



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
Website: www.ByzantineCatholic.net
E-mail: james_armand_spontak@verizon.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.

Troitsja & Bulletin Schedule

Sunday March 24 Troitsja: Abby Koban

Bulletins: Evan Lenz & Lexie Slanoc

Sunday March 31 Troitsja: Bella Koban

Bulletins: Bella Koban & Hunter Whitcomb

Sunday April 7 Troitsja: Lexie Slanoc

Bulletins: Abby Koban & Ryan Lenz

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.



The Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos

When the Feast of the Annunciation falls on a Lenten weekday, the Divine Liturgy of our Holy Father John Chrysostom is celebrated with Vespers on March 25, in the evening [Monday, March 25 at 7:00 pm at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage]. Great Vespers with Litija are on Sunday, March 24 at 4:00 pm.

"In accordance with Eastern tradition, the Divine Liturgy of the Annunciation stresses the Divine aspect of this mystery: the salutation of Gabriel heralds the descent of the Son of God into the virginal womb of Mary. On this day, the Word was made flesh and assumed forever the humanity of Jesus. On March 25, nine months before the Nativity, Jesus, through the operation of the Holy Spirit, became the Supreme High Priest, the Mediator between God and men. Mary, through her absolute purity and total submission, obtained the most glorious title: Mother of God or Theotokos, and has ever since been honored with a very special devotion and love"

[Archbishop Joseph Raya, *Byzantine Daily Worship*, pp. 657-658]

The Third Sunday of the Great Fast

"Every major effort brings pain and fatigue. Discouragement sometimes appears before the work is done. Since now, with the grace of God, we have reached the mid-point of Lent, and lest we be overcome by its burdens, the Church, our compassionate mother reveals to us the Cross of Christ as a source of power and inspiration, as the support of the just and the hope of the sinner. The Cross is planted in the midst of Lent like the Tree of Life in the midst of Paradise, like the Rod of Moses in the midst of the Camp, in order that anyone looking upon it may find health, strength and the courage to pursue his course."

[Archbishop Joseph Raya, *Byzantine Daily Worship*, pp. *800-801]

Lenten Adult Education and Enrichment Series

A series of **Adult Education and Enrichment** sessions continues today. **Great Vespers with Litija** for the Feast of the Annunciation will be at 4:00 pm, followed by our class session in the social room of the church hall. Our study follows Light for Life: Part One—The Mystery Believed, and focuses on God has shown us of himself and what he has done to unite ourselves with him.

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 30**, is the **Fourth 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 Beaverdale 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 Today--Sunday, March 24,** immediately following the Eastern Christian Formation classes.

Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+ George Yatsky** who fell asleep in the Lord on March 14. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to his wife Nancy, his son George and to all of his family.

Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+Bishop Joseph Adamec**, who fell asleep in the Lord on March 20; and for the repose of the soul of **+Mr. David Bosnich**, father of Very Reverend David Bosnich, who fell asleep in the Lord on March 16.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Dorothy Resconich; Douglas Roxby; Mary Donnelly; George Pyo Jr.; Daniel Zalznock; Joseph Raptosh; John Rakar; Bernadette Kostan, Patty Haschak; Emily Neznieski; Shawn Crum; Dorothy, Phil and Cathy Walters; Alina Rusnak; Ruby Moore; Charles and Joan Plishka; Tom Goncher; Patrick & Joan Ditko; Helena Ditko; Cliff Inman; Father Paul Tigyer; Kelly Colwell; Sarah Kelt and Father Andriy Kelt; Gregory S. Popivchak;** and all the ill & homebound.

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of March 24, **Julie Brenna** will have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**. During the months of *May* and *June* parishioners of Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo will have the opportunity 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.
- For the **Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos, Monday March 25**, the *Vespers with Divine Liturgy* is on p. 104; and the Vesper Stichera and other prescribed parts on p. 325-332.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **Fourth All Souls Saturday** [March 30] are on p. 428; and for the Panachida on p. 432.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, March 31, Resurrection Troparion Tone 4**, are on p. 141-142; for the and for the **Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast** on page 226-227.
- The “*Our Father*”, in Tone 4 may be found on p. 69.
- 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. Please consider helping this project if you have not already done so. 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.

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 preparation for the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord.

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.

“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].

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 27--Father Tom Stabile TOR; April 3—Pastor Ryan Legg; April 10—Pastor Melia Lewis.

Eggstravaganza

13th Egg Eggstravaganza Sunday, April 7, Noon - 5 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 East Main, Street, Uniontown, PA. Egg artists demonstrations and sales; tables with supplies for decorating eggs; embroidered covers, lamb butter molds, decorated candles, egg wraps, cookbooks, etc. A Bake Sale includes long rolls (nut, apricot, poppyseed, and cottage cheese). Lenten lunch menu served. Handicapped accessibility. For information: 724-438-6027.

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.

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):**

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 Fourth Week of the Great Fast—March 24, 2019

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

Sunday March 24

Portage **4:00 PM**

Great Vespers with Litija

Monday, March 25

Portage **6:30 PM**

Mystery of Repentance (Confessions)

Portage **7:00 PM**

Vespers with Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, March 26

No Lenten services scheduled

Wednesday, March 27

Portage **6:30 PM**

Simple abstinence and fasting required

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

7:00 PM

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, March 28

No Lenten services scheduled

Friday, March 29

Portage **6:30 PM**

Simple abstinence and fasting required

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

7:00 PM

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Fourth All Souls Saturday

Saturday March 30

Portage **9:00 AM**

Divine Liturgy followed by

Panachida & Reading of the Names of the Deceased

Portage **3:00 PM**

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Beaverdale **4:30 PM**

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast—Our Venerable Father John Climacus

Saturday March 30

Beaverdale **5:00 PM**

Vigil Divine Liturgy

Followed by **Panachida** and Reading of the Names of the Deceased

Sunday March 31

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

[+Betty Terlingo, by Barbara & John Havrilla.]