



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.

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### **Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule**

**Sunday September 24** Troitsja: *Issabella Crum*

Bulletins: *Ryan Lenz & Hunter Whitcomb*

**Sunday October 1** Troitsja: *Evan Lenz*

Bulletins: *Cierra Goral & Christina Goral*

**Sunday October 8** Troitsja: *Christina Goral*

Bulletins: *Sydney Leturgey & Evan Lenz*



## **Catechetical Sunday—Sunday, September 24**

**Today**, we observe **Catechetical Sunday**, as we begin our **Eastern Christian Formation** classes for the 2017-2018 program. Classes for K through high school meet on Sunday following Divine Liturgy [10:15-11:15 am.]. At the dismissal of the Divine Liturgy today, there will be a blessing of students and also commissioning of Catechists

Please remember in your prayers this important parish ministry, for the grace of the Holy Spirit to guide the students and Catechists during the 2017-2018 Eastern Christian Formation classes. We gratefully acknowledge those who serve faithfully as Catechists

<b><u>Grade One:</u></b>	<b><i>Tammy Whitcomb</i></b>
<b><u>Grade Three:</u></b>	<b><i>Julie Brenna</i></b>
<b><u>Grade Four &amp; Five:</u></b>	<b><i>Launi Crum and Arielle Crum</i></b>
<b><u>Grade Six &amp; Seven:</u></b>	<b><i>Alisha Slanoc</i></b>
<b><u>Grade Eight &amp; Nine:</u></b>	<b><i>Deacon Daniel Perich</i></b>
<b><u>High School--Grade Eleven &amp; Twelve:</u></b>	<b><i>Father Jim Spontak</i></b>
<b><u>ECF Coordinator:</u></b>	<b><i>Deacon Daniel Perich,</i></b>

We also remember in our prayers the parents and family of our ECF students whose cooperation is so vital to the ECF program. Parents are reminded that if you anticipate your child's absence, please inform the catechists prior to class. Whenever a child is absent, parents will be asked to review the lesson for that week with the students

The Eastern Catholic Churches of America [[www.EasternCatholic.org](http://www.EasternCatholic.org)] have provided the theme for **Catechetical Sunday 2017: "Called & Sent: Living as Missionary Disciples of Christ"**. Last Sunday we included some instruction and reflection on this theme. This theme of "Living As Missionary Disciples" is to equip us for the task of the *New Evangelization*. Several important traits are listed as components that are essential to being equipped for this work:

***It is a renewed missionary impetus of the Holy Spirit...***  
***That seeks to draw each of us who are baptized***  
***To a deeper, personal and joyful encounter with Jesus Christ...***  
***That inspires a simpler, informed and attractive witness of faith to others...***  
***Inviting them to explore more deeply the meaning and message of Jesus within the life of the Church.***

Eastern Catholics, as much as those of our Western Catholic brothers and sisters, are called to be witnesses to the Gospel in *word* and *deed*. They are called to be a *light to the nations* and to fulfill their vocation as *missionary disciples* of Jesus Christ. This initiative of the Holy Spirit with the *New Evangelization* must be responded to by every individual Eastern Catholic Christian and every parish community. Prayerfully consider and discern the way that the Lord is calling and sending you as His *missionary disciple*!

## *Parish 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary--Sunday, November 5*

The celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Saints Peter and Paul Church, Portage is **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. Please note the following important information about this historic and festive occasion:

- **Please note** that on Sunday November 5, the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 3:00 pm will be the only Liturgy that day. There will not be the usual 9:00 am Divine Liturgy that day.
- **Parishioners are asked to bring a dessert [of your choice] for the dessert table, to add to the menu for this festive and memorable occasion.**
- Invitations were addressed and mailed this past week to parishioners. If you did not receive an invitation, please call the rectory so that we may send one to you.
- On Wednesday, September 27 at 10:00 am, in the social room of the church hall, additional invitations [clergy, other guests] will be prepared for mailing. If you are available to help, please come to lend a hand.
- When you complete your **RSVP** card, you may include others— out of town family members, relatives, friends—on your **RSVP** card.
- You may place the **RSVP** card in the return envelope and put in the offering basket at church, or you may return by mail. Please enclose the appropriate amount for the dinner[s]. We have tried to keep the cost as modest as possible so that families with children may attend.

The next meeting to plan for this observance is Thursday, September 28 at 7:00 pm in the social room of the church hall. If you would like to help with this celebration, please come.

## **PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS**



### **Coffee Social for October– Next Sunday**

There will be a **Coffee and Donut Social** next Sunday, October 1, following the 9am Divine Liturgy. Please take this opportunity to greet fellow parishioners and enjoy the coffee and refreshments.

### **Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost**

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost [October 1]**, Resurrection Troparion Tone, may be found on p. 161-163; and for the **Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary [October 1]**, is on p. 261-262.
- The “Our Father”, Tone 8 may be found on p.73.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

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

- **Church Cleaning** will be on **Monday, October 2**, at **9:00 am**.
- The **Work Party** for October will be adjusted to allow for preparations for the Parish 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. This adjusted scheduled will be listed in the coming weeks.

### ***Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary***

Next Sunday, October 1 we observe the Feast of the ***Protection of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary***. The following is a description of the origins of this feast:

***“On October 1, 911, during the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise, there was an all-night vigil in the Blachernae church of the Theotokos in Constantinople. Standing near the rear of the church was St. Andrew the Fool for Christ, and his disciple Epiphanius. At four o'clock in the morning, the Theotokos appeared above the people with a veil spread over her outstretched hands, as if to protect them. She was surrounded by angels and saints. Seeing this, Andrew asked his disciple, ‘Do you see the Queen and Lady of all is praying for the whole world?’***

[Byzantine Monthly Menaion, October; Metropolitan Cantor Institute]

### **Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program**

Vocations are the result of the Christian Community actively engaged in prayer that *“the master of the harvest will send out laborers for his harvest.”* Placing faith and hope in this command of the Lord, all Byzantine Catholic Churches in America has a ***Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program***. We will begin this program early on October 8. Each week, the icon will be given to a household in the parish. The family or individual accepting the icon for a week agrees to pray during that time for vocations to the Presbyterate, Diaconate, and consecrated life.

Everyone in the parish is invited to have this icon in their home for a week of special prayer for vocations. A sheet that is posted where you may sign-up to participate for the week you select.

### **Hurricanes Harvey and Irma Offering**

Metropolitan William has asked that our parishes respond to the need of those affected by the recent Hurricanes Harvey and Irma: *“We are all aware of the terrible devastation, heartbreak, and destruction left behind by hurricanes Harvey and Irma. I ask that special collections be taken in all of our churches. All funds collected will be used for the efforts of Catholic Charities USA, the official domestic relief agency of the United States Catholic Church. They and their member agencies will respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as water, food, shelter and medical care as well as to the long term needs to rebuild and recover after such widespread destruction.”*

We invite you to respond to the appeal from Metropolitan William for the need of those affected by the recent Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. There are envelopes for this need in the narthex. You may use a plain envelope or one of the *Special Offering* envelopes in the back of your box of offering envelopes and mark ***“Hurricanes Harvey and Irma Offering”***. *Please make checks payable to the parish, with “Hurricane Relief” on the memo line.*

Please continue to remember in your prayers the victims and all who have suffered loss because of Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Hurricane Irma in Florida.

### **Remember In Prayer**

Please pray for the health of ***Joe Mandichak*** [Memorial Hospital]; ***Moose Pyo; 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; Archpriest Dennis Bogda; Father Edward Lucas*** [Forbes Hospital]; and all the ill & homebound.

## OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

### Byzantine Spirituality Conference

The annual Byzantine Spirituality Conference will be held at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Munhall, November 4, 2017 9:30AM-3:00PM. The theme of the conference is: *"The Diversity of Gods Blessings"*. The following presentations will be offered: ***Challenging Issues for Eastern Catholics in America*** by Father Jason Charron; ***The Charism of Hospitality*** by Deacon Lucas Crawford; and ***Handing on the Faith*** by Professor Michael P. Krom.

The registration fee is: \$35 per person (includes lunch); parish table of 5 or more: \$25 per person. For information call 412-322-8773 or download registration form at [www.archpitt.org](http://www.archpitt.org), link ORE. There are also brochures in the narthex of church.

### Chicken BBQ Dinner and Mini-Bazaar

St. Demetrius Parish, Gallitzin will hold its annual ***Chicken BBQ Dinner and Mini-Bazaar*** Sunday September 24, in the parish Activity Center (rear 616 Church St.), Gallitzin. Dinners for Adults: \$10.00; Children 6-12: \$6.00; Children aged 5 and under: free. Takeouts: \$10.00.

A flea market will also be featured, as well as baked goods, games, and baskets. Dinner will be served from 11 a.m. until - ?

### Used Magazines

Used ***magazines, merchandise catalogs, etc.*** [especially with pictures] may be brought to the ushers' room and placed in the box there. They are needed by a family with a family member with special needs and are very much appreciated. *Thank you.*

### **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:** Mary Yetsko
- **Autumn View:** June Nezneski
- **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

### Prayer of Blessing for Students

*“Lord Jesus Christ Who embraced the little children when they came or were brought to You, and blessed them and said: “Let the little children come to me and do not stop them. The kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these; and their angels ever see the face of my Father” we beg You to look with favor on these children here present and on the devotion of their parents. Bless them today through our ministry. Let them advance in Your grace and goodness, to know You, love You, fear You, and serve You, and happily reach their blessed destiny.”*

## Liturgical Schedule 16<sup>th</sup> Week after Pentecost — September 17, 2017

### Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

#### Saturday September 23

Beaverdale 5:00 PM Vigil Divine Liturgy

#### Sunday September 24

Portage 9:00 AM **Sunday Divine Liturgy** [+Audrey Pyo, by Sam Resconich]

#### Monday, September 25

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Tuesday, September 26

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour  
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Ann Latherow, by Mary Miterko & Kathy Sekerak]

#### Wednesday, September 27

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Thursday, September 28

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Friday, September 29

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour  
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Betty Tutsock, by Connie, Jim & Dennis Robine]

#### Saturday, September 30

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

### Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

### Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos

#### Saturday September 30

Dunlo 5:00 PM Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Tyler Cimba, by Cimba Family]

#### Sunday October 1

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