

Liturgical Schedule First Week of the Great Fast—February 14, 2021

Cheesefare Sunday

Saturday February 13

Dunlo 5:00 PM

Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Ann Garanich by William and Therese Garanich]

Sunday February 14

Portage 9:00 AM

Sunday Divine Liturgy

Portage 5:00 PM

Cheesefare Sunday Vespers

Monday, February 15

Portage 6:30 PM

7:00 PM

First Day of the Great Fast: *Strict abstinence and fasting required*

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Wednesday, February 17

Portage 6:30 PM

7:00 PM

Simple abstinence and fasting required

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, February 19

Portage 6:30 PM

7:00 PM

Simple abstinence and fasting required

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday, February 20

Portage 3:00 pm

Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

Beaverdale 4:30 pm

Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

First Sunday of the Great Fast

Sunday of Orthodoxy—Memory of the Holy Prophets

Saturday February 20

Beaverdale 5:00 PM

Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Alex Afton, by Larry Celmer]

Sunday February 21

Portage 9:00 AM

Sunday Divine Liturgy

Cheesefare Sunday—Beginning of the Great Fast: The opening verse in the Gospel sets the tone for today, ***Cheesefare Sunday*** [Matthew 6:14]. We are counselled to be reconciled with one another. The Great Fast begins tomorrow, Monday, February 15. Forgiveness of another, and asking forgiveness where we may have offended equip us with the proper disposition to begin Lent.

The service of ***Cheesefare Sunday Vespers***, today at 5:00 pm is the actual beginning of Lent. The service concludes with a mutual exchange of asking forgiveness and in turn extending forgiveness to one another. It is in this way that we may personally open the flood gates of God's mercy which we earnestly seek during our journey of the Great Fast

Parish Advisory Council Meeting: The meeting of the ***Parish Advisory Council*** for Saints Peter and Paul, Portage has been rescheduled for **Thursday, March 4**, at 7:00 pm.

The meeting will be held in the social room of the church hall.

Regulations for the Season of the Great Fast - 2021

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. **Strict abstinence (fast) is to be observed in 2021 on Pure Monday, February 15 (the first day of the Great Fast), and on Great and Holy Friday, April 2.**

Dispensations

- Priests and parents are to ensure that minors are educated in the authentic sense of penance.
- Pastors and administrators, with just cause and taking into account acceptable reasons due to personal circumstances, may grant to the individual faithful and families, dispensations, transferals, or commutations of abstinence and strict fast into other pious practices.

Liturgical services

- The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts takes precedence over all other Lenten Devotions. The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts only is to be celebrated on Wednesdays and Friday evenings of the Great Fast and on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week.

Statements of 2020 Parishioners' Offerings: Some of those requested are available today. The remainder will be mailed this week. To request your 2020 offerings statement, call the rectory [814-736-9780] or send request to james_armand_spontak@verizon.net.

Your cooperation with guidelines posted in the narthex is appreciated.

- **Face masks** are required to protect one another [provided in narthex for your convenience.]
- After each person has received, the **Communion spoon** is sanitized in a vessel containing an alcohol product [75% alcohol] which is drinkable, to encourage participation in the Eucharist.

Remember in Prayer

For the Health of: *Deacon Daniel Perich; Catherine Czapp [Laurelwood, Westmont]; Ann Mishock; Joan Plishka; Donna Block; Marge Fleck; Pauline Barelick and all the ill, and homebound.*

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS AND NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

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): Catherine McGough.

NURSING & OTHER CARE FACILITIES: **Arbutus Park Manor:** Margaret Rachael [Dunlo]; **Autumn View:** June Nezneski; **Amber Hills:** *Ebensburg: Father Ronald Borsuk;* **John Paul II Manor, Cresson:** Kathryn Mackovyak; **Just Like Home Personal Care,** Cresson: Dorothy Resconich; **Laurel Wood** [Westmont]: Catherine Czapp

Saints Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church--

143 Church Drive—Portage, Pennsylvania 15946 **814-736-9780**

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church—Beaverdale;

Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church--Dunlo

Father James A. Spontak Deacon Daniel Perich

Email: james_armand_spontak@verizon.net; 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**. Christian Initiation may be celebrated with the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Those selected to be sponsors must be persons who are qualified to be a sponsor according 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**.

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.

Opportunities for Stewardship: Parishioners are asked to make a commitment of **Time, Talent, and Treasure...** **Work Parties:** first Saturday of each month; **Church Cleaning** the first Monday.