

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 11 AM – 2:30 PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Father Simeon is available on other days and times by appointment.

REMEMBERING THE HOMEBOUND

We pray to the Lord, the Giver of Life and all good gifts, for the health and blessings of those who are ill, homebound, in care facilities, and are unable to attend church. In our good fortune and many blessings from God, let us not forget those who are also part of our parish family – remember them with prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, etc. Let us share our blessings!

42nd ANNUAL CHINESE AUCTION

Sunday, October 7th @ St Michael's Byzantine Catholic Center, 2140 Highland Road Hermitage, PA. Admission, lunch and free tear sheet - \$5.00. Doors open at 1:00 PM. Drawing starts @ 2:15 PM. Let's show our support for our Byzantine Catholic brothers & sisters at St Michael's, Hermitage, PA.

TRUMBULL COUNTY LIFE CHAIN

Life Chain is a well-known pro-life prayer gathering of local churches held each year on the first Sunday in October. SS. Peter and Paul parish always takes part (on an individual basis) in this silent prayer gathering. The gathering takes place on Elm Road (exact location and time is posted on the bulletin board in the Social Hall).

WORD OF WISDOM

Three things in human life are important: The *first* is to be kind. The *second* is to be kind, and the *third* is to be kind.
Henry James

The game of life is the game of boomerangs. Our thoughts, deeds and words return to us sooner or later, with astounding accuracy.
Florence Shinn

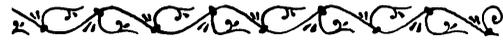


Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 16 September:

5:00 PM: 98; 9:00 AM: 42; 11:00 AM: 62

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,960.65

- **Sun. Sept. 23 Religion Classes for our young people begin Today with a blessing of our children and Catechists at 10:20 AM.** Classes for K through 12 will meet from 9:45 to 10:45 AM. *All Children, even if they attend a Catholic school, should be enrolled and attend classes here on Sunday mornings.* If you have not registered yet, please bring your child anyway. Extra registration forms are in the bulletin rack at the Belvedere entrance...I will also have some in the downstairs class rooms (after the blessing). The success of our program depends upon the cooperation and support of all of us. Our children are the future of our parish and our Church. We are looking forward to a good year, helping your children to grow in their faith.
- **Sun. Sept. 23** Meeting of the Oblates of St. Benedict – 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the Monastery. Ring #301.
- **Mon. Sept. 24** Church Cleaning Party – 9:00 Am to Noon.



BINGO CARD PARTY & RAFFLE (Sponsored by Ladies Guild)



You have been looking forward to this since last April!
 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM Sunday, October 7, 2018.
 SS. Peter and Paul Social Hall
 \$6.00 donation (includes one bingo card, eligibility to win door prizes, a delicious box lunch and an afternoon of fun and camaraderie). Now where else can you get all of that for \$6.00???

RAFFLE: First Prize – 2 INSTANT LOTTERY SCARECROWS

(Fun with scratch-offs – Plus 2 house or yard decorations)

Second Prize - \$100.00 cash

Tickets will be sold this in the Social Hall after the Divine Liturgies, or you may call Eleanor at 330-856-4044. We have had to turn people away, so get your tickets early to ensure a seat!



SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	23 September	<i>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Conception of the Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Wilma Taylor (40th day) – Anthony Demaiolo Intention of the Rosary Society Members +Fio Nuzzi – Janice & Mike
Monday	24 September	<i>The Holy Martyr, First among Women, and Equal to the Apostles, Thecla.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday (Chapel)	25 September 8:30 AM	<i>Venerable Mother Euphrosyna.</i> +John Balogh – wife Barbara & Slyk family
Wednesday (Chapel)	26 September 8:30 AM	<i>Falling Asleep of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian. Blessed Father Paul VI, Pope of Rome.</i> +Sandra Slyk – Austintown Glenwood Cycle
Thursday (Chapel)	27 September 8:30 AM	<i>Holy Martyr Callistratus and His Companions. Our Venerable Father Nilus, Founder and Hegumen of the Grottaferrata Monastery. Holy Father Vincent de Paul.</i> +Pauline Koziel – Dave & Dan Volculko
Friday	28 September	<i>Venerable Father and Confessor Chariton. Wenceslaus, Prince of the Czechs. The Holy Prophet Baruch.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	29 September 5:00 PM	<i>Our Venerable Father Cyriacus the Anchorite.</i> +Mildred Syrko – St. Benedict’s Auxiliary
Sunday	30 September 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	<i>NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia.</i> +Gloria, +Joseph & +Michael Uhlin – Kim Uhlin +Patricia Harper – Paul J. Sutyak



Attentive to the Word Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lk. 5: 1 - 11

Tone 1 Pages 125 - 127



Simon Peter turns from a hearer to a doer. Imagine his boat serving as a primitive church. He and his fellows had just returned from an exhausting night's fishing. They are not just weary; they are a bit discouraged. As he listens to Jesus explaining the wonders of God and a world that is hidden from ordinary eyes, suddenly the Lord turns to him and says that He would like Simon to go back out into the sea. There are fish out there that he missed catching. Was it a test?

Quite! Impulsive Simon Peter must have thought: What can He teach me about fishing, I who had been doing this all my life? Besides, he wanted only to be lulled by comforting words about God, not ordered to return to the sea.

It explains something about Jesus. His sermon was a show and tell lesson. He told Simon what He expected, and when the disciple obeyed, then He showed him where the fish were. Our Lord is the God who acts, and He does so through us. True Christianity is not for spectators. The world is a field, we are in a contest, and every one of us is a player.

Then Simon Peter says: Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord! At another occasion he was not averse to rebuking Jesus (Matt. 16:23). Here he realizes that this Teacher is no ordinary human being. His Lord is of one essence with the Lord Almighty. Here is a moment in his lifetime that he will never forget. May each of us have some-thing similar happen to us in our days on this earth.

To understand what happened to Peter that day is to grasp the essential difference between true Eastern Christianity and all other varieties. At first, Peter loved, honored, and was ready to obey Jesus. He saw Him as a special human

being, which many Christians and even non-Christians would agree with. But until the net of Christ's true nature caught him, recognizing God at work in Him, he was only an admirer. In time Peter would understand much more about Christ; but at the moment he saw God in Him. The Byzantine Church never tires of explaining the inexplicable mystery - Jesus Christ is the only-begotten, unique Son of God, true God of true God, as the Creed proclaims. God alone is capable of saving us from sin and death. Because Christ is God, it is not only possible. Salvation has become the supreme goal of our lives.

By Fr. Vladimir Berzonsky



OUR TRUE VOCATION

In Today's Gospel, Jesus calls Simon Peter to become an Apostle, to be a fisher of men. The church has always believed that a vocation is something that only certain people receive; that is, those who are called to the priesthood or religious life. In God's providence, however, everyone is called to a vocation, to the vocation of sanctity. It was our Lord Himself who said, "This is the will of God: your sanctification!" Here we have a call to imitate Christ and to grow in His likeness, a call to duplicate in our lives the virtues Jesus practiced. Holiness, therefore, is our end, our goal, our true vocation.

There are certain means by which we attain this goal, a specific vocation to which each of us is called. Not all are to use the same means to holiness, not all are to have the same state in life. St. Paul tells us we are not all to be prophets, not all are to be evangelists. What was true then is also true now. Not all are called to the priesthood or to religious life. Some are called to marriage, while others prefer to remain single in their quest for holiness. God calls all to serve Him and sanctify themselves in different ways. These different ways are part of God's infinite wisdom.

It is worthwhile to remember the distinction between vocation as an end (holiness), and vocation as a means (different states of life). Each of us is called to follow in Jesus' footsteps and to be animated by the same love that inspired Him. But, each of us is to do so according to the special vocation we have received. Fidelity to this call is the condition for happiness here and for all eternity.