



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 22</u> | <u>Troitsja:</u> Lexie Slanoc | <u>Bulletins:</u> Lexie Slanoc & Ryan Lenz |
| <u>Sunday September 29</u> | <u>Troitsja:</u> Evan Lenz | <u>Bulletins:</u> Lexie Slanoc & Evan Lenz |
| <u>Sunday October 6</u> | <u>Troitsja:</u> Bella Koban | <u>Bulletins:</u> Ryan Lenz & Abby Koban |

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.



Catechetical Sunday

Today we observe **Catechetical Sunday**, with **the Blessing of Students and Blessing and Commissioning of Catechists** for the 2019-2020 **Eastern Christian Formation** program. Students are asked to come forward to the Ambon [at the Tetrapod table] at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy to receive this blessing together with the Catechists. The theme of **Catechetical Sunday 2019** is *"The Journey to Emmaus,"* [Luke, 24: 13-35]. In this Gospel Jesus takes advantage of an opportunity to teach. He attentively listens to Cleopas and his companions relate everything they have seen and heard about Jesus. When they finish speaking Jesus explains to them what they do not understand. His *"lesson plan"* has three goals: break open the Scriptures; deepen their appreciation of His Presence in the Eucharist; and rekindle their hope.

In the *"Directory for Catechists*, we read: *"The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch, but also in communion and intimacy with Jesus Christ."* This is a helpful reminder of our goals and aims in our Eastern Christian Formation program. Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, through the ministry of catechesis we learn that the answers to questions about our existence can be found in the scriptures and in Jesus Christ.

As we begin the 2019-2020 **Eastern Christian Formation Program**, we thank our parents for their cooperation. The effectiveness of our efforts of education in our Byzantine Catholic faith, and the spiritual and moral formation of our students, depend on their active participation in parish worship and life, and their example and witness of living our faith.

Of course, the role of our Catechists as educators and witnesses is indispensable and vital in this process. We sincerely thank them and I ask for your prayerful support on their behalf:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Molly Harrington | Grade One |
| Alisha Slanoc | Grade Three |
| Julie Brenna | Grades Five, Six, Seven |
| Deacon Daniel Perich | Junior High and High School and <i>Coordinator</i> |

Eastern Christian Formation class sessions are following the Divine Liturgy, 10:15-11:15 am. On **Sunday, September 29** *Safe Environment Sessions* for elementary students are scheduled.

The students enjoy a small snack item following Divine Liturgy and as classes begin. Please consider volunteering to bring an appropriate snack items [baked item, fruit snack, etc.] for one of the Sunday sessions. Also, please consider donating a juice beverage ["Hugs" or other fruit drink]. These considerations will be helpful and greatly appreciated.

Substitute Catechists for occasions when a Catechist is unable to teach their class are needed. Substitute Catechists are asked to complete background checks and "Safe Environment" training required by the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. If you are interested in volunteering as a substitute or have questions, contact Father Jim or Deacon Daniel Perich.

Please continue to remember in your prayers the Catechists, students, and this vital work of our parish family.

Prayer of Blessing for Students...

Lord Jesus Christ Who embraced the little children when they came or were brought to You, and laying Your hands on them blessed them and said: "Let the little children come to me and do not stop them. The kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these; and their angels ever see the face of my Father" we beg You to look with favor on the innocence of these children here present and on the devotion of their parents, and to bless them today through our ministry. Let them advance in Your grace and goodness, the better to know You, love You, fear You, and serve You, and happily reach their blessed destiny. We ask this of You, Saviour of the world, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Covered Dish Social in Dunlo

There will be a **Covered Dish Social** on **Saturday, October 12**, following the Vigil Divine Liturgy at Ss. Peter & Paul, Dunlo. Parishioners are asked to bring an **entrée, side dish, salad, bread or rolls, dessert, etc.**



Picnic Grounds Work Project

A note of thanks to those who volunteered for the project to clean out and organize contents and supplies in the garage/storage building on the picnic grounds this past week. There are a number of items no longer used or needed outside of the garage. You are welcome to take whatever you may have use for, before these items are disposed of or recycled.

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, September 29, Resurrection Troparion Tone 7**, may be found on [p. 156-158](#).
- The "Our Father", in **Tone 7** may be found on p.72.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Archpriest Dennis Bogda**, a retired priest of the Archeparchy, who fell asleep in the Lord. Funeral Arrangements are pending. Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+Irene Pipta**, wife of the late Deacon Paul Pipta, and the aunt of Very Reverend Robert Pipta, rector of the Seminary, who fell asleep in the Lord on September 19. The Funeral is on Monday, 11:00 a.m., Saints Peter and Paul Church, Jerome.

Parking Lot Maintenance

On Wednesday, September 11, **SMP Asphalt Maintenance** of Windber performed preventative maintenance of filling and sealing open cracks in the parking lot.

Thank you for your generous support which allows proper and timely maintenance and upkeep of parish facilities and grounds.

Annual Ethnic Festival Report—Income & Expenses

A report of the proceeds for the *Annual Ethnic Festival* on Sunday, July 14, 2019 follows, with a comparison to the proceeds from last year's event:

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Income: | \$20,569.50 | \$21,678.48 |
| Expenses | \$9,947.24 | \$10,830.45 |
| Net Proceeds | \$10,622.26 | \$10,848.03 |

A word of grateful acknowledgment for the donation of the chicken used for the chicken barbeque by the members of the Pyo family; also to Lynn Doyle of Portage for the "scrapbook photos" of the Festival posted on the bulletin board.. Thank you once again to all for your support, cooperation, and generosity in helping this year's Festival successful and enjoyable

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of *Michael Barelick* of Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo [UPMC—Presbyterian]; *Michael Mazur* [UPMC--Altoona]; *Kennady Grace Spaid* [Children's Hospital]; *Joseph Lysic*; *Rose Single*; *Dorothy Majer*; *Mary Donnelly*; *George Pyo Jr.*; *Daniel Zalznock*; *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

"Come and See" Weekend at Byzantine Catholic Seminary

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius, 3605 Perrysville Avenue, Pittsburgh, is hosting a "*Come and See*" weekend for men ages 18 to 35 who may be considering a vocation to the priesthood in the Byzantine Catholic Church; Friday, November 1 at 5 pm, to Sunday, November 3, 4 pm. The weekend retreat is free of charge; includes liturgical services and meals with the Seminary community, an introduction to the Seminary formation program, a tour of the Seminary, gatherings with the Seminarians, talks, and a panel discussion.

The retreat is conducted in a "no pressure, no hard-sell" environment. The atmosphere is prayerful, positive, and fraternal. Any man seeking further information or wishing to register for this "Come and See" retreat of discovery is encouraged to contact his vocation director and use the online registration at www.bcs.edu. Deadline for registrations is October 9, 2019.

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, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and Sunday, October 6 11:30 am 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 - ?

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.

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.

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

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of September 22, **Julie Brenna** 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**; **Seminarians John Welch**; **Luke Iyengar Nathaniel Tapsak**; also, the diaconal candidates in the School of Diaconate Studies; and all of the Seminary community.

Liturgical Schedule 16th Week After Pentecost—September 22, 2019

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

Monday, September 23

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, September 24

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Olga Serenko, by Maxine Olshavsky]

Wednesday, September 25

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Thursday, September 26

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy**
[In Thanksgiving—50th Wedding Anniversary of Michael & Theresa Yetsko, by David Yetsko]

Friday, September 27

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Saturday September 28

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday September 28

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

Sunday September 29

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy
[+John and +Catherine Sekerak, by Kathy Sekerak]