



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 February 16 2020</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Kaleb Castel	<u>Bulletins:</u> Abby Koban & Easton Slanoc
<u>Sunday February 23 2020</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Bella Koban	<u>Bulletins:</u> Lexi Slanoc & Ryan Lenz
<u>Sunday March 1 2020</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Evan Lenz	<u>Bulletins:</u> Bella Koban & Kaleb Castel

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 Sunday of Meatfare

Over several weeks, a gradual process occurs in our Liturgy to prepare us and direct us toward the coming season of Lent—the **Great Fast**. Like “*priming the pump*” to be able to draw water from a well, the pre-pre-Lenten Sundays serve to ready us so that the work of repentance, returning to the Lord, would be able to begin to occur for us and for our parish communities.

So it is that on this **Sunday of Meatfare** we hear the Gospel of the Final Judgment. It is intended not to paralyze us with the awesome proportions of all the nations summoned before the Lord of Glory as Judge. Rather its appeal is meant to prompt us to take more seriously the commitment to a genuine Christian life. Its aim is also to encourage us to avail ourselves to the fullest to the opportunities which the coming weeks of repentance and renewal hold for us.

The following illustration, a story from one of the early *Desert Fathers*, reminds us that while we may easily become discouraged about engaging in the process of repentance, it is surely God’s desire, and God’s work within us, for this to happen:

"A soldier once asked Abba Mios if God accepted repentance. After the elder had taught him many things, he said, 'Tell me, my dear, if your cloak is torn, do you throw it away?' He replied, 'No, I mend it and use it again.' The elder said to him, 'If you are so careful about your clog, will not God be equally careful about His creature?'"

The Sayings of the Desert Fathers: The Alphabetical Collection

Lenten Adult Education and Enrichment Series

A series of **Adult Education and Enrichment** sessions is being planned for the Sundays of the Great Fast from 4:00-5:30pm. The topic and for these classes and details about our study guide or these sessions will be included in next Sunday’s bulletin.

National Byzantine Catholic Convention Growing A Vibrant Byzantine Church

For Clergy, Monastics, Religious, and Laity sponsored by the Eparchies of the Byzantine Catholic Church and the Intereparchial Vocations Committee. This event will be at Saint John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall, November 12-14, 2020.

The National Byzantine Catholic Convention is an event primarily for the leaders and members of the Byzantine Catholic Church for the purpose of *prayer, fellowship, formation and mission* as a national body of Eastern Catholics. The theme for the 2020 Convention is **Growing a Vibrant Byzantine Church** where talks and workshops will be offered on ways to *grow as missionary disciples* to help cultivate vibrant eparchies, *parishes, monasteries, missions, outreaches and apostolates* where Christ is encountered and worshipped

Registration begins March 1, 2020. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

byzantineconvention.com

“Ad Limina Visit” of Eastern Catholic Bishops

Kindly remember in your prayers **Archbishop William** and **Father Andrew Deskevich**, who travel to Rome this weekend. There they, with the other Eastern bishops of the United States and those with them, will attend meetings all next week. On Thursday, they will have an audience with the Holy Father.

Their visit to Rome and meeting with the Holy Father are for the *Ad Limina* visit to Rome which each Bishop is to make every five years. Two basic purposes of the *Ad Limina* visits are: to venerate the tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul; and to meet with the Successor of Peter.

The veneration of the tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul has its roots already in early Christianity. In addition to that, the Bishop of Rome needs reliable and authoritative information regarding the actual situation of the various local churches if he is to fulfill his particular mission to the universal Church.

A significant part of the remote preparation for the *Ad Limina* visit is the report that each bishop prepares on the diocese that has been entrusted to his care. In this report, he informs the Holy See of the initiatives that have been undertaken, the difficulties that have been encountered, and the results of the projects that have been carried out

We ask God for every blessing for them for this **Ad Limina** visit, and for their safety and their return next Sunday, February 23.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Eastern Christian Formation

A meeting for **Catechists** is being scheduled for Saturday, February 29 at 11:00 a.m.

Prayer Partners for the Great Fast

Following the Divine Liturgy for *Cheesefare Sunday [Forgiveness Sunday]* there will be an opportunity to select **Prayer Partners** for Great Lent. You may use the form below to enter your name in the box that will be in the back of church. There will also be blank forms available on the table which you may use to enter your name.

Names will be drawn at the conclusion of the Vigil Liturgy in Beavertdale next Saturday, February 22 and at the Divine Liturgy in Portage on Sunday February 23.

Name:

Thank you for praying for me!

“I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you, praying always with joy in my every prayer for you. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perfection, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.” [Philippians 1:3-4, 9-

Great Lent: A Spiritual Journey to Pascha

A series of *Spring 2020* educational offerings from *God With Us Online* begin this week. All courses are offered as live webinars, free of charge. Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events

GREAT LENT: A Spiritual Journey to Pascha will be presented by Father David Anderson on **Wednesdays, February 26, March 4, 11 and 18** at 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET. Using Rev. Alexander Schmemmann's *Great Lent* as our guide, this series examine the liturgies of the Great Fast to help us experience them more deeply and make the most out of this season of preparation for Pascha.

Church Music Day for Cantors

Metropolitan William offers an invitation to participate in the following event:

"Our chant is an important part of our liturgical services, and of our Church's tradition. It is well worth our time and effort to invest in improving the skills of our cantors and in attracting new singers to become cantors, so that our church services can be as prayerful and as beautiful as possible. With this in mind, the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will be holding an event at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Munhall on **Saturday, February 22**.

- "All cantors of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh are asked to attend the morning session, from 9 AM to noon, to discuss the needs of our Church in regards to church singing, and how they can best be met. This meeting, which is open to current serving cantors and assistant cantors (as well as retired cantors) will be moderated by Deacon Jeffrey Mierzejewski.
- "The *clergy* and *faithful* of the Archeparchy are cordially invited to the afternoon session from 2-4 PM. This presentation and sing-along will address the spirit of our plain chant; paraliturgical hymns for the Great Fast and Holy Week; and the restoration and fostering of our plain chant, including the harmonization of plain chant "by ear", long been practiced in our parishes."

The Byzantine Catholic World

The *Byzantine Catholic World* [BCW] is published once-a-month, and 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 which you may use to begin or renew your annual subscription. *Thank you!*

• Liturgical Chant—Pre-Lenten Sundays

- The Troparion and other prescribed parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, February 23**, are: Resurrection Troparion Tone 4 on p. 141-142; and for **Cheese-fare Sunday** on p. 218-219.
- 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 *Katie Czapp; 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 Tigyler; Kelly Colwell; Sarah Kelt; Mary Beth Blackburn*; and all the ill & homebound.

Eternal Memory

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Patricia Boboige**, wife of Deacon Paul Boboige, of Nativity of the Mother of God Church, Du Bois Pennsylvania, who fell asleep in the Lord on February 12. Also, please pray for the repose of the soul of **+Jennifer Linier**, great-niece of Joan and Patrick Ditko.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Vox Nova at Holy Family Parish

Vox Nova is a choral ensemble of students from Mount Aloysius College. They will present in concert the *Spiritual Stations of the Cross* and reflect on each Station on Friday, February 28 at 7:00 PM At Holy Family Parish A truly different experience and one you will remember. A free offering will be collected and given to the group after their performance.

Basket Party

Basket Party to benefit **Relay for Life of Cambria County**, on Saturday, March 14, at New Germany Grove Hall, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Includes: Dinner - Assorted Homemade Soups, Rolls, Desserts and Beverages. Admission: \$20.00 (includes 25 basket chances, door prize chance and dinner). Door Prize: 40 inch TV.

Sponsored by "**TEAM RAISING HOPE**". Tickets available at Ray's Lawnmower S&S. 814-495-4495.

Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer Schedule of Events

Lenten Thursday, Bible Study, presented by Sr. Melita Marie, OSBM, March 5 to April 2, 2020. 9:30 to 11:30 am; Free will offering. Registration is due February 20. Bible Study sessions will develop Great Fast [Lent] themes and will include prayer of praise and petition. Bring your favorite Bible.

Sacramental Healing In Mystery, "Experience Healing in a Sacramental Church" presented by Father John Marcucci on Saturday, February 29, from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. The program includes lunch; an offering of \$35. Registration is due: February 24. The Liturgy of the Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated. Free Will Offering Registration due by March 11.

To register for above programs, call 724-438-7149; or email hpmsm@verizon.net

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 Nezneski;
- **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 February 16 Paulette and *Ed Fedorko 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 Meatfare February 16 2020

Meatfare Sunday-- Sunday of the Last Judgment		
Saturday February 15		
Dunlo	5:00 PM	Vigil Divine Liturgy
Sunday February 16		
Portage	9:00 AM	Sunday Divine Liturgy
[+Vaughn George, by Marianne, Jeff, Aaron & Alisha and Families—40 th Day Commemoration]		

Monday, February 17

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Tuesday, February 18

Portage	7:45 AM	The Third Hour
	8:00 AM	Divine Liturgy [+Steve Havrilla, by Paul & Kathy Porinchak]

Wednesday, February 19

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Thursday, February 20

Portage	7:45 AM	The Third Hour
	8:00 AM	Divine Liturgy [+Mike Mazur, by Sam Resconich]

Friday, February 21

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

Saturday, February 22

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

Cheesefare Sunday		
Saturday February 22		
Beaverdale	5:00 PM	Vigil Divine Liturgy
Sunday February 23		
Portage	9:00 AM	Sunday Divine Liturgy
[+Regina Havrilla, by John and Barbara Havrilla]		
Portage	5:00 PM	Cheesefare Sunday Vespers