



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, August 6 *Maddy Single* **August 13** *Alex Bisaha*

Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule

Sunday, July 30 Troitsja: *Christina Goral* **Bulletins:** *Evan Lenz & Sydney Leturgey*
Sunday, August 6 Troitsja: *Issabella Crum* **Bulletins:** *Ryan Lenz & Hunter Whitcomb*
Sunday August 13 Troitsja: *Evan Lenz* **Bulletins:** *Cierra Goral & Christina Goral*



Gospel Reflection...

Throughout the Gospels there are numerous meals involving Jesus. At times he welcomes sinners and eats with them. Also, there are meals when Jesus is seated at table and finds occasion to teach. Especially significant are the scenes when Jesus hosts a multitude in the wilderness, miraculously providing bread and fish. In all of these instances, and others as well, such meals prepare his disciples and the church for the Eucharist.

Today's Gospel is the account of the miraculous feeding in the wilderness in [Matthew 14:14-22](#). Here Jesus teaches the crowd which has followed him into a deserted place. Jesus teaches until evening falls. The combination of the late hour and the remote location prompts the disciples to suggest that Jesus end the sermon and send the people away.

There ensues a brief dialogue between Jesus and the disciples which is full of meaning. It involves a circumstance which we also may face from time to time. How do we respond to a situation that demands more resources than we have available? The disciples have only five loaves and two fish. So having so little, they feel there is no other choice than to send the people away. Notice that Jesus does not offer to respond to this need without them. He does not say, "I will do it for you." Instead he directs the disciples to bring their meager resources, the five loaves and two fish, to him.

It is often our dilemma that feeling that we can do little, we choose to do nothing. But instead, Jesus says to them, "Give them what you do have". Do what you can, Jesus says, and I will join with you and complete and perfect your efforts. There are occasions when we face our inadequacy, feel helpless in the face of problems or circumstances in the world around us. Today's Gospel guides us and informs us how we might deal with such moments.

Blessing of Grapes and Other Fruit

Next Sunday, August 6 we celebrate the **Feast of Transfiguration of our Lord**. The custom of blessing *grapes and other fruit* takes place in conjunction with this Feast, as we give thanks to God for the harvest of the summer fruits. You are encouraged to bring grapes and other fruit on this occasion. This blessing will follow both Vespers with Divine Liturgy on Saturday at Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo and also the Divine Liturgy on Sunday at Saints Peter & Paul, Portage.

Faith and Fun Day for Altar Servers-- Thursday, August 24th

Altar Servers! Mark your calendar for Thursday, August 24, and get ready for another great day of "**Faith & Fun.**" Open to all active altar servers (elementary through college), this exciting day sponsored by the Office of Vocations is a way to say "thank you" to active altar servers for volunteering time and service to the Church.

From The Divine Liturgy, to a hearty lunch, to a visit to the Carnegie Science Center, and ending with a Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball Game, you'll have a truly memorable experience. Don't delay — space is limited. Contact Father Jim to sign up!

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.

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, Beavertown 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 re-scheduled for **Sunday, August 6**, 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

- For Vespers with the Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord**, the *Vigil Divine Liturgy* is in the Divine Liturgy book on p. 104; Vesper stichera will be in a separate handout.
- The Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord** [**Sunday, August 6**] may be found in the Divine Liturgy book beginning on page 346.
- The *"Our Father"*, Tone 4 Podoben may be found on p.74.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

83rd Annual Pilgrimage --Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help The Tradition of Pilgrimage...

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.

When Pope Pius XI of blessed memory sent the gift of an Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help to the Sisters of St. Basil, he requested that the Sisters spread devotion to the Mother of God under this title. In response, the Sisters initiated a Pilgrimage in her honor. Since 1934, thousands of Pilgrims have made the sacred journey of Pilgrimage to Mount St. Macrina. Here they place their needs, their hopes and desires in prayer at the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

This year, the Sisters of St. Basil the Great celebrate the 83rd Annual Pilgrimage in honor of our Lady of Perpetual Help. Therefore, it is quite appropriate that the original icon that was presented to the Sisters by Pope Pius XI, will be the centerpiece of this year's sacred journey of the Pilgrimage.

The Pilgrimage provides for the diverse spiritual needs of many pilgrims who frequent this major unifying event in the life of the Byzantine Catholic Church. Its participants include clergy and faithful from across the country. It holds the distinction of being the oldest and the largest Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the United States.

The Sisters of St. Basil invite all to join them in honoring the Mother of God under the title of Theotokos, Fountain of Mercy, as they follow the direction of Pope Francis' message of mercy: Together let us pray to the Virgin Mary that she helps us to walk in faith and charity, ever trusting in the Lord's mercy; He always awaits us, loves us, has pardoned us with His Blood and pardons us every time we go to Him to ask His forgiveness. Let us trust in His mercy

Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Edward Kohler** of Saint Peter and Paul, Dunlo, who fell asleep in the Lord this past week. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to his sons Edward and Frank, and to all of his family.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Carol Slifko** of St. Mary's, Beaverdale [UPMC-Magee]; **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**; infant **Carson James**; infant **Basil**; **Ellen Colwell**; **Jessi Tomko** Fr. Jim's niece; **Father Joseph Borodach**; **Father Edward Lucas**; and all the ill & homebound.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

"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 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.

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
- **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

The Dormition Fast

The final Feast of the Church Year is the *Dormition of the Theotokos* which we celebrate on August 15. To mark the significance of this day, it is preceded by a two week fast or period of preparation, from August 1-14. Our Metropolitan Church identifies this as one of the four penitential seasons of the Church year. Its observance is voluntary.

Liturgical Schedule 9th Week After Pentecost —July 30, 2017

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]

Monday July 31

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday August 1

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Wednesday, August 2

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Helen Spontak, by Family]

Thursday, August 3

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Friday August 4

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+John Batche, by Don Timura & Family]

Saturday, August 5

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

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

Saturday August 5

Dunlo **5:00 PM** *Vespers* with the *Divine Liturgy*
Followed by Blessing of Grapes & Fruit

Sunday August 6

Portage **9:00 AM** **Sunday Divine Liturgy** [+Audrey Pyo, by Barbara & John Havrilla]
Followed by Blessing of Grapes & Fruit