

Liturgical Schedule Fifteenth Week after Pentecost September 3, 2023

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday September 2

Dunlo **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Alex & Tekla Krenisky, by John Krenisky]

Sunday September 3

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

Feast of the Birth of Mary, the Theotokos

Thursday, September 7

Beaverdale **6:00 PM** *Vespers with the Divine Liturgy*
[+Michael and +Elizabeth Andrykovitch, by daughters Kathy & Michele]

Friday, September 8

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

Saturday September 9

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

Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos

Saturday September 9

Beaverdale **5:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Margaret Prudhoe, by Denny & Alys Civic]

Sunday September 10

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

Annual Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina-In honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

The Pilgrimage in Uniontown is September 2 and 3, 2023. Follow us on Facebook for updates: Schedules and more details at www.sistersofstbasil.org; and in the *Byzantine Catholic World*.

The theme of this year's *89th Annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help* is "*Theotokos: Loving Protectress of All*".

This Week: Following the beginning of the Church Year on September 1, we come to the first of the feasts on the calendar-*the Birth of the Theotokos*. As we honor Mary on the feasts concerning her, we recognize her as the first to be saved through the Incarnation [*"becoming flesh"*] of the Word of God.

In celebrating the feast of her birth, as on other feasts of the Theotokos, we behold her life as having a saving value for us and as a model of Christian life. We recognize the supreme role she had in the salvation worked through Jesus Christ. The Liturgy of this feast invites us to consider her participation in the redemptive work of her son.

Fatima Devotions: The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating Fatima Devotions on Wednesday, September 13, 6:30 pm in the Gardens. In case of inclement weather at the Immaculate Conception Chapel on the campus of St. Francis University.

The presider will be Father Timothy Harris, T.O.R.

Many, Happy Years: Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has appointed the ***Very Reverend Robert Mark Pipta*** as the sixth Bishop of Parma. Father Pipta is a priest of the Eparchy of Phoenix and has been serving honorably as the Rector of our seminary in Pittsburgh, Saints Cyril and Methodius Seminary. Bishop-elect Robert Pipta has visited with us here on numerous occasions during recent years. Most recently he visited on July 20, the feast of Saint Elijah and also during Holy Week in April 2023. We offer our congratulations and prayerful best wishes. *Many, happy years!*

This Week: A meeting for Catechists in preparation for the 2023-2024 ***Eastern Christian Formation*** program and classes is scheduled for **Saturday, September 9** at 10:00 am in the social room of the church hall. An alternate date for the meeting would be **Saturday, September 16** also at 10:00 am in the social room. Catechists may contact Father Jim as to their availability for this meeting.

Additional information on our ***Eastern Christian Formation*** program for the 2023-2024 year will be available next Sunday. The prayers and support of parents and all of our parish community on behalf of the ECF program and classes is sincerely appreciated.

Work Party & Church Cleaning: **Church Cleaning** for September will be **Monday, September 11,** at **9:00 am.** This change is due to Labor Day Holiday on September 4, the first Monday of September.

A note of thanks to our volunteers for yesterday's **Work Party** and the **Church Cleaning.**

Learn about Our Past, Prepare for Our Future

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Assembly of our Byzantine Catholic Church at St Mary Church in Hillsborough, New Jersey, **Friday, November 3** through **Sunday, November 5, 2023.** Byzantine Catholics from across the United States and Canada are invited to attend. Metropolitan Archbishop William said, "Your presence and participation are vital and welcome. Please consider coming and supporting this historic Assembly 2023."

The venue includes lectures, discussions, fellowship, and a gala dinner with folk music and dancing. The Assembly cost is \$250 for individuals and \$400 for couples. The Maria Theresa Foundation will underwrite the registration fees of individuals and couples between the ages of 18 and 35. For more information, contact the Assembly coordinators, Fr. Ed Cimbala, at 212-677-0516 or Fr. Yuriy Oros at 609-394-5004. The assembly website is:

<https://www.byzantineassembly2023.org>; the email is byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com.

Remember in Prayer: For The Health of: *Father Cyprian Constantine, OSB of Saint Vincent Monastery who frequently assists in our parishes; Carol Hill, sister of Deacon Dan Perich; Thomas Goncher; Linda Sekerak; Shawn Crum; Katie Czapp; Darlene Shaner; Steve Paluch; Jason Thornton; Charlett Thornton; Catherine McGough; Carol Slifko; Deacon Daniel Perich; Donna Block; Michael & Pauline Barelick; Matthew Barelick and all the ill, homebound.*

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: SS Peter & Paul (Portage): Louise Halovich; Joseph Mandichak; Michelle Maskal; Dorothy Majer; Stella Raptosh; Joanne Stewart; Cathy Walters;. **Saint Mary, Beavertdale:** Carol Slifko; **NURSING & CARE FACILITIES: Rebekah Manor,** Portage: Helen Zaher; **Maple Winds:** June Neznesci; **John Paul II Manor,** Cresson: Kathryn Mackovyak; **Quality Life Services:** Catherine McGough, Beavertdale; **Cambria Care,** Ebensburg; Dorothy Billy.

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: 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