



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](http://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**

<b><u>Sunday February 2 2020</u></b>	<b><u>Troitsja:</u></b> Ryan Lenz	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> Bella Koban & Kaleb Castel
<b><u>Sunday February 9 2020</u></b>	<b><u>Troitsja:</u></b> Easton Slanoc	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> Evan Lenz & Jakob Czapp
<b><u>Sunday February 16 2020</u></b>	<b><u>Troitsja:</u></b> Kaleb Castel	<b><u>Bulletins:</u></b> Abby Koban & Easton Slanoc

#### **Parish Sunday Bulletin Available Online and by Email Transmission**

The Sunday bulletin is posted on the parish website, [www.ByzantineCatholic.net](http://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](mailto:james_armand_spontak@verizon.net) with this request.



## **Feast of the Encounter of our Lord with Simeon & Anna Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee**

Two different observances occur on this Sunday. The fortieth day of the Nativity of our Lord—February 2—is the ***Feast of the Encounter of our Lord with Simeon and Anna***. This feast is celebrated for eight days and concludes the cycle of the Nativity.

Also, today is the ***Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee***. The prideful boating of the Pharisee masquerading as “*prayer*” is contrasted with the the genuine and truly humble character of the Publican or tax collector. These contrasting examples provide an essential and valuable ingredient in our preparation for the Great Fast. As noted on the church calendars, there is *no fasting* during the week following the ***Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee***

Today’s Feast of the Encounter recalls how on the fortieth day of his birth, Jesus was brought to the Temple in fulfillment of the Mosaic Law. It is a further demonstration of the mystery of the Incarnation which was celebrated on Christmas. This mystery of God becoming man expressed Christ’s willingness to “*empty himself*” as a servant, in order that he might bring about our salvation. And as Jesus is brought to the temple:

***“He who once gave the Law to Moses on Sinai, today submits himself to the prescription of the Law. In his compassion He has become like us for our sakes. He is freeing us from the curse of the Law, and granting light to our souls.”*** [Stichera at Litija, Vespers of the Encounter]

Mary, together with Joseph, accompanies her son to the Temple. There is even more a foreshadowing of how she will accompany him to the fulfillment of his sacrifice for humanity at the time of the Passion in the prophecy of Simeon: ***“Behold this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted—and you yourself a sword will pierce.”*** [Luke 2:34-35] The role of the Virgin Mary is fittingly extolled in the *Magnification* hymn sung on this feast during the Divine Liturgy.

## **Annual “Appreciation Dinner”—Next Sunday, February 9**

The Annual “*Appreciation Dinner*” is next--Sunday, February 9, following the Divine Liturgy. Please fill out the ***RSVP Form*** included in today’s bulletin if you have not already done so.

## **February Coffee Social**

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

## **Statements of Parishioners’ Offerings**

Statements of 2019 parishioner offerings for Saint Peter and Paul, Portage are available TODAY--Sunday, February 2. If you have any questions or corrections regarding your 2019 offerings, you may call the rectory [814-736-9780] or send your question to **[james\\_armand\\_spontak@verizon.net](mailto:james_armand_spontak@verizon.net)**.

### ***Congratulations...***

Congratulations to parishioner **Irene Huschak** who was honored for her contributions to the community with the Charlie Vizzini Volunteer Award, presented by State Representative Frank Burns at ceremony at Noon-Collins Inn, in Ebensburg on Thursday, January 30. The award is open to volunteers who live in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives 72<sup>nd</sup> District.

### **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**

### **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***

## **Church Cleaning & Work Party for February**

- The *Church Cleaning* for February is scheduled for Monday, February 3, at 9:00 am.
- A note of thanks to those who volunteer for the monthly *Work Party* and *Church Cleaning*.

## **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 next Sunday's bulletin.

## **Eastern Christian Formation**

- There are no *Eastern Christian Formation* classes next Sunday, February 9 because of the *Annual Appreciation Dinner*.
- A meeting for *Catechists* is being scheduled for Saturday, February 29 at 11:00 a.m.

## **Memorial Donations**

We gratefully acknowledge additional donations to Saints Peter and Paul Church, Portage, in memory of **+Joseph Raptosh** from *Timothy Holtz of Next Financial Group, Altoona*.  
*Eternal Memory.*

## **“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 prescribed parts for Sunday, February 9, Resurrection Troparion Tone 2, may be found on p. 130-132; for the *Leave-taking* of the *Feast of the Meeting of our Lord with Simeon & Anna in the Temple*, pages 321-324; and for the *Sunday of the Prodigal Son*, p. 216.
- The *Our Father* in Tone 2 may be found on p. 67.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

## **Sanctuary Candle**

The Candle is offered this week at Saint Mary's, Beaverdale in memory of **+Elizabeth Harrigal** by Marcy and Doug Roxby.

## 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 Zalznock*; *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

### 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 RAYSING HOPE**". Tickets available at Ray's Lawnmower S&S. 814-495-4495.

### 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](http://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, 7911 Admiral Peary Highway, Cresson. 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 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**

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 Publican & Pharisee February 2 2020**

<b>Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee</b>		
<b>Feast of the Meeting of our Lord with Simeon and Anna</b>		
<b><u>Saturday February 1</u></b>		
Dunlo	<b><u>5:00 PM</u></b>	<b>Vigil Divine Liturgy</b> [+Elizabeth Harrigal, by Marcie and Doug Roxby]
<b><u>Sunday February 2</u></b>		
Portage	<b><u>9:00 AM</u></b>	<b>Sunday Divine Liturgy</b>

### **Monday, February 3**

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

### **Tuesday, February 4**

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

### **Wednesday, February 5**

No Divine Liturgy scheduled

### **Thursday, February 6**

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

### **Friday, February 7**

Portage            7:45 AM            The Third Hour  
                         8:00 AM            **Divine Liturgy** [+Ann Krisko, by Diane Kinback & Sons]

### **Saturday, February 8**

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

<b>Sunday of the Prodigal Son</b>		
<b><u>Saturday February 8</u></b>		
Beaverdale	<b><u>5:00 PM</u></b>	<b>Vigil Divine Liturgy</b>
<b><u>Sunday February 9</u></b>		
Portage	<b><u>9:00 AM</u></b>	<b>Sunday Divine Liturgy</b> [+Frank Yetsko, by Gary & Debbie Krisko]