



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

<u>Sunday May 26</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Christina Goral	<u>Bulletins:</u> Cierra Goral & Evan Lenz
<u>Sunday June 2</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Ryan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Hunter Whitcomb & Lexie Slanoc
<u>Sunday June 9</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Lexie Slanoc	<u>Bulletins:</u> Christina Goral & 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 Ascension of our Lord

We observe the **Feast of the Ascension of our Lord** on Thursday, May 30. You may attend any of the services scheduled in observance of this great feast of our church, a "*feast of obligation*".

Archbishop Joseph Raya, in Byzantine Daily Worship [p. 881] reflects on this feast and its significance for ourselves as we participate in the "ascent of Christ" from earth to heaven: "*The hymns and prayers of the Ascension celebrate the triumph of our Saviour who ascended into heaven with his body in order to establish our humanity on the throne of the Divinity. For us also it is a day of triumph, beautifully expressed in the Troparion of the Feast:*

"When you had fulfilled the plan of salvation for us, and united the earthly with the heavenly, you were taken up in glory, O Christ our God. Never parting from us but remaining constantly, you proclaim to those who love you: I am with you and no one can be against you."

Memorial Day

On Monday, May 27 we observe **Memorial Day**, a day of prayerful remembrance of those who have given their lives in service to their country.

"Let your servants, O Christ, see the glory of your saints, and let them be filled with spiritual joy. Let the light of your face and of your tenderness shine upon them, for they have served you and saved your people in combat, receiving in the end death and captivity in exchange. Grant them happiness and rest in you." [From Byzantine Office for Those Who Have Died in War.]

Many, Happy Years!

Please remember in your prayers **Deacon Geoffrey Mackey** who will be ordained to the priesthood at Saint John's Cathedral in Munhall by Archbishop William today, Sunday, May 26.

Newly Acquired Adornments for the Holy Table

Brocaded altar covers the *Holy Table* [altar] and also an accompanying *Artophorion* [tabernacle] have been acquired from the former Saint Michael's Church, Newton Falls, Ohio. Today, the Artophorion is displayed in the usher's room, next to the narthex. This will allow parishioners an opportunity to view the Artophorion more closely, before it is placed on the Holy Table. We hope to have the new covers and the Artophorion in place within the next week. A key for the Artophorion needs to be made since the original key was misplaced.

There are several sets of altar covers in a variety of colors for to the various seasons of the Liturgical year. They are made of ornate brocaded material, to cover the Holy Table and side altars and the tetrapod. A note of thanks to Mary Lou Perich for volunteering to do the necessary alterations for each of these sets of covers to fit our altar, tetrapod, etc. We are grateful that these items have been made available as gifts to enhance our church.

Graduates 2019

Please submit the names of parishioners graduating in 2019 from high school, college, professional schools, etc. and include degrees earned and any special awards, recognitions, etc. Please place information in an envelope in the offering basket, or call 736-9780 or send to: james_armand_spontak@verizon.net, at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

The Paschal Season

- We share the greeting “*Christ is risen!*”, “*Indeed He is risen!*” from now until Ascension, which is derived from the greeting of the disciples [Luke 24:34].
- Through the fifty days from Pascha [Sunday of the Resurrection] until Pentecost, there is no kneeling at any time of prayer.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Church Cleaning & Work Party for June

- The *Work Party* for June is scheduled for **Saturday, June 1**, at 9:00 am.
- The *Church Cleaning* for June is scheduled for **Monday, June 3**, at 9:00 am.
- A note of thanks to those who volunteer for the monthly *Work Party* and *Church Cleaning*.

“Gob” Baking Project for Annual Festival

The “*Gob*” *Baking* project for the Annual Festival has been re-scheduled for **Monday, June 17** in the church kitchen, at 9:00 am. Gobs will be frozen and sold at the Bake Sale at the Festival. Everyone is welcome to come and help.

Annual Festival—**Sunday, July 14, 2019**

Please make note of the date of this year’s Annual Festival: **Sunday, July 14, 2019**.

Recent improvements and efforts in preparation for the picnic have included the following:

- The *church kitchen equipment* has been updated with a new gas range to replace the older electric range and an automatic Fire Suppression System above the range to insure compliance with safety requirements. The condenser for the walk-in refrigerator is also being replaced.
- *New benches* have been made with treated lumber by Mike Mazur & Deacon Dan Perich to allow for more comfortable seating throughout the Picnic grounds.
- The next planning meeting for the *Annual Festival* is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12 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

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of May 19, *Michael* and *Pauline Barelich* had the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon*. In June parishioners of Beaverdale and Dunlo will have opportunity to have the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon*. Also please remember seminarians of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh: **Deacon Tom Wells; Seminarians Kyprian Wojciechowski, Robert Jones, John Welch**; and all the Seminary community.

Liturgical Chant: Ascension & Sunday of the Fathers of 1st Council

- *Vespers with the Divine Liturgy* for the **Feast of the Ascension** begins in the Divine Liturgy book on p. 104; Vesper stichera are in a separate handout.
- The Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of the Ascension** may be found from pages 191-195.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for **next Sunday, June 2**, the **Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council** are on pages 196-202.
- The *Our Father* in the Tone 6 Samohlasen may be found on page 71.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Bulletins & Troitsja—Summer Schedules

A note of thanks to the student volunteers for distributing bulletins and holding the Troitsja candle at the Divine Liturgy. Parents or students are asked to inform Father Jim of summer schedules for vacations, travel, etc. so that the schedule may accommodate these dates and changes.

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 Tuesday, May 28 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

Cemetery Projects and Offerings

We are in need of help with weed-trimming at the Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery, Portage. Ernest Podrasky has been volunteering to do weed trimming in the past few years. Help is needed because of the time and effort involved in this task. Please contact Father Jim if you are available to help. A note of thanks to volunteers at each of our parish cemeteries for your offerings for *Cemetery Care* throughout the year.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Melody Voss** [Maple Winds]; **Dorothy Majer; 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 Joseph Borodach; Father Paul Tigyer; Kelly Colwell; Sarah Kelt; Mary Beth Blackburn;** and all the ill & homebound. Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+Olga Duker Mackin**, sister of Monsignor Russell Duker, who fell asleep in the Lord on May 17

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Saint Mary's Windber

Saint Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, 803 Somerset Avenue, Windber, will be hosting Bingo as a parish fund-raiser on the first Friday of each month at 6:00 pm in the church hall. The next Bingo will be Friday, June 7. Father Ivan Rusin and parishioners extend a cordial invitation.

Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer Young Adult Retreat

Young Adult Retreat from June 21-23; 7:00 pm Friday—11:00 am Sunday. Directed by Sr. Barbara Jean Mihalchick OSBM and a team of young adults. Offering: \$110. Register by June 14 by calling 724-438-7149 or Email: hpmsm@verizon.net. Website: sistersofstbasil.org.

Helping Hands Day 2019

The **Greek Catholic Union [GCU]** and the Sisters of St. Basil the Great invite you to **Helping Hands Day**, Mount Saint Macrina, Uniontown Saturday, June 1 at 9:30 am to help beautify the grounds.

Monetary contributions to purchase flowers at Mt. St. Macrina may be made to: **Helping Hands Day [Mt. St. Macrina]**; GCU Fraternal Department; 5400 Tuscarawas Rd.; Beaver, PA 15009.

Mandatory Reporting Seminar

Holy Family Church, 509 Caldwell Avenue, Portage, is hosting a **Mandatory Reporting Seminar** on Saturday, June 1, 8:30 am-12:30 pm in the church hall [beneath the church]. This workshop is being offered as a community service. If you plan to attend you are asked to register; call 814-73-4279. There will be a \$3.50 charge for the printed book.

Oriente Lumen XXIII Conference in Washington, DC

Oriente Lumen XXIII Conference is June 17-20 at the Washington Retreat House, Washington, DC. Open to the public, but requiring pre-registration, the conference will provide an opportunity for Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Eastern Catholics and Oriental Orthodox to gather, and learn about their respective traditions. This year's conference theme is "*One City, One Bishop: Church Boundaries Past Present and Future.*"

Register online at www.olfoundation.com or call 703-691-8862 for registration form.

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

**Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!
Christos Voskrese! Voistinnu Voskrese!
Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!**

Liturgical Schedule Sixth Paschal Week —May 26, 2019

Sixth Paschal Sunday - Sunday of the Man Born Blind

Saturday May 25

Beaverdale **5:00 PM**

Vigil Divine Liturgy

[+Catherine Selepak and +Elaine Kachmar, by Carol Selepak Krieger]

Sunday May 26

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

Monday May 27

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday May 28

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord

Wednesday May 29

Beaverdale **6:00 PM**

Vespers with Divine Liturgy

Thursday, May 30

Portage 8:45 AM
9:00 AM

The Third Hour
Divine Liturgy

[+Charles & +Madge Marino, by John and Barbara Havrilla]

Portage **7:00 PM**

Divine Liturgy

Friday May 31

Portage 7:50 AM
8:00 AM

The Third Hour

Divine Liturgy [+Thomas Spontak, by John Slivenik]

Saturday June 1

Portage 3:00 PM
Dunlo 4:30 PM

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

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Sixth Paschal Sunday - Sunday of the Man Born Blind

Saturday June 1

Dunlo **5:00 PM**

Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday June 2

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

[50th Wedding Anniversary-In Thanksgiving—John and Barbara Havrilla]