



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

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 April 14	<u>Troitsja:</u> Evan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Cierra Goral & Lexie Slanoc
PASCHA: Saturday April 20 pm	<u>Troitsja:</u> Christina Goral	<u>Bulletins:</u> Christina & Cierra Goral
Sunday April 21 am	<u>Troitsja:</u> Ryan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Evan Lenz & Ryan Lenz
Sunday April 28	<u>Troitsja:</u> Lexie Slanoc	<u>Bulletins:</u> 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.



Palm Sunday and Holy Week

“During the fourth century, at the very place where the glorious entrance into Jerusalem had occurred, it was commemorated in the following fashion: first, a public reading of the Gospel in which Christ is hailed as the King of Israel taking possession of his capital city, Jerusalem, symbol of the Heavenly City; then a bishop, riding an ass and surrounded by a multitude of people carrying palms and singing hymns, went up to the Church of the Resurrection. Every Eastern Church took up this celebration in the form of a procession. This also was adopted by the Church of Rome in the year 1039.”

*“During this **Great and Holy Week**, Christ is followed in every moment that witnessed his passion and death, and preceded his glorious resurrection. The last hours of Christ are re-lived and his teaching and anxious last will received: that we love one another and be united in Him, so that we may become his witnesses in the reality of the Spirit, as his disciples and followers had been.” [Archbishop Joseph Raya, Byzantine Daily Worship; 815 & 821]*

“In this week we do not only observe what happened in history; through our acts of repentance, prayers and fasting, processions, veneration, we take an active part in what we remember as having happened and what is happening now through divine remembrance. We die in Christ and rise in the fullness of life.” [Father David Petras, Typicon, p. 27.]”

Mystery of Repentance – Confession

- On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at **6:00 pm**, before Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts.
- On Thursday at **1:00 pm** and **6:00 pm** in Portage.
- There are **no Confessions** scheduled after Thursday of Holy Week.
- You may also call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

Journey Through Holy Week...

- **Fasting** and **Strict Abstinence** from meat and dairy products is prescribed for Great & Holy Friday [April 19]. **Fasting** and **Abstinence** from meat is prescribed on Wednesday and Saturday of the Holy Week, and is recommended for Holy Thursday.
- For the **processions** on Good Friday and Paschal Matins [Saturday evening], **battery operated LED** candles will be distributed. A switch on the bottom turns the light on/off.
- **Please note** that *two ushers* will be near the grave to be available for those who may need assistance as they approach or leave the veneration of the grave.

PASKA Baking Activity for ECF Students – Thank You!

A note of thanks to those who took part in Saturday's **Paska Baking Activity** making Paskas for homebound parishioners and for the *Artos* for the Paschal Divine Liturgy. Our thanks to our baking crew—*Carol Goral, Sandy Lenz, and Sharon Bolvin*; parents, **ECF** students, and Catechists.

Regulations for Great and Holy Week - 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 Wednesday and Saturday of Holy Week and is recommended for Holy Thursday.

Strict abstinence: The law of strict abstinence (fast) is to be observed on **Great and Holy Friday, April 19** and 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.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Pastoral Visits to the Homebound

Visits to homebound parishioners and in nursing homes for Confession and the Eucharist continue during Holy Week. Please notify Fr. Jim of family or relatives who are not on the list of those visited.

Decorative Candles

- **Decorative candles** for the Blessing of Paschal foods are available from the ushers at each church. An offering of \$10 is requested for these candles.
- A note of thanks to those who brought **pussy-willow branches**; and also to **Jonathan and Irene Gindlesperger** of Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo for the Palm-baskets placed in the front of church.

Liturgical Chant—Holy Week and Pascha

- **2009 Edition of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** includes propers for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week. The **Mystery of Holy Anointing** will be included on Wednesday.
- For the services of Holy Thursday and Good Friday and Paschal Matins on Saturday, booklets will be available in the back of church. Please return them after the service.
- The Propers for next **Sunday, April 21**, the **Feast of the Resurrection – Pascha** may be found in the Divine Liturgy books from pages 164-171.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns, alternate melodies etc.

Eastern Christian Formation Program

- There are no **ECF Classes** on **Sunday, April 21**, Pascha—the Resurrection of our Lord.
- Our final day of **ECF Classes** is **Sunday, April 28, Thomas Sunday**. For the Pre-school and Kindergarten class, today [April 14] is their final session.
- Two students are preparing for their **First Penance**, and our celebration of **First Penance** will be at the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday May 5** followed by a cake and coffee social.

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of April 14, **Carol Goral** will have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**. In May and June parishioners of Beaverdale and Dunlo will have 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.

Meeting for Annual Festival

The next planning meeting for the **Annual Festival** is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1 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. This year's **Annual Festival** is Sunday, July 14, 2019

Offerings for March					
	<u>Mar 3</u>	<u>Mar 10</u>	<u>Mar 17</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Mar 31</u>
Portage:	\$1,909.00	\$1,526.00	\$1,899.00	\$1,269.00	\$2,083.00
Beaverdale:	\$ 510.00	\$ 245.00	\$ 184.00	\$ 345.00	\$ 372.00
Dunlo:	\$ 115.00	\$ 234.00	\$ 305.00	\$87.00	\$ 168.00

Sanctuary Candle

The Candle is offered for the week of April 14 is in memory of **+Deceased Members of the +Peter Pikus Family**, requested by the members of the Peter Pikus Family.

We regret these *omissions* of requests for the Sanctuary Candle: for the week of March 31: +Emil Harriton, by Marian Simala; for the week of April 7: Francis Christina, by Valerie Pcola.

Cemetery Dumpster

The Waste Management dumpster at the Portage cemetery has been removed. Frequently we paid to remove garbage of vandals who used it on a regular basis. If you have need to dispose of items [old flowers, etc.] from graves, we kindly ask that you bring them home for refuse disposal. Parishioners may use the dumpster at the church for cemetery refuse, provided there is room.

We regret any inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation and consideration. We also appreciate our cemetery volunteers at each cemetery, as spring clean-up tasks will be in process.

Saint Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church Memorial Monument Appeal

The next meeting for the committee planning the **Saint Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church Memorial Monument Appeal** for the former Saint Michael Church is scheduled for Monday, April 29 at 5:00 pm at Saint Peter and Paul Church in Portage. Please consider helping this project if you have not already done so. We thank those who have generously responded to this appeal

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Dorothy Resconich; Douglas Roxby; Mary Donnelly; George Pyo Jr.; Daniel Zaliznock; Joseph Raptosh; John Rakar; Bernadette Kostan, Patty Haschak; Emily Nezniski; 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 Don Bolis; Father Paul Tigyer; Kelly Colwell; Sarah Kelt; Gregory S. Popivchak**; and all the ill & homebound

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Cresson Area Lions Club Pancake Breakfast & Basket Raffle

The Cresson Area Lions Club **Pancake Breakfast & Basket Raffle** will be held Palm Sunday, April 14, at the Cresson American Legion from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Adults: \$6.00; children: \$5.00.

Saint Demetrius Roast Beef Dinner & Spring Festival in Gallitzin

St. Demetrius Parish, Gallitzin **43rd Annual Roast Beef Dinner/Spring Festival** Sunday, April 28. Features games, baskets, a bake sale, and of course our delicious roast beef dinner. Location: Church hall (former St. Patrick building) at the top of Church Street. Time: 10:30 a.m. to...?

Adults (eat-in or take-out) \$10.00; Children 6-to-12, \$6.00; 5 and under FREE

Women's Day of Reflection

The Office of Religious Education 16th annual **Day of Reflection for Women** is **Saturday, May 11**, 9 am-2:30 pm, at the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist, Munhall. The theme is **"God Speaks: Do We Listen?"** Brochures in the narthex; register by April 24; call 412-322-8773. The cost is \$25.

Community Good Friday Cross Walk

Good Friday Cross Walk on April 19, beginning at 12 Noon at **Holy Family Catholic Church**; at **Portage Christian Missionary Alliance Church** at 1:00 pm; and at **Trinity UMC** at 2:00 pm. Concludes with erecting the Cross at **Decort Funeral Home Lawn** on Main Street at 3:00 pm.

Chicken & Biscuit Dinner

GCU Lodge 401 **Chicken & Biscuit Dinner**, Sunday, April 28, 11:30 AM-2:00 PM at St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, 1191 2nd Street, Nanty Glo, PA 15943. Contact Stephen Bender [814-749-0087] or buddybender831@comcast.net Adults, \$5; Children 5-12; FREE for under 5

Are you ready to become that someone?

Saint Francis University's Adult Degree & Continuing Studies Program is enrolling for Summer 2019 term; accredited and fully online; affordable tuition. Business; Early Childhood Education; Behavioral Science; Health Studies. Call 814-472-3012; or oce@francis.edu; or visit www.francis.edu/adcs.

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;
- **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 Great and Holy Week—April 14, 2019

Palm/Flowery Sunday--Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem

Saturday April 13

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

[+Stefan Gaydos, by Clark and Mary Gaydos Family]

Sunday April 14

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

Great & Holy Monday April 15

Portage **6:00 PM** Mystery of Repentance (Confessions)

Portage **7:00 PM** Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Great & Holy Tuesday, April 16

Portage **6:00 PM** Mystery of Repentance (Confessions)

Portage **7:00 PM** Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Great & Holy Wednesday April 17– *Simple abstinence and fasting required*

Portage **6:00 PM** Mystery of Repentance (Confessions)

Portage **7:00 PM** Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts with Holy Anointing

Great & Holy Thursday April 18– *Simple abstinence and fasting recommended*

Institution of the Eucharist & Betrayal of Our Lord

Portage **1:00 PM & 6:00 PM** Mystery of Repentance (Confessions)

Portage **7:00 PM** Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

Great and Holy Friday--April 19 *Strict abstinence and fasting required*

Portage **10:00 AM** Matins with Reading of Passion Gospels

Dunlo **3:00 PM** Solemn Vespers & Procession with Burial Shroud

Portage **7:00 PM** Solemn Vespers & Procession with Burial Shroud

Vigil at the Tomb of our Lord following service until Midnight

Great & Holy Saturday April 20– *Simple abstinence and fasting required*

Vigil at the Tomb of our Lord continues throughout the day

Portage **Noon** Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

Pascha – The Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Saturday April 20

Portage **7:00 PM** Resurrection Matins & Paschal Divine Liturgy

Followed by Blessing of Paschal Food & Social

Sunday April 21

Dunlo **8:00 AM** Procession & Paschal Divine Liturgy

Followed by Blessing of Paschal Food

Portage **10:30 AM** Paschal Divine Liturgy