



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](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**

<b><u>Sunday April 7</u></b>	Troitsja: Lexie Slanoc	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> Abby Koban & Ryan Lenz		
<b><u>Sunday April 14</u></b>	Troitsja: Evan Lenz	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> Cierra Goral & Lexie Slanoc		
<b><u>PASCHA:</u></b>	<b><u>Saturday April 20</u></b>	<b>pm</b>	<b><u>Troitsja Volunteers</u></b>	<b><u>Bulletins: Volunteers</u></b>
	<b><u>Sunday April 21</u></b>	<b>am</b>	<b><u>Troitsja Volunteers</u></b>	<b><u>Bulletins: Volunteers</u></b>

### **Parish Sunday Bulletin Available Online and by Email Transmission**

The Sunday bulletin is posted on the parish website, [www.ByzantineCatholic.net](http://www.ByzantineCatholic.net). 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 Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast**

The Gospel today begins with Jesus' third and final prediction of the Passion and Resurrection [Mark 10:32]. He includes more specific details than in the previous instances of these predictions. Here, there is indicated specifically that this is to occur in Jerusalem. In this way, the Gospels we hear on this Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast sounds a keynote for our own approach to Holy Week and the events of the Passion.

What is also notable in the following events [Mark 10:35-45] is the failure to grasp what Jesus' words or their application mean. Even more, the behaviors of the disciples suggest their attitude is contrary to the meaning of the words of the Lord. Thus, James and John choose this moment to ask a favor from Jesus, to sit "one at your right hand and one at your left". In other words, they expected Jesus' entry into Jerusalem would be to establish very shortly an earthly rule. In his reply, Jesus indicates symbolically that what awaits them is the passion and his death. He speaks of the passion as a "cup", in which they are to share, as he will do also in the Garden of Gethsemane [Mark 14:36].

We too are "going up to Jerusalem", a time also for us to share mystically through the Liturgy, the Scriptures and our prayers in the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord.

### **Mystery of Repentance--Confessions**

The *Mystery of Repentance* [Confession] will be available **Thursday, April 11** at 7:00 pm. *Fr. Vasyl Polyak* from Saint Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church, Patton will be here with Father Jim for Confessions. Confession is available at 6:30 pm before the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts on Wednesday and Friday; and on Saturday at these scheduled times:

- **Saturday, April 13:** Portage (2:30 pm) Beaverdale (4:15 pm)

Also, you may call the rectory to schedule an appointment. Please avail yourself to these opportunities in preparation for Holy Week at your earliest convenience

### **PASKA Baking Activity for ECF Students**

The *Paska Baking Activity* for ECF Students and Youth will be on **Saturday, April 13** beginning at 10:00 am. Each year our students learn about baking *Paska*—Easter bread—and help to prepare Easter baskets for our parishioners who are homebound and in nursing homes. ***Please sign-up on the list in the narthex.***



### **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.
- 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]

## Lenten Adult Education and Enrichment Series

Our series of **Adult Education and Enrichment** sessions conclude today at 4:00 pm, 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.

### 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 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



### **Coffee Social for April—TODAY--Sunday, April 7**

There is a **Coffee and Donut Social TODAY--Sunday, April 7**, following the 9 am Divine Liturgy. Please take this opportunity to greet fellow parishioners and enjoy the coffee and refreshments.

### Financial Reports for 2018

Enclosed in today's bulletin are the **Financial Reports for 2018** for each parish community. These are presented with a comparison for 2017. Thank you for your generosity and support reflected in the 2018 Financial Reports.

Also, a word of grateful acknowledgment to those who have prepared these statements and who take care of the parish accounting throughout the year: **Mary Lou Perich** for Beaverdale and Dunlo; and **Rochelle Berzansky** for Portage.

### Pastoral Visits to the Homebound

Visits to homebound parishioners and in nursing homes for the holy Mysteries of Confession and the Eucharist will begin this week and during Holy Week. Fr. Jim will call for an appointment to visit. Please notify the parish office of family or relatives who are not presently on the list of those visited.

### Saints Peter and Paul--Dunlo

A work of acknowledgement to the parishioners of Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo for your presence and participation at the meeting regarding the parish financial statistics and information this past week. We will plan for a follow-up meeting sometime during the summer months.

Your concern, prayers and support for the parish are sincerely appreciated.

## **Decorative Candles; Pussy-Willow Branches**

- **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.
- If you have **pussy-willow branches** for Palm-Flowery Sunday [Sunday, April 14], please bring them to the church in the week prior to Palm Sunday. Thank you.

## **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

## **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.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for next Sunday, April 7, for the **Entrance of Christ into Jerusalem** are on pages 235-241.
- The “*Our Father*”, in Tone 4 Podoben may be found on p. 74.
- 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** for the former Saint Michael Church has received \$4,820.00 from 35 donors. Please consider helping this project if you have not already done so. We thank those who have generously responded to this appeal.

The next meeting for the committee planning the Saint Michael’s Memorial Monument is scheduled for Monday, April 29 at 5:00 pm in the Rectory at Saint Peter and Paul Church in Portage.

## **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 Nezeski; 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 Bolls**, pastor of Resurrection Church, Monroeville, [UPMC Presbyterian]; **Father Paul Tigyer; Kelly Colwell; Sarah Kelt** and **Father Andriy Kelt; Gregory S. Popivchak**; infant **Lakota**; and all the ill & homebound.

Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+John Larko**, brother of Very Reverend Ronald Larko pastor of Saint John’s Byzantine Catholic Church, Uniontown, who fell asleep in the Lord on April 2  
Eternal Memory.

## **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: \$5.50 in advance, \$6.00 at the Door. Children: \$4.50 in advance, \$5.00 at the Door.

## 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: April 10—Pastor Melia Lewis.

## 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.

## 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.

## Are you ready to become that someone?

Saint Francis University's Adult Degree & Continuing Studies Program is currently enrolling for the Summer 2019 term. Saint Francis University's Adult Degree & Continuing Studies program caters to adult learners. Our programs are accredited and fully online. We offer affordable tuition. Check out our programs in Business, Early Childhood Education, Behavioral Science, Health Studies, and more! If you're interested in learning more you can call us at 814-472-3012, email us at [oce@francis.edu](mailto:oce@francis.edu) or by visiting our website at: [www.francis.edu/adcs](http://www.francis.edu/adcs). Become that Someone today!

### **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

### **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**

During the week of April 7, **Holly** and **Bob Koban** 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.

## **Liturgical Schedule Sixth Week of the Great Fast—April 7, 2019**

<b>Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast— Our Venerable Mother Mary of Egypt</b>		
<b>Saturday April 6</b>		
Dunlo	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Vigil Divine Liturgy</b> [+Tyler Cimba, by Cimba Family,]
<b>Sunday April 7</b>		
Portage	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Divine Liturgy</b>

**Monday, April 8** No Lenten services scheduled

**Tuesday, April 9** No Lenten services scheduled

**Wednesday, April 10** *Simple abstinence and fasting required*  
Portage 6:30 PM  
**7:00 PM** **Mystery of Repentance** [Confessions]  
**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Thursday, April 11**  
Portage 7:00 PM **Mystery of Repentance** [Confessions]

**Friday, April 12** *Simple abstinence and fasting required*  
Portage 6:30 PM  
**7:00 PM** **Mystery of Repentance** [Confessions]  
**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Saturday April 13** **Lazarus Saturday**  
Portage **2:30 PM** **Mystery of Repentance** [Confessions]  
Beaverdale 4:30 PM **Mystery of Repentance** [Confessions]

<b>Palm/Flowery Sunday--Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem</b>		
<b>Saturday April 13</b>		
Beaverdale	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Vigil Divine Liturgy</b> [+Stefan Gaydos, by Clark and Mary Gaydos Family]
<b>Sunday April 14</b>		
Portage	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Divine Liturgy</b>