



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 p.m. (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 November 10</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Jakob Czapp	<u>Bulletins:</u> Lexi Slanoc & Easton Slanoc
<u>Sunday November 17</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Lexi Slanoc	<u>Bulletins:</u> Evan Lenz & Bella Koban
<u>Sunday November 24</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.



Philips Fast—Preparation for the Nativity of our Lord

A forty day season of preparation for the Feast of the Birth of our Lord begins in the Byzantine Church on November 15. It follows one day after the feast of the Holy Apostle Philip on November 14. Thus, it has come to be called "*Philip's Fast*". Like the Great Fast which precedes Pascha [Easter] it lasts forty days. It does not have however the same liturgical restrictions or intensity as does the Lenten fast.

The word "*Advent*" is used in the Christian west for the comparable period. This word may also be a convenient and helpful term for this season. "*Advent*" means "*coming*" and this identifies the really central notion of the pre-Christmas season. It was the coming of the Lord into this world, in his birth for which we commemorate at Christmas. In one sense it is true that the Lord is already present to us. And yet the time of Philip's Fast allows us to become more available to this presence, and to bring about a more vivid and a new awareness of it.

This time of Philips Fast is particularly a time of the appearance, or coming, of Christ as the *light which shines forth*. The celebration of Christmas concurs with the victory of light over darkness in the physical world. From the end of December, daylight begins to lengthen. Even more, we also anticipate the Feast of Theophany, as "*the feast of lights*". And so our preparation during Philips Fast helps us to open ourselves more and more to the "*true light that enlightens every man*" which is "*coming into the world*" [John 1:9; cf. Ephesians 5:8]

[From *Year of the Grace of the Lord*, by a Monk of the Eastern Church; pp. 45-46]

Remembrance of Homebound Parishioners for Christmas

A Christmas remembrance is being prepared for our homebound parishioners. To help us prepare gift bags for homebound parishioners, please consider donating suggested gift items: *Seasonal/non-seasonal door decorations; tissues* [dollar store boxes]; *light scent body spray; word search books; lotions; lap blankets; shampoo*. You may also have ideas of your own. There will be a box in the narthex of each church to collect these items.

Please bring gift items by **Sunday, December 1.**

Food Pantry Donations

During the Philip's Fast donations of canned goods and non-perishable food will be collected for either the **Portage Food Pantry** or to the **Forest Hills Food Pantry** [from Beaverdale and Dunlo]. *Please do not bring food past the expiration dates*. Containers are in the narthex.

Veterans' Day

Our observance of **Veterans Day** on Monday, November 11 provides us with an opportunity to salute and express our gratitude and appreciation to the veterans of our parish communities and to all veterans who are honored and remembered on this Veteran's Day.

“Gob” Baking Project

“Gobs” will be made here in our church kitchen on Wednesday, November 13 beginning at 8:30 am. Gobs will be available for sale on the following Sunday, November 17, in the church kitchen following the Divine Liturgy. The cost is \$1.25/gob; \$15/dozen. Gobs will also be sold the following Sunday, November 24.

The *Gob Baking Project* will provide for those who would like to have them for the Thanksgiving holiday and also for Christmas. Volunteers are needed to help with this effort and very much appreciated. Everyone is welcome to come and help.

Thank you for your cooperation and effort and your support for this project. .

Eastern Christian Formation program

- Eastern Christian Formation classes are following the Divine Liturgy, 10:15-11:15 am.
- Our annual *Saint Nicholas Celebration* is scheduled for Sunday, December 15. ECF students will be preparing a presentation that is to be offered at this event.

Please remember in your prayers our Catechists, ECF students, and their families.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Parish Advisory Council Meetings

- The *Parish Advisory Council*, Saints Peter & Paul, Portage meeting is Monday, November 11, 7:00pm in the conference room of the rectory.
- The *Parish Advisory Council* for Saint Mary’s, Beaverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo meeting is Thursday, November 14, at 7:00 p.m., in the conference room of the rectory. *Please note correction from date announced in last Sunday’s bulletin.*
- Minutes from previous meetings of both Parish Advisory Councils will be in next Sunday’s bulletin.

Saints Peter and Paul--Dunlo

On Tuesday, November 19, at 7:00 pm, there will be a meeting for parishioners of Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo concerning the financial circumstances of the parish. [Previously scheduled for Wednesday, November 6]. The meeting will be in the parish social hall, Roberts Street in Dunlo.

Parishioners will receive a copy of the minutes from the Tuesday, April 2, 2019 meeting on this topic. The meeting on November 19 will consider the developments since our meeting in April.

Eternal Memory

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+Michael Mazur**, who fell asleep in the Lord on November 5. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to his sister, Mary; his brother, John; and to all of his family. The Funeral Liturgy is at 10:00 am on Monday, November 11.

“Joyful Light” Byzantine Catholic Seminary Newsletter

Copies of **“Joyful Light”**, the Newsletter of the *Byzantine Catholic Seminary* are inserted in today’s bulletin. The newsletter may also be accessed at the Seminary website, www.bcs.edu.

Offerings for October				
	Oct 6	Oct 13	Oct 20	Oct 27
Portage:	\$1,476.00	\$1,701.00	\$1,376.00	\$1,363.00
Beaverdale:	\$ 305.00	\$ 625.00	\$446.00	\$ 265.00
Dunlo:	\$ 73.00	\$ 299.00	\$343.00	\$56.00

Annual Appreciation Dinner

The *Appreciation Dinner* is scheduled for **Sunday, February 9, 2020**. Please note this adjustment in scheduling, as this event has been held in the fall months in recent years. More details on this event will be provided closer to the date of the dinner.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of *Jennifer Crum Bailey; Michael Barelick; Kennady Grace Spaid; Joseph Lysic; Rose Single; Dorothy Majer; Mary Donnelly; George Pyo Jr.; Daniel Zaliznock; 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.

Liturgical Chant –Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, November 17, 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.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Portage Rotary Pancake and Sausage Breakfast--*TODAY*

The Portage Rotary is holding a *Pancake and Sausage Breakfast* today—Sunday, November 10 at the Portage Area High School cafeteria from 8:00 am-Noon. Please come to enjoy the breakfast and support the Portage Rotary and its many projects for the community.

Online Adult Education Course for Byzantine Catholics

Do you want to understand the Bible more deeply? We're surrounded by the scriptures as Eastern Christians, and yet, sometimes we still find the Bible to be a bit of a mystery and are unsure of how to make it a more prominent part of our life. Two-part webinar--**Unlocking the Mystery: An Introduction to Eastern Christian Bible Study**, with Joshua Mangels; Wednesday, November 13, 8:00-9:00 p.m. Webinar is free; registration required at EasternCatholic.org/Events.

Archieparchial Choir Christmas Concert

The East Wind Symphonic Band and the Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Archieparchial Choir present Holiday Sounds: A Christmas Cookie Cabaret. Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 3:30 PM at St. John Cathedral Center, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, PA 15120.

Free admission but donations will be welcomed. Visit www.ewsb.org for more information.

Portage Area School District Secret Santa Program.

The Portage Area School District annual *Secret Santa Program* provides a joyful holiday for children in school district families. Children found toys, clothing, winter coats, and more under their trees on Christmas morning. Each family enjoyed a holiday dinner, with turkey and pumpkin pie!

Mail donations to: Portage Area High School Secret Santa Project; % Mary Ann George; 85 Mountain Avenue; Portage, PA 15946. For questions, call Ms. George at 736-9636, extension #1310.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping to support this project.

63rd Annual Saint Nicholas Celebration

The *63rd Annual Saint Nicholas Celebration* benefitting the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius is Sunday, December 8 at Saint John Cathedral and Center in Munhall. Moleben to St. Nicholas will be celebrated in the Cathedral; at 3:00 p.m. Dinner follows at 5:00 p.m.

Banquet tickets are \$40/adult; \$18/children 12 and under. For reservations contact Father Jim.

Mount Aloysius College Vox Nova Concert of Eastern Church Music

Vox Nova of Mount Aloysius College will perform a concert of Eastern Church music on Sunday, November 10, at 1:00 P.M. at the Protection of the BVM Church 560 Cambria Avenue, Revloc.

Come and hear the talented voices perform the beautiful acapella music of Eastern Europe

Mount Aloysius College Autumn Open House

Autumn Open House at Mount Aloysius College on November 23. Events begin at 10 a.m. Mount Aloysius College provides an environment that encourages students to synthesize faith with learning, develop competence with compassion, and put talents and gifts at the service of others.

Penn Hospice Seeks Volunteers

Penn Hospice, a local hospice, is in search of volunteers to help care for and comfort hospice patients. If interested, contact Genette Swank at gswank@penthospice.com. Penn Hospice is located at 313 West High Street Ebensburg. 814-846-4160.

Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer

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

Nursing & Other Care Facilities:

- **Saint Benedict Manor, Carrolltown,** Catherine Thrower [Dunlo];
- **Arbutus Park Manor:** Margaret Rachael [Dunlo];
- **Autumn View:** June Nezneski;
- **Cambria Care [Ebensburg]:** Edward Andrykovitch [Beaverdale]
- **The Winds at Mattern Orchard, Duncansville:** Mary Vrabel
- **Amber Hills Ebensburg:** Father Ronald Borsuk
- **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 November 10, *Julie Brenna* will have the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon*. The list to sign up for the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon* to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and monastic religious life is in the narthex. Please remember seminarians of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh: **Lector Kyprian Wojciechowski; Lector Robert Jones; Seminarians John Welch; Luke Iyengar Nathaniel Tapsak;** Diaconate Studies candidates; and all of the Seminary community.

Liturgical Schedule 23rd Week After Pentecost—November 10, 2019

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday November 9

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

Sunday November 10

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Mae Haschak, by Patty Haschak]

Monday November 11

Portage **10:00 AM** *Funeral Liturgy*--+ Michael Mazur

Tuesday, November 12

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Mary Yetsko, by Sandy & Paul Lenz]

Wednesday, November 13

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Thursday, November 14

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Joseph Lazor, by Kathy & Wally Cooper]
Portage **6:30 PM** *Compline*—Evening Prayer

Friday, November 15

Beginning of Philip's Fast

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Saturday November 16

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

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday November 16

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Elizabeth Andrykovitch, by Elaine Barton]

Sunday November 17

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