



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 February 11 Troitsja Sydney Leturgey
Sunday February 18 Troitsja Ryan Lenz
Sunday February 25 Troitsja Hunter Whitcomb

Bulletins: Sydney Leturgey & Evan Lenz
Bulletins: Hunter Whitcomb & Cierra Goral
Bulletins: Issabella Crum & Christina Goral



Metropolitan Williams's 2018 Lenten Pastoral Letter

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear faithful of Pittsburgh,

We begin our journey through the Great Fast during a very cold winter season. The below zero temperatures, bitter winds, and snow have extended all the way to Gulf Coast parishes of the Byzantine Church. The parishes on the shores of frozen Lake Erie were covered with over seven feet of snow. From this frigid time, we long for the return of warmth and sunshine to warm our houses. Also, during the time of the Fast, we pray to warm our hearts and prepare our minds and souls for the celebration of Easter.

The 2018 Lenten Message of Holy Father Francis from the Gospel of Saint Matthew focuses upon the chill of our hearts. "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold." Matthew 24:12. The daily stream of bad news, the proclamation of false prophets, and global issues all weigh upon our desire and ability to hope.

For each of us, the same chill we feel outside may have crept into our spiritual lives. For some, our hearts have a dusting of frost and others are buried in a foot of snow and ice. Lent gives us a time to turn inward and to try to warm up hearts and share the love of God to everyone.

The way to warm our hearts is to attend the Lenten Services at our churches and to pray each day. We are called to donate our time, treasure, and talents to our churches, our charities, and to the needy people that we meet. They could be in our families. They could be strangers to us, or even our enemies. The love we show to them warms our hearts and leads us to God.

And finally, fasting is a way of getting our body, mind, and spirit to wake up a hunger for the Holy Spirit in our lives. Like the manna in the desert for the Israelites wandering in the desert, pirohi sustain us through our journey through the Great Fast.

This cold winter will end. With spring, the light of the Resurrection will help warm our hearts and lift us up into the presence of the Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William C. Skurla, D.D.

Metropolitan Archbishop Pittsburgh

"Open to me the Doors of repentance, O Giver of life. As we worship in your temple this morning, teach us how to purify the temples of our bodies, and in your compassion, purify me by the goodness of your mercies." (Third Sunday of the Great Fast)

Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program

This week, ***Paulette & Ed Fedorko*** will have the ***Pilgrim Vocation Icon*** Program to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, monastic and religious life. 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 list for the coming months is in the narthex.

Lenten Study and Reflection Series

Classes of study and reflection during the weeks of the Great Fast begin **next Sunday, February 18**, the First Sunday of the Great Fast, from **4:00-5:30 pm**. Our topic will consist of a Sacred Scripture study. Participants are asked to bring a Bible.

Please consider coming to this opportunity to instruct and build up the faith of our parish communities...and bring a friend!

Regulations for the Season of the Great Fast - 2018

Simple abstinence

- The law of simple abstinence forbids the use of meat, but permits the use of eggs and dairy products.
- All faithful of the Archeparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe simple abstinence when prescribed. Abstinence is obligatory on all Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast.

Strict abstinence

- The law of strict abstinence (fast) forbids the use and consumption of all meat, eggs and dairy products.
- All faithful of the Archeparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe strict abstinence when prescribed.
- Strict abstinence (fast) **is to be observed in 2018 on Pure Monday, February 12** (the first day of the Great Fast), **and on Great and Holy Friday, March 30**.

Dispensations

- Priests and parents are to ensure that minors are educated in the authentic sense of penance.
- Pastors and administrators, with just cause and taking into account acceptable reasons due to personal circumstances, may grant to the individual faithful as well as to individual families, dispensations, transferals, or commutations of abstinence and strict fast into other pious practices.

Liturgical services

- The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts takes precedence over all other Lenten Devotions.
- The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts only is to be celebrated on Wednesdays and/or Friday evenings of the Great Fast and also on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Prayer Partners for the Great Fast

Following the Divine Liturgy **today** there will be an opportunity to select **Prayer Partners** for Great Lent. As we remember our *Prayer Partner* daily we are inspired by the words of Saint Paul:

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perfection, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.” [Philippians 1:9-11]

Parish Advisory Council Meetings

The next meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is **Monday, February 19**, at 7:00 pm. Minutes of previous meeting Monday, November 13, 2017 are included in next Sunday's bulletin. Minutes of the meeting Thursday, October 19, 2017 of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saints Peter & Paul, Portage are included in today's bulletin

Statements of Parishioners' Offerings

Statements of 2017 parishioner offerings have been distributed. If you have not yet taken yours from the narthex, please do so at your earliest convenience. For questions concerning your 2017 offerings statement, call the rectory office [814-736-9780] or send request to james_armand_spontak@verizon.net.

Church Kitchen Project

A project to organize and identify kitchen equipment and supplies took place over several weeks in January. There are a variety of items no longer useful or needed which are available for sale.

These items are in the church hall, placed near the kitchen entrance. If you are interested in purchasing any of these items, or know of someone who might have need of any of these items, please let Father Jim know.

The Byzantine Catholic World

The **Byzantine Catholic World [BCW]** is published once-a-month and provides news of our Archeparchy, its parishes and the church throughout the world. 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!*

Liturgical Chant –The Great Fast

- **2009 Edition of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** includes propers for the first day; Wednesdays, and Fridays for all weeks of the Fast. Pages are given before the service.
- On the **Sundays of the Great Fast**, the *Typical Psalms* [p. 16-17] replace the First and Second Antiphons; the *Beatitudes* [p. 23-24] are sung in place of the Third Antiphon. The responses for the Anaphora of Saint Basil the Great are on p. 96-100.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, February 18, Resurrection Troparion Tone 4**, are on p. 141-142; and for the **First Sunday of the Great Fast**-on pages 220-222.
- The "Our Father", in Tone 4 may be found on p. 69. Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns, and other alternate melodies etc.

Offerings for January				
	Jan 7	Jan 14	Jan 21	Jan 28
Portage:	\$2,642.00	\$1,689.00	\$1,540.00	\$1,706.77
Beaverdale:	\$393.00	\$306.00	\$ 310.00	\$258.00
Dunlo:	\$ 135.90	\$60.00	\$325.00	\$226.00

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of *Elizabeth Maskal; Anna Bridge; Elaine Kachmar; Alina Rusnak; George Yatsky; Barbara Raptosh; 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 Lakota; Betty Zahalla* of Beavertdale on her 103rd Birthday; and all the ill & homebound.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

ByzanTEEN Youth Rally—July 5-8 2018 “Who Is My Neighbor?” Saint Vincent College, Latrobe Pennsylvania

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

Used Magazines Needed...

Please continue to bring *used magazines or merchandise catalogues* with photos at your convenience to ushers' room and place in the box designated for this purpose. Thanks to those who responded. A family with a family member with special needs requests these as an ongoing need.

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 (Beavertdale):** 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]
- **Autumn View:** June Nezneski
- **The Winds at Mattern Orchard, Duncansville:** Mary Vrabel
- **Amber Hills Ebensburg:** Edward Andrykovitch [Beavertdale]; *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 **+Audrey Pyo**, requested by Mary Sabo.

Liturgical Schedule First Week of the Great Fast— February 11, 2018

Sunday of Cheesefare	
<u>Saturday February 10</u>	
Beaverdale <u>5:00 PM</u>	Vigil Divine Liturgy
<u>Sunday February 11</u>	
Portage <u>9:00 AM</u>	Sunday Divine Liturgy
	[+Joseph & +Anna Homa requested by Jackie and Amber Gordon]
Portage <u>5:00 PM</u>	Cheesefare Sunday Vespers

Monday, February 12

Portage 6:30 PM
7:00 PM

First Day of the Great Fast:
Strict abstinence and fasting required
Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Tuesday February 13

No Lenten services scheduled

Wednesday, February 14

Portage 6:30 PM
7:00 PM

Simple abstinence and fasting required
Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, February 15

No Lenten services scheduled

Friday, February 16

Portage 6:30 PM
7:00 PM

Simple abstinence and fasting required
Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday, February 17

Portage 3:00 PM
Dunlo 4:30 PM

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

First Sunday of the Great Fast	
Sunday of Orthodoxy—Memory of the Holy Prophets	
<u>Saturday February 17</u>	
Dunlo <u>5:00 PM</u>	Vigil Divine Liturgy
<u>Sunday February 18</u>	
Portage <u>9:00 AM</u>	Sunday Divine Liturgy
	[+Regina Havrilla requested by John & Barbara Havrilla]