



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 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 August 12</u>	<u>Troitsja</u> Ryan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Christian Goral & Issabella Crum
<u>Sunday August 19</u>	<u>Troitsja</u> Sydney Leturgey	<u>Bulletins</u> Sydney Leturgey & Evan Lenz
<u>Sunday August 26</u>	<u>Troitsja</u> Ryan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Hunter Whitcomb & Ryan Lenz

The Dormition Fast

The ***Dormition of the Theotokos*** [August 15] is preceded by a two week fast or period of preparation, from August 1-14. Our Metropolitan Church identifies this as one of the four penitential seasons of the Church year. Its observance is voluntary.



The Feast of the Dormition of Mary, the Theotokos

“According to a very early Christian legend, while the apostles were scattered all over the then-known world, preaching the Gospel, Mary remained in Jerusalem in the house of John. Her love of God, like an ardent flame, burned steadily in her body. Finally it was revealed to her that her life was about to end. She wished to see the Twelve once more before she died. Each one of them was miraculously carried away from where he happened to be and borne on a cloud to the house on Mount Sion in Jerusalem where Mary was approaching death. Each one of them, that is, except Thomas. They saw Christ Himself come down from heaven and receive the soul of his Mother in his arms. They took her holy body and placed it in the tomb prepared for it in the valley of Kedron, near Gethsemane.

Thomas arrived three days later, when all was over. He wished to see for the last time the face of the woman who had been the Temple of God. He went with the other apostles to the tomb, which they opened; they found it empty, but heard an angelic concert. Mary herself appeared to them and confirmed the fact of her Assumption into heaven

. [From Archbishop Joseph Raya, *Byzantine Daily Worship*, page 755]

There is a custom of blessing flowers and herbs after the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Dormition. This custom most probably originated from the traditional belief that after Mary's glorious assumption into heaven, her holy tomb was filled with a 'heavenly fragrance' and flowers. The herbs, used by people as natural medicine, are blessed in commemoration of the numerous healings and extraordinary graces bestowed on the pilgrims at Mary's tomb. Flowers brought to church for this feast will be blessed following each of the services

For the ***Feast of the Dormition*** [a *feast of obligation*], there will be ***Vespers with Divine Liturgy*** on Tuesday, August 14, at 6:00 pm at Saint Mary, Beaverdale; and the ***Divine Liturgy*** on Wednesday, August 15, at 9:00 am and at 7:00 pm at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage

Charter Bus to Annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

The **84th Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help** takes place during the Labor Day Weekend, September 1-2, 2018. Transportation by charter bus to the Pilgrimage to Mount Saint Macrina is being scheduled for **Sunday, September 2**. The bus departs from our parking lot at **7:00 am**. Departure from Mount Saint Macrina will be at about 9:00 pm [following the candlelight procession]. There is a list in the back of church where you may sign up to reserve a seat on the bus. Please do so by **Sunday, August 19th**.

The Sisters of St. Basil invite everyone to join them in honoring the Mother of God under the title of Mary, Hope of All Generations. Brochures with the Pilgrimage schedule and information are in the narthex; visit www.sistersofstbasil.org or call [724-438-8644](tel:724-438-8644). An invitation is extended to families to take advantage of this opportunity to attend the Pilgrimage.

“Concern for our Future: Renew, Revitalize, Rejuvenate”--Assembly 2018

As the needs of our church continue to evolve, the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh is calling upon the members of its parishes to help develop a plan for our future. This call to action will take place in the format of an assembly of the Faithful, comprised of representatives from each parish. The **Assembly 2018** will be held September 16-18 to bring together Priests, Deacons, and the faithful to address the needs of the Church and how we can ensure its growth, vitality, and longevity.

The major themes to promote revitalization will be: **Education, Social Ministry, and Outreach.**

Within these three themes we will discuss the following questions and concerns identified from the 2017 survey of parishes.

1. How to encourage diversity within the church (inviting people of other cultures, ethnicities and non-Catholic upbringing)
2. Use of Technology and Social Media
3. Encouraging family participation by those in mixed marriages (Catholic/non-Catholic)
4. Education for new members and continuing education of the faithful
5. Social Activities/Hospitality for parish engagement
6. Formalized outreach to those who have left the Church

Parishes are to send *two representatives* from each parish, ideally one male and one female. The parish should cover the Assembly costs for their representatives at \$300 per person. Representatives should be parish members who are passionate about our Church's future and willing to contribute to productive conversations and offer solutions. Representatives will be asked to attend a three day conference comprising of a Sunday-evening reception, Monday conference, and a half-day conference and conclusion on Tuesday. Representatives should be willing and able to take time off work as necessary to attend, noting that Monday will be the Key day for the Assembly. Additional participants are welcome and encouraged to attend at their own expense.

If you would be willing to consider being a parish representative, or have questions, contact Father Jim. Brochures are in the narthex or are available from Father Jim.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

This Week...

Father Jim will be away on vacation from August 17- 22. **Father Robert Oravetz** of Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church in Conemaugh [814-535-5231] is available for funerals during this period. In the event of an emergency for the Holy Anointing, you may contact any of the local Catholic priests. **Father Robert Karl** will be here on Saturday, August 18 for the Vigil Divine Liturgy in Beavertdale and on Sunday, August 19 for the Divine Liturgy in Portage. Please extend a kind welcome to Father Bob next weekend.

Church Cleaning & Work Party for August

- The **Church Cleaning** for August is scheduled for **Monday, August 13**, at **9:00 am**. *Please note this change from the usual first Monday because of the **Feast of Transfiguration** on Monday, August 6.*
- **Thank You** to those who volunteer for the monthly **Work Party** and **Church Cleaning**.

Sanctuary Candle

This week the Candle at *Saints Peter and Paul, Portage* is offered for the health of **John Havrilla**, by Barbara & John Havrilla; and at *Saint Mary, Beaverdale* in memory of **+Jennie Letzo**, by Julie Brenna.

Parish Advisory Council Meetings

The next meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is **Monday, August 13**, at 7:00 in the conference room of the rectory. Minutes from the previous meeting of May 14, 2018 are included in today's bulletin.

Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program

Jack Gordon and **Amber Gordon** had the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon** the week of August 5, to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and monastic religious life. This week, **Julie Brenna** will have the icon. Please sign-up in the narthex to have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**.

Eternal Memory-

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Jean Bolvin**, the mother of Barry Bolvin. We extend deepest sympathy and prayerful support to Barry and Sharon and all of his family. Also, please pray for the soul of **+Albina Nezeski**; sister-in law of June Nezeski; and **+Doris Theys**, the aunt of Deacon Daniel Perich.

The Friar's Shop--Thank you

For many decades **The Friar's Shop** has served the local community providing religious gifts for every occasion. However, times have changed a great deal. It is hard for any brick and mortar store to compete with the online giants. It is with great sadness that we must announce that the Friar's Shop is closing. Our last day of operation will be Saturday September 15. We will be offering storewide discounts to help reduce inventory. **Fr. Richard Davis and the TOR Franciscans, Loretto**

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- For Vespers with the Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos**, 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 prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos [Tuesday, August 15]** may be found on p. 352-355.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost [August 19]**, Resurrection Troparion Tone 4, are on p. 141-142; and for the **Post-festive of the Feast of the Dormition** on p. 352-355. The "Our Father", in Tone 4 may be found on p.69.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **John Havrilla** [UPMC-Passavant]; **Patty Haschak** [West Penn]; **Mary Lou Cimba**; **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**; **Archpriest Dennis Bogda**; **Thomas Spontak**, Fr. Jim's brother; and all the ill & homebound.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Fatima Devotions in Loretto

The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the Fatima Devotions on Monday August 13, at **6:30 P.M.** in the Sunken Gardens. (In case of inclement weather, the devotions will be at the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel). The singing will be led by the choir from Prince of Peace in Northern Cambria and the sermon will be delivered by Deacon Richard Golden. We would like to extend a cordial welcome to all.

Invitation to a Pilgrimage:

The Mother of God is believed to have appeared in a little village of Zarvanytsia in Ukraine. Every year millions of people go on pilgrimage to that holy place to renew their spiritual life. You are invited for the Pilgrimage to the ***Mother of God of Zarvanytsia*** at Protection of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church, in Revloc, Sunday, August 19 at 11 AM. There will be Confessions, a prayer service to the Mother of God [Moleben], Divine Liturgy, and time for private meditation.

Pilgrimage Preparation Day at Mount Saint Macrina--Saturday, August 18

Volunteers are needed to help prepare for the Annual Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina on Saturday, August 18. The group will meet in the Trinity Center for coffee and donuts at 9:30 a.m. A brief prayer service will follow, and work begins at 10:00 a.m. Bring lawn tools (brooms, rakes, weed whackers) for outside work; brooms, mops, dust pans, for indoor cleaning. Lunch will be served.

To register or for information, call Sr. Joanne [724-439-4940.] Rain date: Saturday, August 25.

“Groovin at the Grove”

Resurrection parish is sponsoring “*Groovin at the Grove*” at their grove in Tanneryville. Each “Groovin” will start with an Outdoor Mass at 5:30 PM, food will be available after Mass.

Music from 7 PM to 10 PM. August 18: **Flood City Brass**. Come and have a great time.

Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer

At Home: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Dorothy Billy; Catherine Czapp Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Cathy Walters; 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
- **Richland Health,** Mary Louise Cimba [Dunlo]

Liturgical Schedule 13th Week after Pentecost —August 12, 2018

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive Day of the Feast of the Transfiguration

Saturday August 11

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

Sunday August 12

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Jennie Letzo, by Julie Brenna]

Monday August 13

Portage **6:30 PM** *Compline*—Evening Prayer

Tuesday, August 14

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Tuesday, August 14

Beaverdale **6:00 PM** *Vespers with the Divine Liturgy*, [+Alex Afton, by Charlie & Joan Plishka

] *Followed by Blessing of Flowers*

Wednesday, August 15

Portage 8:45 AM The Third Hour

9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy**, *Followed by Blessing of Flowers*

Portage **7:00 PM** **Divine Liturgy**, *followed by Blessing of Flowers*

Thursday, August 16

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Friday, August 17

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Saturday August 18

Portage *No Confessions Scheduled*

Beaverdale 4:30 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive Day of the Feast of the Dormition

Saturday August 18

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

Sunday August 19

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