

Liturgical Schedule Thirty-first Week after Pentecost— December 19, 2021

Sunday of the Holy Ancestors of Christ--Sunday before Christmas

Saturday December 18

Beaverdale 5:00 PM Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday December 19

Portage 9:00 AM Sunday Divine Liturgy [+George Letzo, by Julie Letzo]

Portage 6:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Monday December 20

Portage 7:00 PM Penance Service followed by Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Wednesday, December 22

Portage 7:45 AM

The Third Hour

8:00 AM

Divine Liturgy [+Ann Mishock, by Irene Mishock]

Thursday, December 23

Portage 6:00 PM

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Friday, December 24

Portage 8:00 AM

The Royal Hours of Christmas

The Nativity of Our Lord--Christmas

Christmas Eve— Friday, December 24

Dunlo 6:00 PM

Christmas Vigil Divine Liturgy

Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

Portage 9:30 PM

Christmas Carols & Hymns from Compline

10:00 PM

Christmas Divine Liturgy

Christmas Day—Saturday December 25

Portage 9:45 AM

Christmas Carols

10:00 AM

Christmas Divine Liturgy

Sunday after Christmas-- Synaxis of the Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary Holy & Just Joseph; David; Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Lord.

Sunday December 26

Portage 9:00 AM

Sunday Divine Liturgy

Mystery of Repentance [Confession]: Monday, December 20, Portage, 7:00 pm. *Father Robert Oravetz*, Holy Trinity [Conemaugh]; and Saint Nicholas [Nanty Glo] will be here with Father Jim. Penance Service [7:00 pm] followed by Confessions. **Thursday, December 23**, Portage, 6:00 pm

The Vigil of Christmas The *Royal Hours of Christmas Eve* [Office of Readings] are Thursday, December 24 at 8:00 am and include psalms; hymns; Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel readings.

Friday, December 24 may be observed as a day of strict abstinence from meat and dairy.

“Byzantine Catholic Hymnal for Nativity and Theophany” will be on the table in the back of church. Please take a copy as your enter and return it to this table after the Divine Liturgy

From Christmas to Theophany [December 25 to January 4] there is ***no fasting and abstinence.***

Christmas Schedule is listed above and is being distributed by mail. **Please note** that since Christmas falls on a Saturday, there is **no Saturday Vigil Divine Liturgy** on Saturday December 25 in the evening. The Vigil Divine Liturgy resumes Saturday, January 1 at Saint Mary's, Beaverdale.

Eastern Christian Formation Schedule - Christmas & Theophany

Sunday, December 26, 2021:

No ECF Classes

Sunday, January 2, 2022:

No ECF Classes

Sunday, January 9, 2022:

ECF Classes Resume

Six Day Vigil Candles: Beginning Saturday, January 1, 2022 the offering for six day vigil candles at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage will be **\$3.00**, due to price increases from our supplier. If you should take home with you vigil candles please return the empty glass jar after you have burned the candle. There is a credit returned to the parish for each empty case. *Thank you.*

Offerings for November

	<u>Nov 7</u>	<u>Nov 14</u>	<u>Nov 21</u>	<u>Nov 28</u>
Portage:	\$1,179.00	\$1,703.00	\$1,572.00	\$1,571.38
Beaverdale:	\$ 400.00	\$ 315.00	\$ 409.00	\$ 355.00
Dunlo:	\$ 70.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 229.00	\$ 664.00

Dunlo Furnace Repairs: A note of thanks to Deacon Dan Perich and Larry Dipko for performing repairs to the furnace at Saints Peter and Paul in Dunlo over the past several weeks.

2022 Offering Envelopes have been shipped and are being prepared for distribution on Christmas and also the Sunday after Christmas. We regret any inconvenience caused by this delay.

Philip's Fast: November 15—December 24. Thank you for your support for the **Portage Food Pantry** and **Forest Hills Food Pantry**. Cash donations will continue to be received and forwarded.

Archieparchial Choir Concert Cancelled: Due to recent Covid concerns and out of an abundance of caution the Archieparchial Choir's Christmas presentation, scheduled for Sunday December 19 at 2:00pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Munhall, is cancelled. The Archieparchial Choir is thankful to all for your understanding and support regarding this decision.

Remember in Prayer

For the Health of *Margaret Prudhoe* [Arbutus Park Manor]; *Maureen Hutzell*, Deacon Dan Perich's sister; *Larry Sasek*; *Catherine McGough*; *Carol Slifko*; *Deacon Daniel Perich*; *Donna Block*; *Holly Pawwluk*; *Michael & Pauline Barelick*; and all the ill, homebound. The **2023 Synod of Bishops**, "For Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission."

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS:: ***SS Peter & Paul (Portage):*** Dorothy Billy; Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Michelle Maskal; Dorothy Majer; Stella Raptosh; Cathy Walters; Helen Zaher.

NURSING & CARE FACILITIES: ***Richland Health & Rehabilitation*** *Catherine McGough* [Beaverdale]; ***Presbyterian Home*** [Hollidaysburg] *Charles Plishka* [Beaverdale]; ***Arbutus Park Manor:*** Margaret Rachael [Dunlo]; ***Autumn View:*** June Nezeski; ***Amber Hills:*** *Father Ronald Borsuk*; ***The Palms*** [McKeesport]: Marian Simala; ***John Paul II Manor, Cresson:*** Kathryn Mackovyak; ***Cambria Care,*** Ebensburg: Dorothy Resconich; ***Forest Hills Personal Care,*** Sidman: Kathryn Malley.

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.