

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.

HOW QUICKLY WE FORGET ...

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM UNNECESSARY AND LOUD TALKING BEFORE, DURING AND ESPECIALLY AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY. DO YOUR VISITING IN THE SOCIAL HALL OR IN THE NARTHEX (VESTIBULE) OF THE CHURCH OR OUTSIDE.

PILGRIM VOCATION PROGRAM . . .you may not be able to do anything else to help our Byzantine Catholic Church...but you can pray!

One way we can all be involved in vocation ministry is through prayer. Everyone in the Parish is invited to pray for and encourage others within the Church that they might respond generously to God's call in their lives. *Please sign up today on the sheet posted in the Social Hall to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon in your home. You and we will be greatly blessed. March is still open.*

JUST A FEW REMINDERS:

Please help us to keep our church clean and in good order by not leaving bulletins or song sheets in the pew book- holders or 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.

Candles are \$2.50 for the glass candles and \$.50 for the thin taper candles. 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. This helps to keep our cost and yours to a minimum. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this request.



(PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 21 January:

5:00 PM: 63; 9:00 AM: 54 11:00 AM: 82

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,913.55



- **Sun. Feb. 4** ECF Classes– 9:45 AM to 10:45 AM
- **Wed. Feb. 7** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. It is our day to “feed the hungry” – we can use your help, even for a short time.
- **Sat. & Sun. Feb. 10 & 11** Coffee & donuts after all Liturgies.
- **Sun. Feb. 11** Meeting of Oblates of St. Benedict – 2 PM at the Monastery – Please ring #301.



MONDAY, FEB. 12TH – LENT BEGINS – DAY OF STRICT FAST – NO MEAT, EGGS OR DAIRY PRODUCTS



YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2018

... are ready for pick-up in the Social Hall. They are in alphabetical order to make it easier for you to find. Please, do not pick up anyone else’s statement unless they have specifically asked you to do so. They will be there for one more week.

ROSARY SOCIETY

Parishioners of St. Michael’s Church of Newton Falls formed the Rosary Society in answer to the request of Our Lady of Fatima in 1917 to **pray for peace**. Our Lady continues to request this devotion by asking us to Pray! Pray! Pray! Now, more than ever “America needs Prayer” and “America Needs the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima. Many of the parishioners of St. Michael’s have joined SS. Peter and Paul Parish and they are inviting parishioners to join them in becoming members of the Rosary Society. Membership requirements are really quite simple:

1. Daily recitation of 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary’s and 1 Glory Be.
Each member is given one decade of a mystery to say daily for one month. On the first Sunday of each month, that decade will be exchanged for the succeeding decade. A rosary CARD depicting the decade will be used for the exchange Twenty (20) members praying 20 decades means the entire 4 mysteries of the rosary will be prayed daily.
2. There are NO meetings. 3. Annual dues are \$10.00, which are used for Divine Liturgies said for the Rosary members and for whom they pray, Easter & Christmas donations, and special occasions. *See Marianne Cabosky to join. She will be in the Social Hall after all Divine Liturgies this weekend.*

4 FEBRUARY 2018

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	4 February	<i>MEATFARE SUNDAY. SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT. Post-festive Day of the Meeting. Venerable Father Isidore of Pelusium.</i>
(Sunday Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Michael Hoso – Hoso family Intention of Lauren & Keawe – Gary & Julie Sharon Prayer intention of the Rosary Society
Monday	5 February	<i>Cheesefare Monday. Postfestive Day of the Meeting. Holy Martyr Agatha.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	6 February	<i>Cheesefare Tuesday. Leave-taking of the Feast of the Meeting. Venerable Father Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna. Holy Martyr Silvanus, Bishop of Emessa and Companions. Venerable Father and Confessor Photius.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Rose Ferderber – Wiley Byers
Wednesday	7 February	<i>Cheesefare Wednesday. Venerable Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Thursday	8 February	<i>Cheesefare Thursday. Holy Great Martyr Theodore. Holy Prophet Zechariah.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Sister Miriam Konkus – Benedictine Sisters
Friday	9 February	<i>Cheesefare Friday. Holy Martyr Nicephor.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	10 February	<i>Cheesefare Saturday. Memory of All Holy Ascetics. Holy Martyr Charalampas.</i>
(Sunday Vigil)	5:00 PM	+Anna Firment (40th day)
Sunday	11 February	<i>CHEESEFARE SUNDAY. SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS. The Martyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Margaret & +Joseph Lisak – Shirley Dietelbach +Theodore Falatic – Rob & Kim Falatic



Attentive to the Word Sunday of Meatfare

Mt: 25: 31 - 46

*Res. Tone 2 Pg. 130: Follow directions on
Pg. 217 & 218, except, in place of "It is truly
proper" sing "Magnification" on Pg. 322 & 323*

THE AWESOME JUDGMENT

A couple, vacationing in Maine, visited the harbor to watch the boats return from fishing and trapping lobsters. One lobster boat docked near where they sat and unloaded buckets of freshly trapped lobsters. The wife became intrigued as she watched the lobsters scurry about in a bucket. She noticed that as soon as one lobster began to climb its way out of the pail, the other lobsters would pull it back down. It seemed to her that it would have been fairly easy for each lobster to escape from the bucket, except that they always were being pulled back down by the others.



Lobsters certainly can teach us about human nature as well. Doesn't it seem that as soon as one person decides to climb out of the "bucket," there are so many others trying to pull him or her back down? Rather, shouldn't we try to support and push the other person farther along.

Let us look at the icon on the cover of the bulletin. The icon depicts people traveling from earth to heaven on a ladder. Can we see ourselves on the ladder? Let us ask ourselves: do we push our neighbor further up the ladder to Heaven, or do we pull him down?

In the Gospel reading today, Jesus speaks of our obligation to assist other people in every need. Moreover, Our Lord tells us that whatever we do to others we do to Him. Conversely, if we neglect others, we neglect Our Lord. "Whatever you do to the least of My brothers, you do to me." (Matthew 25:40)



Glory-to-Jesus-Christ! We believe that Jesus will come in Glory to judge the living and the dead! This is a part of our creed – what we believe as Christians.

This morning's gospel reading gives us a description, a vision of that last judgment. Awesome! Terrifying! A time of reward and punishment. A time of separation and eternal loss. A time of judgment.

How are we going to be judged? On the way we treat others! We either have an open heart or a closed heart. We know a lot about hearts today. They get clogged and then they don't work right. They race, they lose their timing, and then they no longer give life. We get very serious about taking care of our hearts.

The heart is the center of love. We give our heart to those we love. And Jesus' judgment is based on how we have had an open heart or a closed heart to others. It is easy to love those who love us. It is easy to love those from whom we expect a reward. I was hungry. I was thirsty. I was a stranger. I was naked. I was ill. I was in prison. How open was our heart? How closed was our heart?

Don't be afraid to fill your heart and to reach out in love. Love makes us vulnerable. We may be taken advantage of. We may be used. We may not be appreciated. We may be misjudged. It is so easy to find an excuse not to love. But St. John rightly says in his epistle, *He Himself made us a promise, and the promise is no less than this: eternal life.* That's what Jesus brings and gives. *Let no one deceive you; the man who acts in holiness is holy indeed, even as the Son is holy. The man who sins belongs to the devil because the devil is a sinner from the beginning. It was to destroy the devil's works, that the Son of God revealed himself. . . No one whose actions are unholy belongs to God, nor anyone who fails to love his brother.* Don't be afraid to fill your heart with people and things you love, for the love of God won't occupy space in your heart any more than a singer's voice occupies space in a concert hall.

Love is not like a loaf of bread. If I give a chunk of the loaf to you I have less to offer others. Love is like Eucharistic Bread: I receive the whole Christ. You receive the whole Christ too; and so does the next and the next.

You can love your mother with your whole heart, and your husband or wife, and each of your children. The wonder is that giving the whole of it to one person does not force you to give less to another. On the contrary, each one of us now gets more. For if you love only your friend and no one else it is a feeble heart that you offer. Your friend would stand to gain if you also gave it to others.

Certainly, we are limited. We are constrained by time, energy, and talent. But we can all do something. Maybe we can't do everything for everyone all the time. But we can do something. And it's those little things that we do that open up our heart, that love becomes visible, and that lets Christ become present and visible to others.

Come, to me! Come and receive my blessings. Come and be filled with God's love.

(Father John Zeyack)