

Liturgical Schedule Second Week of the Great Fast—March 9, 2025

First Sunday of the Great Fast

Saturday March 8, 2025

Dunlo **4:00 PM**

Anticipated Divine Liturgy

Sunday March 9, 2025

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy

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

Wednesday, March 12

Portage 5:30 PM

6:00 PM

Simple abstinence and fasting required

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, March 14

Portage 5:30 PM

6:00 PM

Simple abstinence and fasting required

Mystery of Repentance [Confessions]

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Second All Souls Saturday

Saturday March 15, 2025

Portage **9:00 AM**

Portage **1:00 pm**

Beaverdale **3:30 pm**

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

Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

Confessions-Mystery of Repentance

Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Saturday March 15, 2025

Beaverdale **4:00 PM**

Anticipated Divine Liturgy

Sunday March 16, 2025

Portage **9:00 AM**

Sunday Divine Liturgy [+Nancy Whitcomb, by Irene Huschak]

The Great Fast: The First Sunday of the Great Fast was originally dedicated to the memory of the Holy Prophets of the Old Covenant. In today's Gospel, Philip tells Nathaniel, "*We have found the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets*". [John 1:45] On March 11, 843, the Empress Theodora made a solemn procession to celebrate the victory of true faith in icons. This became an annual feast, and displaced the memory of the prophets.

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is offered on Wednesday and Friday during the Great Fast.

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.

The Second All Souls Saturday is March 15, with Divine Liturgy and Panachida at 9:00 am.

Lenten Regulations. The Wednesdays and Fridays are days of abstinence from meat.

Prayer Partners: Prayer for others is especially valuable during the Great Fast. The names of **Prayer Partners** will be selected today. Please include a remembrance daily of your *Prayer Partner*.

A Few names entered were not drawn; please select a name if you failed to do so last week. Thank you.

Pope Francis: We join in prayer with Catholics and people throughout the world for the Holy Father, Pope Francis, who, has been in the hospital in Rome for double pneumonia and other complications.

Saint Mary's, Cambria City: Father Tim Fariss has cordially extended an invitation to Liturgical services and events at Saint Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, Cambria City during the Great Fast:

Tuesday, March 18: A discussion on Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, 5:30 pm.

Thursday April 3: Penitential Matins of Saint Andrew of Crete, 6:00 pm to-9:00 pm

Parish Advisory Council Meeting: The meeting of the *Parish Advisory Council* for Saints Peter and Paul, Portage has been *rescheduled* for Thursday March 13 at 7:00 pm in the conference room of the rectory. Agenda topics include replacement of the garage/pavilion structure on the picnic grounds; and the cleaning and maintenance of the terrazzo floor in the church.

Youth Ministry Event: An *Archeparchial Youth and Young Adult* gathering, "***Believe in Hope***" is scheduled for Sunday, April 27, 2025, at Saint John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall. Divine Liturgy at 3:00 p.m., celebrated by Archbishop William will be followed by refreshments and creative talks for young adults, teens, and their parents. More information will be coming soon.

Thank you: We appreciate volunteers, for the monthly Work Party and Church Cleaning. At present, we have need of volunteers for this effort. If you might be available to help, please contact Father Jim.

Statements of Parishioners' Offerings for 2024 for Saint Peter and Paul, Portage are available for those requesting them. Call [814-736-9780]; or **james armand spontak@verizon.net**.

We regret the delay in providing these and hope to have the available within the next week.

Congratulations...to ***Siarra Crum*** the coach of the *Mount Aloysius rifle team*. In their inaugural season, the Mounties won the Mid-Atlantic Rifle Conference Championship, victorious in both air rifle and smallbore, which led to them winning the overall competition.

Lenten/Paschal Webinar: The Orientale Lumen Institute is offering FREE webinars Sundays, at 8:00 pm from now until Pentecost titled "The Journey to Pascha." A video recorded homily by Metropolitan +Kallistos of Diokleia, followed by a round-table discussion by participants moderated by Fr. Thomas Colyandro. To receive the exclusive Zoom link, send an email request to infocctolvt.t\. Limited to 100.

Bulletins and "Troitsja" Candle:

Sunday March 9 Candle: Owen Slanoc

Sunday, March 16

Candle: Easton Slanoc

Remember in Prayer: *As these needs change you may update your requests by informing Father Jim when a person no longer needs to be included on the list of requests* **For The Health of:** Father Simeon Sibenik, retired priest of the Archeparchy; Steve Fleck; Susan O'Toole; Richard Whitcomb; Michael Perich; Larry Dipko; Jeffrey Moist; Jean Petoro, Mother of Jennifer Blazosky; Becky Zock; Carol Goral; Mary & Daniel Zaliznock; Ray McCabe; Thomas Goncher; Linda Sekerak; Jason Thornton; Charlett Thornton; Mary Lou Perich; Donna Block; Michael & Pauline Barelick; Matthew Barelick; Phil, & Dorothy Walters; Carissa Ratosky; Edward Wisniewski; Sandy Spontak;; and all the ill, 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]; **Maple**

Winds: June Nezneski; Andrew & Linda 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 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 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