



s. 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 January 21 Troitsja Christina Goral

Bulletins: Sydney Leturgey & Ryan Lenz

Sunday January 28 Troitsja Issabella Crum

Bulletins: Hunter Whitcomb &

Sunday February 4 Troitsja Evan Lenz

Bulletins: Issabella Crum & Christina Goral



The Pre-Lenten Sundays: The Publican and the Pharisee

In approaching the season of the Great Fast we have several weeks in which the gospel lessons help to dispose us for a beneficial observance of Lent. Today, the Gospel parable of the **Publican and the Pharisee** [Luke 18:10-14] provides us with a perspective on prayer.

The parable warns us of some of the hazards we may encounter in prayer. The self-righteous Pharisee displays a pretense of prayer. His prayer asserts his own righteousness but actually is an exercise in self-deception. Saint Luke uses a shrewd play on words when he says the Pharisee “prays to himself” [Luke 18:1]. In contrast to the self-deception of the Pharisee, the Publican [tax-collector] was doubly honest in his prayer. He admitted who and what he was, and he turned to God as the only source of mercy that could save him.

We prepare to undertake the more intensive prayer, fasting, and works of charity of the Great Fast. These efforts may make us even more vulnerable to the self-righteous or judgmental attitude of the Pharisee. It is the sincere repentance and humility of the Publican that is to motivate our prayer, worship and penitential practices. [From Father John Custer, *The Holy Gospel: A Byzantine Perspective*, pp. 190-192.]

January 22nd--Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

This past week, Friday, January 19 was the **Annual March for Life** in our nation’s capital, Washington DC. Also Monday, January 22 is the **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**. We join in prayer with Catholics throughout the United States on this occasion.

In our prayers we ask that God may grant us courage to embrace his precious gift of life, even in the most difficult of circumstances. We also pray for public servants, that God grant them the humility, wisdom, and courage to defend all human life. We pray especially for unborn children in danger of abortion that they may be given the chance to live the life God has planned for them. We also include in our prayers those who feel alone in their grief following an abortion, that they may deeply experience the Lord's mercy and healing.

All Souls Commemoration for 2018

The first **All Souls Commemoration** is **Saturday, February 3 [Meatfare Saturday]**. There is an envelope provided for the All Souls Commemoration in your packet of offering envelopes.

Please use this envelope to enter names of deceased family members or relatives who are to be remembered at the Divine Liturgy and Panachida on the All Souls Saturdays. You may also confirm or renew your list of previous years. Returning this envelope at your earliest convenience will be helpful in updating and maintaining the All Souls listing.

Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program

The **Pilgrim Vocation Icon** program is an opportunity to have this icon for the week to pray for and encourage vocations. There is a need for additional parishioners and families to sign up to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon. A new list for the coming months is in the narthex.

Acknowledgments from Food Pantries, & Giving Tree Project

We have received acknowledgments from the *Portage Food Pantry* and the *Forest Hills Food Pantry* to thank our parish communities for donations of food items and cash during the Christmas season. A note from Terri Doyka acknowledging the *Giving Tree Project* to provide gifts at Christmas for children in need expresses thanks *“for making some children have a merry Christmas. Without your help they would not have had gifts to open and enjoy. It doesn’t take much to make them happy.”* Also, the letter acknowledged those who helped the family who had lost their home in a recent fire.

Letters and notes of thanks are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Statements of Parishioners’ Offerings

Statements of 2017 parishioner offerings for each parish will be prepared in the next few weeks and are to be made available by the end of January. If you have need of your 2017 offerings sooner, call the rectory office [814-736-9780] or send request to james_armand_spontak@verizon.net

The Byzantine Catholic World

Since 1955 the *Byzantine Catholic World [BCW]* has been the definitive source of news pertinent to the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and an invaluable historical chronicle of events in the life of our Church. The **BCW** is published once-a-month and provides news of our Archeparchy, its parishes, and of the church throughout the world. Also included are articles on the faith and spirituality of the Byzantine Catholic Church and other topics of importance.

The annual subscription rate is \$14. There is an envelope in your packet of offering envelopes dated January 28 which you may use to begin or renew your annual subscription. *Thank you!*

“Lost and Found”

Clothing and other items accumulated in our *“Lost and Found”* collection are in the usher’s room. Among these is a man’s coat found in the hall during the preparations for the 100th Anniversary. . You are welcome to inspect these items to determine if any belong to you or your family. Please do so by Sunday, January 28. *Items not claimed by Sunday, January 28* will be donated to the Saint Vincent de Paul Thrift Store. Thank you for your cooperation.

Blessing of Homes

To request the blessing of your home by Father Jim, please fill out this form, and place it in the offering basket or return by mailing it. In arranging an appointment, try to make it a convenient time for family members to be at home. Have a lighted candle and an icon on the table. Copies of the service for the blessing of the home will be provided for you to participate in this prayer.

I/we would like to have my/our home blessed:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Church Kitchen Project-

The church kitchen project to organize and identify kitchen equipment and supplies will continue this week on Tuesday, January 23 at 8:30 AM. Items that are no longer useful or needed will be advertised and offered for sale. A note of thanks to those who came to volunteer. You are welcome to come and lend a hand if you are available. Thank you for your interest and cooperation

<u>Offerings for December</u>	<u>Dec 3</u>	<u>Dec 10</u>	<u>Dec17</u>	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Dec 31</u>	
<u>Christmas</u>						
Portage:	\$1,926.00	\$1,276.00	\$2,545.00	\$3,797.00	\$1,778.00	\$3,875.00
Beaverdale:	\$333.00	\$350.00	\$289.00	\$ 815.00	\$162.00	\$1,085.00
Dunlo:	\$ 238.00	\$ 396.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 20.00	\$385.00

Happy 101st Birthday—Mrs. Anna Garanich

Mrs. Anna Garanich from the former Saint Michael's Parish South Fork, celebrated her **101st Birthday** on Saturday, January 20, 2018. Birthday greetings to **Anna Garanich** may be sent c/o **Rose of Sharon Home, 135 Main Street, Saint Michael PA 15951.**

Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to *Anna Garanich*. Many, happy years!

Eternal Memory-

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Nicholas Stashkevych**, the father of **Father Vitalii Stashkevych**. Archbishop William ordained Father Vitalii to the priesthood on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at the Cathedral of St. John in Munhall. Please remember Father Vitalii Stashkevych and his family in your prayers. You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Mrs. Rita Strohmeier**, the mother of Mother Theodora of the Christ the Bridegroom Community.

Liturgical Chant –Pre-Lenten Sundays

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts for **Sunday, January 28** Resurrection Troparion Tone 1, may be found on p. 125-127; and for the **Sunday of the Prodigal Son**, on p. 216.
- The "Our Father", in **Tone 1** may be found on p. 66. Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns, and other alternate melodies etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Anna Bridge** [Memorial Hospital]; **Mary Yetsko** [Memorial Hospital]; **Elaine Kachmar**; **Alina Rusnak**; **George Yatsky**; **Barbara Raptosh**; **Kathryn Mackovyak**; **Pauline Barelich**; **Ruby Moore**; **Charles and Joan Plishka**; **Tom Goncher**; **Patrick & Joan Ditko**; **Helena Ditko**; **Cliff Inman**; **Shawn Crum**; **Carson James**; **Basil**; **Ellen Colwell**; **Archpriest Dennis Bogda**; **Father Paul Tigyer**; **Trevor & Tiffany** and their infant, **Lakota**; and all the ill & homebound.

A Prayer for Vocations...

"O Holy Father, Eternal God, You have called us through baptism to discipleship with your Son, Jesus Christ, and have sent us to bring the good news of salvation to all peoples. We pray You to grant us more priests and religious to build up your Church here within our country. Inspire young men and women by the example of Blessed Theodore G. Romzha to give themselves totally to the work of Christ and His Church, now and ever and forever. Amen."

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Morning of Prayer at Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer...

Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer will host a *Morning of Prayer* on Saturday, February 3 from 10:00 am-1:00 pm. The morning will be led by *Sr. Carol Petrasovich, OSBM*. There is an offering: \$35. Registration due: January 30. Lunch is included. *Energize your prayer life and become more fruitful in your thanksgiving, praise and prayers of petition*

Daily Email Prayers from Eastern Christian Publications

Eastern Christian Publications, supplier of our Sunday Bulletin covers, is offering daily email prayer service for Morning and Evening Prayer, including the 1st, 3rd 6th and 9th Hours; and Daily Vespers (not Sundays or Feast days) for FREE. Go to their website <http://ecpubs.com/byzantine-daily-office-bdo/> and sign up. This subscription service includes all the changeable parts you need according to the Byzantine Liturgical Calendar in various PDF files viewable on any portable device

Computer- And Internet-Based Education Program for Cantors

The **Metropolitan Cantor Institute** now offers a computer- and Internet-based education program for cantors. The 8-week **Introduction to Church Singing class** covers *the role of the cantor; fundamentals of music theory and sight-singing; basic vocal technique; psalms, basic responses, and litanies in our chant tradition and the spirit of our chant*

Later courses cover the Divine Liturgy, the Eight Tones, Vespers, and special services. Except for the free **Introduction to Liturgy** and **Introduction to the Typikon** courses, each course uses regular recorded singing by students, with feedback from cantors and professional voice teachers, to help students learn or improve their knowledge and performance of church singing.

For more information, contact **Deacon Jeffrey Mierzejewski** (412 735-1676); mci@archpitt.org; or go to <http://mci.archpitt.org/MCI>.

Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer

At Home: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Dorothy Billy; Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Cathy Walters; Elsie Timura; Catherine Czapp **St. Michael (South Fork):** Michelle Maskal; **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
- **Amber Hills Ebsenburg:** Edward Andrykovitch [Beaverdale]; *Father Ronald Borsuk*
- **John Paul II Manor, Cresson:** Kathryn Mackovyak
- **Rose of Sharon Home, Saint Michael:** Anna Garanich

Sanctuary Candle

The Candle is offered this week for the intention of the *Protection of Human Life on the occasion of the Annual March for Life*, requested by Julie Brenna.

Liturgical Schedule 34th Week after Pentecost — January 21, 2018

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Saturday January 20

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

Sunday January 21

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

[For the *Protection of Human Life* on the occasion of the Annual March for Life, by Julie Brenna]

Monday, January 22

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, January 23

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Wednesday, January 24

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Anne Lazor, by Christine & Nick DePola]

Thursday, January 25

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Ed Nezneski, by Sam & Dorothy Resconich]

Friday, January 26

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Alick Prudhoe, by Jim Afton & Marie & Marty Johnson]

Saturday, January 27

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

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Saturday January 27

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

Sunday January 28

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