



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](http://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.

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### **Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule**

**Sunday September 16** Troitsja Christina Goral

**Bulletins:** Hunter Whitcomb & Ryan Lenz

**Sunday September 23** Troitsja Evan Lenz

**Bulletins:** Christina Goral & Cierra Goral

**Sunday September 30** Troitsja Sydney Leturgey

**Bulletins** Sydney Leturgey & Evan Lenz



## **Catechetical Sunday**

**Today** we observe **Catechetical Sunday**, with **the Blessing of Students and Blessing and Commissioning of Catechists** for the 2018-2019 **Eastern Christian Formation** program. Students are asked to come forward to the Ambon [at the Tetrapod table] at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy to receive this blessing together with the Catechists. The theme of **Catechetical Sunday 2018** is *"Witnesses for Christ"*. May we renew our commitment to be faithful, effective, and joyful witnesses of our faith as Byzantine Catholics.

Please remember in your prayers this important parish ministry, for the grace of the Holy Spirit to guide the students and Catechists during the 2018-2019 Eastern Christian Formation classes.

We gratefully acknowledge those who serve faithfully as Catechists

**Pre-School & Kindergarten:**

***Molly Harrington***

**Grade Two:**

***Alisha Slanoc***

**Grade Four, Five & Six:**

***Julie Brenna***

**Grade Seven & Eight:**

***Deacon Daniel Perich***

**High School:**

***Father Jim Spontak***

**Substitute/Aide:**

***Rachel Cain***

**ECF Coordinator:**

***Deacon Daniel Perich,***

We also remember in our prayers today the parents and family of our ECF students whose cooperation is so vital to the ECF program.

*Parents and students are asked to take note of these dates and scheduled events:*

**Sunday, September 23: *Classes Begin for Grades Two through high school***

**Sunday, September 30: *Classes Begin Pre-School & Kindergarten***

Classes for Pre-School/K through high school meet on Sunday following Divine Liturgy [10:15-11:15 am.]. Parents are reminded that if you anticipate your child's absence, please inform the catechists prior to class. Whenever a child is absent, parents will be asked to review the lesson for that week with the students.

As in recent years, a snack for the students will be provided before classes. It is helpful when parents and/or students offer to provide something for this light refreshment. If you plan to do so, please inform your child's catechist.

Volunteers to serve as Catechists or substitutes are always an ongoing need.



## **Coffee Social Postponed to Sunday, September 30**

Our monthly **Coffee & Donut Socials** for September is being postponed until **Sunday, September 30**. Please plan to come and enjoy this opportunity for conversation and refreshments with fellow parishioners

### *Prayer of Blessing for Students...*

*Lord Jesus Christ Who embraced the little children when they came or were brought to You, and laying Your hands on them blessed them and said: "Let the little children come to me and do not stop them. The kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these; and their angels ever see the face of my Father" we beg You to look with favor on the innocence of these children here present and on the devotion of their parents, and to bless them today through our ministry. Let them advance in Your grace and goodness, the better to know You, love You, fear You, and serve You, and happily reach their blessed destiny. We ask this of You, Saviour of the world, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.*

### **Assembly 2018—Sunday, September 16-Tuesday, September 18 “Concern for our Future: Renew, Revitalize, Rejuvenate”**

As the needs of our church evolve, the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh is calling upon the members of its parishes to develop a plan for our future. The **Assembly 2018** is this week, September 16-18. Priests, Deacons, and the faithful gather to address the needs of the Church and how we can ensure its growth, vitality, and longevity, focusing on **Education, Social Ministry, and Outreach**.

Those representing our parish communities are: **Julie Brenna; Deacon Daniel Perich, Mary Lou Perich** and **Kathy Sekerak**. Father Jim also will attend. We sincerely thank those who are participating in this event.

We look forward to continuing the efforts of the **Assembly 2018** to work for the well-being of our parish communities and the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and all of its parishes and faithful.

### **PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS**

#### *A Note of Thanks...*

**Cemetery Volunteers...**We gratefully acknowledge those who have volunteered their services in cutting grass, weed trimming, etc. in our parish cemeteries over the recent months. A note of thanks to these volunteers: **Ernie Podrasky** and **Alan Pcola**, in the cemetery at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage; and to **Deacon Daniel Perich** and **Doug Roxby** in the cemetery at Saint Mary's, Beaverdale.

Maintaining our cemeteries during the summer months is a particular need for each of our parish communities. Your financial offerings for cemetery are of course vital to this care, with includes grass cutting, trash removal services, etc. Thank you for your generosity. Envelopes for the care of cemeteries are in your box of offering envelopes.

**Grass Cutting on Parish Grounds...**A note of thanks to **John Rocker** and sons **Ryan Rocker** and **Justin Rocker** who have volunteered their services over the recent years in cutting grass, weed trimming, etc. on the parish lawns and picnic grounds.

## Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Patricia Rocker**, the mother of Ed Rocker, who fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, September 14. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to Ed and Kim and to all of her family.

Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+Thomas Spontak**, Fr. Jim's brother, who fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, September 14 in Toms River New Jersey. I sincerely appreciate the prayers offered and concern expressed by our parishioners during the time of his illness and hospitalization over the past month. The funeral will be on Friday, September 21 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church in Toms River, New Jersey.

## Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of September 16, **Marge & Steve Fleck** will have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon** to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and monastic religious life. Please sign-up in the narthex to have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon** to pray for vocations.

Please remember in your prayers the students the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh in the seminary studying for the priesthood: **Deacon Tom Wells; Seminarian Kyprian Wojciechowski; Seminarian Robert Jones; and Seminarian John Welch;** and all of the Seminarists and Seminary community.

## Covered Dish Social in Dunlo

A Covered Dish Social will be held **Saturday, September 22**, following the Vigil Divine Liturgy at Ss. Peter & Paul, Dunlo.

Parishioners are asked to bring an **entrée, side dish, salad, bread or rolls, dessert, etc.**



<b>Offerings for August</b>	<b>August 5</b>	<b>August 12</b>	<b>August 19</b>	<b>August 26</b>
<b>Portage:</b>	\$2,112.00	\$1,239.00	\$896.00	\$2,052.00
<b>Beaverdale:</b>	\$ 316.00	\$ 262.00	\$ 332.00	\$435.00
<b>Dunlo:</b>	\$ 48.00	\$ 141.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 149.00

## Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost [September 23]**, Resurrection Troparion Tone 1, may be found on p. 125-127.
- The "Our Father", in **Tone 1** may be found on p.66.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

## Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **John Havrilla; Patty Haschak; 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 Robert Oravetz**, of Holy Trinity, Conemaugh; **Deacon Michael George; Father Paul Tigyler; Archbishop Dennis Bogda;** and all the ill & homebound.

## OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

### Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer

*Spiritual Reflection* presented by Becky Johnen on the topic: "Taking Things In Stride," on Saturday, October 6, 10:00 am -1:00 pm Includes Lunch. Offering: \$35. Registration Due: October 2.

When we are calm and centered, we are better able to connect with our spiritual side. This presentation is designed to explore how to take things in stride and "not sweat the small stuff" Advantages of doing so and practical strategies and exercises to help you keep the little things from taking over your life so you can stay connected with your spiritual side will be covered. Phone: 724-438-7149; email: [hpmsm@verizon.net](mailto:hpmsm@verizon.net) or go to [sistersofstbasit.org](http://sistersofstbasit.org)

We need your help! Is God calling you to give a few hours as a volunteer? "It Is In Giving That We Receive!" You will be blessed! Please call or email us. [See above phone or email address].

### Saint Francis University Service Project--Cresson, Ebensburg, and Loretto

*R.E.D.* (Reaching Every Door) Day of Service is Saint Francis University's way of reaching out and thanking the Loretto, Cresson, Lilly and Ebensburg communities. The hope is this tradition at Saint Francis University is one that will unite the community with the university. The date for this year's R.E.D. Day of Service is October 2, 2018.

If you have any type of work that you could use a few extra hands to get the project completed, or you know or people in your congregation or your community who are unable to do things around the house, or if you can think of any areas of the community that need work, the students at Saint Francis would be more than happy to help. While we are not going to be operating power tools, our student staff is willing to rake, paint, move furniture, clean, or anything else that you may need. All you need to do is fill out an application and send it to the following address to be processed.

Registration form is in the narthex; or contact Saint Francis University Center for Student Engagement Re: RED Project P.O. Box 600 Loretto, PA 15940; or call 814-472-3005 Option #1.

### **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):** George Yatsky.

#### **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

## Sanctuary Candle

This week the Sanctuary Candle in memory of **+Emily Pikus**, by the Peter Pikus Family.

### Parish Sunday Bulletin Available Online and by Email Transmission

In addition to printed copies of the bulletin copies, the Sunday bulletin is posted on the parish website, [www.ByzantineCatholic.net](http://www.ByzantineCatholic.net) and may be accessed there.

To be added to the list of those receiving an email bulletin, send your email address to [james\\_armand\\_spontak@verizn.net](mailto:james_armand_spontak@verizn.net) with this request.

## Liturgical Schedule 18<sup>th</sup> Week after Pentecost —September 16 2018

### Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

#### Saturday September 15

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Helen Sasek by Len Fornadel, Jr.]

#### Sunday September 16

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

*Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Assembly 2018 Begins-Saint John's Cathedral Munhall*

#### Monday September 17

*Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Assembly 2018: Saint John's Cathedral Munhall*

#### Tuesday, September 18

*Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Assembly 2018: Saint John's Cathedral Munhall*

#### Wednesday, September 19

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Thursday, September 20

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Friday, September 21

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Saturday September 22

Portage 3:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Dunlo 4:30 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

### Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

#### Saturday September 22

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

#### Sunday September 23

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Audrey Pyo, by Brenda, Don and Family]