



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.

Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule

Sunday October 15

Troitsja: *Ryan Lenz*

Bulletins: *Ryan Lenz & Sydney Leturgey*

Sunday October 22

Troitsja: *Hunter Whitcomb*

Bulletins: *Hunter Whitcomb & Cierra Goral*

Sunday October 29

Troitsja: *Cierra Goral*

Bulletins: *Issabella Crum & Christina Goral*



The Parable of the Sower & the Seed... The *Parable of the Sower*

and the Seed [Luke 8:5-15] is today's Gospel. It is both familiar but also puzzling in certain respects. The basic insight of the parable has to do with how people respond to the Word of God. The various types of soil and circumstances have markedly different results. The concluding words of Jesus, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear" [Luke 8:9] invite our reflection. The parable may seem to generate more questions than are answered.

We feel the disciples speak on our behalf when they ask Jesus, "What does the parable mean?" [Luke 8:9]. Jesus answers: "To you has been given to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of God, but for the others they are in parables" [Luke 8:10]. The word "mystery" is not an obscure, intellectual concept. Rather it has to do with the presence of the Kingdom of God, which cannot be defined. Instead, it is gradually revealed to us, often only in shadows. Thus the final verse expresses the dispositions symbolized by the good soil: "They are the ones who when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance." [Luke 8:15]. It is with these that we to hear God's word, welcome it with faith and taste the reality of the Kingdom of God. [From The Orthodox Study Bible, pp. 1379]

Many, Happy Years!

Congratulations and prayerful best wishes are extended to **Douglas Wayne Eckenrode** and **Katie Lynn Czapp** who were united in the Mystery of Crowning in Marriage at Saints Peter & Paul Church, Portage on Saturday, October 14.

"O God, our God, You came to Cana in Galilee and blessed the marriage there; now bless your servants who through your providence are united in the common life of marriage. Bless the daily course of their life; fill their life with good things; and accept their crowns into your kingdom, keeping them pure, blameless, and above reproach."

[Blessing, Holy Mystery of Crowning in Marriage]

Mysteries of Christian Initiation

Today, Sunday, October 15, **Amelia Margaret Crum** receives the **Mysteries of Christian Initiation** – Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist. She is the daughter of Shawn and Becky Crum.

Many happy years!

"O Lord, our Master and God, call your servant to Your holy enlightenment, and count her worthy of this great gift of Your holy baptism. Wash away the old self, and give her a new birth into everlasting life. Fill her with the power of Your Holy Spirit that she may be one with Your Christ..." [Service of Holy Baptism and Chrismation]

Covered Dish Social in Dunlo

A Covered Dish Social will be held **Saturday, October 28**, following the Vigil Divine Liturgy at Ss. Peter & Paul, Dunlo. Parishioners are asked to bring an **entrée, side dish, salad, bread or rolls, dessert, etc.**



Preparations for Parish Centennial: *This Week...*

On Thursday, October 19 at 9:00 am, we have need of volunteers for a cleaning project in the church hall. This will include removing chairs from the storage areas and cleaning them, and also cleaning the kitchen. This will prepare for having the floors stripped and waxed by a professional cleaning service over the next two weeks, on Saturday October 21 and Saturday, October 28.

If you are able to help on Thursday, October 19 at 9:00 am, please come to lend a hand. On Thursday, October 26 at 9:00 am we will continue preparing the hall with moving tables, etc. to prepare for work on the floors the following Saturday.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Next Weekend...

On Saturday, October 21, Father Jim will attend the 50th Reunion of the Class of 1967 of North Catholic High School in Pittsburgh. Father Robert Karl, our former pastor and presently a retired priest of the Archeparchy, will be here for both the Vigil Divine Liturgy in Beavertdale on Saturday, October 21 and the Sunday Divine Liturgy in Portage on Sunday, October 22.

We thank Father Bob Karl for being available to assist so that Father Jim may attend his 50th Class Reunion. Please extend a warm welcome to Father Bob Karl next weekend.

Parish 100th Anniversary -- Sunday, November 5

The celebration of the 100th 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*** 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.***
- *If you did not receive an invitation, please call the rectory so that we may send one to you.*
- 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 **Monday, October 23** at 7:00 pm in the social room of the church hall. We will prepare Table and seating arrangements at this meeting. If you would like to help with this celebration, please come.

Church Cleaning & Work Party

- The **Church Cleaning** is scheduled for **Monday, October 30**, at 9:00 am. *Please note this change in schedule.* The **Church Cleaning** is one week early, because of the 100th Anniversary celebration.
- **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, October 19**, 7:00pm in the conference room of the rectory. Minutes of the previous meetings of Wednesday, August 3, will be included in next Sunday's bulletin.

Church Sign

Recently ground covering for the perimeter of the church sign was placed. Red decorative stone placed on top of landscape fabric was used to enhance the appearance of the sign. A note of thanks to Deacon Dan Perich who volunteered to prepare the base and apply the landscape fabric, gravel and decorative stone covering.

Offerings for September				
	<u>Sept 3</u>	<u>Sept 10</u>	<u>Sept 17</u>	<u>Sept 24</u>
Portage:	\$1,677.00	\$1,429.00	\$2,057.00	\$1,158.00
Beaverdale:	\$ 315.00	\$ 335.00	\$ 267.00	\$ 460.00
Dunlo:	\$ 204.00	\$ 173.00	\$ 308.00	\$ 67.00

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the *Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost [October 22]*, Resurrection Troparion Tone 3, may be found on p. 135-137.
- The "Our Father", Tone 3 may be found on p.68.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of *Elaine Kachmar* of St. Mary', Beaverdale [Memorial Hospital]; Margaret *Prudhoe* of St. Mary', Beaverdale [Arbutus Park Manor]; *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*; and all the ill & homebound.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Byzantine Spirituality Conference

The Byzantine Spirituality Conference will be held November 4, 2017 9:30AM-3:00PM at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Munhall. The theme is: "*The Diversity of Gods Blessings*". The registration fee is: \$35 per person (includes lunch); parish table of 5 or more: \$25 per person. Registration form at www.archpitt.org, link ORE; or call 412-322-8773. Brochures are in the narthex

Lodge 351 Ham & Halupki Dinner

Join us on October 22, 2017 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the annual fundraiser for St. Jude Byzantine Catholic Church at 320 Main Street, Ernest, PA 15739 to help raise funds for renovations, heating fuel and repairs. Contact: Patty Yamrick, 724-349-7489 or pyam@comcast.net.

Retreat at Seminary for Men 18-35—November 3-5, 2017

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius "***Come and See***" weekend for men ages 18 to 35 who may be considering a vocation to the priesthood in the Byzantine Catholic Church, Friday, 3 November-Sunday, 5 November at the Seminary, 3605 Perrysville Avenue, Pittsburgh. The retreat is free of charge and includes sharing liturgical services, meals with the Seminary community, an introduction to the Seminary formation program, a tour of the Seminary, gatherings with the Seminarians, talks, and a panel discussion.

The retreat is conducted in a "no pressure, no hard-sell" environment. The atmosphere is prayerful, positive, and fraternal. Contact Fr. Jim, or use the online registration at www.bcs.edu.

Fall Basket Auction

GCU Lodge 93 is sponsoring our annual ***Fall Basket Auction*** again this year. This event will take place at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 719 Chestnut Avenue, Northern Cambria, Pennsylvania on Sunday, November 5, 11:30am to 3:00pm. The drawing will begin at 3:00pm in the Church Hall. Along with the baskets, there will be special raffles, free desserts, and beverages. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Church Hall.

"Night at the Races" in Gallitzin

St. Demetrius Church in Gallitzin is sponsoring a "Night at the Races" on October 21 at the church's Social Hall located at the rear of 616 Church St. in Gallitzin. Doors open at 5:00 pm and races will start at 6:00 pm. \$25 donation will get you a horse (while they last) for one race and admission for you and a guest. \$15 will get you a horse plus admission for one person. \$10.00 will get a single admission only. Individual betting on races and various small games of chance will be available throughout the evening. Eat-in meal and refreshments will be available to patrons. To reserve your horse, please call Brenda Smithmyer at 207-5894.

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 Yetzko
- **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
- **Church of the Brethren Home, Windber:** Anna Garanich

Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program

Last Sunday, the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon* was blessed, to begin our participation in the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon* Program. This time of Prayer for Vocations invites everyone in the parish to pray for vocations and encourage others that they might respond generously to God's call in their lives.

Sign up today. You will be greatly blessed. Please sign up on the sheet that is posted in the narthex to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon in your home.

Liturgical Schedule 20th Week after Pentecost — October 15, 2017

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Memory of the Fathers at the Seventh Ecumenical Council

Saturday October 14

Dunlo **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Edward Kollar, by Family]

Sunday October 15

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

Monday, October 16

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, October 17

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Ethel Rakar, by Penney & Rosemary Raptosh]

Wednesday, October 18

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Thursday, October 19

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Friday, October 20

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Marge Tiger, by George Pyo]

Saturday, October 21

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

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday October 21

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday October 22

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy
[+John & Dolores Hollop, by Larry and Mary Kay Summerville]