



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  
Rectory: 143 Church Drive Portage, PA 15946  
Phone: 814-736-9780 Fax: 814-736-8701  
Website: [www.ByzantineCatholic.net](http://www.ByzantineCatholic.net)

**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, August 6**                      Troitsja: *Issabella Crum*                      **Bulletins:** *Ryan Lenz & Hunter Whitcomb*

**Sunday August 13**                      Troitsja: *Evan Lenz*                      **Bulletins:** *Cierra Goral & Christina Goral*

**Sunday, August 20**                      Troitsja: *Sydney Leturgey*                      **Bulletins:** *Issabella Crum & Evan Lenz*



## ***Invitation to the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help—September 2 & 3, 2017***

*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.*

*Below is the message of invitation and welcome from Sr. Ruth Plante OSBM, Provincial and the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great:*

### ***Glory to Jesus Christ***

#### ***Our Dear Friends,***

*“Often in the heat of hot summer days we search for ways to find relief and comfort. It may be by enjoying an invigorating cold drink or taking a dip in the waters of a refreshing swimming pool. Sometimes we just relax in an air-conditioned room until we are renewed.*

*“Our spiritual lives, having been parched by stress, problems, and doubt, also require refreshing and renewal. Our life's journey through the year sometimes has us walking through the "desert" of fear and uncertainty, leading us to thirst for the presence of God, his guiding hand, and his everlasting love.*

*“During our Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Perpetual Help this year, we call upon Mary as our Life-Giving Spring. We look to her to lead us to the fountain of spiritual gifts that we need to bring us to new and revitalized life.*

*“We need look no further, for Mary constantly points us to her Son—Christ, the Living Water. We in turn, venerate her as his Mother, the Life-Giving Spring from whom this living Water flows. Here our thirst will be quenched; here we will find everlasting love.*

*“We invite all in need of spiritual refreshment to join us here at Mount St. Macrina over Labor Day weekend as we celebrate the 83rd Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Come with your needs, come in openness, and allow your heart and soul to encounter the Living Water and his most holy Mother. Quench your thirst at the Life-giving Spring; then return to the journey of your life with renewed faith and hope, and the assurance of the love of Jesus.”*

*With our love and prayers,”*

*Sister Ruth Plante, Provincial  
And the Sisters of St Basil*

## **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>th</sup>**.

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.

### **Feast of the Transfiguration**

The icon of the **Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord**, is celebrated today. A commentary on this icon offers these reflections: *"At the basis of the icon there is an experience of light and the role of the icon is to reflect the light of Tabor. The icon of the Transfiguration is one of light. There is no shadow. The light however is not produced by the usual light sources but by the dazzling presence of Christ. This presence is so splendid that James, Peter and John, are unable to stand and as if struck by lightning fall down on the slope of Tabor. It is by means of light that Christ manifests the splendour of his divine Glory before undertaking the difficult trial of the cross, as the liturgy recalls."*

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.

## **PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS**

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

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

### **Parish Advisory Council Meetings**

The next meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is **Thursday, August 10**, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the rectory. Minutes of the previous meetings of **Thursday, May 18** are included in next Sunday's bulletin.

Also, minutes of the meeting of **Wednesday, May 4**, of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saints Peter & Paul, Portage are included in next Sunday's bulletin.

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

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, 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.

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## Faith and Fun Day for Altar Servers

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!

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## Catechists Meeting

A meeting for our Catechists is scheduled for **today--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

- The Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, August 13**, the **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**, Resurrection Troparion Tone 1, may be found in the Divine Liturgy book on p. 125-127; and for the **Leave-taking of the Feast of the Transfiguration** on page 346-351.
- The "Our Father", Tone 1 may be found on p.66.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

## *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.

## 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**; **Monsignor Peter Tay** a retired priest of the Archeparchy [Allegheny General Hospital]; **Father Joseph Borodach**; **Father Edward Lucas**; and all the ill & homebound.

## OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

### Annual Portage Summerfest

**Annual Portage Summerfest** August 11, 12, and 13 with events at Crichton McCormick Park. The Summerfest Parade on Main Street at 2:00 pm. Also featured is the Portage Area Cruisers Car Club Show. More information at [www.portagearesummerfest.com](http://www.portagearesummerfest.com).

## **Fatima Devotions in Loretto**

The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating Fatima Devotions Sunday, August 13 6:30 P.M. in the gardens at Immaculate Conception Chapel on the campus of Saint Francis University. The singing will be led by the choir from St. Benedict's in Johnstown and the sermon will be delivered by Fr. Richard Davis, T.O.R. A cordial welcome to all.

## **"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*.

## **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* on Sunday, August 20. The day of prayer and reconciliation begins at 11:00 A.M. with confessions and also includes 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. The Instructor, is Marylyn Barone, who gives workshops in parishes across Pennsylvania, Ohio and New Jersey. 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 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

