

Liturgical Schedule—February 22, 2026 Second Week of the Great Fast

First Sunday of the Great Fast

Saturday February 21, 2026

Beaverdale **4:00 PM**

Anticipated Divine Liturgy [+Agnes Kuska, by M/M Joseph McClosky]

Sunday February 22, 2026

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, February 25

Portage 5:30 PM

Simple abstinence and fasting required

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

6:00 PM

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, February 27

Portage 5:30 PM

Simple abstinence and fasting required

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

6:00 PM

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Second All Souls Saturday

Saturday February 27, 2026

Portage **9:00 AM**

Divine Liturgy, followed by Panachida, Reading of Names of Deceased

Saturday, February 28

Portage **1:00 pm**

Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

Dunlo 3:30 PM

Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

First Sunday of the Great Fast

Saturday February 28, 2026

Dunlo **4:00 PM**

Anticipated Divine Liturgy

followed by Panachida, Reading of Names of Deceased

Sunday March 1, 2026

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

[+Charles and +Madge Marino, by John and Barbara Havrilla]

The Great Fast: At the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, lessons from Genesis and Proverbs are read. The use of these lessons has its origin in the instructions that were provided for the “Catechumens”, those being instructed and prepared as candidates for Baptism during the forty days of Lent. They now serve to renew and deepen our faith as we hear these books of the Old Testament that provide foundation in the story of our salvation. During this Second Week of Lent, we read the story of Cain and Abel and begin, on Friday, the story of Noah.

“O Christ our God, during the time of Noah, you submerged sins; and in these last times, you saved the human race by baptism, and you will purify the earth again by fire. We implore you, therefore, in your compassion save those who praise you fervently from anger, in your love for us, O Redeemer of all.” *Kontakion* [Father David Petras, *Typicon*, p. 16]

Prayer Partners: Prayer for others is especially valuable during the Great Fast.

Please include a remembrance daily in your prayers of your Prayer Partner.

Lenten Observances:

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is offered each Wednesday and Friday during the Great Fast. The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is the fulfillment of the promise of the manna, as St. John wrote, "So Jesus said to them, 'Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. (John 6:32)'"

The Mystery of Repentance [Confessions] is available Wednesday and Friday prior to the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts at 5:30 pm.; and Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

Lenten Regulations. Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast: abstinence from meat.

Eternal Memory: You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of: **+Richard Whitcomb** who fell asleep in the Lord on February 17. We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to Kim and Ed Rocker; Demi and Tammy Whitcomb, and to all of his family. Also, **+Robert Fedore** [of Saint Mary's, Beaverdale] who fell asleep in the Lord on February 15. We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to; and to all of his family

Statements of Parishioners' Offerings for 2025 for Saint Peter and Paul, Portage are available for those requesting them. Call [814-736-9780]; or **james armand spontak@verizon.net**.

Sanctuary Candle: Is offered this week for **+Shawn Crum**, by Ken and Connie Crum.

Pre-Cana Program: For engaged couples contemplating marriage in 2026, Saturday, March 7, 10:00 am to 3:30 pm at the Saints. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary. Registration by February 27 at https://archpitt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Pre-Cana_RegForm.pdf.

Pilgrim Vocation Icon: If you can help bring the icon to a homebound person please inform Father Jim. *Thank you.*

Liturgical Propers: Sunday, March 1 Second Sunday of the Great Fast
Troparion Tone 5 (DL 146), Kontakion (DL 222)

Troitsja **February 22:** Joseph Blazosky **March 1:** Easton Slanoc

Bulletins: **February 22:** Joseph Blazosky & Owen Slanoc **February 22:** Easton & Owen Slanoc

Remember in Prayer: As these needs change you update your requests by informing Father Jim. **For the repose of the soul of:** Father Marcel Szabo, of the Eparchy of Passaic **For the Health of:** Carol Slifko [Beaverdale], Conemaugh Memorial Hospital]; Joe Thrower [Dunlo]; Frank Jubara; Father Edward Pyo; John Havrilla; Cindy {Pyo} Lewis; Jane Pyo; Mary Donnelly; I; Sandy {Lucci} Georg; Barbara Havrilla; Susan O'Toole; Jeffrey Moist; Jean Petoro; Becky Zock; Thomas Goncher; Linda Sekerak; Jason Thornton; Charlett Thornton; Mary Lou Perich; Donna Block; Michael & Pauline Barelick; Matthew Barelick; Phil, & Dorothy Walters; Carissa Ratosky; Edward & Anita Wisniewski; Sandy Spontak, and the homebound.

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Louise Halovich; Michelle Maskal; Dorothy Majer; Stella Raptosh; **Saint Mary, Beaverdale:** Carol Slifko; **NURSING & CARE FACILITIES:** **Rebekah Manor,** Portage: Joanne Stewart; William Prozialek [Dunlo]; **Richland Woods:** Elaine Vrabel; **Richland Nursing & Rehabilitation:** Edward Cimba [Dunlo]; **Autumn View:** Joan Timura; Andrew Deskevich, father of Father Andrew Deskevich.

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 June 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 an integral 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: 1:00 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