



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 September 15</u> | Troitsja: Ryan Lenz | <u>Bulletins:</u> Ryan Lenz & Lexie Slanoc |
| <u>Sunday September 22</u> | Troitsja: Lexie Slanoc | <u>Bulletins:</u> Lexie Slanoc & Ryan Lenz |
| <u>Sunday September 29</u> | Troitsja: Evan Lenz | <u>Bulletins:</u> Lexie Slanoc & 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.



Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross was celebrated on September 14. A brief description of the origin of this feast is given in Come Bless the Lord Icon Packet, pp. 32-33:

“The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross originated in Jerusalem in 355 to commemorate the dedication of the Basilica of the Resurrection. When the true cross of Jesus was found shortly afterwards, this event was commemorated on the same day. In time, the Feast of the Exaltation supplanted the feast of the dedication. In 395, St. John Chrysostom wrote of three crosses which were discovered beneath Golgotha by the Empress Helena. Many other writers speak of miracles which occurred through contact with the true cross. It was through one of these miracles that the true cross was recognized by St. Helena and St. Macarius, the Bishop of Jerusalem.

The Holy Cross was kept in the Basilica of the Resurrection in Jerusalem until 614, when the Persians conquered the city and burned the church. In 628, Emperor Heraclius III defeated the Persians and returned the Holy Cross to Jerusalem. A portion of the cross was taken to Rome in the seventh century by Sergius I, a Pope of Byzantine origin.”

Mysteries of Christian Initiation

Karter Lane Castel receives the **Mysteries of Christian Initiation** – Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist at today’s Divine Liturgy. He is the son of Casey and Christi Castel.

Many happy years!

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

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of September 1, **David Kovalsky** of Saints Peter and Paul Dunlo; and the week of September 8, **Jackie Gordon** and **Amber Gordon** had the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**. During the week of September 15, **Kathy Sekerak** will have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon**

The calendar of dates for the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon** to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and monastic religious life is in the narthex to sign up for the coming weeks and months.

Please remember seminarians of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh: **Lector Kyprian Wojciechowski**; **Lector Robert Jones**; **John Welch**; **Luke Iyengar**; **Seminarian Nathaniel Tapsak**; also, the seven diaconal candidates in the first year of the School of Diaconate Studies.



Coffee Social for September –TODAY

Our monthly **Coffee & Donut Socials** resume in September. The September Coffee Social is **today--Sunday, September 15**. Please plan to come and enjoy this opportunity for conversation and refreshments with fellow parishioners.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Eastern Christian Formation Program

Our observance of *Catechetical Sunday* and the beginning of our Eastern Christian Formation classes is Next Sunday--September 22, 2019. Our observance of *Catechetical Sunday* will include the *Blessing of Students and Blessing and Commissioning of Catechists* for the 2019-2020 Eastern Christian Formation program.

Classes for Grade One through high school meet on Sunday following Divine Liturgy [10:15-11:15 am.]. Parents are reminded that if you anticipate your child's absence, please inform the catechists prior to class. Whenever a child is absent, parents will be asked to review the lesson for that week with the students.

As in recent years, a snack for the students will be provided before classes. It is helpful when parents and/or students offer to provide something for this light refreshment. If you plan to do so, please inform your child's catechist.

Please remember in your prayers our Catechists and students as we prepare for the 2019-2020 *Eastern Christian Formation* classes

Picnic Grounds Work Project

A project to clean out and organize contents and supplies in the garage/storage building on the picnic grounds is scheduled for Thursday, September 19 beginning at 9:00 am.

Items no longer used or needed will also be disposed of, sold, or recycled. Help is needed for this effort. Please come to lend a hand if you can be available to help with this project.

Parish Advisory Council Meeting--Rescheduled

The meeting of the *Parish Advisory Council* for Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is being rescheduled for Monday, September 16. Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, May 6 were included in last Sunday's bulletin.

Many, Happy Years!

Congratulations to Gene and *Ethel Krupa* on their 60th Wedding Anniversary. They were married at Saint Michael's Church South Fork on July 25, 1959.

We regret the omission from last week's listing of those from our parish communities celebrating Jubilee Wedding Anniversaries Wedding in 2019

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for Sunday, September 22, Resurrection Troparion Tone 6, may be found on p. 152-153.
- The "Our Father", in Tone 6 may be found on p.71.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Michael Mazur** [UPMC--Altoona]; **Kennady Grace Spaid** [Children's Hospital]; **Joseph Lysic**; **Rose Single**; **Dorothy Majer**; **Mary Donnelly**; **George Pyo Jr.**; **Daniel Zaliznock**; **Joseph Raptosh**; **John Rakar**; **Bernadette Kostan**, **Patty Haschak**; **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.

Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+Dorothy Yackanich Resetar**, Sister of Archpriest Eugene Yackanich, who fell asleep in the Lord on September 8; and for the repose of the soul of **Connie Glasgow** who fell asleep in the Lord on September 10. **Eternal Memory.**

| Offerings for August | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | <u>Aug 4</u> | <u>Aug 11</u> | <u>Aug 18</u> | <u>Aug 25</u> |
| Portage: | \$1,549.00 | \$1,359.00 | \$1,363.00 \$ | \$1,153.00 |
| Beaverdale: | \$ 222.00 | \$ 373.00 | \$ 365.00 | \$ 438.00 |
| Dunlo: | \$ 97.00 | \$ 110.00 | \$ 375.00 | \$ 266.00 |

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Health Awareness Wellness Screening

Multi-phasic Blood Testing sponsored by: **Portage Rotary Club**, Saturday, September 21, 7:00 to 10:00 AM at **Senior Citizen's Center** 506 Farren Street Portage. Multiphasic/Wellness Blood Test: \$45; other specific tests also available. A percentage of the proceeds go to the Portage Area High School Interact Club. Doughnuts and beverages available for customers. Help support our students.

Basket Auction at Saint John the Baptist in Northern Cambria

Annual Fall Basket Auction at Saint John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 719 Chestnut Avenue Northern Cambria, Saturday, October 5, 5:00pm to 7:00 pm and Sunday, October 6 11:30am to 3:00 pm. Drawing begins at 3:00 pm on Sunday in the Church Hall. Free desserts and beverages. Tickets: \$5.00/26 tickets; available for purchase at the Church Hall. Also special raffles and food available for purchase. This year's basket auction benefits repair of the retaining wall at St. John's

'Harvest Fest-- Celebrating 10 Years

Join us for Portage Community Annual **'Harvest Fest** on Sunday, September 29, from 2-5 pm, at Bethany United Methodist Church Parking Lot 700 Farren Street.

Everything is FREE! New this year: Historical Society; Portage Volunteer Fire Department; Portage Public Library New Games, Food, Trunk or Treat; Prizes.

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." Luke 10:2

Chicken BBQ Dinner and Mini-Bazaar

St. Demetrius Parish in Gallitzin will hold its annual Chicken BBQ Dinner and Mini-Bazaar Sunday September 29, in the parish Activity Center, 714 Foster Street, Gallitzin. Dinners--Adults: \$10.00; Children 6-12: \$6.00; Children 5 and under: free. Take outs: \$10.00. A flea market will also be featured, as well as baked goods, games, and baskets. Dinner will be served from 11 a.m. until - ?

CPR Refresher Course

A **CPR Refresher Course** for those who need certification or re-certification designed for the health care professional at Bethany UMC on a date to be determined [early September]. There is a \$7/person fee for certification. If interested, call Joy McCabe, at Bethany UMC [736-8651]. You will be notified of the date and time of the class on just one evening at Bethany UMC.

Online Adult Education Courses For Byzantine Catholics from *God With Us*

God 'With Us Online is an outreach project of the Eparchial Directors of Religious Education (ECED) and the Eastern Catholic Associates (ECA). The following *Live Webinars* are being offered free of charge from September to-January. Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events.

The Face of God: An Introduction to Byzantine Faith & Spirituality, by Rev. Deacon Daniel Dozier. Wednesday, September 18 from 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. ET.

Making Disciples: The Art of Bringing Others to Christ, by Rev. Alexander Wroblicky. Wednesdays, October 9, 16 and 23 from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET

Unlocking the Mystery: An Introduction to Eastern Christian Bible Study, by Joshua Mangels. Wednesdays, November 6 and 13 @ 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET.

The Gift of God: Preparing for the Feast of the Nativity, by Rev. David Anderson. Wednesday, December 16 from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET.

Baptized Into Christ: The Mystery of Initiation & Identity of the People of God, by Rev. Sebastian Carnazzo, PhD. Wednesdays January 8, 15 and 22, 2020 from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET.

We are exploring viewing these courses in our social room. All courses are live webinars, free of charge.

Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer

At Home: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Dorothy Billy; Catherine Czapp Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Michelle Maskal; Stella Raptosh; Cathy Walters; Helen Zaher; **St. Mary (Beaverdale):** Nancy Andrako; Catherine McGough;

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

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holly Cross

*"O, what a strange mystery! * The length and breadth of the Cross is equal to the heavens, * for it sanctifies the whole world by divine grace. * By the Cross savage nations are vanquished; * by the Cross the authority of kings is confirmed. * O divine Ladder, we go up to heaven by you * and with our hymns exalt Christ the Lord."* [From Matins, Fest of the Exaltation].

Liturgical Schedule 15th Week After Pentecost—September 22, 2019

Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Saturday September 14

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

Sunday September 15

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy
[+Joseph and +Anna Homa, by Jackie Gordon and Amber Gordon]
Mysteries of Christian Initiation for Karter Lane Castel

Monday, September 16

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, September 17

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Ethel Rakar, by Tony & Patty Arpine]

Wednesday, September 18

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy**
[+Deceased members of Peter Pikus family, by Peter Pikus family]

Thursday, September 19

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Friday, September 20

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Saturday September 21

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

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday September 21

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Elizabeth Harrigal, by Marcie & Doug Roxby]

Sunday September 22

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