

Mission Statement

Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Parish is a member of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh who through the Holy Spirit is called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a community and family, we grow in faith and in the image and likeness of God by dedicating ourselves to welcoming, celebrating and caring for all of God's people.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist): Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Pre-baptism instructions are required. Contact Fr. Simeon to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Must meet with Fr. Simeon before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Fr. Simeon. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the prescription of the liturgical book of the Byzantine rite.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Celebrated Saturdays, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM and upon request.

Mystery of Anointing: Celebrated upon request. Ideally celebrated in Church the Sunday before undergoing any surgical or other medical procedure.

Visitation of the Sick: The parishioners confined to their homes or nursing homes due to health reasons are visited monthly. Also, persons who are hospitalized are visited when Fr. Simeon is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Fr. Simeon whenever a loved-one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Simeon before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish. Only those who are registered are considered members of the Parish. When one registers to become a parish member they assume the responsibility of rendering stewardship of time, talent and treasure to this parish family. Worship at this parish is always expected. Registration is done only through the pastor by appointment. The Parish Office should be notified as soon as possible of any change of address within the Parish as well as one's leaving.

Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Sister Barbara is in the Parish office from 10 AM – 2 PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Father Simeon is available on other days and times by appointment.

PILGRIM VOCATION PROGRAM – (participation by both parishes together)

We Have begun our Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program. This program began last week in every Byzantine Catholic Parish in the United States. Vocations are the result of the Christian Community actively engaged in prayer that *“the master of the harvest will send out laborers for his harvest.”* ***One way we can all be involved in vocation ministry is through prayer.*** Everyone in the Parish invited to pray for and encourage others within the Church that they might respond generously to God's call in their lives. We need generous men and women to minister among us as priests, deacons, monastics and sisters. We need people like you to pray for and encourage them. ***Please sign up today to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon in your home. You will be greatly blessed. Please sign up on the sheet that is posted on the bulletin board in the Social Hall. (St. Michael's, please sign-up for the month of November.)***

BYZANTINE SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE

... is being held at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Munhall, PA on Saturday, November 4, 2017, from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. The Title is: *The Diversity of God's Blessings.* Registration is required and is \$35.00 per person (includes lunch). If we have 5 registrations that are sent in together, then our cost is \$25.00. Registration brochures are on the Belvedere side next to the bulletins. Deadline is Oct.22, 2017. An excellent opportunity for spiritual enrichment!

27th TRUMBULL COUNTY LIFE CHAIN

October 1st the pro-life gathering of local churches will take place along Elm Road between Warren Plaza and Harding High School at 2:30 PM. You are encouraged to take part in this one hour prayer demonstration against abortion.



(PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 24 September:

5:00 PM: 78; 11:00 AM: 90

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,789.55

Hurricane Relief Collection: \$2,680.00

(SM) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 24 September:

20 from St. Michael; 11 from St. Peter & Paul

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$678.00

Hurricane Relief Collection: \$394.00



- **Sun. Oct. 1** ECF Classes – 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM. – for students in K thru 12. *Let's try to make it a perfect attendance year!*
- **Sun. Oct. 1** Bingo/ Card Party – 1:00 PM in the Social Hall. *Don't forget to buy you entry ticket and raffle tickets.* It's a great afternoon of fun! (not to mention the lunch which is included).
- **Wed. Oct. 4** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
- **Tues. Oct. 10** Ladies Guild Meeting – 7:00 PM in the Social Hall.



CONGRATULATIONS ... and Best Wishes to Cheryl Simon on her retirement after 48 years in the work force. *God's Peace and Blessings!*



\$200.00 RAFFLE – Last Day to purchase the winning ticket

1st Prize: Lottery Pumpkin 2nd Prize: \$100.00 Cash

Raffle Tickets will be sold after the Divine Liturgy, Saturday evening, September 30th. The drawing will be held at the Ladies Guild Bingo/Card Party, October 1, 2017. **Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.** *Winner need not be present.*

BINGO & CARD PARTY TICKETS

Ladies Guild members will be selling Bingo & Card Party tickets before and after the Saturday evening Divine Liturgy and at the door until capacity is reached.. **Tickets are \$6.00.** Ticket purchase includes eligibility for the door prize, other drawings and a box lunch with beverage. *Hope to see all of you there for an afternoon of fun and relaxation*

GOD BLESS ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED SO GENEROUSLY FOR THE HURRICANE VICTIMS!

1 OCTOBER 2017

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	1 October	<i>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. THE PROTECTION OF OUR MOST BLESSED LADY, THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY. Holy Apostle Ananias. Venerable Father Romanos, the Hymnographer.</i>
	(Vigil Liturgy) 5:00 PM	+Barbara Ann Myers – John & Dianna Koza
	(SM) 8:30 AM	Health/Welfare of Cheryl Simon – Marjorie & Paul
	(PP) 11:00 AM	+John & +Pauline Kostraba – Jinny Mirabelli
Monday,	2 October	<i>Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian. Holy Martyr Justina. Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy – Clergy Retreat
Tuesday,	3 October	<i>Holy Bishop-Martyr Denis the Areopagite.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy – Clergy Retreat
Wednesday,	4 October	<i>Holy Martyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens. Venerable Father Francis of Assisi.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy – Clergy Retreat
Thursday	5 October	<i>Holy Martyr Charitina.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy – Clergy Retreat
Friday,	6 October	<i>Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Saturday,	7 October	<i>Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus.</i>
	(PP) 5:00 PM	Intention of Dianna Koza – John J. Koza, III
Sunday,	8 October	<i>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Our Venerable Mother Pelagia.</i>
	(SM) 8:30 AM	+Tony Szabo – Marie Lewis
	(PP) 11:00 AM	+Richard D. Begalla (40th da.) – Knights/Col. #4484



Attentive to the Word
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos

Lk. 6: 31 – 36

Tone 8 Pages 161 – 163 and 261

All Tone 8 plus Tropar & Kondak on Pg. 261

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

One of the most fascinating churchman in recent times was the late Pope John XXIII. He was Pope from 1958 to 1963. He has recently been elevated to sainthood by the Catholic Church. He is probably best known as the Pope who called for the Second Vatican Council to take place. Some people see Vatican II as the ruination of the church with all of the changes in liturgy or policy. Others see it as the open window of the fresh air of the Holy Spirit in a rigid, closed church at the time. Regardless of how you see Vatican II, Saint John XIII was a colorful, pastoral and holy man.

He had a marvelous quick wit and a sense of humor. He was the first pope to consent to a modern television interview. The television interviewer went to Vatican City and was so taken back about the size of St. Peter's Basilica, the various congregations, buildings, gardens and the sprawling expanse of Vatican City State he asked the Pope, "Holy Father with all of this at that Vatican how many people work here?" He paused a minute and with a big smile replied, "About half of them."

A great book to give you an insight into the heart and mind of this man is, "*A Journal of a Soul*." I recommend it highly. Saint John XXIII said that the two greatest gifts God gave to us are our heads and our hearts. With our heads we learn; with our hearts, we love. He begged us to learn and to love to the utmost of our ability. Both are important. He said that people of this world need all the love we can give them.

Saint John XXIII was known for his love. He loved not only Catholics but all the peoples of the world. He turned former antagonists of the Church into friends. He did this with love and respect. He opened our hearts and minds to have an ecumenical spirit with those who do not believe the same way as we do.

Today's Gospel tells us the love we should have - not only for friends who love us - but even for our enemies. We can turn enemies into friends with genuine love. Our Lord said: "To you who hear Me, I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you and pray for those who maltreat you –

Do to others what you would have them do to you. " If Christians would live according to these words of Christ, the world would be a much better place in which to live.

We need to build bridges between people instead of walls. Bridges of love, understanding, and good will join people. Hatred, anger, revenge, any prejudice build walls that destroy friendship and understanding. Love can conquer all.

No one who bears the name of Christian can deny the essence of Christianity and the teaching of Christ is his law of love. It must be love in practice.... not just theory. Some people are like the child who prayed: "O Lord. I give you all that I am and all that I have." He read this out of his prayer book. Then, realizing what this meant, he hurriedly added: "...that is, all except my little white rabbit." We all have little white rabbits in some way stashed away in our minds and hearts. We love, but up to a point. When it means to sacrifice... like loving those who do not love us or those who or are downright mean.... the little white rabbit comes in,... "all except..." and we fill in the blank.

But Jesus made no exception. He loved everyone --- the old, young, poor, rich, sinner, saint, friends, different races and even enemies of his people. We must learn from Him and make no exceptions in our lives.

OCT. 1 PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God. The history of this feast dates back to the year 911 when the Mohammedan hordes (Saracens) attacked the city of Constantinople during the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise. Plague was rampant. The terror-stricken people gathered within the church to pray to the Mother of God. St. Andrew and his disciple, St. Theophanius, both from Slavonic tribes, were in Constantinople at the time. They entered the Church of Blachernae where the people were praying all night while the Christian army fought against the attack of the Saracens. At dawn, St. Andrew and St. Theophanius saw the Mother of God appearing with out-stretched arms and imploring God's mercy upon the besieged Christians. She held a veil as a sign of her protection. To the great joy of the inhabitants, the Christian soldiers were blessed with a striking victory over the Moslems. On their return home the two saints publicized the miracle among the Slavonic people.

The Feast of "Pokrov" (Protection) of the Mother of God (Theotokos) was introduced into the Church to denote Mary's protection over the people of God. Holy Mother of God, guide, protect, and pray for us and for our Country! We need it, badly!