



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.

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### **Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule**

<b><u>Sunday, August 27</u></b>	Troitsja: <i>Ryan Lenz</i>	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> <i>Sydney Leturgey &amp; Ryan Lenz</i>
<b><u>Sunday September 3</u></b>	Troitsja: <i>Hunter Whitcomb</i>	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> <i>Cierra Goral &amp; Hunter Whitcomb</i>
<b><u>Sunday September 10</u></b>	Troitsja: <i>Cierra Goral</i>	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> <i>Issabella Crum &amp; Christina</i>



## **The Liturgical Year: Endings, Beginnings**

A significant point in our Liturgical Year occurs this week. September 1 is reckoned as the **Beginning of the New Church Year**. The First Ecumenical Council [325] decreed that the Church's year begins on September 1. The lunar month corresponding to September on the Jewish calendar was the beginning of the civil year [[Exodus 12:2](#)]. With this we observe the final feast of the Church Year, the **Beheading of Saint John the Baptist** on Tuesday, August 29.

This feast, which commemorates the martyrdom of Saint John the Baptist [[Mark 6:14-29](#)] is one of several commemorations of the Baptist during the Church Year. This indicates his importance in Byzantine tradition and spirituality. There is reference to his significance in Jesus' own testimony to him: "**history has not known a man born of woman greater than John the Baptist**" [[Matthew 11:11](#)]. He is ranked as the greatest of saints, second only to Mary the Theotokos.

Throughout his life and ministry, Saint John proved to be a model of the Christian life. He humbled himself and was exalted through his humility to become the greatest of prophets. The consistent theme of his preaching was, "**After me is to come a man who ranks ahead of me, because he was before me**" ([John 1:30](#)). The contrast between Jesus and John was great. John fasted and was a model of penitence; Jesus ate and drank with sinners. Yet John saw Jesus as the One who would renew creation: "**I baptize you in water for the sake of repentance, but He it is who will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire**" [[Matthew 3:11](#)].

[From Fr. David Petras, [Light for Life](#), Part One, pp. 45-46]

## **83rd Annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mount Saint Macrina, Uniontown**

The **83rd Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help** is Saturday-Sunday, September 2-3, 2017. *Information on the Charter bus to Mount Saint Macrina on **Sunday, September 3** is on next page of the bulletin.* For those travelling to the Pilgrimage, here are some highlights of the schedule of services:

<b>Saturday, September 2</b>	10:00 am	<i>Divine Liturgy</i>
	4:00 pm	<i>Vespers with Divine Liturgy</i>
	7:30 pm	<i>Parastas Service at Cemetery</i>
<b>Sunday, September 3</b>	8:30 am	<i>Divine Liturgy in Church Slavonic</i>
	10:30 am	<i>Divine Liturgy</i>
	1:00 pm	<i>Children's Procession</i>
	4:00 pm	<i>Hierarchical Divine Liturgy</i>
	7:30 pm	<i>Candlelight Procession</i>

**Holy Mystery of Repentance** [Confession] available 7:00 am to 5:00 pm both days

**Holy Mystery of Anointing** available 2:00 pm both days

## **Charter Bus to Annual Pilgrimage In Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

The *83rd Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help* takes place during the Labor Day Weekend, September 2-3, 2017. Transportation by charter bus to the Pilgrimage to Mount Saint Macrina is being scheduled for **Sunday, September 3**. The bus departs from our parking lot at **7:00 am**. Departure from Mount Saint Macrina will be at about 9:00 pm [following the candlelight procession]. There is a list in the back of church where you may sign up to reserve a seat on the bus. Please do so by **Sunday, August 27<sup>st</sup>**.

Please Note: Mlaker Transportation requires that all passengers must provide an emergency contact telephone number. This number must be someone who will not be on the bus.

An invitation is extended to those who have never attended the pilgrimage. Families are also encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to attend the Pilgrimage.

### **PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS**

#### **Parish 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

In the coming weeks, invitations are to be prepared so that these may be sent out in early September. There are a variety of tasks related with planning and preparation for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for which help will be needed. These will be communicated in the coming weeks.

The celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> 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, September 11** at 7:00 pm in the social room of the church hall. If you would like to help with the details of this celebration, please come.

#### **Eastern Christian Formation**

Catechists have been meeting together with Father Jim and Deacon Dan to prepare for the **2017-2018 Eastern Christian Formation**. A need that is both current and ongoing is the recruitment of candidates to serve as Catechists and in other support tasks for the Eastern Christian Formation program. We ask for your prayers in support of this important area of parish life. If you might be willing to help with the ECF program, or may have questions, you may contact Fr. Jim.

Catechists are to meet again in September, with the date and time to be announced to continue planning the 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 the ***Feast of the Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John*** [**August 29**] may be found on pages 355-357.
- The Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, September 3**, the ***Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost***, Resurrection Troparion Tone 4 may be found in the Divine Liturgy book on p. 141-142.
- The *“Our Father”*, Tone 4 may be found on p.69.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

## **Work Party & Church Cleaning for September**

- **Church Cleaning** for September will be **Monday, 11**, at **9:00 am**. This change is due to Labor Day Holiday on September 4, the first Monday of September.
- The **Work Party** will be on **Saturday, September 9**, at **9:00 am**. This change is due to Labor Day Holiday weekend on the usual first Saturday of the month.

## **Remember In Prayer**

Please pray for the health of **Moose Pyo** [UPMC-Altoona]; **Carol Slifko**; **George Yatsky**; **Barbara Raptosh**; **Roseann Chappell**, Tammy Whitcomb's mother; **Kathryn Mackovyak**; **Pauline Barelich**; **Ruby Moore**; **Charles** and **Joan Plishka**; **Charles Martin Plishka Tom Goncher**; **Patrick & Joan Ditko**; **Cliff Inman**; **Shawn Crum**; infant **Carson James**; infant **Basil**; **Ellen Colwell**; **Jessi Tomko**; **Archpriest Dennis Bogda**; **Father Edward Lucas**. [Forbes Hospital, Monroeville]; and all the ill & homebound.

## **Cemetery Care**

Maintaining our cemeteries during the summer months is a particular need for each of our parish communities. We gratefully acknowledge those who volunteer their services in cutting grass, weed trimming, etc. in the cemeteries in the respective parishes. Your financial offerings for cemetery are of course vital to this care, with includes grass cutting, trash removal services, etc. Thank you for your generosity. Envelopes for the care of cemeteries are in your box of offering envelopes.

## **OTHER NEWS & EVENTS**

### **Mustang Pride Tailgate Party**

The Portage Public Library celebrates **Mustang Pride**, with a **Tailgate Party** on **Friday, September 1**, from 4:00 pm-6:30 pm. The event will be held under the tents by the Library and features "Portage Style Chicken" by WOW Meats & More.

Cost: **Adult Meal: \$8.00**; **Kid's Meal: \$6.00**. Meals include entrée and two sides. Soda and water are available for purchase. Food tickets will be available at the library or on the day of the event.

### **Vendor Party/Basket Raffle**

**OGT Competition Dance Team** is hosting a **Vendor Party/Basket Raffle** on **Saturday, September 23** at the Portage Elementary Gym, 10 am - 3pm. Come take a chance on some baskets, shop through some great vendors, and eat some good food.

### **Byzantine Seminary Press Post-Pilgrimage Sale**

The **Byzantine Seminary Press** will be conducting a **Post-Pilgrimage Sale** at the Store September 5-7. A 25% markdown will be applied to any regular priced store items, excluding vestments and icons on consignment. The store will be open from 10 AM to 1 PM September 5, 6, & 7, 2017. If you are unable to visit the Press in person, you can email your order to: [byzantinepress@verizon.net](mailto:byzantinepress@verizon.net).

The Post-Pilgrimage Sale email orders will be accepted only on September 5, 6, & 7, 2017

## Johnstown Slavic Festival Nutroll Throwdown

Johnstown Area Heritage Association invites you to compete in *Johnstown Slavic Festival Nutroll Throwdown!* The *Third Annual Johnstown Slavic Festival* is Saturday, September 23. If anyone has a Nutroll recipe that they think is the most scrumptious, the nuttiest, the most melt-in-your-mouth delectable dessert ever —then this is their contest! Enter your special Nutroll recipe in the Slavic Festival 2017 Baba's Famous Nutroll Contest in which a carefully selected panel of local Nutroll experts will put the entries to the taste test! In addition to holding this prestigious title, the winner, to be named at the Festival, will be granted a booth at Slavic Festival 2018 at no charge!

**THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2017.** Simply go to [www.jaha.org](http://www.jaha.org) and enter to win **Baba's Famous Nutroll Contest!** Select "Special Events" and scroll down to JOHNSTOWN SLAVIC FESTIVAL on the left, print the entry form, mail or email it in to the addresses listed on the form.

## Community Lab Blood Screen

Resurrection Roman Catholic Church in conjunction with Chan Soon-Shiong Medical Center at Windber is holding a **Community Lab Blood Screen: [\$30]**, on Saturday, September 23, 7-9 a.m. at Resurrection Catholic Church Hall, 324 Chestnut Street, Johnstown. Additional Tests Offered: PSA - \$20 • Hemoglobin A1 C - \$20 • Vitamin D Level - \$35 Please call 814-467-3961 to schedule an appointment. A 12-to-14-hour fast is recommended.

You do not need to be a patient of a Windber Physician to participate; patients of any physician are welcome. No physician order is needed! Walk-ins welcome!

## Twenty-Sixth Annual Ukrainian Festival.

*Twenty-Sixth Annual Ukrainian Festival* will be Sun., Aug. 27, 12:00 PM at the Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub (County Line and Lower State Rds., Horsham, PA. Features outdoor Summer Concert of Ukrainian Dance, Music and Song; Ukrainian Social Dance (Zabava); Ukrainian ethnic foods and baked goods, a BBQ and cool refreshments will be plentiful. Visit vendors' grove and the kids' fun area. Info: 267-6643857; [eluciw@comcast.net](mailto:eluciw@comcast.net); [www.tryzub.org](http://www.tryzub.org)

### **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 Nezneski; 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
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## Liturgical Schedule 13<sup>th</sup> Week After Pentecost — August 27, 2017

### Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

#### Saturday August 26

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Elizabeth Harrigal, by Doug & March Roxby]

#### Sunday August 27

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

#### Monday, August 28

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

### Feast of the Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, & Baptist John

#### Monday, August 28

Beaverdale **6:00 PM** *Great Vespers with Litija*

#### Tuesday, August 29

Portage 8:45 AM The Third Hour  
**9:00 AM** **Divine Liturgy**

#### Wednesday, August 30

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Thursday, August 31

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour  
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Timothy O'Toole, by Ken & Connie Crum]

#### Friday September 1—*Beginning of the Church Year*

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour  
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Ann Patney, by Carol Goral]

#### Saturday, September 2

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

### Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

#### Saturday September 2

Dunlo **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Alex & +Tekla Krenisky, by John Krenisky]

#### Sunday September 3

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