



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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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 an 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 celebrated 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

Sunday February 3 Troitsja: Bella Koban
Sunday February 10 Troitsja: Lexie Slanoc
Sunday February 17 Troitsja: Evan Lenz

Bulletins: Abby Koban & Ryan Lenz
Bulletins: Cierra Goral & Lexie Slanoc
Bulletins: Evan Lenz & Christina Goral



Question & Answer Box: “Symbolism of Priest’s & Deacon’s Vestments”

As noted last week, in putting on each vestment, the priest and deacon say prescribed prayers which usually consist in verses from the Psalms. Not only do sacred ministers wear garments distinctive for liturgical functions; they are also to clothe themselves with those virtues or dispositions each vestment represents. There is to be, in other words, both internal and external splendor. Here are the verses forming the prayers said for each vestment, and some related insights on the significance of each.

In putting on the sticharion, both the priest and the deacon say: *“My soul rejoices in the Lord, for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and with a mantle of justice he has wrapped me, like a bridegroom adorned with a crown, like a bride bedecked with jewels.”* [Isaiah 61:10] The sticharion is to reflect a good conscience, a blameless life and the spiritual joy which flows from these.

The priest takes the epitrichilion [or stole] and says *“Blessed be God who pours out his grace upon his priests, like precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard, running down upon Aaron’s beard to the hem of his garment.”* [Psalm 132:2] Since the epitrichilion is worn around the neck, it suggests the “yoke of the Lord”. It symbolizes the grace of the priesthood poured from above.

The priest then girds himself with the belt and says, *“Blessed be God who girds me with strength and makes my way blameless, making my feet swift as the deer’s and setting me upon the high places.”* [Psalm 17:33-34] Its practical purpose is to gather up the long and broad sticharion to fit more closely. In the scripture’s “to gird oneself” as the priest does with the belt, is an expression of readiness, preparedness for toil or travel.

In putting on the cuff for the right hand he says, *“Your right hand, O Lord, magnificent in power, your right hand, O Lord, has shattered the enemy. In your great majesty you overthrew your adversaries”* [Exodus 15:6-7]; and for the left hand, *“Your hands have created me and formed me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments”* [Psalm 118:73]. These vestments make one mindful of the strength, the power of God equipping him.

As he puts on the phelonion or outer garment he prays, *“Your priests, O Lord, will be clothed with righteousness; and your saints will rejoice,” always, now and ever and forever. Amen.”* [Psalm 131:9]. In all the liturgical services and in all pastoral work, the priest is the representative of Christ. As the phelonion covers all the other vestments, so the spirit of Christ is to clothe his entire self. It is as if to recall Saint Paul’s exhortation to *“put on the Lord Jesus Christ”* [Romans 13:14]

At the same time, the priest at the altar also represents the faithful. We are all to be mindful of what is expressed in the words of Saint Paul, incorporated into our baptismal hymn, *“All you who have been baptized into Christ, have been clothed with Christ.”* [Galatians 3:27]

Saint Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church Memorial Monument Appeal

In last Sunday's bulletin there was an insert announcing **Saint Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church Memorial Monument Appeal**. There is a need to have some means of identification both of the cemetery and to acknowledge the location of the former Saint Michael Church. An appeal is being made to provide the necessary funds for the cost of the monument and its installation. The insert includes response form and envelope to use in donating to this appeal.

Copies of the insert with the donation form and return envelope are in the narthex, for those who may not have received them last week. Thank you for your consideration and your generosity.

All Souls Commemoration for 2019

The first **All Souls Commemoration** is **Saturday, February 23 [Meatfare Saturday]**. Please use the envelope provided for the All Souls Commemoration in your packet of offering envelopes to enter names of deceased family members or relatives to be remembered at the Divine Liturgy and Panachida on the All Souls Saturdays. You may also confirm or renew your list of previous years. Returning this envelope at your earliest convenience is helpful in updating the All Souls listing.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS



Coffee Social for February – **TODAY**

There will be a **Coffee and Donut Social TODAY—Sunday, February 3**, following the 9 am Divine Liturgy. Please take this opportunity to greet fellow parishioners and enjoy the coffee and refreshments.

Church Cleaning & Work Party for February

- The **Church Cleaning** for February is scheduled for **Monday, February 4**, at **9:00 am**.
- The **Work Party** for February will be on **Saturday, February 9** at **9:00 am**. Please note this change from the first Saturday because of the Feast of the Encounter of our Lord on Saturday, February 2

Parish Advisory Council Meetings

The next meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saints Peter & Paul, Portage is on **Thursday, February 7**, at 7:00 pm.

The next meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saint Mary's, Beavertdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlop is **Monday, February 11**, at 7:00 pm.

Minutes of previous meetings will be included in the Sunday bulletin prior to meetings.

Statements of Parishioners' Offerings

Statements of 2018 parishioner offerings for Saint Peter and Paul, Portage are being distributed today, Sunday, February 3. Statements of 2018 parishioner offerings for Beavertdale and Dunlop parishioners were already distributed previously. If you have any questions or corrections regarding your 2018 offerings, you may call the rectory [814-736-9780] or send your question james_armand_spontak@verizon.net.

The Byzantine Catholic World

The *Byzantine Catholic World* [BCW] is published once-a-month and provides news of our Archeparchy, parishes, and the church throughout the world, and articles on faith and spirituality.

The annual subscription rate is \$14. There is an envelope in your packet of offering envelope dated January 27 which you may use to begin or renew your annual subscription. *Thank you!*

Pilgrimage Opportunities: Holy Land and Rome

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh, a *Pilgrimage to the Holy Land* is being sponsored from September 15–24, 2019. The pilgrimage is planned to provide a prayerful environment with reflection and prayer at the sites visited. The itinerary includes: Nazareth; Capernaum; the Judean Desert; Qasr el Yahoud; Jerusalem; and Bethlehem. The cost is \$3,350 per person in double occupancy. Single supplement pricing upon request. Registration deadline has been extended to February 15. Brochures are in the narthex or contact Patrizia de Libero at 978-772-2467 for information or questions.

Bishop Milan Lach, SJ, of Parma will lead a *Pilgrimage to Rome* in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Eparchy of Parma, from May 13-22. The pilgrimage will highlight the Byzantine Catholic aspects of Rome. Brochure at <http://www.parma.org/romepilgrimage>; for more information, email horizons@parma.org or call (216) 470-3287. The cost is \$3,725.

Liturgical Chant—Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for Sunday, February 10, and Resurrection Troparion Tone 5 on p. 146-148,
- The “Our Father”, in Tone 5 may be found on p. 70.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of *John Slivenik; Mary Donnelly; George Pyo Jr.; Daniel Zalznoc; Marge Fleck; Dorothy Resconich; Joseph Raptosh; John Rakar; Bernadette Kostan, Patty Hascha; Emily Nezneski; Shawn Crum; Dorothy, Phil and Cathy Walters;; 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; Kelly Colwe; Christopher Juba; David Bosnich Sr.*, Father of Reverend David Bosnich; and all the ill & homebound.

Eternal Memory-

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of *+Mary Perich* the aunt, of Deacon Daniel Perich, who fell asleep in the Lord on January 28.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer Schedule of Events

Bread Baking Retreat presented by Sr. Carol Petrasovich, OSBM on Saturday, February 16 and Saturday, March 16 10:00 am-1:30 pm; lunch Included. Offering: \$20, Registration by February 11.

To register for above programs, call 724-438-7149; or email hpmsm@verizon.net

Sacred Heart Sisters Retreats Offered in 2019

The Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus extend an invitation to these retreat programs offered at St. Joseph Convent, 1872 Munster Road, Portage:

A Married Couples Weekend Get-Away: Each Day is a New Start: Friday, February 8 to Sunday, February 10; ***Boys' Retreat: Bravery:*** February 15-17; ***Women's Retreat: "Learn from Me for I am Meek and Humble of Heart."*** Women [18 and older]; March 8-10.

For more information or to register for any of the above contact Sister Jacinta sisterjacinta@gmail.com or 814-886-4459.

Forum on Human Trafficking

The Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women Prayer and Outreach Group to Combat Human Trafficking is hosting the 4th Annual St. Bakhita Day of Prayer and Education on Saturday, February 9, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish Hall, 200 Clairvaux Drive, Indiana, Pennsylvania. The forum will feature a prayer service and a presentation of the USCCB's "*Become a Shepherd*" toolkit by local members. Human trafficking is the world's second largest underground crime and a large number of victims are sexually exploited.

For more information, contact Raissa Federline at rsvpf@hotmail.com Greensburg DCCW Prayer and Outreach Group to Combat Human Trafficking.

"Good Neighbor Tea"

A "*Good Neighbor Tea*" is being hosted on Sunday, April 7 at Saint John's Church, 538 Main Street, Summerhill. RSVP by March 26 to Violet Kline [814-495-4084].

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. Mark (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 Nezeski
- **Maple Winds:** John Slivenik [Beaverdale]
- **The Winds at Mattern Orchard, Duncansville:** Mary Vrael
- **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

Parish Sunday Bulletin Available Online and by Email Transmission

The Sunday bulletin is posted on the parish website, www.ByzantineCatholic.net. To receive a email bulletin, send your email address to james_armand_spontak@verizon.net with this request.

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

Please sign-up in the narthex to have the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon*. Remember in your prayers the seminarians of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh: **Deacon Tom Wells; Seminarians Kypria Wojciechowski; Robert Jones; John Welch**; and all the Seminary community.

Liturgical Schedule 38th Week after Pentecost —February 3 2019

Sunday of Zacchaeus

Saturday February 2

Beaverdale **5:00 PM**

Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Elizabeth Harrigal, by Marcie and Doug Roxby]

Sunday February 3

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

Monday, February 4

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, February 5

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Wednesday, February 6

Portage 7:45 AM
8:00 AM

The Third Hour

Divine Liturgy [+Charles Hufford, by Francis & Joan Grecek]

Thursday, February 7

Portage 7:45 AM
8:00 AM

The Third Hour

Divine Liturgy [+Margaret Lazor, by Nick & Christine DePola Family]

Friday, February 8

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Saturday, February 9

Portage 3:00 PM
Dunlo 4:30 PM

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions

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Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

Saturday February 9

Dunlo **5:00 PM**

Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday February 10

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Alice Mazur, by Michael Mazur]