



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 March 15 2020</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Lexi Slanoc	<u>Bulletins:</u> Abby Koban & Easton Slanoc
<u>Sunday March 22 2020</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Jakob Czapp	<u>Bulletins:</u> Ryan Lenz & Lexi Slanoc
<u>Sunday March 29 2020</u>	<u>Troitsja:</u> Ryan 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.



Third Sunday of the Great Fast—Veneration of the Cross

During this coming week, we conclude the *Great Flood* and begin on Friday the story of Abraham [Genesis 8:21-12:7]. Also, this week we venerate the Cross, which stands at the center of our salvation. [Father David Petras, *Typicon*, p. 120.

Today the theme of Cross is highlighted in the Gospel which we hear [Mark 8:34-9:1]. The cross is the instrument of our salvation, and it is also the pattern to which we are to conform our lives: “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it” [Mark 8:35]

Also today, the selections from the *Letter to the Hebrews* begin to detail the meaning of Christ’s sacrifice. We are told today that it is by this that we gain access to and are able to “approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help” [Hebrews 4:16]. Jesus is identified in his priestly role by the Old Testament type of Melchizedek, indicating his was a priesthood of a new order” [Hebrews 5:6]. [Father Alexander Schmemmann, *Great Lent*, p.75

Lenten Adult Education and Enrichment Series

Adult Education and Enrichment sessions continue the *Sundays of the Great Fast*, 4:00-5:30pm, on *The Mystery of Repentance* or Confession. Topics to be discussed include *sin and reconciliation; guilt and repentance; identifying sin today; and examination of conscience.*

Our sessions will be developed from the program, “*The Kiss of Christ: The Mystery of Repentance.*” It includes a DVD presentation along with a study guide [available for \$11].

Regulations for the Season of the Great Fast - 2020

Simple abstinence

- The law of simple abstinence forbids the use of meat, but permits the use of eggs and dairy products.
- All faithful of the Archeparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe simple abstinence when prescribed. Abstinence is obligatory Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast.

Strict abstinence

- The law of strict abstinence (fast) forbids the use and consumption of all meat, eggs and dairy products. All faithful of the Archeparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe strict abstinence when prescribed; and **is to be observed in 2020 on Great and Holy Friday, April 10.**

The Great Fast

The Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast are days of *simple abstinence* on which we abstain from meat. The *Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts* is on the Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent.

On Saturday, March 21, the fourth *All Souls Saturday* the *Divine Liturgy* and *Panachida* at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage is at 9:00 am. The *Panachida* and Reading of the Names of the Deceased follow the Vigil Divine Liturgy in Beaverdale on Saturday, March 21.

The Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh
Office of the Archbishop--66 Riverview Avenue Pittsburgh PA 15214

Urgent Information

Dear Reverend Father,
Glory to Jesus Christ!

As you know, the global community is currently on a heightened alert due to the outbreak of a coronavirus known as COVID-19, with the World Health Organization characterizing it as a pandemic. Considering that we likewise find ourselves in the midst of the flu season, it behooves me to provide all parishes in our Archeparchy with certain hygienic guidelines to minimize the risk of contracting a respiratory viral or bacterial disease. Please publish these guidelines in your parish bulletin and announce them from the pulpit. These guidelines remain in effect until the situation with the coronavirus and/or the flu season ends:

- If you feel sick, please, do not come to church on Sundays, Lenten services, holy days of obligation, or other days. Sick people are not morally obliged to be in church on Sundays, Lenten services and holy days of obligation; you could instead watch or listen to a Liturgy through one of the modern means of the social media, including radio. *(See below)*
- Please avoid handshakes and hugs with your fellow parishioners in church.
- Discontinue venerating icons, or the cross throughout the church until we are through this situation.
- For those churches that still have the Holy Water fonts at the entrances, please empty them, sanitize the containers and discontinue their use.
- If you need to *sneeze* or cough in church, including when you are in the confessional, please use a tissue or other appropriate method that would not put those around you at risk.
- Should we avoid receiving Holy Communion? If you believe you are sick, or that you are in danger because of weak health, then refrain from approaching the Chalice. If you do approach to receive Holy Communion then please open your mouth as widely as possible and do not touch the spoon with your lips.

Thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter and if you or any members of your parish communities) are currently ill, please, be assured of my prayers for a quick recovery.

Let us pray for those who are affected with corona virus and remember that Christ our Savior is the Healer of soul and body.

Wishing you a blessed Lenten journey, I remain

Prayerfully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William C. Skurla - Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh

Divine Liturgy Live Streamed at Various Times:

Cathedral of St. John: www.stiohnsbvzantinecathedral.com

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Holy Ghost, McKees Rocks: www.holvehost-byzantinecatholic.org WEDO Radio 810 AM

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

St. John Chrysostom: www.sibcc.com Sunday 10:30 a.m.

St. Gregory Upper St Clair: www.stgregorvusc.org

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

PARISH NEWS & COMING EVENTS

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

During the week of March 15 *Julie Brenna* will have the *Pilgrim Vocation Icon*.

Please remember **Kyprian Wojciechowski** and **Robert Jones** who are to be ordained Subdeacons on Sunday, March 22; and all the seminarians of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh.; **Seminarians John Welch; Luke Iyengar; Nathaniel Tapsak**; Diaconate candidates; and all of the Seminary community.

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 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*; all the ill & homebound; and *those suffering from the Coronavirus, or who have died; from this disease; and for those working to halt its spread.*

Offerings for February

	<u>Feb 2</u>	<u>Feb 9</u>	<u>Feb 16</u>	<u>Feb 23</u>
Portage:	\$1,571.00	\$1,376.00	\$1,624.00	\$1,943.00
Beaverdale:	\$ 578.00	\$ 667.00	\$500.00	\$273.00
Dunlo:	\$ 527.00	\$250.00	\$362.00	\$83.00

Liturgical Chant—The Great Fast

- **2009 Edition of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** includes propers for the first day; Wednesdays, and Fridays for all weeks of the Fast. Pages are given before the service.
- On the **Sundays of the Great Fast**, the *Typical Psalms* [p. 16-17] replace the First and Second Antiphons; the *Beatitudes* [p. 23-24] are sung in place of the Third Antiphon. The responses for the Anaphora of Saint Basil the Great are on p. 96-100.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for the **Fourth All Souls Saturday** [March 21] are on p. 428; and for the Panachida on p. 432.
- The Troparion and other parts of the Divine Liturgy for **Sunday, March 21**, are: Resurrection Troparion Tone 8 on p. 161-163; and for the **Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast** on page 226-227.
- The “*Our Father*”, in Tone 8 may be found on p. 73.
- Please note instructions at the beginning of the Liturgy for opening hymns etc.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

Easter Paska and Nut & Poppyseed Rolls Bake Sale in Windber

Saint Mary’s Byzantine Catholic Church in Windber is having an **Easter Paska and Nut & Poppyseed Rolls Bake Sale**. *Paska Bread* is \$7/each; *Nut Roll* and *Poppyseed Roll* are \$10 each.

If interested, there are order forms in the back of church or call Elaine [467-8647]; Shirley [467-8816] or Fr. Ivan Rusyn [467-6309]. Deadline for order baked goods is March 22.

Spring Open House at Penn Highlands Community College

Penn Highlands Community College Spring Open House, Monday, March 23, 6:00-7:30 PM. *Richland Campus* [101 Community College Way]; *Ebensburg Center* [881 Hills Plaza Drive]. Pennhighlands.edu/openhouse. Over 335 academic programs; financial aid & scholarship options.

Eggstravaganza: “Experience the Traditions”

15th Egg Eggstravaganza Sunday, March 29, Noon - 5 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 East Main, Street, Uniontown, PA. Egg artists demonstrations and sales; tables with supplies for decorating eggs; embroidered covers, lamb butter molds, decorated candles, egg wraps, cookbooks, etc. A Bake Sale includes long rolls (nut, apricot, poppyseed, and cottage cheese). Lenten lunch menu served. Handicapped accessibility. For information: 724-438-6027.

Portage Area Ministerial Association Lenten Lunches

Lenten Lunches sponsored by the *Portage Area Ministerial Association*, Wednesdays of Lent, Noon to 1:00 PM, at Hammer Street Church of God. Lunch, followed by a talk by one of the local clergy.

Speaker for March 18:-- *Pastor Art Black, Trinity United Methodist Church*

Basket Party at Saint Mary’s in Windber

Saint Mary’s Byzantine Catholic Church in Windber is having a *Basket Party* on Sunday, April 26, 11:00 am-3:00 pm. Tickets are \$10/each and include a *Spaghetti Dinner* and 25 Basket Chances.

For questions, or to purchase tickets, call *Patti* [4677-8445] or *Theresa* [266-3717]. 22.

2020 Senior Expo

Senator Wayne Langerholc invites you to his *2020 Senior Expo*, Thursday, March 26, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the East Hills Recreation Center, Johnstown101 Community College Way, Johnstown.

The event promises something for everyone. *Free admission*, door prizes, health screenings, educational seminars and light refreshments too! Exhibitors from government agencies and senior citizen organizations will be on hand. Join us for a day of fun, fellowship and light refreshments

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

Great Lent: A Spiritual Journey to Pascha

God With Us Online webinar, free of charge. Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events: **Great Lent: A Spiritual Journey to Pascha**, Father David Anderson Wednesdays, March 18, 8:00-9:00 p.m. Using Rev. Alexander Schmemmann's Great Lent, this series examine the liturgies of the Great Fast.

Liturgical Schedule 4th Week of the Great Fast March 15, 2020

Third Sunday of Great Fast--Veneration of the Holy Cross

Saturday March 14

Dunlo **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy
[+George Jason, & Robert Yatsky, by Nancy Yatsky & Family]
Followed by **Panachida** and Reading of the Names of the Deceased

Sunday March 15

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

Monday, March 16

No Lenten services scheduled

Tuesday, March 17

No Lenten services scheduled

Wednesday, March 18

Mid-Lent

Portage 6:30 PM *Simple abstinence and fasting required*
7:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, March 19

No Lenten services scheduled

Friday, March 20

Portage 6:30 PM *Simple abstinence and fasting required*
7:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Fourth All Souls Saturday

Saturday March 21

Portage **9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy followed by
Panachida & Reading of the Names of the Deceased
Portage 3:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Beaverdale 4:30 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast--Venerable Father John Climacus

Saturday March 21

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Frank Albert, by Elaine Kachmar]
Followed by **Panachida** and Reading of the Names of the Deceased

Sunday March 22

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