



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

Sunday February 25 Troitsja Hunter Whitcomb

Bulletins: Issabella Crum & Christina Goral

Sunday March 4 Troitsja Cierra Goral

Bulletins: Sydney Leturgey & Evan Lenz

Sunday March 11 Troitsja Christina Goral

Bulletins: Hunter Whitcomb & Ryan Lenz



The Lenten Journey—Healing Through Forgiveness of Sins

Our guide through the next several Sundays of the Great Fast is the Gospel of Saint Mark. Today's Gospel [Mark 2:1-12] involves a paralytic brought into the presence of Jesus. It takes an arduous effort of four men, carrying the man on a stretcher, making an opening in the roof, lowering the man on his stretcher to place him before Jesus. The response of Jesus is to recognize their faith and then to proclaim the forgiveness of sins for the paralyzed man.

This parallels the season of the Great Fast. Effort is required of us, if we take the Lenten disciplines of prayer fasting and almsgiving seriously. This effort is hopefully inspired also by our faith. And its aim is that we, too, would come before Jesus. Lent is also about the forgiveness of our sins. We seek forgiveness particularly in the *Mystery of Repentance—Confession*, which is to be part of our Lenten journey.

In the Gospel a connection is established between forgiveness of sins and healing. The story concludes with Jesus healing the man, who rises from his pallet and begins to walk. We approach Christ during the Great Fast as the Divine Physician. He comes to bring healing to fallen humanity. We approach him in Confession as the Physician of our souls. He offers forgiveness and a spiritual therapy to strengthen what is weak and restore what is broken

Lenten Study and Reflection Series Continues Next Sunday...

Classes of study and reflection during the Great Fast on the *Gospel of Saint Matthew* continues **next-Sunday, March 4** from 4:00-5:30 pm. The aim of these sessions is to instill a love for reading the Gospels and an appreciation for the Gospel of Saint Mathew. Emphasis will be upon the readings from Saint Mathew on our liturgical calendar, especially on Sundays.

Sessions are planned for every other Sunday and will continue after Pascha: Sundays March 4, 18; and April 8. Participants are asked to bring a Bible and a desire to increase the gift of faith which each of us has received. *Please consider coming to this opportunity to instruct and build up the faith of our parish communities...and bring a friend!*

Third All Souls Commemoration

Saturday, March 3, is the *Third All Souls Commemoration*. We pray for the deceased and remember by name parishioners and family members, at the Divine Liturgy and Panachida on Saturday morning and at the Vigil Liturgy and Panachida in Dunlo on Saturday evening.

Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program

This week, *Angelica & Randy Spaid* 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.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS



Coffee Social for March – Next Sunday

There will be a *Coffee and Donut Social* next Sunday, March 4, following the 9 am Divine Liturgy. Please take this opportunity to greet fellow parishioners and enjoy the coffee and refreshments.

Church Cleaning & Work Party for March

- The *Work Party* for March will be on Saturday, March 3. Because of the All Souls Saturday Divine Liturgy that morning, the Work Party will begin at 10:30 am.
- The *Church Cleaning* for March is scheduled for Monday, March 5, at 9:00 am.
- Thanks once again to those who volunteer for these monthly projects.

Prayer Partners for the Great Fast

During the Great Fast we remember our *Prayer Partner* daily, mindful of 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]

Sunday Bulletin Mailings and Website

The Sunday bulletins sent to homebound and other parishioners are being mailed bi-weekly [two weeks of bulletins in an envelope] to reduce the cost of postage. The Sunday bulletin is posted on the parish website [www.ByzantineCatholic.net] and may be accessed by going to “*Bulletins*” on the home page.

To have your email address added to this weekly bulletin transmission, please forward your name and email address to james_armand_spontak@verizon.net.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of *Shawn Crum* [West Penn Hospital]; *Steve Fleck*; *Eric Miller* [Memorial Hospital]; *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*; *Carson James*; *Basil*; *Ellen Colwell*; *Archpriest Dennis Bogda*; *Father Paul Tigyer*; *Trevor & Tiffany* and *Lakota*; and all the ill & homebound.

Eternal Memory-

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Agnes Regina Pollock**, the mother of Debby Mackovyak, who fell asleep in the Lord on February 20. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to Debby and Jonathan and to all of their family.

Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+Very Reverend Charles M. Yastishock**, a priest of the Eparchy of Passaic and pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Toms River, New Jersey, who fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, February 19,

Memorial Donations...

We gratefully acknowledge donations to Saint Mary, Beaverville in memory of **+Mildred Fedore** from the following donors:

- Rebert Fedore and the Fedore Family
- Kathleen Bakale, Broadview Heights, Ohio
- Barbara Jacobson & Mary Naglic, Portland, Oregon
- Matthews & Suzanne Sawyer, Harlingen, Texas

The Byzantine Catholic World

The ***Byzantine Catholic World [BCW]*** is published once-a-month with news of our Archeparchy, parishes and the church throughout the world. The annual subscription rate is \$14. An envelope in your packet of offering envelopes dated January 28 may be used to enter your subscription.

Sanctuary Candle

The Candle is offered this week in memory of **+Mario** and **+Angeline Pieraccini**, requested by John & Barbara Havrilla.

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 the **Third All Souls Saturday [March 3]** are on p. 428; and for the Panachida on p. 432.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, March 4, Resurrection Troparion Tone 6**, are on p. 152; and for the **Third Sunday of the Great Fast—Veneration of the Holy Cross** on page 223-225.
- The *“Our Father”*, in Tone 6 may be found on p. 71.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns, alternate melodies etc.

Regulations for the Season of the Great Fast - 2018

Simple abstinence: 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: 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 to observe strict abstinence when prescribed. Strict abstinence (fast) is to be observed **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 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 Presanctified Gifts only is to be celebrated Wednesday and Friday evenings of the Great Fast and Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Open House Sunday at Mount Saint Macrina in Uniontown

The Sisters of St. Basil invite you to an *Open House* Sunday, March 11, 2-4pm to celebrate National Catholic Sisters Week. The event will be held at the monastery at Mount St. Macrina, 500 W. Main Street, Uniontown. Enjoy displays, refreshments, door prizes and visits with the Sisters. Please **RSVP** by March 2 by calling the House of Prayer at 724-438-7149.

Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer Events

Lenten Morning of Prayer—Abraham, the Eucharist and Sacrifice: *Rev. Jason Charron*, on Saturday March 10, 9:15 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Includes lunch. Offering: \$35. Registration due Mar. 5. *The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered*

Lenten Noontime Reflection and Prayers, Sr. Carol Petrasovich on Tuesdays, February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Join us for a short reflection followed by communal and private prayer. Free Will Offering.

Monday Morning Reading Series, Sr. Barbara Jean Mihalchick on Mondays, February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 10:00-11:30 am. Reflect on the classic book by Joyce Rupp, OSM. Free Will Offering. To register for any of these programs, or for more information call 724-438-7149.

Annual Women's Retreat hosted at Christ the Saviour Seminary

The **14th Annual Women's Retreat hosted at Christ the Saviour Seminary** is on Saturday, March 10, 2018, from 9:00 am-12:45 pm. The bookstore will be open after the conclusion of the day. To **rsvp** call Susan: 814-322-7677 or email: susanmm7@hotmail.com.

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

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]
- **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

Liturgical Schedule 3rd Week of the Great Fast— February 25, 2018

Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Saturday February 24

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** **Vigil Divine Liturgy** [+Alex Afton, requested by Mike Blazosky]
Followed by **Panachida** and Reading of the Names of the Deceased

Sunday February 25

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

Monday, February 26

No Lenten services scheduled

Tuesday February 27

No Lenten services scheduled

Wednesday, February 28

Portage 6:30 PM ***Simple abstinence and fasting required***
7:00 PM **Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]**
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, March 1

No Lenten services scheduled

Friday, March 2

Portage 6:30 PM ***Simple abstinence and fasting required***
7:00 PM **Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]**
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Third All Souls Saturday

Saturday March 3

Portage **9:00 AM** **Divine Liturgy** followed by **Panachida**
Reading of the Names of the Deceased
Portage 3:00 PM **Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]**
Dunlo 4:30 PM **Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]**

Third Sunday of the Great Fast Veneration of the Holy Cross

Saturday March 3

Dunlo **5:00 PM** **Vigil Divine Liturgy**
Followed by **Panachida** and Reading of the Names of the Deceased

Sunday March 4

Portage **9:00 AM** **Sunday Divine Liturgy** [+Tyler Cimba, requested by Cimba Family]