



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 8</u>	Troitsja: Evan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Lexie Slanoc & Ryan Lenz
<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

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.



Birth of Mary the Theotokos; Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Today is the *Feast of the Birth of Mary the Theotokos*. We also observe the *Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross* in preparation for the coming feast on Saturday, September 14.

The hymn sung at Vespers of the Feast expressed poetically and joyfully the significance of this event. *"Indeed, some famous barren women have given birth by the will of God. But the birth of Mary surpasses all births in honor and splendor, as is worthy of the majesty of God. She was born of a barren mother in a miraculous way. Mary herself gave birth in the flesh to the God of All, incarnate in her womb without human seed, against the laws of nature."*

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. The Cross is elevated in blessing on this occasion, providing the name of this feast as the "exaltation" or "elevation" of the Cross. [From Come Bless the Lord Icon Packet, pp. 31-33]

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

The calendar of dates for the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon* is in the narthex next Sunday for parishioners of Saints Peter and Paul, Portage 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.

Many, Happy Years!

Today, Metropolitan William Skurla honors those who observe Jubilee Wedding Anniversaries of **10, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65 years** in 2019. The Divine Liturgy at Saint Elias Church in Munhall will be followed by a dinner and presentation of an anniversary certificate to each.

Congratulations to those from our parish communities celebrating Jubilee Wedding Anniversaries:
Saints Peter and Paul, Portage

<i>Stephen B. and Jane Fleck</i>	40 Years	October 6
<i>John and Barbara Havrilla</i>	50 Years	June 7
<i>Joseph and Elizabeth Mandichak</i>	45 Years	March 2
<i>Dr. Matthew and Lori Murphy</i>	25 Years	July 29
<i>Richard and Nancy Whitcomb</i>	50 Years	June 14

Saints Mary's, Beaverdale

<i>Ronald and Joann Fedore</i>	30 Years	September 30
<i>Deacon Daniel and Mary Louise Perich</i>	45 Years	May 4
<i>Douglas and Marcella Roxby</i>	45 years	July 6

If there are others we are not aware of please inform Father Jim.



Coffee Social for September –Next Sunday, September 15

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

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

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, Beverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is being rescheduled for Monday, September 16. Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, May 6 are included in today's bulletin.

Work Party & Church Cleaning for September

- **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**.

Eastern Christian Formation Program

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 2019-2020 *Eastern Christian Formation* classes.

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- For Vespers with the Divine Liturgy for the *Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*, the *Vigil Divine Liturgy* is in the Divine Liturgy book on p. 104; Vesper stichera will be in a separate handout.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for the *Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross [September 14]*, may be found on p. 253-258.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for Sunday, September 15, Resurrection Troparion Tone 5, may be found on p. 146-148; and for the *Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*, on p. 258-260.
- The "Our Father", in Tone 5 may be found on p.70.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Hurricane Dorian

Please remember in your prayers those who have died and suffered because of *Hurricane Dorian* this past week, as well as those who continue to be at risk from its aftermath.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Michael Barelick** [Memorial]; **Kennady Grace Spaid** [Children's Hospital]; **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.

Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Father Daniel Bitsko**, a retired priest of the Eparchy of Passaic who fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday, September 4. **Eternal Memory.**

Prayerful Remembrance...

Wednesday, September 11 is the *Remembrance of the Acts of Terrorism* committed on September 11, 2001. Please remember in your prayers all the victims of this violence and their families. Please continue to pray for peace in the world and respect and cooperation among nations and peoples.

"O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant peace to a world that is living in fear. Extinguish hatred and put an end to all programs of terrorism for the sake of your love for humanity."

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Fatima Devotions in Loretto

The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the **Fatima Devotions** on Friday September 13th, at **6:30 P.M.** in the Gardens at Mount Assisi (in case of inclement weather at the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel.) The Choir will be announced at a later date; the sermon will be delivered by Deacon Rick Golden. **A cordial welcome to all.**

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 7:00pm and Sunday, October 6 11:30am to 3:00 pm. Drawing begins at 3:00pm 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

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.

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

Liturgical Schedule 14th Week After Pentecost—September 8, 2019

**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 Marion Simala, req. by Peter Pikus Family Members]

Monday, September 9

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, September 10

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Wednesday, September 11

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy**

[Living members of Peter Pikus family, by Peter Pikus family]

Thursday, September 12

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Friday, September 13

Dunlo **6:00 PM** *Vespers with Divine Liturgy*

Saturday, September 14

Portage 8:45 AM The Third Hour
9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Thomas Spontak, by Olshavsky Family]
Portage 3:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Dunlo 4:30 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

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