

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.

ECF REGISTRATIONS

Parents & Guardians: You will be receiving a mailing concerning registration of your children in our Catechetical program. Registrations will be mailed next week and are due by September 5th, in order to assist us in the preparations for the beginning of the ECF school year. If you do not receive a mailing, and you have children in grades K thru 12, please call the rectory for registration forms. The success of the program depends upon the cooperation and support of all of us. Our children are the future of our parish & our Church. Help us to assist you in the spiritual education of your children.

JUST A REMINDER:

Please help us to keep our church clean and in good order by not leaving bulletins or song sheets on the pews themselves. You are encouraged to take the Sunday bulletin home with you and/or share it with someone else. If you are not going to take the bulletins with you, kindly return them to the racks from which you picked them up.

Also, some parishioners pay for the glass candles and take them home or to the cemetery, to honor their loved ones. This is fine, but we ask that you return the empties back to the church. We return these to our candle supplier, who recycles them by refilling and reusing them. This helps to keep our cost and yours to a minimum. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this request.

TRUMBULL COUNTY LIFE CHAIN

Life Chain is a well-known pro-life prayer gathering of local churches held each year on the first Sunday of October. Our church always takes part in this silent prayer gathering. More information will be forthcoming. Keep October 7th open.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 19 August:

5:00 PM: 82; 9:00 AM: 29 11:00 AM: 97

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$3,961.44



- **Mon. Aug. 27** Church Cleaning Party – 9:00 AM to Noon. We can use your help! Many hands make light work!
- **Sat. & Sun. Sept. 1 & 2** Yearly Pilgrimage (Otpust) at Mt. St. Macrina – Uniontown, PA. Detailed schedule of events is posted on the Social Hall bulletin board.
- **Wed. Sept. 5** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Your help is appreciated, even if it is just an hour or two.

MANY THANKS



Good Job!

A Very Big “Thank-You” to the members of the Ladies Guild and to all those who helped to make our Parish Picnic a huge success – those responsible for coordination of the picnic, the cooks, the set-up and clean-up crews, the fun games, and those who brought their “specialty” to share. There truly was something for everyone! Thanks to all who came and enjoyed the afternoon of fun, food and camaraderie. We look forward to next year! P.S. The air-conditioning felt very good!

Door Prize Winners: (\$25 Giant Eagle Gift Card)

Joan Bernard and Mary Cowin

Winner of the 50 /50 Raffle: (\$136.50)

Betsy Burick



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Do you know why the first day of September marks the beginning of the Church year? We are accustomed to think of January 1st as the beginning of the year. But the tradition of computing the start of a new year with autumn was common to the lands of the Bible and to all the lands around the Mediterranean. The summer harvest was at an end, the crops were stored, and people prepared for a new agricultural cycle. It was an appropriate time to begin a new year.

The prayers and hymns of the Byzantine Church not only recite the wonderful works of God in creation and history for our salvation but also frequently offer guidance about how to make each year a year of grace, a year of the Lord.

26 AUGUST 2018

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	26 August	<i>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyrs Adrian and Natalia. Our Holy Mother May of Jesus Crucified.(Mariam Baouardy).</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Charles Wilkes (40th Day) – Steve & Betty Zombar +Ann Simko (40th day) – Marjorie Reynolds +Judy Pavis – sister, Nancy Sernulka
Monday	27 August	<i>Our Venerable Father Pimen.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	28 August	<i>Our Venerable Father Moses the Ethiopian. Our Holy Father Augustine, Bishop of Hippo.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Julia Pater – St. Benedict’s Auxiliary
Wednesday	29 August	<i>THE BEHEADING OF THE HOLY PROPHET, FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Bill Shuttic – Jim & Marge Basista
Thursday	30 August	<i>Postfestive Day of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist. Our Holy Fathers Alexander, John and Paul the Younger, Patriarchs of Constantinople.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Patricia Mindek – Lilly Tavorario
Friday	31 August	<i>The Deposition of the Venerable Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	1 September	<i>Beginning of the Church Year. Venerable Simeon the Stylite and His Mother. Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos of Miasena. The Holy Martyr Aeithalas. The Holy Martyr Callista and her two Brothers Evod and Hermogenes. Joshua, the Son of Nun.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM	+Daniel Pinti – John & Dianna Koza
Sunday	2 September	<i>FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Mammias. Our Venerable Father John the Faster, Patriarch of Constantinople.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+John J. Hoso – Raymond Bishop +Robert Shaffer – Jim & Anita Shaffer



Attentive to the Word
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Mt. 22:1-14

Tone 5 Pages 146 - 148



A marriage feast is a common biblical analogy for life in God's kingdom at the end of time. Reading the parable in Matthew, one might presume that people invited by a king to a wedding feast honoring his son would be prompt in accepting. But such was not the case. The religious leaders and the people of Israel – the first ones invited by the king (God our Father) – had become so engrossed in the formalities of law that they neglected true worship of the heart and, therefore, were unprepared to receive Jesus, his Son (Matthew 23:23).

They were so taken up by temporal matters that the summons of the first servants (the prophets) went unheeded. The ministry of other servants (such as John the Baptist and the apostles) inviting repentance and acceptance of God's kingdom evoked hostility and even murder. The invitation was eventually given to everyone—all people “both bad and good” (Matthew 22:10)—and the banquet hall was filled.

God's desire is that *all* should be saved. His intention from all time has been to invite people to sit at his banquet table, to dine with him and share in his divine life—the life of Jesus. We can begin to experience this intimacy here and now; heaven will make the deepening and fulfillment of this life in Christ.

Like those first invited in the parable, however, we often find our hearts and minds centered primarily on earthly cares and concerns, rather than on Jesus and the life he offers. Through the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, this can change. We can come to love God with our whole hearts, thinking always of him and the faithfulness of his love (Psalm 107:1), the glory of his majesty (Psalm 8:1), and the steadfastness of his promises (Psalm 145:13).

Let us put on each day the wedding garment of salvation by fidelity to prayer, scripture reading and faith-filled participation in the worship life of the church. By fixing our minds on Jesus (see Hebrews 12:2), we prepare to enjoy the richness of the banquet of the Lamb.

BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



At John's birth his father Zechariah greeted him with a song: "You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will... give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins" (Luke 1:76-77). From his earliest days, John was set apart to proclaim the coming salvation of God. At his appearance in the wilderness of Judea, he began to sing his song of salvation for everyone to hear: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near" (Matthew 3:2).

John's song was no peaceful, soothing lullaby intended to bring comfort to his hearers. John did not sing of prosperity and joy, but of judgment and destruction. His lyrics were burnished in the fire of righteousness, his melody was a battle cry that foretold disturbance and conflict. It was only a matter of time before his voice would be silenced.

But John's message still rings. His song continues to testify that the light has come to scatter the darkness and to establish a new kingdom where sin and all its effects are wiped away. From age to age, his voice cries out in the wilderness of sin and separation: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" (Mark 1:3); "Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" (Matthew 3:7); "Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees" (Luke 3:9).

Who induced John to sing in this way? Why did he persist, even when his very life was endangered by his song? John saw the saving love of God. He heard God calling his people to turn away from the darkness of sin and to embrace the light of Christ. The Spirit of God had revealed to him the mercy and love of the Father. When Jesus came to be baptized, John recognized the one who "takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). How else could he respond but to announce that the reign of sin was coming to an end and that those who turned from it would be saved?

Listen to John's voice today and seek the mercy and forgiveness of Christ. Let us, with John, prepare the way for the Lord. Let us sing of God's salvation.

Apart from the Mother of God, there is no saint who is honored by more feasts than St. John the Baptist. The strict fast is prescribed on this day.