Brookside Manor, Portage:** Andrew Majer
- **Amber Hills Ebensburg:** Edward Andrykovitch [Beaverdale]; *Father Ronald Borsuk*
- **Cambria Care, Ebensburg:** Helen Zaher; Walter Prozialeck [Dunlo]

Liturgical Schedule Bright Week—April 16, 2017

Pascha – The Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Saturday April 15

Portage **7:00 PM**

Resurrection Matins & Paschal Divine Liturgy

Followed by Blessing of Paschal Food & Social

Sunday April 16

Dunlo **8:00 AM**

Procession & Paschal Divine Liturgy

Followed by Blessing of Paschal Food

Portage **10:30 AM**

Paschal Divine Liturgy

Bright Monday April 17

Portage **9:00 AM**

Divine Liturgy

Followed by Procession with the Resurrection Gospels

Bright Tuesday April 18

Portage 8:40 AM

Hours of Bright Week

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

1:00 PM

Funeral of **+Helen Vrabel**

Bright Wednesday April 19

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Bright Thursday April 20

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Bright Friday April 21

Portage 7:50 AM

Hours of Bright Week

8:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

Bright Saturday April 22

Portage 3:00 PM

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Beaverdale 4:30 PM

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Second Paschal Sunday - Sunday of Thomas

The Holy, Glorious and Victorious Great Martyr George the Wonderworker

Saturday April 22

Beaverdale **5:00 PM**

Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Ann Blazosky, by Bern, Jen & Joseph]

Sunday April 23

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy