



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 August 4 Troitsja: Cierra Goral

Bulletins: Hunter Whitcomb & Lexie Slanoc

Sunday August 11 Troitsja: Evan Lenz

Bulletins: Christina Goral & Ryan Lenz

Sunday August 18 Troitsja: Christina Goral

Bulletins: Cierra Goral & Evan Lenz

Parish Sunday Bulletin Available Online and by Email Transmission

The Sunday bulletin is posted on the parish website, www.ByzantineCatholic.net. Also, like us on **Facebook at Sts Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church**. To receive weekly bulletin by email send your email address to james_armand_spontak@verizon.net with this request.



The Icon of the Feast of the Transfiguration

“The Feast of the Transfiguration takes its origins from the celebration of the Gospel event. Jesus leads His Disciples up the mountain. ‘He was transfigured before their eyes. His face became dazzling as the sun, His clothes as radiant as light.’ (Mt. 17: 2) In this light we see Christ. ‘This is My beloved Son, on Whom My favor rests. Listen to Him.’ (Mt. 17: 5)

“The Icon of the Transfiguration portrays Christ surrounded by the glorious light of His divinity and clothed in the same garments in which He is depicted in all representations of the Resurrection. To His left is Moses, holding the Tablets of the Law, while to His right is shown the Prophet Elias. St. John Chrysostom offers various reasons for the appearance of these particular Old Testament figures at the Transfiguration. They represent the Law and the Prophets. Both had visions of God. Moses represents the dead while Elias, having been carried up to heaven in a chariot of fire, represents the living over whom — both the living and the dead— Christ reigns in glory.

“The Apostles Peter, James, and John are in the lower portion of the Icon. These are the same three who would appear in Gethsemane with Christ; they were being prepared for the Passion, which they still were not able to comprehend. The Apostles' position in the Icon vary throughout history. Beginning with the eleventh century, however, St. Peter, shown to the left, is represented as kneeling, supported on his right hand, raising his left hand to shield his eyes from the light. St. John, always in the center, is depicted as fallen, his back turned to the light and his sandal having fallen from his foot. St. James, to the right, is portrayed as fleeing from the light.

“Christ appeared to the Apostles not in the form of man as the “suffering servant” but, rather, in the form of God. ‘For taking apart the three Disciples He has expressly chosen.... He led them up into the mountain by themselves; and for a short time He concealed the flesh He had assumed, and was transfigured before them.’ (Vesper Hymn)

“The Feast of the Transfiguration celebrates the divinity of Christ and the divinization of man. It gives us a glimpse into Christ's divine person, and sets us afire with divine light.”

[From *Come Bless the Lord* Icon Pamphlet, page 55]

The Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord *Blessing of Grapes and Fruit*

On Tuesday, August 6 we celebrate the *Feast of Transfiguration of our Lord*.

The custom of blessing *grapes and other fruit* takes place in conjunction with this Feast, as we give thanks to God for the harvest of the summer fruits. You are encouraged to bring grapes and other fruit on this occasion. This blessing will follow both *Vespers with Divine Liturgy* at Saint Mary, Beavertdale on Monday evening; and the Divine Liturgy at Saints Peter & Paul, Portage on Tuesday morning.

Mysteries of Christian Initiation

On Saturday, August 3 **Kennady Grace Spaid** received the **Mysteries of Christian Initiation** – Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist. She is the daughter of Randy and Angelica Spaid.

Many happy years!

“O Lord, our Master and God, call your servant to Your holy enlightenment, and count her worthy of this great gift of Your holy baptism. Wash away her old self, and give her a new birth into everlasting life. Fill her with the power of Your Holy Spirit that she may be one with Your Christ...” [Service of Holy Baptism and Chrismation]

Charter Bus to Annual Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina In Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

The **85th Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help** takes place during the Labor Day Weekend, August 31-September 1, 2019. We have reserved a 41 passenger charter bus for transportation to the Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina for **Sunday, September 1**. The bus departs from our parking lot at **7:00 am**. Departure from Mount Saint Macrina will be at about 9:00 pm [following the candlelight procession].

A sign-up list is in the back of church where you may sign up to reserve a seat on the bus. Please do so by **Sunday, August 18th**. An invitation is extended to families who have never attended the pilgrimage to take advantage of this opportunity to attend the Pilgrimage.

A Celebration of Marriage

The celebration honoring married couples observing **Wedding Anniversaries of 10, 25, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, or additional years that are multiples of five** in 2019 is **Sunday, September 8**. A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Metropolitan William at St. Elias Church in Munhall at 3 pm, followed by a dinner.

Please inform Father Jim if you are observing one of these anniversaries in 2019, to receive an invitation and a Certificate from Metropolitan William to commemorate your jubilee

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

The Dormition Fast

The **Dormition of the Theotokos** [August 15] is preceded by a two week fast or period of preparation, from **August 1-14**. Our Metropolitan Church identifies this as one of the four penitential seasons of the Church year. Its observance is voluntary.

Parish Advisory Council Meetings

The meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saints Peter & Paul, Portage scheduled for **Thursday, August 8** is being rescheduled. **Parish Advisory Council** members will be contacted regarding the rescheduled date.

The next meeting of the **Parish Advisory Council** for Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is **Monday, August 19**, at 7:00 in the conference room of the rectory.

Minutes from the previous meetings of each will be included in prior Sunday's bulletin.

Church Cleaning & Work Party for August

- The **Church Cleaning** for August is scheduled for **Monday, August 5**, at 9:00 am.
- **Thank You** to those who volunteer for the monthly **Work Party** and **Church Cleaning**.

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The responses for *Vespers with the Divine Liturgy* of Saint John Chrysostom for the **Feast of the Transfiguration [Monday, August 5]** are in the Divine Liturgy book on page 104; and stichera for Vespers will be in a separate handout.
- The Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord [Monday, August 6]** may be found in the Divine Liturgy book on pages 346-350.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost [August 11]**, Resurrection Troparion Tone 8, may be found on p. 161-163; and for the **Postfestive Day of the Feast of the Transfiguration** on pages 346-351.
- The “*Our Father*”, in Tone 8 may be found on p.73.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Rose Single**, the mother of David Single; **Melody Voss**; **Dorothy Majer**; **Connie Glasko**; **Mary Donnelly**; **George Pyo Jr.**; **Daniel Zaliznock**; **Joseph Raptosh**; **John Rakar**; **Bernadette Kostan**, **Patty Haschak**; **Emily Nezniski**; **Shawn Crum**; **Dennis Ratosky, Sr.**; **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**; **Mary Beth Blackburn**; and all the ill & homebound.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Annual Portage Summerfest

Annual Portage Summerfest August 9, 10, and 11 with events at Crichton McCormick Park.

Highlights include:

- Portage Endowment **\$10,000 Summerfest Tickets** are on sale at area merchants.
- The Summerfest Parade on Main Street at 2:00 pm.
- Parishioner **Dr. Jim Koban** will perform [guitarist and vocalist] at the Gazebo on Saturday, August 10 from 4:00- 5:00 pm.
- **Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast** on Sunday, August 11 at 8:00 am in the Summerfest Pavilion.
- Portage Area Cruisers Car Club Show Sunday, August 11, 11:00 am-4:00 pm.
- More information at www.portageareasummerfest.com.

Fatima Devotions in Loretto

The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the **Fatima Devotions** Tuesday August 13, 6:30 P.M. in the Sunken Gardens. (In case of inclement weather, the devotions will be at the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel). The singing will be led by Saint Benedict’s Choir in Johnstown and the sermon will be delivered by Fr. Malachi Van Tassell, T.O.R. We would like to extend a cordial welcome to all.

GCU Sponsors “An Afternoon at Narcisi Winery”

An Afternoon at Narcisi Winery on Sunday, August 25, 12 NOON-4 PM at Narcisi Winery, 4578 Gibsonia Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044. \$15/GCU Members; \$20/Non-Members. Fee includes a complete lunch of salad, meat, pasta, roasted vegetables, potatoes, dessert and soft drinks. Each person receives two tickets for wine sampling; additional samples can be purchased. If you purchase a bottle of wine, the server will cork it for free. Narcisi also has locally brewed beers.

Contact Elizabeth [412-264-4349] or etharbist@yahoo.com for information. For reservations, send check payable to GCU D15 to: Elizabeth Harbist, 215 Thornwood Court, Moon Township, PA 15108. **Deadline is August 15**

Sight and Sound Theater Bus Trip

A bus trip to the **Sight and Sound Theater** in Lancaster, Saturday, November 16 to enjoy “**The Miracle of Christmas**”. The price of the trip is \$108/adults; \$69/children. This includes the performance and bus transportation. The bus will leave at 10:00 am for the 3:00 pm performance

We will be stopping for supper (on your own) on our way home. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 per adult and \$35 per child; balance due by September 20. Call Greta at 736-8198.

Master’s Degree in Theology at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary.

Earn your Master’s Degree in Theology at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary: Degree options are offered both online and on campus. Students have a choice of four different M.A.T. focus areas: *Chaplaincy; Dogmatics; Liturgy; Sacred Scripture*. Information: *Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Ss. Cyril and Methodius; 3605 Perrysville Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15214-2229- 412-321-8383. www.bcs.edu.*

Mount Aloysius College Summer Admissions Events

Individual Visit: Monday through Friday 8:30-5:00, schedule to meet with Admissions, Financial Aid; tour campus. 814-886-6383; admissions@mtaloy.edu www.mtaloy.edu/event-registration.

Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer

At Home: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Dorothy Billy; Catherine Czapp Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; 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]
- **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 August 4, **Deacon Daniel** and **Mary Lou Perich** have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**.

Parishioners of Beaverdale and Dunlo are asked to sign up for the months of July and August to have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**. Please remember seminarians of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh: **Deacon Tom Wells; Seminarians Kyprian Wojciechowski, Robert Jones, John Welch**; and all the Seminary community; and the new candidates for the Deacon Formation Program.

Liturgical Schedule 9th Week After Pentecost—August 4, 2019

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday August 3

Dunlo **5:00 PM** **Vigil Divine Liturgy** [+John Hutsky, by Sylvia Susko]

Sunday August 4

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

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

Monday, August 5

Beaverdale **6:00 PM** Vespers with the Divine Liturgy
*Followed by **Blessing of Grapes & Fruit***

Tuesday, August 6

Portage **9:00 AM** **Divine Liturgy** [+Timothy Hanna, by Parents
*Followed by **Blessing of Grapes & Fruit***

Wednesday August 7

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Thursday, August 8

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Friday, August 9

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
 8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Albert Lesko, by Walt & Mary Ann Hoberney]

Saturday, August 10

Portage 3:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Beaverdale 4:30 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive Day of the Feast of the Transfiguration

Saturday August 10

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

Sunday August 11

Portage **9:00 AM** **Sunday Divine Liturgy** [+Jennie Letzo, by Julie Brenna]