



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 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.

Epistle Readers Schedule

Sunday, July 30

Alex Bisaha

Sunday, August 6

Maddy Single

Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule

Sunday, July 23

Troitsja: *Cierra Goral*

Bulletins: *Christina Goral & Issabella Crum*

Sunday, July 30

Troitsja: *Christina Goral*

Bulletins: *Evan Lenz & Sydney Leturkey*

Sunday, August 6

Troitsja: *Issabella Crum*

Bulletins: *Ryan Lenz & Hunter*

Whitcomb



Gospel Reflection...

Jesus inquires of the two blind men who approach him in [Matthew 9:27-31](#), “Do you believe that I can do this?” [[Mt. 9:28](#)]. In turn, their answer “Yes, Lord” is a positive and confident profession of faith. This faith is then recognized by Jesus. As he heals and restores their sight, Jesus responds, “According to your faith be it done to you” [[Mt. 9:29](#)].

It is important to note that this is the exercise of faith as an act of trust, a demonstration of an active expression and application of faith. It is precisely the capacity to live and demonstrate faith on this level that so often the work of Jesus calls forth. It presupposes the faith which is a conviction of the truth which we believe. But it is the capacity to allow faith to be active and have an influence on me concretely, on the events and direction of my life.

The Gospels on several occasions present incidents of someone who is blind coming to Jesus to receive sight. Of course, these incidents usually include at least implicitly reference to spiritual blindness. There is the realization that the even more important work of Jesus is to bring the light of truth, illumination which is the product of grace and works from within.

Today’s Gospel also includes Jesus delivering a man from demonic possession which has prevented him from speaking [[Mt. 9:32-35](#)]. This results in a mixed reaction from those present. “The multitude” are said to marvel at this work of Jesus: “Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel” [[Mt. 9:33](#)]. On the other hand, the Pharisees are not receptive to Jesus’ work and respond with the criticism that Jesus cast out demons by the “prince of demons” [[Mt. 9:34](#)]. Here indeed is evidence of the effects of “spiritual blindness”—not being able to recognize and acknowledge God’s work, even when present in a manifest way. The light of faith is operative within us when our capacity to wonder and to acclaim God’s grace and God’s goodness is present and flourishes within us.

A Celebration of Marriage

The annual celebration to honor married couples who are observing their **Wedding Anniversaries** of **10, 25, 40, 50, 55, 60, 65, or additional years that are multiples of five** in 2017 is on **Sunday, September 10**. A Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving will be celebrated by Metropolitan William at St. Elias Church in Munhall at 3 pm, followed by a dinner. Please inform Father Jim if you are observing one of these anniversaries in 2017 so that you may receive an invitation to this event, and also a Certificate from Metropolitan William in commemoration of your jubilee.

2017 Faith and Fun Day for Altar Servers

The **2017 Faith and Fun Day** for Archieparchial Altar Servers will be on Thursday, August 24. The day will consist of The Divine Liturgy at Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks, lunch at HolyGhost Hall, visit to Carnegie Science Center, and followed by a 4:05 p.m. Pirates baseball game at PNC Park. Details for Altar Servers planning to attend will be provided in the coming weeks.

83rd Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help—Uniontown, Pennsylvania

The *83rd Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help* takes place during the Labor Day Weekend, September 2-3, 2017. We are planning to have a chartered bus to the Pilgrimage on Sunday, September 3. A sign up list for the bus will be in the narthex. Families are especially encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to attend the Pilgrimage.

Many, Happy Years!

On Friday, July 21 a Divine Liturgy of Welcome was celebrated upon the arrival of **Most Reverend Milan Lach** as Apostolic Administrator of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma. Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla celebrated the Divine Liturgy in the presence of Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Papal Nuncio to the United States.

At the time of his appointment, Bishop Milan Lach, 43 years old, was auxiliary bishop of the Archeparchy of Presov, Slovakia. Please remember in your prayers **Bishop Milan** and the clergy and faithful of the Eparchy of Parma.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Church Cleaning & Work Party for August

- The **Work Party** for August is scheduled for **Saturday, August 5**, at 9:00 am.
- The **Church Cleaning** for August is scheduled for **Monday, August 7**, at 9:00 am.
- **Thank You** to those who volunteer for the monthly **Work Party** and **Church Cleaning**.

Parish Advisory Council Meetings

The meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saints Peter & Paul, Portage is scheduled for **Thursday, August 3**, 7:00pm in the conference room of the rectory. Minutes of the previous meetings of **Wednesday, May 4**, will be included in next Sunday's bulletin.

The next meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saint Mary's, Beavertdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is **Thursday, August 10**, at 7:00 in the conference room of the rectory.

Parish 100th Anniversary

The celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Saints Peter and Paul Church, Portage is scheduled for **Sunday, November 5**. The *Hierarchical Divine Liturgy* with Metropolitan Archbishop William will be at 3:00 pm. The Anniversary Banquet will follow the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy.

The next meeting to plan for this observance is **Monday, August 7** at 7:00 pm in the social room of the church hall. If you would like to help assist with the details of this celebration, please come.

Catechists Meeting

A meeting for our Catechists is scheduled for **Sunday, July 30** immediately following the Divine Liturgy [about 10:30 am]. Catechists will meet to continue planning classes for the 2017-2018 Eastern Christian Formation classes.

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, July 30**, the **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**, Resurrection Troparion Tone 7, may be found on p. 156-158.
- The “Our Father”, in Tone 7 may be found on p.72.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **George Yatsky; Marian Simala; Barbara Raptosh; Roseann Chappell**, Tammy Whitcomb’s mother; **Kathryn Mackovyak; Pauline Barelich; Ned Moore; Ruby Moore; Charles** and **Joan Plishka; Charles Martin Plishka Tom Goncher; Joan Ditko; Cliff Inman; Shawn Crum; Carson James**, an infant with an aggressive form of brain cancer; infant **Basil; Ellen Colwell; Jessi Tomko** Fr. Jim’s niece; **Father Joseph Borodach** Saint Mary’s, Bradenville; **Father Edward Lucas** [Harmarville Rehabilitation Institute]; **Father Simeon Sibenik** SS. Peter & Paul, Warren, Ohio; **Father John Salko** [Providence Place, Drums PA; and all the ill & homebound.

Offerings for June	<u>June 4</u>	<u>June 11</u>	<u>June 18</u>	<u>June 25</u>
Portage:	\$1,697.00	\$1,377.00	\$2,039.00	\$2,234.00
Beaverdale:	\$ 338.00	\$ 415.00	\$ 333.00	\$ 452.00
Dunlo:	\$ 100.00	\$ 347.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 210.00

Cemetery Donations

We gratefully acknowledge donations in memory of **+Bill** and **+Lorraine Valko** to Saint Peter and Paul’s Cemetery, Dunlo from Peter and Thresa Valko; and from Sharon and Mack Duplaga.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Byzantine Catholic Family Day at Kennywood Park

The **97th GCU & Byzantine Catholic Family Day** at Kennywood Park will be Thursday, July 27, 2017. Discounted admission and ride tickets for Kennywood Park: \$24 for ages 3-54; \$14 for ages 55+. \$9.99: 70+--Super Senior. Tickets for the Lunch Buffet are \$15. For tickets contact the parish office.

Byzantine Radio Ministry and Internet Out-Reach

The **Byzantine Divine Liturgy** is broadcast live from Holy Ghost Church in McKees Rocks, Sundays 9:00 a.m. on WEDO 810-AM and via Internet at www.holvghost-byzantinecatholic.org (click on the "Listen Live" link on main page). Contributions to help sustain this ministry are needed year-round. Checks of support payable to: Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and sent to: Chancery Office, 66 Riverview Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15214; ATTN: Radio Liturgy Ministry.

“Groovin at the Grove”

Resurrection parish is sponsoring **“Groovin at the Grove”** at their grove in Tanneryville Each Groovin will start with an Outdoor Mass at 5:30 PM, food will be available after Mass. Music from 7 PM to 10 PM. Saturday, August 19: **Flood City Brass**.

Byzantine Catholic Seminary Offers On-Line Master of Arts in Theology

In Fall 2017, the Byzantine Catholic Seminary is launching a fully online Master of Art in Theology degree program. These classes will consist of the same in-house courses and utilize many of our in-house faculty to deliver a fully online Master of Arts in Theology degree program.

Byzantine Online seeks to produce exceptional academic leaders in Eastern Christian theology, scripture and dogma. Through Byzantine Online, one has the chance to join with a Catholic community who by God's grace will form some of the future leaders for the Church. For more details visit www.online.bcs.edu or call 412-321-8383

Invitation to a Pilgrimage:

The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic parish in Revloc invites you to a pilgrimage to the ***Mother of God of Zarvanytsia***. Our Lady appeared in Zarvanytsia in 1240 [Ukraine]. Many miracles have been attributed to the icon. Our parish has a replica of this icon. On Sunday, August 20 we ask you to come to a day of prayer and reconciliation, and to see the icon for yourself.

The day will begin at 11:00 A.M. with confessions. There will also be rosary at 12:00 P.M., Divine Liturgy at 1:00 P.M., and a Moleben Service at 4:00 P.M. There will also be time for private prayer and meditation. Food will be available for sale

Iconography Workshop—Icon of Saint Nicholas

An ***Iconography Workshop--Saint Nicholas*** for all levels of experience will be offered September 29--October 1, 2017 at Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church 217 Fourth Street Conemaugh, PA.

The Instructor, Marylyn Barone, has written icons since 1997. She gives workshops in parishes across Pennsylvania, Ohio and New Jersey and is able to teach people of all ages and abilities, Marylyn has written icons for many parishes and individuals. The workshop is sponsored by GCU Lodge 625; for more information, call Georgia Lehman 814 242-2083.

The cost of \$ 125.00; Includes all supplies [10 x 12 Gesso covered birch board, paint, brushes and 23 karat gold leaf; lunch. Times: Friday 6:00 pm-9:30 pm; Saturday 9:00 am-6:30pm; Sunday 12:00 until finished.

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 Cimba.

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; Fred Tutsock
- **The Winds at Mattern Orchard, Duncansville:** Mary Vrabel
- **Brookside Manor, Portage:** Andrew Majer
- **Amber Hills Ebensburg:** Edward Andrykovitch [Beaverdale]; *Father Ronald Borsuk*
- **John Paul II Manor, Cresson:** Kathryn Mackovyak

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **+George Haschak**, requested by daughter, Patty Haschak.

Liturgical Schedule 8th Week After Pentecost —July 23, 2017

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday July 22

Dunlo **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday July 23

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

[George and +Mae Haschak, by Patty Haschak]

Monday July 24

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday July 25

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Wednesday, July 26

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
 8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Marge Tigyer, by O'Toole Family]

Thursday, July 27

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
 8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Anna Pristas, by Ron, Rose, and Grace Pristas]

Friday July 28

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Saturday, July 29

Portage 3:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Beaverdale 4:30 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday July 29

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday July 30

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

[Edward Olshavsky, by Maxine Olshavsky & Family]