

2020 Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina Cancelled

This is an excerpt from Sister Ruth's letter which appears on the Facebook page of Mount Saint Macrina and in the next newsletter *In Touch*, and in the diocesan newspapers. Covid-19 has affected all of our lives and asks hard decisions of us all. We count of your prayerful support.

“One of the most difficult changes that we need to accept is the decision to cancel the Pilgrimage gathering in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. In the interest of safety and well-being of all, we will follow the lead of so many others and adhere to the guidelines provided. It is our intent, however, to work on providing a series of internet services which pilgrims can watch from their own homes. So, this year we will be making a pilgrimage of the “heart” rather than a pilgrimage of the “feet”.

Offering for “Peter’s Pence”

In your packet of offering envelopes is the envelope designated, “*Peter’s Pence*” [June 7]. The purpose of this collection is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease.

To learn more about the “*Peter’s Pence*” Collection, visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

Sanctuary Candle

The Candle was offered the week of May 10 for **Joseph** and **+Margaret Halovich**; and the week of May 31 for **+John** Halovich, both requested by Louise Halovich.

Words of Acknowledgement

Thank you once again for your generosity and commitment during the weeks of interruption of Sunday Divine Liturgy because of the pandemic. Your continued support as we resume public worship is also appreciated. For those who have faced unemployment and financial difficulties in recent weeks, be assured of my prayers and those of our parish family. If I might be of assistance in some way, please let me know.

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

Saints Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church
St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church—Beaverdale
Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church--Dunlo
 143 Church Drive—Portage, Pennsylvania 15946
 814-736-9780 Website: www.ByzantineCatholic.net

Liturgical Schedule 2nd Week after Pentecost June 7, 2020

Sunday of All Saints

<u>Sat. June 6</u>	Dunlo	<u>5:00 pm</u>	Vigil Divine Liturgy
<u>Sun. June 7</u>	Portage	<u>9:00 am</u>	Divine Liturgy [+Vaughn George, by Pauline Yetsko]
<u>Mon. June 8</u>	Portage	<u>8:00 am</u>	Divine Liturgy [+Charles & +Madge Marino, by John and Barbara Havrilla]
<u>Tues. June 9</u>	Portage	<u>8:00 am</u>	Divine Liturgy [+Agnes Colwell, by Stan & Helen Lubinski]
<u>Sat. June 13</u>	Portage	<u>3:00 pm</u>	<i>Confessions-Mystery of Repentance</i>
	Beaverdale	<u>4:30 pm</u>	<i>Confessions-Mystery of Repentance</i>

Second Sunday after Pentecost

<u>Sat. June 13</u>	Beaverdale	<u>5:00 pm</u>	Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Ed Andrykovitch, by Emily Holgash]
<u>Sun. June 14</u>	Portage	<u>9:00 am</u>	Divine Liturgy

2020 Ethnic Festival

The status of the Annual Ethnic Festival at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage was recently evaluated. The Parish Advisory Council met on Wednesday, May 20 and the **Festival Committee** met on Thursday, May 28. The consensus reached is that it would not be feasible to host the festival this year. The impact of the Coronavirus and the required restrictions and social distance concerns made it necessary to cancel the 2020 Ethnic Festival. During the current “*Green Phase*” of reopening, gatherings are limited to 250 people. Also, the uncertainties of the response of the public would present too great a risk for us to invest the expense and time of preparing for the Festival.

The Festival Committee is scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, July 22 to consider a possible alternative event for later this year. The meeting will be at 7:00 pm in the Social Room of the church hall.

It is disappointing but necessary to make this decision to cancel the Festival. We look forward to continuing the festival and welcoming our patrons and guests next year.

The Sunday of All Saints

The Sunday following Pentecost is the Sunday of All Saints, celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of all those who have faith. The Holy Spirit is the life of God, and faith is the total giving of ourselves to the One who has shared His life with us. When this communion between man and God takes place in the hearts of believers, we are transformed, divinized, and made children of God, sharing a common nature and life with our Heavenly Father. Thus, we attribute to believers an attribute proper to God: holiness. To be a “saint” is to be one who is in communion with God, one who shares in the life of God. While many think of saints as those who have died and, having been confirmed by miracles, are now declared to live with God, this is only half of the story. No one **becomes** a saint after death! Either a person lives God’s life now, and is therefore a living saint, or they will surely die in their sins. [From *God With Us Online*]

With the Sunday of All Saints, we enter the period of the *Fast of the Holy Apostles*, observed from the Sunday of All Saints to June 29 [Monday, June 8 to Sunday, June 28]. From earliest times, the Church has prepared the faithful with prayer and fasting for the Feast of the Pre-eminent Apostles Peter and Paul [June 29]. The Apostles’ Fast marks a recommitment to fasting after the Feast of Pentecost. It may be observed voluntarily as a time of renewal of faith. It holds particular significance for *Ss. Peter & Paul* in both Portage and Dunlo, for whom this Feast of the Apostles is the parish patronal feast

Graduates 2020

Please submit the names of parishioners who have graduated in 2020 from high school, college, professional schools, etc. and include degrees earned and any special awards, recognitions, etc. We would like to acknowledge these achievements and milestones.

Please place information in an envelope in the offering basket, or call the rectory [736-9780] or send to: james_armand_spontak@verizon.net.

Sunday Bulletin

With the interruption of regular schedule services, our subscription to the God With Us Sunday bulletin covers was not maintained. For the present time we will use this adjusted format for the bulletin. The bulletin covers are ordered for several months in advance. Because of the uncertainty involved with the interruption over recent weeks and months, this usual standing order could not be maintained. Resuming our order for The God With Us bulletin covers will be evaluated according to our needs and circumstances in the coming weeks.

Gospel Reflection—The Sunday of All Saints

“Note carefully: It is not by some power within yourself that you make your confession but by the help of grace from above. But if you deny me, the Son, he is saying, then I will deny you in the presence of the Father. Someone may then object: ‘How then am I to be blamed if God, forsaking me, denies me?’ The answer is, your being forsaken is the fault of you yourself, the forsaken person, not of God.

“‘But why,’ you object, ‘should I need to confess faith with my mouth if I confess faith in my mind?’ No, we must confess with our mouths in order that we may be steadily trained to speak boldly. It is only through this more abundant love and determination that we will be raised on high.

“In this way Jesus addresses himself to each one of us personally. He is not here addressing his original disciples only but every one of us who follows after his disciples in accord with their witness to him. One who learns this lesson will teach it in boldness to others, prepared to suffer all things easily and with a ready mind. This is why so many have come to have faith in the witness of the apostles to this Word.

St. John Chrysostom, The Gospel of Matthew, Homily 34.3.

A Note of Thanks...

Thank you for your cooperation in accommodating the various adjustments for gathering for worship at this present time. Last week was the first opportunity for public worship since the interruption due to the Coronavirus restrictions. Please continue to be attentive to the guidelines provided by Archbishop William and other necessary provisions of distance, etc. These are posted in the narthex.

Your consideration, patience and cooperation are valued and appreciated. Let us continue to remember in prayer those who are ill with the Coronavirus, as well as all in our parish family and the needs of one another at this time of pandemic.

Cemetery Donations

We gratefully acknowledge donations to the Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo Cemetery from:

- **Peter** and **Thresa Valko** of Johnstown.
- **Katherine Valko Sabol** of Concord, Ohio.

We gratefully acknowledge donations to the Saint Mary’s, Beavertdale Cemetery from:

- **The Estok Family**, of Mentor, Ohio.

We also gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our parishioners for your regular cemetery offerings throughout the year. Envelopes for cemetery maintenance may be found in the packet of offering envelopes for each parish.