

Liturgical Schedule Seventeenth Week after Pentecost-- September 8, 2024

Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos

Saturday September 7, 2024

Dunlo **4:00 PM** Vigil Divine Liturgy [+Michael D. Prozialeck, by Peter and Theresa Valko]

Sunday September 8, 2024

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

Monday, September 9

Portage 6:30 PM Compline—Evening Prayer

Wednesday September 11

Portage 7:45 AM The Third Hour
8:00 AM Divine Liturgy [+Helen Jones, by Carol & Tom Tomko]

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Friday, September 13

Dunlo **4:00 PM** Vespers with Divine Liturgy [+Stephanie Trout, by Becky & Orville Shehan]

Saturday, September 14

Portage **9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy
Portage **2:00 pm** Confessions-Mystery of Repentance
Beaverdale **3:30 pm** Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Saturday September 14, 2024

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

Sunday September 15, 2024

Portage **9:00 AM** Sunday Divine Liturgy: [+Michael Blazosky, by Julie Brenna]

Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos: The Church invites us today to join the parents of the Mother of God, Joachim and Anne, and Adam and Eve, to celebrate the prelude of universal joy and the first fruits of our salvation. Through poetical hymns written with dogmatic precision, the Divine Liturgy leads us to meditate on Mary, "*Predestined before all ages, the Immaculate*". Her birth marks the beginning of the work of redemption, since Mary was to be the Mother of God.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross: A tradition well established in the sixth century relates that Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine the Great, discovered near Golgotha the three crosses on which Christ and the two thieves had been crucified. Bishop Macarios identified the true Cross of Christ as the one whose touch immediately returned a dying woman to perfect health

Eastern Christian Formation Program: Classes for our 2024-2025 ECF Program will resume during September. The tables, etc. in the social hall are being put in place following the cleaning of the floors this summer. Catechists are being contacted by Father Jim to arrange a meeting for the beginning of classes. *We regret the delay in the beginning of classes for this year and meeting with our Catechists.*

Invitation to Ordination: *Subdeacon Luke Iyengar* invites our parishioners to his diaconal ordination on September 22 at 3pm at Holy Ghost Church in McKees Rocks. If you are able to attend the party afterwards, please let him know by September 13 at (412) 863-3285 or Liyengar3@gmail.com. *For transportation to the ordination, contact Father Jim at the rectory.* Subdeacon Luke's Retreat in preparation for the ordination is at Saints Peter and Paul Church, Portage, Friday, September 6-Sunday, September 8. As we welcome him for these spiritual exercises, we extend our prayerful support.

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary "Come and See" Weekend for men ages 18 to 35 who may be considering a vocation to the priesthood in the Byzantine Catholic Church is Friday, November 8 to Sunday, November 10, the Seminary in Pittsburgh. The weekend retreat is free of charge and includes liturgical services, meals with the Seminary community, an introduction to the Seminary formation program, a tour of the Seminary, gatherings with the Seminarians, talks, and a panel discussion. You may use the online registration at www.bcs.edu. Deadline for registrations is October 16, 2024.

Parish Advisory Council Meetings: The Parish Advisory Council for *Saint Mary, Beaverdale* and *Saints Peter and Paul, Dunlo* is scheduled to meet on Monday, September 9 at 7:00 pm in the Rectory Conference room in Portage. Compline will be prayed in the church at 6:30 pm. The Parish Advisory Council for *Saints Peter and Paul, Portage* is to be scheduled for the week of September 16. Members will be contacted to schedule and confirm the meeting date.

Fatima Devotions: Please join us for Fatima Devotions along with the dedication and blessing of the new Stations of the Cross and Garden Benches on Friday September 13, 6:30pm in the Sunken Gardens, Loretto. *In case of inclement weather everything will be at the Immaculate Conception Chapel at Saint Francis University.* The Homilist will be Fr. Joseph, Lehman, T.O.R., Minister Provincial.

100th Anniversary—Byzantine Ruthenian Church: The Archeparchy is sponsoring a bus to attend the celebration of 100 years of our canonical establishment, and the 50th anniversary of the Byzantine Chapel in the National Basilica in Washington, DC October 12-13, 2024 at the National Basilica. Copies of the itinerary and registration form for this celebration are in the narthex. Details of this observance are at byzantine100.com Centenary of the Byzantine Catholic Church web site.

Bulletins and "Troitsja" Candle:

Sunday September 8: Candle: Owen Slanoc Sunday September 15 Candle: Easton Slanoc

Remember in Prayer: *For The Health of: Michael Perich, brother of Deacon Dan; Deacon Lawrence Hruska, Saint Andrew Gibsonia; Larry Dipko; Jeffrey Moist; Jean Petoro, Mother of Jennifer Blazosky; Becky Zock; Carol Goral; Mary & Daniel Zaliznock; Ray McCabe; Thomas Goncher; Linda Sekerak; Darlene Shaner; 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; and all the ill, homebound.*

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