



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
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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 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.

Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule

<u>Sunday March 17</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Christina Goral	<u>Bulletins:</u> Christina Goral & Bella Koban
<u>Sunday March 24</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Abby Koban	<u>Bulletins:</u> Evan Lenz & Lexie Slanoc
<u>Sunday March 31</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Bella Koban	<u>Bulletins:</u> Bella Koban & Hunter Whitcomb

Parish Sunday Bulletin Available Online and by Email Transmission

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



Scripture Lessons During the Great Fast

The readings for the Sundays of the Great Fast draw primarily from the Letter to the Hebrews and the Gospel of Saint Mark. Hebrews strikes a markedly different tone than, for example, the Epistles of Saint Paul which we otherwise hear throughout much of the year.

The Letter to the Hebrews appears not so much as a letter or epistle composed for someone or to a particular church. Rather it has been likened to an extended homily or sermon. Much of its focus is upon Christ the "*High Priest*" the sacrifice he would offer. And all the while it also provides words of encouragement, motivating its audience for endurance with hope and even joy in the midst of trials.

An important feature in today's reading [Hebrews 1:10-2:3] highlights that Jesus is the Son of God. In doing so it seems almost to labor the point that Jesus is superior to the angels. In Jewish tradition, angels were seen as somehow entrusted with the announcement of the Law of Moses. Yet as Christ is superior to the angels, so also is the word He announced, the Gospel, super to the Old Testament and its Law. This provides the basis for his words of exhortation, "*Therefore we must pay the closer attention to what we have heard lest we drift away from it*" [Hebrews 2:1].

The lessons from Hebrews throughout Lent periodically offer words of encouragement such as these, a timely message to assist and strengthen us in our Lenten journey and the effort it entails.

[Father John Custer, The Apostolic Writings, pp. 166-168]

Lenten Adult Education and Enrichment Series

A series of **Adult Education and Enrichment** sessions continues today and on the Sundays of Lent, 4:00-5:30pm. . Our study will follow Light for Life: Part One—The Mystery Believed, an overview of the faith for Byzantine Catholics. Through these classes we will especially examine what God has shown us of himself and what he has done to unite ourselves with him. *The Mystery Believed* presents Holy Scripture as interpreted and applied in the life and worship of the Eastern Church.

We look forward to these **Adult Education and Enrichment** classes as an opportunity to deepen our faith and to promote the spiritual life of our parishioners and parish communities.

The Great Fast

- The Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast are days of *simple abstinence* on which we abstain from meat. The **Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts** is on Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent.
- **Saturday, March 23**, is the **Third All Souls Commemoration**. We pray for the deceased and remember by name parishioners and family members, at the Divine Liturgy and Panachida on Saturday morning and at the Vigil Liturgy and Panachida in Dunlo on Saturday evening
- Remembering our **Prayer Partner** daily, we pray "*that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perfection, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.*" [Philippians 1:9-11]

Regulations for the Season of the Great Fast - 2019

Simple abstinence

- The law of simple abstinence forbids the use of meat, but permits the use of eggs and dairy products.
- All faithful of the Archeparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe simple abstinence when prescribed. Abstinence is obligatory on all Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast.

Strict abstinence

- The law of strict abstinence (fast) forbids the use and consumption of all meat, eggs and dairy products. All faithful of the Archeparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe strict abstinence when prescribed; and **is to be observed in 2019 on Great and Holy Friday, April 19.**

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Meeting for Annual Festival

A planning meeting for the **Annual Festival** is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00 pm in the social room of the church hall. Everyone is welcome. Those with specific areas of responsibility are encouraged to attend.

The date of this year's **Annual Festival** is Sunday, July 14, 2019

Catechists' Meeting

There is a meeting for **Catechists** on Sunday, March 24 immediately following the Eastern Christian Formation classes.

Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of + **Margaret Timura** who fell asleep in the Lord on March 14. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to her son Paul and Patty; and to all of her family.

Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of + **Sister Martha Elizabeth Moyta, OSBM**, of Mount Saint Macrina, who has fallen asleep in the Lord on Monday, March 11 in the 74th year of her monastic life.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Dorothy Resconich** [Memorial Hospital]; **Douglas Roxby**; **Mary Donnelly**; **George Pyo Jr.**; **Daniel Zaliznock**; **Joseph Raptosh**; **John Rakar**; **Bernadette Kostan**, **Patty Haschak**; **Emily Nezneski**; **Shawn Crum**; **Dorothy, Phil** and **Cathy Walters**; **Alina Rusnak**; **George** and **Nancy Yatsky**; **Ruby Moore**; **Charles** and **Joan Plishka**; **Tom Goncher**; **Patrick & Joan Ditko**; **Helena Ditko**; **Cliff Inman**; **Father Paul Tigyer**; **Kelly Colwell**; **David Bosnich Sr.**, **Sarah Kelt** and **Father Andriy Kelt**; **Gregory S. Popivchak**, Finance Officer of the Archeparchy [Washington Hospital]; and all the ill & homebound.

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of March 17, **Paulette Fedorko** will have the **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 Kyprian Wojciechowski**; **Robert Jones**; **John Welch**; and all the Seminary community.

Liturgical Chant—Pre-Lenten Sundays

- **2009 Edition of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** includes propers for the first day, Wednesdays, and Fridays for all weeks of the Fast. Pages are given before the service.
- On the **Sundays of the Great Fast**, the *Typical Psalms* [p. 16-17] replace the First and Second Antiphons; the *Beatitudes* [p. 23-24] are sung in place of the Third Antiphon. The responses for the Anaphora of Saint Basil the Great are on p. 96-100.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **Third All Souls Saturday** [March 23] are on p. 428; and for the Panachida on p. 432.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, March 24**, Resurrection Troparion Tone 3, are on p. 135-137; for the **Third Sunday of the Great Fast—Veneration of the Holy Cross** on page 223-225; and for the **Pre-festive Day of the Feast of the Annunciation** on page 324-325.
- The “*Our Father*”, in Tone 3 may be found on p. 68.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Saint Michael’s Byzantine Catholic Church Memorial Monument Appeal

Saint Michael’s Byzantine Catholic Church Memorial Monument Appeal is for the purpose of providing a monument to identify the cemetery and the former Saint Michael Church.

Reports of the donations received will appear periodically.

We thank those who have generously responded to this appeal.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

A Lenten Mission

A **Lenten Mission** is being held on Tuesday, March 26, 6:00 PM at Protection of the BVM Ukrainian Catholic Church, 560 Cambria Avenue, Revloc; and on Wednesday, March 27, 6:00 PM at St. Mary’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, 3713 Campbell Avenue, Northern Cambria.

Come and experience forgiveness and mercy of God given to those who humbly repent of their sins. Father Ananias Buccicone, O.S.B., from Queen of Peace Roman Catholic Church, Patton will be the guest speaker for the Mission. The Mission will begin with the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, at which Fr. Ananias will preach, followed by a fellowship in the church hall. Each person will have an opportunity to go to confession before, during and after the mission.

All are welcome to join in this wonderful expression of unity to help us prepare for the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

Spring Basket Auction in Northern Cambria

GCU Lodge 93 annual **Spring Basket Auction**, Sunday, April 7, 11:30 am to 3:00 pm at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 719 Chestnut Avenue in Northern Cambria. The drawing begins at 3:00 pm in the Church Hall. There will be a complimentary light lunch and refreshments. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Church Hall. This year our basket auction will benefit: St. John’s replacement of the retaining wall; The Good Samaritan Food Pantry; and Northern Cambria Library.

Portage Area Ministerial Association Lenten Lunches

Lenten Lunches sponsored by the *Portage Area Ministerial Association*, Wednesdays of Lent, Noon to 1:00 PM, at Hammer Street Church of God. Lunch, followed by a short talk by one of the local clergy. Schedule of speakers: March 20—Pastor Jeff Blackburn; March 27--Father Tom Stabile TOR; April 3—Pastor Ryan Legg; April 10—Pastor Melia Lewis.

“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].

Pilgrimage Opportunities: Holy Land and Rome

A *Pilgrimage to the Holy Land* [\$3,350] September 15–24, 2019. Brochures are in the narthex or contact Patrizia de Libero at 978-772-2467. A *Pilgrimage to Rome* [\$3,725]; May 13-22; (216) 470-3287; or horizons@parma.org. Brochure at <http://www.parma.org/romepilgrimage>.

Community Safety Awareness Class

Portage Area Ambulance Association is sponsoring an *Active Shooter Awareness Class*, Thursday March 28, 7:00 PM at Bethany United Methodist Church, 700 Farren St. Portage. Officer Tom Owens of the Stoneycreek Township Police Department and Commander of the Cambria County C.E.R.T team will present this hour long class. Everyone is invited to attend. There is no charge.

Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer Schedule of Events

Lenten Prayer Morning: Rev. Don Bolls “*The Passion As Told By St. John The Beloved*” Saturday, March 23, 9:15 am—1:00 pm. Offering: \$35. Registration: March 19. The Sacrament of Reconciliation; conference and prayer service. To register: 724-438-7149; or hpmsm@verizon.net

Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer

At Home: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Dorothy Billy; Catherine Czapp Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Barbara Raptosh; Stella Raptosh; Cathy Walters; Helen Zaher; **St. Michael (South Fork):** Michelle Maskal; **St. Mary (Beaverdale):** Nancy Andrako; 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]:**
- **Arbutus Park Manor:** Margaret Rachael [Dunlo];
- **Autumn View:** June Nezneski; John Slivenik [Beaverdale]
- **The Winds at Mattern Orchard, Duncansville:** Mary Vrabel
- **Amber Hills Ebensburg:** Father Ronald Borsuk
- **Cambria Care, Ebensburg:** Edward Andrykovitch [Beaverdale]
- **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 Third Week of the Great Fast—March 17, 2019

Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Saturday March 16

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** **Vigil Divine Liturgy** [+Mildred Fedore, by Mark and Larry Sasek]
Followed by **Panachida** and Reading of the Names of the Deceased

Sunday March 17

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

Monday, March 18

No Lenten services scheduled

Tuesday, March 19

Portage **10:00 am** **Office of Christian Burial--Margaret Timura**

Wednesday, March 20

Portage 6:30 PM **Simple abstinence and fasting required**
7:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, March 21

No Lenten services scheduled

Friday, March 22

Portage 6:30 PM **Simple abstinence and fasting required**
7:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Third All Souls Saturday

Saturday March 23

Portage **9:00 AM** **Divine Liturgy** followed by
Panachida & Reading of the Names of the Deceased
Portage 3:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Dunlo 4:30 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Third Sunday of the Great Fast—Veneration of the Holy Cross Prefestive Day of the Feast of the Annunciation

Saturday March 23

Dunlo **5:00 PM** **Vigil Divine Liturgy**
[+Elaine Kachmar [40th Day] — by Deacon Dan and Mary Lou Perich.]
Followed by **Panachida** and Reading of the Names of the Deceased

Sunday March 24

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

Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos

Portage **4:00 PM** **Great Vespers with Litija**