

Liturgical Schedule *Christmas-The Birth of Our Lord--* December 25, 2022

The Nativity of Our Lord--Christmas

Christmas Eve—Saturday December 24

<u>Beaverdale</u>	<u>5:00 PM</u>	Christmas Vigil Divine Liturgy Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
<u>Portage</u>	<u>9:00 PM</u>	Christmas Carols & Hymns from Compline
	<u>9:30 PM</u>	Christmas Divine Liturgy

Christmas Day—Sunday December 25

<u>Portage</u>	<u>9:45 AM</u>	Christmas Carols
	<u>10:00 AM</u>	Christmas Divine Liturgy

Synaxis of the Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary

Monday December 26

Portage	<u>6:00 PM</u>	Divine Liturgy
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Holy Apostle, First Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen

Tuesday, December 27

Portage	<u>9:00 AM</u>	Divine Liturgy
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Saturday December 31, 2021

Portage	3:00 PM	Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]
Dunlo	4:30 PM	Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Sunday before Theophany

New Year's Day--Circumcision of Our Lord & Feast of Saint Basil the Great

Saturday December 31, 2021

Dunlo	<u>5:00 PM</u>	Vigil Divine Liturgy
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Sunday January 1, 2023

Portage	<u>9:00 AM</u>	Sunday Divine Liturgy [+George Letzo, by Julie Brenna]
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Christ is Born! Glorify Him! My best wishes for a blessed and joyful Christmas, the Feast of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas holds a favored place in the hearts of so many. The Byzantine Catholic Church has developed a marvelous expression of the profound meaning of this feast and the exuberant joy with which it is celebrated. The *Christmas Troparion* is an eloquent and vivid testimony to this:

“Your birth, O Christ our God, has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; for through it those who worshiped the stars have learned from a star to worship you, the Sun of Justice, and to know you, the Dawn from on High. Glory to you, O Lord!”

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

Father James Spontak

Parish Saint Nicholas Celebration: Our thanks to Kim Rocker and her family for the refreshments and hospitality; ; also to Marianne George and her family for the Saint Nicholas Treat bags; and to all who helped provide our enjoyable gathering last Sunday.

2023 Church Offering Envelopes: Our supplier, Church Budget Envelopes, hopes to have the envelopes printed and shipped by mid-January, 2023. There are several reasons for this unusual delay: supply chain shortages in paper products and parts needed for repair of their printing equipment; and inability to find extra labor needed each year to provide the envelopes.

Until the envelopes are available, we ask you to use any plain envelope for our contributions. **Please be sure** to write your name and the amount on the envelopes to insure that the donation is properly recorded and credited to you. **Thank you** for your cooperation and patience.

Church Cleaning & Work Party for January

- The **Church Cleaning** for January is scheduled for **Monday, January 2**, at **9:00 am**.
- The **Work Party** for January is scheduled for **Saturday, January 7**, at **9:00 am**.
- Our thanks to the volunteers for the monthly **Work Party** and **Church Cleaning**.

Sanctuary Candle... +Catherine and +Susan Sekerak; and +Robert Novotny by Kathy Sekerak.

Offerings for November

	<u>Nov 6</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Nov 20</u>	<u>Nov 27</u>
Portage:	\$2,539.00	\$1,413.00	\$1,110.00	\$1,410.300
Beaverdale:	\$ 537.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 474.00	\$ 235.00
Dunlo:	\$ 5.00	\$ 43.00	\$ 289.00	\$ 44.00

2023 Church Calendars We thank our sponsors for the 2023 Calendars:

Serenko-Claar Funeral Home (Ss. Peter and Paul, Portage)
Jean Kinley Funeral Home (Beaverdale and Dunlo)

Eastern Christian Formation Schedule--Christmas & Theophany: There are **No ECF Classes** on **Sunday, December 25, 2022;** and **Sunday, January 1, 2023.** **ECF Classes Resume** on **Sunday, January 8, 2023.**

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:

January 1	<u>Candle & Bells:</u>	Lexie Slanoc	<u>Bulletins:</u>	Abby Koban & Bella Koban
January 8	<u>Candle & Bells</u>	Bella Koban	<u>Bulletins:</u>	Lexie Slanoc & Easton Slanoc

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 Pawvluk; 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 Nezsneski; **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

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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.

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