



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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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 2** Troitsja Hunter Whitcomb

Bulletins: Christina Goral & Cierra Goral

**Sunday September 9** Troitsja Cierra Goral

Bulletins Sydney Leturgey & Evan Lenz

**Sunday September 16** Troitsja Christina Goral

Bulletins: Hunter Whitcomb & Ryan Lenz



## **The New Church Year—Feast of the Birth of Mary the Theotokos**

On September 1, the Byzantine Church begins the Church year, thus renewing the cycle of annual feasts and commemorations of the saints. We find ourselves also at a juncture of new beginnings in other aspects. The new school year has begun. Later this month, we resume catechetical instruction in our Eastern Christian Formation program. After the hiatus of the summer months, we resume other activities, schedules and events in our lives as well.

The first of the feasts on our liturgical calendar is also about beginnings. The **Birth of Mary the Theotokos** is celebrated on Saturday, September 8. The fulfillment of God's promise for our salvation begins to be realized in this event.

*"The Church invites us on this day to join the parents of the Mother of God, Joachim and Anne, and our first parents, Adam and Eve, in celebrating the prelude of universal joy and the first fruits of our salvation. Through poetical hymns written with incomparable dogmatic precision, the Divine Liturgy leads us to a meditation on Mary, "the Predestined before all ages," "the Immaculate," "the Virgin all-pure." Her birth marks the beginning of the work of redemption, since Mary was to be the Mother of God.*

*"The story of the Nativity of Mary is told in an ancient manuscript written most probably at the beginning of the second century: the **Pro-Gospel of James**. The parents of Mary, Joachim and Anne, God-fearing and faithful observers of the Law, had not been blessed with children. For the Israelites to be childless meant to be excluded from the hope of giving birth to the Redeemer. While Joachim prayed in the desert and Anne in her garden, an Angel, of the Lord appeared to both and announced to them the conception of a daughter who would have a great destiny. Overwhelmed with joy, Joachim hurried home with the happy tidings. At the Golden Gate" of the city, he met Anne, who was rushing to tell him the same joyous news.*

*"In due time, Joachim and Anne had a baby girl, whom they called Mary, and they cared for her with the utmost tenderness until the day came for her presentation in the Temple."*

***"This is the day of the Lord: Rejoice, therefore, O nations! Behold: The chamber of Light, the scroll of the Living Word, has come forth from the womb. The gate that opens to the Rising Sun and is ready for the entrance of the High Priest is here today. She is the only one who introduced Christ, and Christ alone, into this world, for the salvation of our souls."*** [Stichera at Vespers

From Archbishop Joseph Raya, *Byzantine Daily Worship*, pp. 437-438

## **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.**



## **Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mount Saint Macrina**

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](http://www.sistersofstbasil.org) or call 724-438-8644. An invitation is extended to families to take advantage of this opportunity to attend the **84<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help**. Here are some highlights of the schedule of services:

<b><u>Sunday, September 2</u></b>	8:30 am	<i>Divine Liturgy in Church Slavonic</i>
	10:30 am	<i>Divine Liturgy</i>
	1:00 pm	<i>Children's Procession</i>
	4:00 pm	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
	7:30 pm	Candlelight Procession

***Holy Mystery of Repentance [Confession] available 7:00 am to 5:00 pm***

***Holy Mystery of Anointing available 2:00 pm***

## **PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS**

### **Eastern Christian Formation Program**

The meeting for **Catechists** as we prepare for the 2018-2019 Eastern Christian Formation is being rescheduled. Catechists will be informed of the rescheduled date this week. Volunteers to serve as Catechists or substitutes are always an ongoing need. Please continue to remember in your prayers our Catechists, students, and their families.

### **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**

This week, **Marianne & Vaughn George** 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.

As the 2018-2019 academic year begins, the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh has four students in the seminary studying for the priesthood. Please remember in prayer: **Deacon Tom Wells; Seminarian Kyprian Wojciechowski; Seminarian Robert Jones; and Seminarian John Welch.**

### **Work Party & Church Cleaning for September**

- **Church Cleaning for September** will be **Monday, 10**, at **9:00 am**. This change is due to Labor Day Holiday on September 3, the first Monday of September.
- The **Work Party** will be on **Saturday, September 15**, at **9:00 am**. This change is due to Labor Day Holiday weekend on the first Saturday of the month and the Feast of the Birth of Mary the Theotokos on Saturday, September 8.

### **Parish Sunday Bulletin Available Online**

A reduced number of bulletin copies is being printed to provide savings in the cost of the bulletin covers, paper, and toner for the printer. 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@verizon.net](mailto:james_armand_spontak@verizon.net) with this request.

## Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Mary Louise Cimba**; of Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo, who fell asleep in the Lord on Thursday, August 30. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to her husband, Edward; daughter Michelle; son Darrin and his wife Danielle; granddaughters Jenae and her husband Gio Gallina; and Gabriella; grandson Justin; and to all of her family.

## “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.**

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

## Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparia and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the ***Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos [Saturday, September 8]***, may be found on pages 243-246.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the ***Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross [September 9]***, Resurrection Troparion Tone 7, may be found on p. 156-158; and for the ***Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross***, on p. 247-249; and for the ***Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos*** on pages 243-246.
- The “Our Father”, in Tone 7 may be found on p.72.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

## Mary Happy Years

We extend a sincere and cordial welcome to **Father Ivan Rusyn** who was assigned to Saint Mary’s in Windber and Saints Peter and Paul, Jerome on August 20. We also extend congratulations and prayerful best wishes to **Father and Pani Ivan Rusyn**, on the birth of their daughter Maria, born on August 27. We also extend congratulations to **Father Vitalii and Pani Mary Elizabeth Stashkevych** on the birth of their son, Nikolai Peter, born on August 29, 2018. Father Vitalii is the administrator of both St Elias Church, Munhall, and Saints Peter and Paul Church, Braddock.

## 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; Deacon Michael George**, St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair; **Father Paul Tigyer; Archpriest Dennis Bogda; Thomas Spontak**, Fr. Jim’s brother; and all the ill & homebound.

## OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

### Fatima Devotion in Loretto

The Franciscan Friars T.O.R. from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the Fatima Devotions on Thursday September 13, 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 Holy Name Men's Choir" and the sermon will be delivered by Fr. Ananias Buccicone, OSB of Queen of Peace Church in Patton. A cordial welcome is extended to all.

### 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. 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.

### Used Magazines

Used *magazines, merchandise catalogues, etc.* [especially with pictures] may be brought to the ushers' room and placed in the box there. They are needed by a family with a family member with special needs and are very much appreciated. *Thank you.*

### Fall 2018 Online Courses at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary

Register at Byzantine Online. Stay connected: visit our website [www.bcs.edu](http://www.bcs.edu).

- **Introduction to the Liturgy and the Sacramental Mysteries**, Father David Petras
- **Marriage, Sexuality and Bioethical Problems**, Dr. Matthew Miner
- **Patristics II**, Father Justin Rose
- **Foundations of Spirituality**, Father David Fisher
- **Introduction to Sacred Scripture**, Dr. Sandra Collins

### **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 Ebsburg**: Edward Andrykovitch [Beaverdale]; *Father Ronald Borsuk*
- **John Paul II Manor, Cresson**: Kathryn Mackovyak
- **Rose of Sharon Home, Saint Michael**: Anna Garanich

## Feast of the Birth of Mary the Theotokos

*"Today, God who dominates the Spiritual Thrones of heaven, welcomes on earth the holy throne which He had prepared for Himself. In his love for mankind, He who established the heavens in wisdom has fashioned a living heaven. From a barren stem He has brought forth for us his Mother as a branch full of life. O God of miracles, and hope of those who have no hope, Lord, glory to You."*

## Liturgical Schedule 16<sup>th</sup> Week after Pentecost —September 2, 2018

### Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

#### Saturday September 1

Beaverdale **5:00 PM**

**Vigil Divine Liturgy** [+Alex & Tekla Krenisky by John Krenisky]

#### Sunday September 2

Portage **9:00 AM**

**Sunday Divine Liturgy**

#### Monday September 3

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Tuesday, September 4

Dunlo **10:00 AM**

**Funeral Liturgy**---+*Mary Louise Cimba*

#### Wednesday, September 5

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Thursday, September 6

Portage **7:45 AM**

The Third Hour

**8:00 AM**

**Divine Liturgy** [+Marge Tigyer, by Julie Brenna]

### Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos

#### Friday, September 7

Beaverdale **6:00 PM**

**Great Vespers with Litija**

#### Saturday, September 8

Portage **8:45 AM**

The Third Hour

**9:00 AM**

**Divine Liturgy**

#### Saturday September 8

Portage **3:00 PM**

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Dunlo **4:30 PM**

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

### Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

#### Saturday September 8

Dunlo **5:00 PM**

Barellick]

**Vigil Divine Liturgy** [+Agnes Gindlesperger by Mike & Pauline

#### Sunday September 9

Portage **9:00 AM**

**Sunday Divine Liturgy**