



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 Feast of the Entrance of Mary into the Temple**

On November 21 is the ***Feast of the Entrance of Mary into the Temple***. A brief description of this event is given by Archbishop Joseph Raya., [Byzantine Daily Worship](#) [p. 515—516]:

***“When Mary was three years of age, Joachim and Anne took her to the Temple so that she might be consecrated to the service of the Lord. According to legend, they invited the young girls of the town to walk before her with lighted torches. As soon as they had reached the Temple, Mary, alone and unhesitatingly, went up the steps of the sanctuary where she was to remain, living in the contemplation of God and miraculously fed by the Archangel Gabriel, until the day she was espoused to Joseph, shortly before the Annunciation.***

***“The theme of the feast is that Mary the Immaculate One, the Temple of the living God, is offered to the Almighty in his holy house in Jerusalem. This day witnesses the bond between the Word and the Virgin predestined in eternity: this day is the fountainhead of all her privileges.”***

### *Happy Thanksgiving...*

We celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Thanksgiving Day at 9:00 am. Do make the effort to begin this day in prayer and worship, offering thanks to God for all of His gifts.

Here are prayers of blessing before meals and also of thanksgiving after meals not only for Thanksgiving Day but throughout the year:

**Prayer Before Meals:** ***“O Christ God, bless the food and drink of Your servants for You are holy always, now and ever, and forever. Amen”***

**Prayer After Meals:** ***“We thank You, Christ our God, for You have satisfied us with the good things of Your earth. Do not deprive us of Your heavenly kingdom but as You appeared to Your disciples, O Saviour, granting them peace, come also to us and save us.”***

*My prayerful wishes for a wonderful and memorable Thanksgiving Holiday!*

### **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. ***Portage Community Church*** is on Main Street, just before Spring Hill. There is parking next to the Napa Auto Parts Service Center.

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.

### **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.

## **“Joyful Light” Byzantine Catholic Seminary Newsletter**

Copies of “*Joyful Light*” the newsletter of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary, are enclosed in some of today’s bulletin. You may also access the newsletter at [www.bcs.edu](http://www.bcs.edu).

## **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 is in the back of church. 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 with personal hygiene items to give to those receiving food. 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.

## **Appreciation Dinner ...**

A word of grateful acknowledgment for your participation and for the variety of side dishes and desserts at last Sunday’s ***Appreciation Dinner***. A note of thanks also to all who helped set up for the dinner and with the details of cleaning in the kitchen and hall after the event.

## **PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS**

### **Eastern Christian Formation Program...**

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

There are no ***ECF*** classes **next Sunday, November 25** as we observe the Thanksgiving Holiday.

### **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.

<b><u>Offerings for October</u></b>				
	<b><u>Oct 7</u></b>	<b><u>Oct 14</u></b>	<b><u>Oct 21</u></b>	<b><u>Oct 28</u></b>
<b>Portage:</b>	\$1,357.00	\$2,440.00	\$1,649.00	\$1,581.00
<b>Beaverdale:</b>	\$ 395.00	\$ 235.00	\$ 332.00	\$ 310.00
<b>Dunlo:</b>	\$371.99	\$ 200.00	\$ 107.00	\$ 85.00

### **Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost**

- *Vespers with the Divine Liturgy* for the ***Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple*** begins 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 **Wednesday, November 21**, the ***Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple*** on p. 268-271.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the ***Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 22***, are on pages 271-273.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the ***27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost [November 25]***, Resurrection Troparion Tone 2, may be found on p. 130-132; and for the Postfestive day of the ***Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple*** on p. 268-271.
- The “*Our Father*”, in Tone 2 may be found on p. 67.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

### **Eternal Memory**

You are asked to remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of **+Cheryl Custaney**, wife of Deacon John Custaney, of St. John Parish, Hawk Run, Pennsylvania, who fell asleep in the Lord on Thursday, November 15. Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+Henry Zuggger**, the father of Fr. Christopher Zuggger of the Eparchy of Phoenix.

### **Remember In Prayer**

Please pray for the health of **Marge Fleck; Dorothy Resconich; Joseph Raptosh; Bernadette Kostan, Brother Sean Mary Fitzwater, TOR; 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 Paul Tigyer; Archpriest Dennis Bogda;** and all the ill & homebound.

## **OTHER NEWS & EVENTS**

### **Metropolitan Cantor Institute**

The ***Metropolitan Cantor Institute*** offers cantor instruction online, as well as through the annual summer course in Pittsburgh. The ***Introduction to Church Singing*** is now free. This class covers the basics of the cantor's role, the mechanics of singing, and the singing of basic responses at liturgical services. It can be taken at any time using a home computer, smartphone or tablet. This 8-week course, along with courses in liturgy and the Typikon, are free to all members of the Byzantine Catholic Church in the United States. . Please take a look at: <http://mci.archpitt.org/classes>

## 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.

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

## Marriage Tribunal Workshop

Those interested in learning about the annulment process for divorced Catholics are invited to a free workshop with Jay Conzemius, JCL, judge and moderator; and Diane Kass, Tribunal Notary, of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Tribunal and Diocese of Pittsburgh Tribunal.

Topics include: theology of marriage; ministry of the tribunal; marriage annulment types; why, when, how to start the petition for annulment process; and a process overview. Participants can ask questions and/or start the process. This presentation will be at Saint John's Cathedral, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, on Tuesday, December 4, at 7 p.m. Reservations not required; if you plan to attend email archpitt@aol.com, or call Diane Kass [412-456-3033] for seating arrangements etc.

## Portage Area School District *Secret Santa* Program

The Portage Area School District annual *Secret Santa Program* provides a joyful holiday for children in local families. Children receive toys, clothing; each family enjoys 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.** For questions, 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 Ebensburg:** 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

## **Liturgical Schedule 27<sup>th</sup> Week after Pentecost —November 18 2018**

### **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]

#### **Monday, November 19**

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### **Tuesday, November 20**

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

### **Feast of the Entrance of Theotokos into the Temple**

#### **Tuesday, November 20**

Dunlo **6:00 PM** *Vespers with Divine Liturgy* [+Helen Valko, by John Valko & Family]

#### **Wednesday, November 21**

Portage 8:45 AM The Third Hour  
**9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy

### **Thanksgiving Day**

#### **Thursday, November 22**

Portage 8:45 AM The Third Hour  
**9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy

#### **Friday, November 23**

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

#### **Saturday November 24**

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

### **Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

#### **Post-festive Day of the Feast of the Entrance**

#### **Saturday November 24**

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

#### **Sunday November 25**

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Frank Yetsko, by Emily Nezeski]