



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 January 26 2020</u> Slanoc	<u>Troitsja:</u> Abby Koban	<u>Bulletins:</u> Lexi Slanoc & Easton Slanoc
<u>Sunday February 2 2020</u> Castel	<u>Troitsja:</u> Ryan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Bella Koban & Kaleb
<u>Sunday February 9 2020</u> Czapp	<u>Troitsja:</u> Easton Slanoc	<u>Bulletins:</u> Evan Lenz & Jakob

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.



Zacchaeus

The conversion of Zacchaeus, a “*publican*”, or tax collector, provides a noteworthy example of a sudden but also thorough change of heart. It is important to recognize the obstacles Zacchaeus faced and the resistance he had to overcome. The role of a tax collector in Palestine meant being employed by the occupying Roman imperial power. Tax collectors were held in contempt by, and faced hostility from, their own fellow Jews. Agents of a foreign power, tax collectors earned [and deserved] a reputation for using their position for personal financial gain.

Today’s gospel of Zacchaeus is a prelude to another story involving a publican, the parable of the “*Publican and Pharisee*” read next Sunday. That persons of such character and reputation would be capable of a change of heart and display an openness to God’s grace, gives encouragement to us. The inner change which the presence and word of Jesus provokes is available also to us.

What is lacking often on our part is a measure of the eagerness shown by Zacchaeus in his desire to see Jesus, simply to come into his presence. This allowed him a moment and opportunity of grace that can also be available for ourselves.

The Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs

On Thursday, January 30 we honor the memory of the *three Holy Hierarchs* or Bishops. Each of these three—*Saints Basil the Great; Gregory the Theologian; and John Chrysostom*—has his own feast on a date in January. But on the occasion of this feast they are linked together. Each has his own specific gifts and outstanding accomplishments in the life of the church. There are saints and fathers of the Church who might exceed them in brilliance or originality. Yet these three represent the teaching and tradition of the church in its most accessible form. Their teaching reflects and demonstrates the “*general*” line of authentic Christian teaching. Each does possess his own distinctive gifts and talents. Their personal contributions and legacy for the church are valued and celebrated on this day. And yet it is what they share in common and to which they gave harmonious witness which is especially highlighted on this day.

“Rejoice, O trinity of bishops, great defenders of the Church, pillars of piety and fortress of the faithful, successful opponents of those preaching heresy. You explained the blessed teachings of Christ to the people, and you nourished them by your deeds of virtue. You are brilliant preachers by the grace of God who taught the law of Christ to the faithful and guided them to the entrance of Paradise on high. Intercede with Christ to send down great mercy on our souls.”

[Matins, Feast of the *Three Holy Hierarchs*]

Annual “Appreciation Dinner”—Sunday, February 9

The Annual “*Appreciation Dinner*” is Sunday, February 9, following the Divine Liturgy. Please make note this date and plan to attend. *The RSVP form is included in today’s bulletin.*

All Souls Commemoration for 2020

The first *All Souls Commemoration* is **Saturday, February 15 [Meatfare Saturday]**. There is an envelope provided for the All Souls Commemoration in your packet of offering envelopes.

Please use this envelope to enter names of deceased family members or relatives who are to be remembered at the Divine Liturgy and Panachida on the All Souls Saturdays. You may also confirm or renew your list of previous years. *Please indicate if names listed are in addition to previous years' lists or to replace the previous years.* Returning this envelope at your earliest convenience will be helpful in updating and maintaining the All Souls listing.

The Byzantine Catholic World

The *Byzantine Catholic World [BCW]* is the definitive source of news pertinent to the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. Published once-a-month, the **BCW** provides news of our Archeparchy, parishes, and the church throughout the world, and articles on faith and spirituality. The annual subscription rate is \$14. There is an envelope in your packet of offering envelopes dated January 26 which you may use to begin or renew your annual subscription. *Thank you!*

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Church Cleaning & Work Party for February

- The *Work Party* for February will be on **Saturday, February 1** at 9:00 am.
- The *Church Cleaning* for February is scheduled for **Monday, February 3**, at 9:00 am.

Appreciation Dinner—Sunday, February 9

Our annual *Appreciation Dinner* on **Sunday, February 9** will follow immediately after the Divine Liturgy. As in past years, the *Parish* will provide the main course for this catered dinner.

Everyone is asked to complete the menu by bringing either a side dish or dessert:

Names from A to L: Dessert

Names from M thru Z: Side dish [bread/rolls, salad, vegetable, pasta salad, etc.]

There is no charge for the dinner, but those who wish to do so may offer a donation.

All of our Parish Family is most welcome. A cordial invitation is extended to parishioners of Saint Mary's, Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo to attend and bring a side dish or dessert.

RSVP for Appreciation Dinner—Sunday, February 9

Name of family/individual[s]:

Number of persons attending:

I/we will help with preparations on Sat. Feb. 8:

Please reply by Sunday, February 2—or at your earliest convenience

February Coffee Social

There will not be a *February Coffee and Donut Social* because of the *Annual Appreciation Dinner* on Sunday, February 9.

Parish Advisory Council Meetings

The next meeting of the *Parish Advisory Council* for Saints Peter & Paul, Portage is on Thursday, February 6, at 7:00 pm.

The next meeting of the *Parish Advisory Council* for Saint Mary's, Beaverdale and Saints Peter & Paul, Dunlo is Wednesday, February 12, at 7:00 pm.

Minutes of previous meetings will be included in the Sunday bulletin prior to meetings.

Statements of Parishioners' Offerings

Statements of 2019 parishioner offerings for Saint Peter and Paul, Portage are being prepared for distribution next Sunday, February 2. If you have need of your 2019 offerings sooner, call the rectory [814-736-9780] or send request to james_armand_spontak@verizon.net. Statements of 2019 parishioner offerings for Beaverdale and Dunlo parishioners were distributed last week.

Eternal Memory-

You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of *+Joseph Raptosh* who fell asleep in the Lord on Saturday, January 18, 2020. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayerful support to his sons, Very Reverend Joseph Raptosh and David Raptosh; and to all of his family.

“Question and Answer” Box

There are several questions submitted to the “*Question and Answer*” box for which a response has not yet appeared. As space allows in coming weeks, I hope to respond to these. I appreciate your questions, and the concerns of these various topics present. Thanks again for your patience.

Church Music Day for Cantors

On Saturday, February 22, the Archeparchy will hold a *Church Music Day* for Cantors at Saint John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall. The morning session [9:00 am-Noon] will be a *Meeting of Archieparchial Cantors and Assistant Cantors*, to discuss the state of our church music and ways we can foster the singing in our parishes. In the afternoon [2:00-4:00 pm] will be a *Presentation and Sing-Along for All Clergy, Cantors, And Faithful*, covering Lenten and Holy Week hymns in the proposed comprehensive hymnal for our church, and teaching basic harmonization of plain chant.

Liturgical Chant—Sundays after Pentecost

- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for the *Feast of the Three Holy Bishops* [Thursday, January 30], may be found on pages 318-319.
- The Troparion and other prescribed parts for Sunday, February 2, Resurrection Troparion Tone 1, may be found on p. 125-127; for the *Feast of the Meeting of our Lord with Simeon & Anna in the Temple* on pages 321-324; and for the *Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee* on page 215.
- The *Our Father* in Tone 1 may be found on p. 66.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

Sanctuary Candle

The Candle is offered this week for **+John Havrilla**, requested by Barbara & John Havrilla.

Remember In Prayer

Please pray for the health of **Katie Czapp** [UPMC-Shadyside]; **Ella Hoffman; Marian Simala; Jennifer Crum Bailey; Michael Barelick; Kennady Grace Spaid; Joseph Lysic; Rose Single; Mary Donnelly; George Pyo Jr.; Daniel & Mary 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.

Church Offering Envelopes for 2020

Because *Offering Envelopes* envelope numbers change; please **write your name and address on your envelope each week** to ensure proper credit. A line for writing your name is printed on the 2020 envelopes. If you are not registered to receive envelopes, contact the parish office.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Pre-Cana Preparation Program in 2020

The *Pre-Cana Preparation* program offered by the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will be on Saturday, March 21 and Saturday, March 28 at Saints Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh. Those contemplating Marriage and the celebration of the Holy Mystery of Crowning in Marriage in 2020 are asked to note that the **Pre-Cana Program** is a required part of the marriage preparation. Information at www.archpitt.org; go to "Offices" and "Office of Religious Education".

Catholic Counselors of America LLC

Catholic Counselors of America LLC has an office at St. Aloysius Faith Education and Community Center, located at 7911 Admiral Peary Highway in Cresson.

For information contact Leorosie "Rose" Trexler, M.S., Counselor. 814-505-7178.

Homebound and Nursing Home Residents—Remember in Prayer

At Home: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Dorothy Billy; Catherine Czapp Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Michelle Maskal; Dorothy Majer; 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];
- **Maple Winds:** Rita Thornton;
- **Autumn View:** June Nezeski;
- **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 January 26, *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 Sunday of Zacchaeus—January 26, 2020

Thirty-third Sunday after Pentecost—Sunday of Zacchaeus

Saturday January 25

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

Sunday January 26

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+John Havrilla, by Barbara & John Havrilla]

Monday, January 27

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, January 28

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs

Wednesday, January 29

Beaverdale **6:00 PM** Great Vespers with Litija

Thursday, January 30

Portage 8:40 AM The Third Hour
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Friday, January 31

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM **Divine Liturgy** [+Janet Spaid, by Steve & Marge Fleck]

Saturday, February 1

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

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Feast of the Meeting of our Lord with Simeon and Anna

Saturday February 1

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

Sunday February 2

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