

Liturgical Schedule Twenty eighth Week after Pentecost December 3, 2023

Twenty seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday December 2

Dunlo 5:00 PM Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday December 3

Portage 9:00 AM Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Michael Blazosky, by Doug & Marcie Roxby]

Feast of our Holy Father Nicholas Archbishop of Myra and Wonderworker

Tuesday, December 5

Beaverdale 5:00 PM Great Vespers with Litija

Wednesday, December 6

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

Feast of the Maternity of Holy Anna

Thursday, December 7

Dunlo 5:00 PM *Vespers with the Divine Liturgy* [+Joan Ditko, by Patrick Ditko]

Friday, December 8

Portage 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday December 9

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

Twenty eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday December 9

Beaverdale 5:00 PM Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Elizabeth Harrigal, by Dave & Rita Lieb]

Sunday December 10

Portage 9:00 AM Sunday Divine Liturgy

"Philip's Fast": In preparation for Christmas is November 15-December 24. 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].

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 17 following the Divine Liturgy.

On December 8, the ***Feast of the Maternity of Holy Anna*** is celebrated. The Lord, wishing to prepare as his dwelling a living temple and holy habitation provided for Saints Joachim and Ann to whom would be born his mother. Mary was then conceived more honorable than the Cherubim and more holy than any other creature spiritual or corporeal.

Christmas Holiday Bake Sale: *Nut, Poppyseed, Apricot Rolls* are available from *Saint Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church*, Windber. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 3. Order forms in the narthex; or call Thresa Valko [814-266-3117]; provide name, phone number, items ordered.

Eastern Christian Formation: Catechetical Classes for Preschool & Kindergarten and Elementary Sundays following Divine Liturgy.

Parish Advisory Council: Minutes of the previous meetings Parish Advisory Council for Saint Peter and Paul, Portage of Thursday, August 17 2023 are included in today's bulletin.

Church Cleaning & Work Party: *Church Cleaning* for December is scheduled for Monday, December 4, 9:00 am. Our *thanks* to the volunteers for the monthly *Work Party* and *Church Cleaning*.

New Vestments: A new set of white with blue trim of priest vestments with a matching set of deacon vestments have recently been purchased from American Church Supplee. These priest and deacon vestments will be blessed at the Divine Liturgy next Sunday, December 10.

Subdeacon Kyprian Wojciechowski: Diaconate Ordination Invitation: On Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 3:00 PM Metropolitan William will ordain *Subdeacon Kyprian Wojciechowski* to the diaconate at his home parish, Saint Mary's Church in Bradenville. Subdeacon Kyprian Wojciechowski served a Pastoral Practicum summer with us in 2018. Parishioners are invited to attend this ordination. A sign-up list will be in the narthex in the coming weeks for those who wish to attend.

Eternal Memory: You are asked to pray for the repose of the soul of **+ Dorothy Billy** who fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday, November 26. We extend our prayerful support and sympathy to all of her family.

Christmas Stories--Byzantine Catholic World Christmas Edition: Please consider writing a few sentences for the Byzantine Catholic World Christmas edition. This year a special feature focuses on *Christmas trees; ornaments; or decorations* which brighten the Nativity season in your house each year.

Some ideas to consider and include for this feature would be: Is there a location where your tree is placed every year; an ornament on the tree, perhaps with sentimental value; outdoor Nativity displays; wreaths or Christmas lights; a memory of going out to chop down a tree.

Please send stories by Friday, December 8; and also any photos to go with your story, to: bcw@archpitt.org. Please include mention what church you attend. Thanks for your consideration

Bulletins and "Troitsja" Candle:

Sunday December 3 Candle: Owen Slanoc **Sunday December 10** Candle: Easton Slanoc

Remember in Prayer: *For the repose of the soul off Deacon Lawrence Foran* of the Eparchy of Passaic **For The Health of:** *Thomas Goncher; Linda Sekerak; Shawn Crum; Katie Czapp; Darlene Shaner; Steve Paluch; Jason Thornton; Charlett Thornton; Carol Slifko; Deacon Daniel Perich; Donna Block; Michael & Pauline Barelick; Matthew Barelick Edward Wisniewski; 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, Beaverdale:** Carol Slifko; **NURSING & CARE FACILITIES: Rebekah Manor,** Portage: Helen Zaher; **Maple Winds:** June Neznieski; **John Paul II Manor, Cresson:** Kathryn Mackovyak; Beaverdale;.

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