

Thirty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday January 22, 2022

Dunlo **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday January 23, 2022

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Margaret Fleck, by Susan O'Toole]

Tuesday, January 25

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM Divine Liturgy [+Peter Bulinsky, by Peter Pikus]

Thursday, January 27

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM Divine Liturgy [+Anna & John Gaydos, by Ann Gaydos]

Saturday January 29, 2022

Portage **3:00 pm** Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

Beaverdale **4:30 pm** Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

Sunday of Zacchaeus
Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs

Saturday January 29, 2022

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Elizabeth Harrigal, by Marcie and Doug Roxby]

Sunday January 30, 2022

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

All Souls Commemoration for 2022: The first *All Souls Commemoration* is **Saturday, February 19 [Meatfare Saturday]**. Use the *All Souls* envelope to enter names of deceased family members to be remembered at the Divine Liturgy and Panachida on the All Souls Saturdays.

Please indicate if the names listed are in addition to previous years' lists or to replace the previous years; and return the envelope at your earliest convenience to help in maintaining All Souls listing.

Parish Advisory Council Meetings:

- **Parish Advisory Council Meeting** for *Saint Mary, Beaverdale* and *Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo* is being rescheduled. Members will be informed of the *rescheduled date*.
- **Parish Advisory Council Meeting** for *Saints Peter and Paul, Portage* on Thursday, February 10 at 7:00 pm., in the conference room of the rectory.

Blessing of Homes: To request the blessing of your home, please fill out this form, and place in the offering box or return by mail. Fr. Jim will call to schedule a day and time for family members to be at home and to participate. Have a lighted candle and an icon on the table.

I/we would like to have my/our home blessed:

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Pastor's Notebook: A number of unusual or peculiar features might capture our attention in hearing or reading Saint Matthew's Gospel account today. The Canaanite woman who approaches Jesus requests her daughter's deliverance from demonic possession. Jesus at first seemingly ignores her flatly [*"he did not answer her a word"*] [[Matthew 15:23](#)]. There follows his remark that he was "*sent only to the lost sheep of Israel*" [[v. 24](#)]; and then the comment that the children's bread is not to be "*thrown to the dogs*" [[v. 26](#)].

Each of these is best considered in its context and in light of the background of the Bible. What is perhaps most significant for us and our life of faith is the demonstrative intensity of this woman's faith. Her determined and insistent effort for helping her daughter provide us with a source of instruction and reflection. She is willing to do this in spite of the challenges and apparent obstacles in her path. In his application of this episode, Saint John Chrysostom observes, "*So great a thing is diligence and perseverance in prayer*". And the testimony Jesus is simply, "*O woman, great is your faith*". [[v. 28](#)].

Statements of Parishioners' Offerings for 2021 for Saint Peter and Paul, Portage will be available for those requesting their statement. The 2021 Offering Statements are being prepared and should be available in early February. If you have need of your 2021 offerings, call the rectory [814-736-9780] or send request to james_armand_spontak@verizon.net.

Church Cleaning & Work Party for February:

- The ***Work Party*** is **Saturday, February 5** at 10:30 am
- The ***Church Cleaning*** is **Monday, February 7**, at 9:00 am.

The Byzantine Catholic World...is the definitive source of news for 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. Use the envelope in your packet of offering envelopes [[January 30](#)] to begin or renew your annual subscription [[\\$14](#)]. *Thank you!*

Pre-Cana for 2022: The dates for the ***Pre-Cana Program*** offered by the Archeparchy are **Saturdays, March 26** and **April 2**. The ***Pre-Cana Program*** is a required part of the marriage preparation for all couples. Contact Father Jim for more information; details and registration forms are available at www.archpitt.org by scrolling down to "*Office of Religious Education*".

Six Day Vigil Candles: Beginning **Saturday, January 1, 2022** the offering for six day vigil candles at Saints Peter and Paul, Portage is **\$3.00**, due to price increases from our supplier.

Remember in Prayer: The Health of *Jason Thornton; Charlett Thornton; Maureen Hutzell, Larry Sasek; Catherine McGough; Carol Slifko; Deacon Daniel Perich; Donna Block; Holly Pawvluk; 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;. **NURSING & CARE FACILITIES: Homewood,** Martinsburg: *Charles Plishka* [Beaverdale]; **Rebekah Manor,** Portage: Helen Zaher; **Arbutus Park Manor:** Margaret Rachael [Dunlo]; *Margaret Prudhoe*; **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 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.**

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.