



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.

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### **Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule**

<b><u>Sunday May 20</u></b>	<u>Troitsja</u> Hunter Whitcomb	<u>Bulletins:</u> Ryan Lenz & Hunter Whitcomb
<b><u>Sunday May 27</u></b>	<u>Troitsja</u> Cierra Goral	<u>Bulletins</u> Christina Goral & Cierra Goral
<b><u>Sunday June 3</u></b>	<u>Troitsja</u> Christina Goral	<u>Bulletins:</u> Issabella Crum & Evan Lenz



## **Pentecost Sunday—the Descent of the Holy Spirit**

*“The Feast of Pentecost is the commemoration of the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. In the Byzantine Rite, it is remembered under the aspect of the final revelation of the dogma of the Trinity, to which most of the hymns of the Divine Office refer. The Holy Spirit is very specially honored together with his gifts which enable the humble and penitent faithful to become his temple. Pentecost is also the Feast of the Foundation of the Church, of the beginning of her mission to the world, and of Christian Unity within the diversity of nations, languages and cultures.”*

[From Archbishop Joseph Raya, *Byzantine Daily Worship*, p. 890]

### **The Feast of Pentecost & the Old Testament “Tower of Babel”**

The Liturgy interprets the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost in light of an Old Testament event recorded in [Genesis 11:1-9](#). The story of the “*Tower of Babel*” in Genesis describes a time when “*the whole world spoke one language*”. The attempt to build a city and a tower “*and so make a name for ourselves*” is understood as a reflection of the increasing wickedness of the human race. This is demonstrated here by the presumptuous effort to create a city and a culture apart from God and independent of God.

The result is that the Lord comes down and confuses their language, to interrupt and prevent their presumptuous designs and deeds.

In the Kontakion for Pentecost, the Descent of the Holy Spirit is seen as a reversal of this event, and a call to restore the unity intended by God: “*When the Most high descended and confused tongues, He scattered nations. When he distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity. We also with one voice glorify the Most Holy Spirit.*”

## **The Feast of Pentecost**

- “*On this the last and greatest day of the feast, the Lord pours forth the Holy Spirit in the form of tongues of fire upon his followers. On this day we are reminded of our baptism in fire and the Spirit, we are anointed with the manifold gifts of the Spirit, and we receive the courage and wisdom to proclaim the Gospel of the Lord.*” [Father David Petras, [Typicon](#), p. 45]
- Following the Ambon Prayer at the Divine Liturgy on Pentecost one of the ***Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost*** is prayed. The three ***Kneeling Prayers*** are from Vespers of Sunday evening. This prayer is used at the Divine Liturgy so that the faithful may be present for these prayers.
- On ***Pentecost Monday***, after the Ambon Prayer, a procession takes place around the church, with the singing of the Pentecost Troparion and Kontakion. A Gospel is read at each side of the Church: 1) ***Matthew 12:30-36***; 2) ***Mark 13:9-13***; 3) ***Luke 11:9-13***; 4) ***John 16:2-14***. Each Gospel reading is a lesson on the Holy Spirit.
- There is *no fasting* during this week, to manifest the spirit of joy at the Descent of the Holy Spirit.

## Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program

This week, *Michael* and *Pauline Barelick* will have the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon* to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and monastic religious life. During *April, May* and *June*, parishioners of Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo, are invited to sign-up on the sheet in the narthex to volunteer to have the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon* to pray for vocations.

## PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

### “Gob” Baking Project for Annual Festival

A planning meeting for a project to bake Gobs for the Annual Festival was held this past week. At the meeting, the dates to bake the gobs were tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, June 13 and Thursday, June 14. These dates will be confirmed at the Festival meeting on Wednesday, May 23. Everyone is welcome to come and help.

### Annual Festival

- In the narthex are letters asking local businesses and merchants for donations of gift baskets, gift certificates, merchandise, or other items that could be included in our basket raffle. Please take one or several to businesses or merchants you patronize, to request their support. Additional letters are available from the parish office.

- We are also eliciting sponsors to help with the expense of the large tent set up for our patrons to enjoy the live music and for dancing. Please contact Fr. Jim if you know of a business or an individual who may be willing to be a sponsor for the tent.

- *Festival Tickets* for the prize drawings are being printed and will be distributed early in June. Envelopes with the tickets will be addressed to parishioners.

- The next meeting for the *Annual Festival* is Wednesday, May 23 at 7:00 pm in the social room of the hall. This year's Festival is on Sunday, July 8, 2018.

### Happy 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Elsie Timura

On Saturday, May 19 *Elsie Timura* celebrated her *101<sup>st</sup> birthday*. Cards may be sent to her at the following address: **Elsie Timura, Maple Winds; 4112 Springhill Road; Portage, PA 15946.**

*May God grant to Elsie Timura peace, health and happiness! Many, happy years!*

### Liturgical Chant –Pentecost Monday & Sunday of All Saints

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the *Pentecost Monday [May 21]* can be found on pages 203-210.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the *Sunday of All Saints [May 27]* can be found on pages 211-213.
- The *Our Father* in Tone 4 Podoben may be found on page 74.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

<b><u>Offerings for April</u></b>					
	<u>April 1</u>	<u>April 8</u>	<u>April 15</u>	<u>April 22</u>	<u>April 29</u>
<b>Portage:</b>	\$6,772.00	\$1,688.00	\$1,286.00	\$1,763.00	\$1,532.00
<b>Beaverdale:</b>	\$ 1237.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 316.00	\$ 405.00
<b>Dunlo:</b>	\$ 274.90	\$ 362.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 179.00	\$ 70.00

### **Cemetery Volunteers & Donations...**

A *note of thanks* to volunteers in the cemeteries of our parish communities. We also acknowledge gratefully offerings for the cemeteries particularly during the spring and summer months. Your generosity helps to provide the care in grass cutting and other maintenance.

### **Remember In Prayer**

Please pray for the health of *Emily Nezneski; Shawn Crum; Dorothy, Phil and Cathy Walters; Elizabeth Maskal; Alina Rusnak; George and Nancy Yatsky; Barbara Raptosh; Ruby Moore; Charles and Joan Plishka; Tom Goncher; Patrick & Joan Ditko; Helena Ditko; Cliff Inman; Father Paul Tigyer;* and all the ill & homebound.

We pray for the repose of the souls of the victims of the school shooting in Santa Fe Texas; and for their families and the members of their community.

## **OTHER NEWS & EVENTS**

### **Open House at Portage Public Library**

An *Open House at Portage Public Library* will be hosted on Monday, May 21, 5-7 PM. Learn about our upcoming programs and meet our new Director Kaytlin Summer.

Music by *Dead Lazarus*, an indie-folk duo. Light refreshments.

### **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Great Portage Yard Sale**

This year's sale is Saturday, June 9, 8am--3pm, rain or shine. Participants have a numbered sign and balloons to mark sale site and are listed on the event map. Maps available at Portage Station Museum, 400 Lee Street, Tuesdays through Saturdays Noon to 4 pm, or on the day of the event.

### **Used Magazines Needed...**

A family with a family member with special needs requests *used magazines or merchandise catalogues with photos*. If you have used magazines, catalogues, please bring them to the ushers' room and place in the box designated for this purpose. A note of thanks to those who responded.

### **ByzanTEEN Youth Rally—July 5-8 2018 at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe**

The **ByzanTEEN Youth Rally** will be July 5-8 2018—at **Saint Vincent College, Latrobe Pennsylvania**, on the theme, *"Who Is My Neighbor?"* Registration deadline: June 15 2018. The registration fee is \$335 [May 1-June 16]. Registration forms are available from Father Jim.

## **Oriente Lumen XXII Conference in Washington, DC**

The Society of St. John Chrysostom, *Eastern Churches Journal*, Eastern Christian Publications, and the Oriente Lumen Foundation announce a popular and scholarly conference for lay men, lay women, religious and clergy entitled **Oriente Lumen XXII**. The Conference will be held June 18-21, 2018 at the Washington Retreat House, Washington, DC. The theme for this year's conference will be "Sister Churches: Fact or Fiction?" Speakers will discuss the meaning of the term "sister churches" from their own perspective, where there is common understanding, and what differences may exist between the Orthodox and Catholics

Open to the public, but requiring pre-registration, the conference will provide an opportunity for Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Eastern Catholics and Oriental Orthodox to gather, discuss and learn about their respective traditions. It will include presentations by scholars and theologians, liturgical celebrations of many varieties, and opportunities for everyone to learn from each other and participate in a "*dialogue of love and understanding*."

Information, and on-line registration available at [www.oldfoundation.com](http://www.oldfoundation.com); or call: 703-691-8862.

## **Helping Hands Day 2018**

The ***Greek Catholic Union [GCU]*** and the Sisters of St. Basil the Great invite you to ***Helping Hands Day***, Mount Saint Macrina, Uniontown Saturday, June 2 at 9:30 am to help beautify the grounds. Monetary contributions toward the purchase of flowers at Mt. St. Macrina may be made to: ***Helping Hands Day [Mt. St. Macrina]***; GCU Fraternal Department; 5400 Tuscarawas Rd.; Beaver, PA 15009.

## **Byzantine Catholic Seminary Master of Arts in Theology Online Courses**

This fall 2018, the Byzantine Catholic Seminary is making available its ***Master of Arts in Theology*** degree program with fully online courses. Byzantine Online seeks to produce exceptional academic leaders in Eastern Christian theology, scripture and dogma. Information at [online.bcs.edu](http://online.bcs.edu).

## **Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer**

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