

Liturgical Schedule Twenty-Ninth Week after Pentecost December 18, 2022

Sunday Before Christmas, of the Holy Ancestors

Saturday December 17

Beaverdale 5:00 PM Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday December 18

Portage 9:00 AM Sunday Divine Liturgy

[+Elena & Pasquale Pieraccini, by John & Barbara Havrilla]

Wednesday, December 22

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour

8:00 AM Divine Liturgy [+Janet Spaid, by Patricia Rucker rescheduled]

Thursday, December 22

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

Friday, December 23

Portage 8:00 AM *The Royal Hours of Christmas*

Portage 1:00 PM Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas

Christmas Eve— Saturday December 24

Beaverdale 5:00 PM *Christmas Vigil Divine Liturgy*

Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

Portage 9:00 PM Christmas Carols & Hymns from Compline

9:30 PM *Christmas Divine Liturgy*

Christmas Day— Sunday December 25

Portage 9:45 AM Christmas Carols

10:00 AM *Christmas Divine Liturgy*

Parish Saint Nicholas Celebration—Sunday, December 18

Parish Saint Nicholas Celebration—TODAY: ...Following the Divine Liturgy. Please come and enjoy the *Coffee Social* with treats and refreshments. We look forward to a visit from *Saint Nicholas of Myra*, with some treats for our children and youth.

Craft Projects for Tree Decorations: A Craft Project has been prepared for making decorations for the Christmas tree in Church. During today's Saint Nicholas Social, children and youth are invited to take part in making the decorations and placing on the tree in the Church.

Portage Advent and Christmas Carol Fest: Sponsored by the *Portage Area Ministerial Association* and hosted at *Holy Family Catholic Church*, on Sunday, December 18, at 2 PM. *All Portage Churches* members are invited to the event.

At the end of the carol fest, share in refreshments in Holy Family's parish hall.

The Season of Philip's Fast in preparation for Christmas is November 15-December 24. Thank you for your donations of canned goods, cash for the local *Food Pantries*.

Mystery of Repentance [Confession] in preparation for Christmas is scheduled for:

- **Thursday, December 22**, at Saints. Peter & Paul, Portage at **7:00 pm**. **Father Ivan Rusyn** from Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, Windber will be here with Father Jim for Confessions. A *Penance Service* at **7:00 pm**, followed by Confessions.
- **Friday, December 23** *Saints Peter & Paul, Portage: 1:00 pm.*
- *You may also call the parish office to schedule an appointment.*
- *There are no Confessions scheduled on Christmas Eve—Saturday, December 24.*

2023 Church Calendars are available. Please take only one calendar per family until everyone has received a calendar. We thank our sponsors for the 2023 Calendars:

Serenko-Claar Funeral Home (Ss. Peter and Paul, Portage)

Jean Kinley Funeral Home (Beaverdale and Dunlo)

The Vigil of Christmas: Because Christmas Eve is on Saturday, the ***Royal Hours of Christmas Eve*** [Office of Readings] are transferred to **Friday, December 23** at **8:00 am**. This service includes psalms, hymns, Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel readings. The traditional day of strict abstinence from meat and dairy may be observed on Friday, December 2.

The ***“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

Eastern Christian Formation Schedule--Christmas & Theophany

Sunday, December 25, 2022:

No ECF Classes

Sunday, January 1, 2023:

No ECF Classes

Sunday, January 8, 2023:

ECF Classes Resume

Forest Hills Community Band Christmas Concert Schedule:

- **Saturday, December 17, 7 pm:** *New Germany Church Hall.*
- **Sunday, December 18, 6 pm:** *Mount Hope Church.*

2023 Offering Envelopes will be prepared for distribution as soon as they have arrived and made available for distribution. We regret any inconvenience caused by this delay.

“Troitsja” Candle & Carillon Bells; Bulletins:

December 18 **Candle & Bells** Easton Slanoc **Bulletins:** Lexie Slanoc & Easton Slanoc

December 25 **Christmas—Volunteers Requested**

January 1 **Candle & Bells:** Lexie Slanoc **Bulletins:** Abby Koban & Bella Koban

Remember in Prayer: The Health of: *Katie Czapp; Darlene Shaner; Angeline Pieraccini; Shawn Crum; Steve Paluch; Jason Thornton; Charlett Thornton; Catherine McGough; Carol Slifko; Deacon Daniel Perich; Donna Block; Holly Pawwluk; Michael & Pauline Barelick; and all the ill, homebound.*

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): *Dorothy Billy; Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Michelle Maskal; Dorothy Majer; Stella Raptosh; Cathy Walters;.* **Saint Mary, Beaverdale:** *Catherine McGough;*

NURSING & CARE FACILITIES: **Rebekah Manor,** Portage: *Helen Zaher;* **Maple**

Winds: *June Nezeski;* **John Paul II Manor,** *Cresson:* *Kathryn Mackovyak;* **Cambria Care,** *Ebensburg:* *Dorothy Resconich.*

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.

On-line Access to Bulletin... is available at the parish website: www.ByzantineCatholic.net