

Liturgical Schedule Twenty-ninth Week after Pentecost December 1, 2024

Twenty-eighth Sunday after Pentecost-

Saturday November 30, 2024

Dunlo **4:00 PM** Anticipated Divine Liturgy

Sunday December 1, 2024

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Shawn Crum by Ken and Connie Crum]

Wednesday, December 4

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM Divine Liturgy [+Maggie Ostheim by Steve and Joann Ostheim]

Feast of our Holy Father Nicholas Archbishop of Myra and Wonderworker

Thursday, December 5

Beaverdale **4:00 PM** Great Vespers with Litija

Friday, December 6

Portage 8:45 AM The Third Hour
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 7

Portage **2:00 pm** Confessions-Mystery of Repentance
Beaverdale **3:30 pm** Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

Twenty-ninth Sunday after Pentecost-

Saturday December 7, 2024

Beaverdale **4:00 PM** Anticipated Divine Liturgy

Sunday December 8, 2024

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy
[+Pasquale +Elena & +Tina Pieraccina, by Barbara & John Havrilla]

This Week: The *Feast of Saint Nicholas of Myra* celebrated December 6. His power as a wonderworker gave birth to a marvelous legend which is the origin of traditional children's festivals throughout the world. In addition to the Liturgical observance of this feast, our **Parish Nicholas Social** will be Sunday, December 22 following the Divine Liturgy.

Next Sunday December 8, the **Feast of the Maternity of Holy Anna** will be observed

"Philip's Fast"-Preparation for Christmas: In preparation for Christmas, "*Philip's Fast*" [November 14—December 24], one of the four penitential seasons of the Church year, is observed by prayer, penance, and almsgiving in preparation for Christmas is to renew and strengthen our faith.

Canned goods, non-perishable food and donations of cash will be collected for the **Portage Food Pantry** and the **Forest Hills Food Pantry** [Beaverdale and Dunlo].

ECF Thanksgiving Holiday: There are no ECF classes today Sunday, December 1 for our **Thanksgiving Holiday**. Classes resume Sunday, December 8.

Thank You...for the response and participation of our parish community for last Sunday's **Community Thanksgiving Service** sponsored by the Portage Area Ministerial Association here at Saint Peter and Paul Church. Our thanks to our cantors and choir members who led the singing for the Moleben of Thanksgiving service. Also, a note of thanks for the donations of baked goods and other refreshments for the social which followed the service, and to those who helped serve them and the festive décor for the table.

It was an uplifting and prayerful gathering as we welcomed pastors and members of the various churches throughout Portage. The offering for the Portage Area Ministerial Association taken for the various community needs supported by the Ministerial Association was \$200. Thank you for your generosity.

Church Cleaning & Work Party: *Work Party* for December is scheduled for **Saturday, December 7, 9:00 am**. Our *thanks* to the volunteers for the monthly **Work Party** and **Church Cleaning**.

GCU Matching Funds & Food Pantry Donations: We gratefully acknowledge from the **GCU** Fraternal Benefit organization:

- **Matching Funds** donation of \$3,000 from our 2024 in Festival in July.
- **Food Pantry** donations of \$500 each to the **Portage Food Pantry** and the **Forest Hills Food Pantry** [Beaverdale and Dunlo].

Community Christmas Concert: At the Hammer Street Church of God, 906 Hammer Street, Portage on Sunday, December 22, 2:00-4:00 pm. Refreshments and fellowship to follow.

Please plan to come together as a community to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Each church will be participating individually. Then we will join in a combined choir with congregational hymns.

Christmas Stories--Byzantine Catholic World Christmas Edition: This year a special feature focuses on *travel for Christmas, past or present*. Please send stories by Friday, Tuesday 10; and any photos to go with your story, to: bcw@archpitt.org.

The Sanctuary Candle for the week of December 1 is for **+George & +Mae Haschak**, by Patty Haschak.

Bulletins and "Troitsja" Candle:

Sunday December 1 **Candle: Owen Slanoc** **Sunday, December 8** **Candle: Easton Slanoc**

Remember in Prayer: *For The Health of:* **Doug Roxby; Steve Fleck; Susan O'Toole** [West Penn Hospital, Pittsburgh]; **John Havrilla; Richard Whitcomb; Michael Perich; Larry Dipko; Jeffrey Moist; Jean Petoro**, Mother of Jennifer Blazosky; **Becky Zock; Carol Goral; Mary & Daniel Zaliznock; Ray McCabe; Thomas Goncher; Linda Sekerak; Steve Paluch; Jason Thornton; Charlett Thornton; Deacon Daniel & Mary Lou Perich; Donna Block; Michael & Pauline Barelick; Matthew Barelick; Phil, & Dorothy Walters; Carissa Ratosky; Edward Wisniewski; David & Sandy Spontak; Andrew & Linda Deskevich**, parents of Very Reverend Andrew Deskevich, who are residents at Autumn View; and all the ill, homebound.

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: **SS Peter & Paul (Portage):** Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Michelle Maskal; Dorothy Majer; Stella Raptosh.; **Saint Mary, Beaverdale:** Carol Slifko; **NURSING & CARE FACILITIES:** **Rebekah Manor**, Portage: Joanne Stewart; William Prozialek [Dunlo]; **Maple Winds:** June Nezneski; **Maple Heights, Ebsenburg:** Kathryn Mackovyak.

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: 2:00 p.m. (Portage) and 3:30 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