



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 to notify the pastor.

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

<u>Sunday June 17</u>	<u>Troitsja</u> Evan Lenz	<u>Bulletins</u> Hunter Whitcomb & Cierra Goral
<u>Sunday June 24</u>	<u>Troitsja</u> Sydney Leturgey	<u>Bulletins:</u> Issabella Crum & Christina Goral
<u>Sunday July 1</u>	<u>Troitsja</u> Ryan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Evan Lenz & Sydney Leturgey

Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program

Elaine Kachmar will have the icon the weeks of June 24. You are invited to sign-up on the sheet in the narthex to volunteer to have the ***Pilgrim Vocation Icon*** to pray for vocations.



The Feast of the Birth of Saint John the Baptist

Today is *the Feast of the Birth of Saint John the Baptist* is today. Also, *the Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul* is celebrated on Friday, June 29.

Nativity of Saint John the Baptist: "The feast of the *Nativity of Saint John the Baptist*, is directly in keeping with the feast of the Nativity according to the Flesh of Our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ. It is separated only six months from Christmas (December 25). Like the winter solstice, that of the summer was an occasion of great rejoicing among the pagans. Just as the feast of the Nativity of our Lord in the Christian calendar became the feast of the rising Sun, the Lord Jesus who is the Light of the world. Because of this, the feast of John the Baptist was placed at the summer solstice since he himself said of the Lord: *'He must increase, but I must decrease (John 3:30).*

"It is Saint Luke (Luke 1:1-80) who relates the Precursor's birth to us (today's gospel at Divine Liturgy). The son of Zachary the priest and Elizabeth the barren, the fruit of the promise by birth untied his father's mute tongue and "filled the whole world with joy." It is at this time that his father pronounced the canticle in which he sings of the realization of the promise made to Abraham, the deliverance of his people with mercy. It is there that he prophesied to his small son the grandiose role of the precursor for which God destined him, to prepare the way on earth for the Star who comes from above "to put our feet in the good way, the way of peace."

Saints Peter and Paul: "What more beautiful eulogy could be conferred upon those primates of the Apostles than the testimony that the Lord Himself gave to them? Jesus said to Peter 'Blessed are you,' 'You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.,' And He called Paul: 'A chosen vessel, destined to carry My name before princes and kings.' Saint Peter died crucified head downward under Nero in 67, leaving Saints Linus and his successors to our time to succeed him in the See of Rome in his universal primacy. Saint Paul also died a martyr, beheaded in Rome under Nero at the same time that Saint Peter was crucified [Archbishop Neophytos Edelby, *Synaxarion*, pp.189,192]

Deacon Formation Program Accepting New Applicants for 2019

The admissions process for the **2019 Deacon Formation Program** is now open. Men 30-60 who are discerning a call to service in the Church are encouraged to apply. **Deadline for registration form is July 8, 2018.** Classes for the first year of the four-year program will be held June 16-29, 2019 at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary. A two-week residency is required each year. Submit the registration form; candidates will be mailed an application packet. For information, contact Fr. Jim, e-mail vocations@archpitt.org, or phone the Office of Vocations at 412-231-4000 or 412-480-4508.

Altar Servers

Saints Peter and Paul Church in Portage is currently in need of Altar Servers. Boys who have completed their first Confession preparation are encouraged to consider serving in this important role in the Divine Liturgy. If you are interested in serving, please contact Father Jim or Deacon Dan.

Once we hear back from prospective candidates for servers we will contact you to arrange practice sessions. Seminarian Kyprian will help in presenting these sessions.

A Celebration of Marriage

The annual celebration to honor married couples observing their **Wedding Anniversaries** of **10, 25, 35, 40, 50, 55, 60, or additional years that are multiples of five** in 201 is on **Sunday, September 9**. A Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving will be celebrated by Metropolitan William at St. Elias Church in Munhall at 3 pm, followed by a dinner. Please inform Father Jim if you are observing one of these anniversaries in 2018 so that you may receive an invitation and a Certificate from Metropolitan William in commemoration of your jubilee.

"Faith & Fun Day" is Tuesday, July 31

Altar Servers! The annual **"Faith & Fun"** day is Tuesday, July 31. Open to all active altar servers (elementary through college), this day sponsored by the Office of Vocations is a way to say "thank you" to altar servers. From The Divine Liturgy, to a hearty lunch, to a visit to the Pittsburgh Zoo, and ending with a Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball Game, you'll have a truly memorable experience. Don't delay — space is limited, so see your pastor to sign up!

Visits to the Homebound

Pastoral Visits to the homebound will be scheduled in the coming weeks. Seminarian Kyprian is serving a Pastoral Practicum Program through Friday, July 27 and will come with Father Jim for visits to the homebound. You will be contacted by telephone to arrange a day and time.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Annual Festival-- Sunday, July 8, 2018

- **Sign-up Lists** for the annual Ethnic Festival are posted in the narthex. Please sign-up for one of the baskets for the **Basket Raffle** and to volunteer for the various areas listed.
- **Festival Tickets** for the prize drawings are in the narthex. As you pick up the envelope addressed to you please also take envelopes for neighbors and relatives not present today.
- In the narthex are letters asking local businesses and merchants for donations of gift baskets, gift certificates, merchandise, for our basket raffle.
- Last year, there was a fine response to the appeal for an extra effort for the **Bake Sale**. Please help us again to have ample display of Baked Goods for this popular feature.
- Donations for the **Basket of Cheer** may be placed in the container in the ushers' room.
- Please contact Fr. Jim if you know of a business or an individual who may be willing to be a *sponsor to help with the expense of the large tent* used to enjoy the bands and for dancing.

"Gob" Baking Project for Annual Festival

Gobs are available for sale, [\$1/each or \$11/dozen] after the Liturgy on Sunday, in the church kitchen. The **Gobs** were made for the Bake Sale at the Annual Festival.

Sanctuary Candle

The Candle at *Saints Peter and Paul, Portage* is offered this week for the health and intention of Steve Ditko, requested by Patrick & Joan Ditko.

Church Cleaning & Work Party for July

- There will be a **Work Party** on Saturday, June 30 at 9:00 am, including outdoor tasks to prepare the festival grounds. Please bring lawn tools [rakes, trimmers, gloves, etc.] that might be helpful.
- The Church Cleaning for July is scheduled for Monday, July 2, at 9:00 am.
- Our thanks to those who came for the **Outdoor Work Project** at the picnic grounds on Thursday.

Parish “Facebook” Page

Parishioners who are on **Facebook** are asked to find us at **Sts Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church** and “like” the page. Also please share the post about the picnic with friends and family.

Offerings for May	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
Portage:	\$2,261.00	\$1,670.00	\$1,164.00	\$1,718.00
Beaverdale:	\$ 235.00	\$ 420.00	\$ 355.00	\$ 296.00
Dunlo:	\$ 119.00	\$ 78.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 70.00

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- For Vespers with the Divine Liturgy for the ***Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter & Paul***, the *Vigil Divine Liturgy* is in the Divine Liturgy book on p. 104; Vesper stichera will be in a separate handout.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for the [the ***Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter & Paul—Friday, June 29***, on page 338-340.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the ***Sixth Sunday after Pentecost [July 1]***, *Resurrection Troparion Tone 5*, may be found on p. 146-148.
- The “*Our Father*”, in *Tone 5* may be found on p.70.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Lori Murphy** [UPMC, Altoona]; **Emily Nezeski; 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.

Festival Posters Distribution to Neighborhoods

Students in high School and junior high are invited to deliver posters for the Festival to stores in the Portage area and neighboring communities this Wednesday, June 27 at 1:00 pm. We will meet at the *Chatterbox* on Main Street. Call the rectory [736-9780] for. Families may select a neighborhood or community to deliver posters. Please let Father Jim know to avoid duplications.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Summerfest Nameboard Tickets

\$10,000 Summerfest Nameboard Tickets are available at local business. The Nameboard is the main fundraiser for the Portage Endowment which benefits local organizations.

“Summer Food & Fun” at the Portage Library

Free for all kids 18 and under ". Summer Food Program offers: Free meals for anyone 18 and under. No registration required. Join us at Portage Public Library! June 12--July 26, Tuesday,-Wednesday,-Thursday/Lunch 12-1; Wednesdays/Snack 11:15-11:45 am.

Byzantine Family Day at Kennywood Park,

The **98th Annual GCU & Byzantine Family Day** is Thursday, July 26, at Kennywood Park, 10:30 am until Close. Prepaid, discounted ticket books and catered lunch tickets are available through the GCU. Deadline for tickets: Monday, July 9. *FunDay Ticket* (ages 3-54): \$24.00; *Senior FunDay Ticket* (55+): \$14.00; *Super Senior FunDay* (70+): \$10.00; *Catered Lunch* (11+): \$15.00 or \$8.00 for ages 3-10.

There is a Prayer Service at 11:30 am followed by a performance by the *Slavjane Folk Ensemble*. For tickets, contact Fr. Jim, or call the GCU [724-495-3400 ext. 3809]; or email events@GCUusa.com.

Used Magazines Needed...

A note of thanks from Rita Thornton and daughter Charlet for the *used magazines or merchandise catalogues*. You may place your used magazines, catalogues *with photos* in the ushers' room in the box designated for this purpose.

Byzantine Catholic Seminary Master of Arts in Theology Online Courses

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary Master of Arts in Theology degree program is now available with fully online courses. Byzantine Online seeks to produce exceptional academic leaders in Eastern Christian theology, scripture and dogma. Through Byzantine Online, join with a Catholic community who by God's grace will form some of the Church's leaders. **Information at 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
- **Maple Winds:** Elsie Timura

The Fast of the Holy Apostles

The Church prepare for the Feast of the Preeminent Apostles Peter and Paul [June 29] with the Fast of the Holy Apostles, Monday, May 28 to Thursday, June 28. The Apostles' Fast may be observed voluntarily as a time of renewal of faith..

Liturgical Schedule 6th Week After Pentecost —June 24, 2018

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Feast of the Birth of John the Baptist

Saturday June 23

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

Sunday June 24

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

[+Elizabeth Terlingo, by Barbara & John Havrilla]

Monday June 25

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday June 26

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Charles Hufford, by Earl Sease]

Wednesday, June 27

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Feast of the Holy Preeminent Apostles Peter and Paul

Thursday, June 28

Dunlo **6:00 PM** *Vespers with the Divine Liturgy*

Friday, June 29

Portage 8:45 AM The Third Hour
9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy**
Portage **7:00 PM** **Divine Liturgy** [+Ann Krisko, by Sandy & Paul Lenz & Family]

Saturday June 30

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

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday June 30

Dunlo **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+John Kovalich, by Dave & Becky Single]

Sunday July 1

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