



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 November 11** Troitsja Evan Lenz

Bulletins Sydney Leturgey & Evan Lenz

**Sunday November 18** Troitsja Abby Koban

Bulletins: Christina Goral & Lexie Slanoc

**Sunday November 25** Troitsja Bella Koban

Bulletins: Cierra Goral & Bella Single

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

In addition to printed copies of the bulletin, 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 to receive an email bulletin, send your email address to [james\\_armand\\_spontak@verizon.net](mailto:james_armand_spontak@verizon.net) with this request.



### **The Philip's Fast--Preparation for Christmas**

The **Philip's Fast** [November 15 - December 24] is our journey to the Feasts of Christmas and Theophany. This period of forty days is set aside for the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Observance of this penitential season is voluntary.

*"As we travel through the time and places allotted to us by God, we realize that the effort we expend in preparing for an important event on our journey contributes greatly to the significance of the event for us. Thus, the Church gives us periods of fasting and prayer in preparation for the great feasts. The liturgical feasts of the Church offer us many images during this time of preparation, expectation and fulfillment. Each one has the power to evoke a response from deep within us. These are in contrast to the images the culture presents. Too often these are materialistic, empty and superficial. Our Church presents a different image by asking us to prepare for the Feast of the Incarnation by praying, fasting, almsgiving and reflection.*

*"We look to the holy men and women in the Scriptures who have gone before us, for direction in recognizing the divine life in our midst. They show us the dignity, the value and the holiness of our human existence. Through their lives, we are reminded that God is with us."*

Adapted from *Christ is Born*, Office of Religious Education, pages 4-5

### **Appreciation Dinner—Today**

Our **Appreciation Dinner** follows this morning's Divine Liturgy. *Thank you* for your commitment, support and generosity, displayed in countless ways throughout the year.

Thanks also for your participation and presence at today's dinner, as well as for the side dishes, salads, and desserts to add to our menu. Also, a word of grateful recognition to all who helped prepare and set up the hall and with the various details in the kitchen!

### ***Veterans' Day***

Our observance of **Veterans Day** today is enhanced by the honor given to Walter Mintus, a World War II Veteran whose remains were returned to Portage this week after 74 years. The remembrance and funeral Mass for him are a reminder of our duty towards and appreciation for all those who have served our nation in the armed forces.

We take this opportunity to salute and express our gratitude and appreciation to the veterans of our parish communities and to all veterans who are honored and remember today.

### **Portage Community Thanksgiving Service**

The Portage Area Ministerial Association's **Thanksgiving Service** will be at the Portage Community Church on Sunday, November 18, at 7:00 pm. The **Community Thanksgiving Service** gathers together the Portage community and to worship together in a spirit of Christian unity while giving thanks for God's blessings on our nation, our communities, and our families. You are encouraged to attend.

## Remembrance of Homebound Parishioners for Christmas

A Christmas remembrance is being prepared for our homebound parishioners. To help us prepare gift bags for homebound parishioners, please consider donating suggested gift items: *Seasonal/non-seasonal door decorations; tissues [dollar store boxes]; light scent body spray; word search books; lotions; lap blankets; shampoo.*

You may also have ideas of your own. There will be a box in the narthex of each church to collect these items. Please bring gift items by **Sunday, November 25.**

## Giving Tree Project &

Our *Giving Tree* provides gifts at Christmas for children in need. The *Giving Tree* with tags listing gifts, recipients will be in the back of church next Sunday, November 18.

When you select one of the decorations on the *Giving Tree* please sign on the list next to the tree [in the back of church], to keep track of the Christmas wish requests. The gifts are to be brought to Church by **Sunday, December 16.**

## Food Pantry Donations

During the Philip's Fast donations of canned goods and non-perishable food will be collected for either the ***Portage Food Pantry*** or to the ***Forest Hills Food Pantry*** [from Beaverdale and Dunlo]. *Please do not bring food past the expiration dates.* Containers will be in the narthex.

This year, the *Portage Food Pantry* is assembling a December Gift to give to those receiving food. A Gift Bag with personal hygiene items is being prepared. Each local church is asked to provide a different item. *Bars of soap* are requested from Saints Peter and Paul church, Portage. These may be placed with the Food Pantry donations in the narthex.

Donations of cash may also be made for either Food Pantry and also for the bars of soap.

## PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

### Parish Advisory Council Meetings

The next meeting of the ***Parish Advisory Council*** for Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is **Monday, November 12,** at 7:00 in the conference room of the rectory. Minutes of the previous meetings for Portage and Beaverdale & Dunlo Councils are in today's Sunday's bulletin.

### Special Offering for *Tree of Life Synagogue* and *Jewish Community Center*

A special collection will be taken today--Saturday, November 10 and Sunday, November 11 for the Communities who worship at the ***Tree of Life Synagogue*** and for ***The Jewish Community Center.*** You may use one of the "*Special Offering*" envelopes in the back of your box of envelopes or another envelope and mark, ***Tree of Life Synagogue*** offering. Thank you for your support for this concern and your prayers for the victims and families of the Synagogue attack.

### Sanctuary Candle

This week the Candle at *Saints Peter and Paul, Portage* is offered in memory of ***+Mario Pieraccini*** as a birthday remembrance; and for the health of ***Angeline Pieraccini,*** by Barbara & John Havrilla.

## Eastern Christian Formation Program...

There are no *Eastern Christian Formation* classes today because of the Appreciation Dinner. Classes resume next Sunday, November 18.

There is a *Catechists' Meeting* next Sunday November 18, following the ECF classes. Plans are being made for our parish Saint Nicholas celebration in December.

## “Question & Answer” Box

A “*Question and Answer Box*” is in the narthex for questions about the belief and practices of the Byzantine Catholic Church, its faith Liturgy, feasts, and other observances, as well as church teachings on our life as Byzantine Catholics. We will attempt to answer these in the parish bulletin as much as possible. Questions submitted may also provide the basis for future class sessions.

A few inquiries have been received and we will try to begin responses in the next few weeks.

## Memorial Donation

We gratefully acknowledge a donation in memory of **+Olga Serenko** from *Champion International Moving*, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. *Eternal Memory!*

## REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

The electrical service at the picnic grounds is provided by the *REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.* of Indiana PA. The Board of Directors of REA Energy Cooperative recently announced that the financial condition of the Cooperative permits the retirement of a portion of outstanding Capital Credits. We gratefully acknowledge a check for \$364.63 for these capital credits which we have received as a member of the cooperative.

## Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** [**November 18**], 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 **Marge Fleck; Dorothy Resconich**, who is now a resident at “*Just Like Home*” Personal Care in Cresson; **Joseph Raptosh; Bernadette Kostan, Brother Sean Mary Fitzwater, TOR; John Havrilla; Patty Haschak; Emily Nezniski; 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**; and all the ill & homebound.

## New Address

Our Parishioner **Joseph Raptosh** now resides with his son, Very Reverend Joseph Raptosh at Saint Michael’s Church, Canonsburg. To send a card or greetings to Joe Raptosh, here is his address:

**Joseph Raptosh; c/o Saint Michael’s Church, 166 East College Street; Canonsburg PA 15317-1731**

## OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

### Resurrection Parish Ladies Auxiliary Basket Party

Resurrection Parish Ladies Auxiliary **Basket Party** on Sunday, November 11, at Christ the Savior Reception Hall 307 Garfield Street Johnstown. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. COST: \$10.00 [includes lunch, 25 chances, and door prizes. Call Resurrection parish: 539-5788, ext. #3 and ask for Joann.

### 62nd Annual Saint Nicholas Celebration

The **62nd Annual Saint Nicholas Celebration** benefitting the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius is Sunday, December 9 at Saint John Cathedral and Center in Munhall. Moleben to St. Nicholas will be celebrated Very Rev. Robert Pipta in the Cathedral. The musical entertainment for the banquet is **"Swing City"**, a six-member Swing Band directed by Deacon Daniel Perich.

Banquet tickets are \$40/adult; \$18/children 12 and under. For reservations contact Father Jim.

### Portage Area School District *Secret Santa* Program

Last year, the Portage Area School District annual *Secret Santa Program* provided a joyful holiday for 113 children in 52 families. Children received toys, clothing; each family enjoyed a holiday dinner, including turkey and pumpkin pie. Donations can be mailed to: **PAHS Secret Santa Project; c/o Mary Ann George; 85 Mountain Ave.; Portage, PA 15946.**

If you have any questions, please call Ms. George at 736-9636, extension #1310.

### Wreaths Across America

**Wreaths Across America** of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War is December 15. A ceremony is at Noon in Prospect Cemetery. Please consider sponsoring a wreath for \$15. Sponsorship form is in the narthex. Help is needed to place the wreaths. To volunteer to place wreaths on December 15, contact Debra Novotny, 623 Grant Street, Portage PA 15946.

### **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
- **Just Like Home Personal Care, Cresson:** Dorothy Resconich

## Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of November 4, *John and Barbara Havrilla* had the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon*. During the week of November 11, *Maxine Olshavsky* will have the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon*.

Please sign-up in the narthex to have the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon* to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and monastic religious life. Remember in your prayers the seminarians of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh: **Deacon Tom Wells; Seminarian Kyprian Wojciechowski; Seminarian Robert Jones;** and **Seminarian John Welch;** and all the Seminarians and Seminary community.

## Liturgical Schedule 26<sup>th</sup> Week after Pentecost —November 11 2018

### Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

#### Saturday November 10

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

#### Sunday November 11

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Timothy Hanna, by Darryl & Sharron Hanna]

#### Monday, November 12

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

#### Tuesday, November 13

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Wednesday, November 14

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### Thursday, November 15

Portage 8:45 AM The Third Hour  
**9:00 AM** **Divine Liturgy** [+Ed Olshavsky, by Joe & Betty Mandichak]

#### Friday, November 16

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour  
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Betty Tutsock, by Pam (Pyo) Gagan]

#### Saturday November 17

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

### Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

#### Saturday November 17

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

#### Sunday November 18

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Mae Haschak, by Patty Haschak]