



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 1</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Lexie Slanoc	<u>Bulletins:</u> Lexie Slanoc & Evan Lenz
<u>Sunday September 8</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Evan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Lexie Slanoc & Ryan Lenz
<u>Sunday September 15</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Ryan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Ryan Lenz & Lexie Slanoc

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 New Church Year & New Beginnings

My niece Heather, who is pursuing a master's degree at the University Pittsburgh while also working, wrote this past week in one of her daily blog entries:

"It's already starting to cool down here in the early mornings and late evenings. The heat of summer is going away. I definitely don't hate fall... I just hate that it means winter follows! But I do know that there's something almost magical about those first few crisp fall breezes. They remind me going back to school as a kid - all the nerves, but also the excitement and hopefulness - of starting a new school year. And even though I'm a very different kind of student now, and I never really 'leave' school so there's no going 'back' to it, I still get that same feeling in early September." Yes, new beginnings are both welcome and unsettling. They can be the occasion for a fresh start, opportunities to be pursued, and challenges that help us to grow. At the same time, there is something about the "unknown" that creates uncertainty, uneasiness.

In the Byzantine Church we welcome a new Church Year on September 1. The church year brings to our mind and hearts the teachings of the Gospel and the events of salvation in a certain ordered way. But it is even more than a "calendar". Each feast renews, makes present the events out of the past being celebrated, and makes it immediate. It brings us an experience of God's grace and a means of union with Christ. Most importantly, the year and its commemorations—Sundays, feasts, and daily—form Christ in us.

This also coincides approximately with other beginnings, especially the beginning of the new school year. For our parish family, it also brings us to resume our program of catechetical instruction and formation. Our 2019-2020 **Eastern Christian Formation** program is scheduled to begin with the observance of **Catechetical Sunday** on September 22.

As students return to school on different levels of education, and some parishioner resume responsibilities as teachers we include this excerpt from the *Prayer for Students*:

"...Open the hearts and the mind, and the lips of your servants that they may receive the power of your law, and understand the knowledge which shall be taught them, to the glory of your all-holy name, to the profit and building up of your church; and they may comprehend your good and perfect will. Preserve them in the true faith, and in holiness all the days of their lives that they may increase in wisdom, and in the fulfillment of your commandments."

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

A note of thanks to the parishioners of Beaverdale and Dunlo who had volunteered to have the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon** during the months of July and August to have. The calendar of dates for the **Pilgrim Vocation Icon** will be in the narthex next Sunday for parishioners of Saints Peter and Paul, Portage to have the opportunity to sign up for the coming weeks and months.

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.

Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mount Saint Macrina

The Sisters of St. Basil invite everyone to join them in honoring the Mother of God under the title of **Mary, Cause of our Joy**. She waits to welcome all to her Shrine on Mount St Macrina Mary,

Brochures with the Pilgrimage schedule and information are in the narthex; visit www.sistersofstbasil.org or call [724-438-8644](tel:724-438-8644). An invitation is extended to families to take advantage of this opportunity to attend the **85th Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help**.

Here are some highlights of the schedule of services:

Sunday, September 1	8:30 am	<i>Divine Liturgy in Church Slavonic</i>
	10:30 am	<i>Divine Liturgy</i>
	1:00 pm	<i>Children's Procession</i>
	4:00 pm	<i>Hierarchical Divine Liturgy</i>
	7:30 pm	<i>Candlelight Procession</i>

Holy Mystery of Repentance [Confession] available 7:00 am to 5:00 pm

Holy Mystery of Anointing available 2:00 pm

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS



Coffee Social for September –Sunday, September 15

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

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 will be included in next Sunday's bulletin.

Eastern Christian Formation Program

In preparation for the **2019-2020 Eastern Christian Formation** program, Catechists met this past week. Our observance of **Catechetical Sunday** and the beginning of our Eastern Christian Formation classes is planned for Sunday, September 22, 2019.

Please remember in your prayers our Catechists and students as we prepare for the coming year of **Eastern Christian Formation** classes.

Work Party & Church Cleaning for September

- The **Work Party** will be on Saturday, September 7, at 9:00 am.
- **Church Cleaning for September** will be Monday, September 9, at 9:00 am. This change is due to Labor Day Holiday on September 2, the first Monday of September.
- *Thank You* to those who volunteer for the monthly **Work Party** and **Church Cleaning**.

Annual Collection for “Aid to Church in Central and Eastern Europe”

“From a Timeless Love Blooms An Ancient Faith.”

This annual offering for *Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe* is coordinated through the National Conference of Catholic Bishops of the United States. Its aim is to meet the needs of rebuilding the Church in this region. It focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media.

An envelope for this offering is dated August 25, 2019 in your packet of offering envelopes.

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for Sunday, September 8, Resurrection Troparion Tone 4, may be found on p. 141-142; for the *Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*, on p. 247-249; and for the for the *Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos* on pages 243-246.
- The “Our Father”, in Tone 4 may be found on p.69.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of *Kennady Grace Spaid; Joseph Lysic*, brother of Jane Pyo; *Rose Single; Dorothy Majer; Connie Glasko; 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.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

CPR Refresher Course

A **CPR Refresher Course** for those who need certification or re-certification is being planned. This class will be designed for the health care professional and will be at Bethany UMC. The date is an evening to be determined in early September. A \$7/person fee for the certification is required by the American Heart Association. At least ten people are needed in order to offer this training.

If you are interested, please contact the secretary, Joy McCabe, at Bethany UMC [736-8651], and tell her you are interested in being in the class, and give your name and e-mail address or phone number. You will be notified of the date and time of the class on just one evening at Bethany UMC.

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 is \$108/adults; \$69/children and includes the performance and bus transportation. The bus will leave at 10:00 am for the 3:00 pm performance. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 per adult and \$35 per child; balance due by September 20. Call Greta at 736-8198.

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). It is dedicated to the catechetical renewal of Eastern Catholics in the United States in accord with the Church's call for a new evangelization.

The following *Live Webinars* are being offered free of charge from September to January.

The Face of God: An Introduction to Byzantine Faith & Spirituality, by Rev. Deacon Daniel Dozier. Wednesdays, September 11 and 18 from 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. ET.

"Christianity is not an abstract doctrine divorced from reality and from history. Nor is it some momentary, flickering light which shines for a brief while and then is gone. Christianity is a continual celebration of life and love between God and man lived out in concrete history."

Archbishop Joseph Raya

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 the possibility of being able to view these courses through the TV in our social room. Information on this opportunity will be available as we determine the technical arrangements needed. All courses are offered as live webinars, free of charge.

Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events.

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

Prayers for the beginning of the New Church Year

"In wisdom You created all things, O Word of the Father before all ages; by your almighty word You arranged all creation. Bless the beginning of the year by your goodness, and through the prayers of the Mother of God, overthrow all heresy; for You are good and the Lover of Mankind."

[Stichera from Vespers for the New Church Year, September 1]

Liturgical Schedule 13th Week After Pentecost—September 1, 2019

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Beginning of the Church Year**

Saturday August 31

Dunlo **5:00 PM**

Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Alex & Tekla Krenisky by John Krenisky]

Sunday September 1

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

Monday, September 2

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, September 3

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Wednesday, September 4

Portage 7:45 AM

The Third Hour

8:00 AM

Divine Liturgy [+Ed Nezniski, by John & Beena Nezniski]

Thursday, September 5

Portage 8:45 AM

The Third Hour

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy [+Steve Mazur, by Alice Ference]

Friday, September 6

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Saturday, September 7

Portage 3:00 PM

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Beaverdale 4:30 PM

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

**Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos**

Saturday September 7

Beaverdale **5:00 PM**

Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday September 8

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

[Health of Maron Simala, req. by Peter Pikus Family Members]