



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

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.

Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule

<u>Sunday September 3</u>	Troitsja: <i>Hunter Whitcomb</i>	<u>Bulletins:</u> <i>Cierra Goral & Hunter Whitcomb</i>
<u>Sunday September 10</u>	Troitsja: <i>Cierra Goral</i>	<u>Bulletins:</u> <i>Issabella Crum & Christina Goral</i>
<u>Sunday September 17</u>	Troitsja: <i>Christina Goral</i>	<u>Bulletins:</u> <i>Sydney Leturgy & Evan Lenz</i>



Scripture Reflection...

Today's Apostolic Reading [[1 Corinthians 16:13-24](#)], has a stirring reminder of the need for an active, energetic, and courageous manner of Christian life and witness: *"Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."* [[1 Corinthians 16:13-14](#)] The lesson also calls attention to the expense of labor and effort called forth in exercising our faith. Saint Paul recommends several outstanding examples of this. He speaks of the "household of Stephanas", referring to them as "first fruits of Achaia" meaning they were the first converts in Corinth. Even more, "they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints". Then he also calls forth the cooperation of the members of the church there: *"I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer."* [[1 Corinthians 16:15-16](#)]

With a different frame of reference, the Gospel parable of the vineyard [[Matthew 21:33-42](#)] which is read today also presents this need for effort and toil in living the Christian life. The vineyard was entrusted to "tenants", who failed to be faithful in their responsibility. They were actually hostile and violent in their refusal to make a return of the fruit which was produced.

Christian life, being a member of the Church, surely must involve some degree of effort, toil, commitment, and responsibility. It means making a return as stewards of the gifts which God has entrusted to us. Also, it reminds us that failure to be faithful in this way risks the loss of this gift, with others then being called to take our place in the mission of the Church and the Kingdom of God. [[Matthew 21:41](#)]

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](#). Here are some highlights of Sunday's schedule of services:

Sunday, September 3	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	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
	7:30 pm	Candlelight Procession

Mystery of Repentance [Confession]: 7 am-5 pm; **Mystery of Anointing** available 2:00 pm.

Feast of the Birth of Mary, The Theotokos

The *Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary* is celebrated on [Friday, September 8](#). Mary was of course, a descendant of Abraham, and born from the tribe of Judah and from the line of King David. She was prepared by God's providence and design to be the one from whom would be born in the flesh Jesus, the Son of God, so that he might free people from the ancient slavery of sin.

Hurricane Harvey—Saint John Chrysostom Parish, Houston

Please continue to remember in your prayers the victims and all who have suffered loss or are at risk following the flooding in Texas caused by Hurricane Harvey. We will have information on making monetary donations for this need in next Sunday's bulletin.

Very Reverend Elias Rafaj, pastor of St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church in Houston, Texas, reported earlier in the week that although they have had one-two feet of water on the Church property it drains, and they have had no water in any of the parish buildings. Father is grateful for all of the prayers for them, and he asks that they please continue.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS



Coffee Social for September – Next Sunday, September 10

Our monthly *Coffee & Donut Socials* resume in September. Due to the Labor Day holiday, the September Coffee Social will be Sunday, September 10, instead of the usual first Sunday of the month. Please plan to come and enjoy this opportunity for conversation and refreshments with fellow parishioners.

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, 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 will meet on Sunday, September 17, following the Divine Liturgy. *Catechetical Sunday* is scheduled for Sunday, September 24. Our Students and Catechists will take part in a prayer of blessing to begin the **2017-2018 Eastern Christian Formation** program. We ask the grace of the Holy Spirit to guide the students and Catechists as we begin our classes that day.

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.

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparia and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the *Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos* [Friday, September 8], may be found on pages 243-246.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the *Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross* [September 10], Resurrection Troparion Tone 5, may be found on p. 146-148; and for the *Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*, on p. 247-249; and for the *Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos* on pages 243-246.
- The "Our Father", Tone 5 may be found on p.70.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Work Party & Church Cleaning for 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.
- **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.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **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** Canterbury Place, Pittsburgh]; **Father Edward Lucas**; and all the ill & homebound.

Cemetery Care

We gratefully acknowledge a donation to the Saints Peter and Paul, Portage Cemetery from **Edward J. Yetsko**, Vestal, New York

We also thank parishioners for their generosity in donating to our parish cemeteries, and gratefully acknowledge those who volunteer their services in cutting grass, weed trimming, etc. in the cemeteries in the respective parishes. Envelopes for the care of cemeteries are in your box of offering envelopes.

Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **Reverend Jerry Hamperzonian**, a priest of the Eparchy of Passaic, who fell asleep in the Lord on August 25; and also **Judith Anne Hopey**, former director of the Byzantine Seminary Press, who fell asleep in the Lord on August 23.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

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.

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

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!

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. To register, simply go to 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.

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.

Used Magazines

Used *magazines, merchandise catalogues, 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.*

Register NOW for Byzantine Online Classes

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Pittsburgh **Fall 2017 CERTIFICATE COURSE--September 11 to November 4, 2017**. Contact *Byzantine Online* at online@bcs.edu.

Byzantine Christian Catechesis and Christ Our Pascha: a study of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Catechism taught by Fr. Deacon Daniel Dozier. *This post-baccalaureate course explores the three main pillars of Byzantine Christian catechesis - the Faith of the Church, the Worship of the Church, and the Life of the Church, as presented in Christ Our Pascha Catechism of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Students will also explore the ministry of catechesis and evangelization in support of the Church's mission to transmit the Gospel and make disciples of all nations.*

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

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is offered this week for the health of *Cliff Inman*, requested by Patty Haschak.

Liturgical Schedule 14th Week After Pentecost — September 3, 2017

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

Monday, September 4

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, September 5

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Wednesday, September 6

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Michael Senkovich, by Ann Pobiney]

Thursday, September 7

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos

Thursday, September 7

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

Friday, September 8

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

Saturday, September 9

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

Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Mother of God

Saturday September 9

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Agnes Kuska, by Jon Gindlesperger Family]

Sunday September 10

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