

## 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.

## YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The year-end contribution statements are ready to be picked up. They are in alphabetical order, on tables in the Social Hall. The statements will be there until February 17<sup>th</sup>. If you want them after that date, you will have to request them from the office.



## OUR CHURCH – SERVING EACH OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

A parishioner is one who is registered as a member of a parish and who gives of his/her time, talent and treasure to serve his/her church and the larger community.

There are many ways that we can volunteer our services. Here at SS. Peter and Paul we have many ministries to which we can volunteer our services: The Ladies Guild (now Parish Guild), who sponsor many parish activities that we enjoy, the Rosary Society, Oblates of St. Benedict, our Shut-in Hospitality (visiting, sending cards & bulletins, making phone calls, etc.), Church cleaning, Work parties, Liturgy helpers: Cantors, Lectors, Servers, Ushers, Collection-counters; Catechists/children; Adult formation; The Benedictine Sisters, who are part of our parish, also offer Spirituality days and membership in St. Benedict's Auxiliary, who often engage speakers, or have programs that provide growth opportunities; We volunteer our services at St. Vincent de Paul monthly, to provide home-cooked meals for those less fortunate and we can always use extra hands; We take part in "Out-reach programs" in the local area; We join with other churches and pastors in celebrating an Interfaith Service at Thanksgiving.

We have begun to expand our involvement in Social Media; thanks to several of our young parishioners, who have volunteered to take pictures, we have made a serious attempt to submit articles and pictures of parish activities in our eparchial newspaper, the BCW.

There are many ways to volunteer your gifts. GET INVOLVED! Help your parish to grow. Call the Office for more information and contacts.



**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 27 January:**

5:00 PM: **67**; 9:00 AM: **32**; 11:00 AM: **60**

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . \$3,235.45**



- **Sun. Feb. 3** ECF Classes today 9:55 to 10:45 AM.
- **Weds., Feb. 6** St. Vincent DePaul Meal's Program 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
- **Tues. Feb. 12** Ladies Guild Anniversary Dinner at Giorgio's at 6:00 PM. Call Elaine 330-770-1100 by Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> if you plan to attend.
- **Sun. March 3** Ladies Guild is now renamed Parish Guild and is open to all men and women. Their first event is a **Bingo-Card Party – March 3rd** at 1:00 PM. Hope to see all of you there!



### ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE

During our Liturgical Year our Byzantine Church remembers its faithful departed in a special way on 5 All Souls Saturdays. The first All Souls Saturday is 23 February 2018. There is an envelope in your offertory box for these All Souls Remembrances. *If you wish to have your loved ones remembered on these special days, please submit the names, printed, with an offering in the envelope by February 9<sup>th</sup>* so that the names can be organized. Previously submitted names do not need to be resubmitted, only additional names. Thank you for your prompt attention.

### SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS TRADITIONAL SLOVAK DINNER

Saturday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00 PM at SS. Cyril's Hall  
\$15 Donation

Stuffed Cabbage, Potato Pirohi, Slovak Green Beans,  
Marinated Beets, Kolbasi & Kraut, Coffee & Tea  
Kolach for Dessert

For Reservations or more info., Call Rosemary Heald at 330-727-6726.

### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	3 February	<i>THIRTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS. Synaxis of the Holy Prophet Simeon and the Prophetess Anna.</i>
<b>(Sun. Vigil)</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Int. of Father Simeon – Benedictine Sisters</b> <b>+John Winland – Marjorie, Paul, and Cheryl</b> <b>+Patricia Harper – Emil Kostraba Family</b>
Monday,	4 February	<i>Postfestive Day of the Encounter. Our Venerable Father Isidore of Pelusium.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday, <b>(Chapel)</b>	5 February <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>Postfestive Day of the Meeting. The Holy Martyr Agatha.</i> <b>+Mary, +Pauline &amp; +Frank Hoso, Sr. – Ray Bishop</b>
Wednesday  <b>(Chapel)</b>	6 February  <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>Postfestive Day of the Meeting. Our Venerable Father Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna. The Holy Martyr Silvanus, Bishop of Emessa, and Companions. Our Venerable Father and Confessor Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople.</i> <b>+John, +Mary &amp; +Paul Fejko – Robert Fejko</b>
Thursday  <b>(Chapel)</b>	7 February  <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>Postfestive Day of the Meeting. Our Venerable Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus. The Passing of the Martyr and Priest Peter Verhun (1957).</i> <b>+Dorothy Byers – St. Joe's Ambulatory Care</b>
Friday	8 February	<i>Postfestive Day of the Meeting. The Holy Great Martyr Theodore. The Holy Prophet Zechariah.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday  <b>(Vigil Liturgy)</b>	9 February  <b>5:00 PM</b>	<i>Leave-Taking of the Encounter. The Holy Martyr Nicephor.</i> <b>+Frank Hoso, Jr. – Ron Mosko</b>
Sunday	10 February	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. The Holy Martyr Charalampas.</i> <b>9:00 AM Health of Helen Lippitt – Mike &amp; Sue Johnson</b> <b>11:00 AM +Bill Shuttic – Bill Seese</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### Sunday of Zacchaeus

*Lk 19: 1 – 10*

*Tone 4 Pages 141 – 142*



This Sunday we hear the gospel account of Zacchaeus the tax collector. Careful attention should be paid to Christ's instructions to Zacchaeus, for in them we can all find the way to see Jesus. "Make haste ..." Jesus was passing through Jericho. Now was the time to seek Him. He might not pass this way again. Zacchaeus needed to seize the opportunity to meet Christ. In exhorting the Church at Corinth, Saint Paul declares, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2). In the hustle and bustle of life, how easy it is to ignore "the one thing needful" because of all life's little emergencies. But in the midst of the laundry, the carpooling, the commute to work, all the activities that comprise our lives, Jesus is passing by. We must "make haste" to meet Him; we must not let life get in the way of the Source of Life. Right now, today, we must seek Him. And we must do it every day.

"Come down..." Zacchaeus had ascended into a tree to see the Truth (Jesus). From his lofty perch he thought he could see. And though from the height of the tree he could see Jesus at a distance, he had to come back down to meet Him. Oftentimes we attempt, through our own strength, to ascend to truth and happiness. Some climb the corporate ladder; others acquire knowledge in ivory towers. But it is not through lofty positions, through knowledge, or through power that we encounter the Prince of Peace. We come to know Him by coming down from our lofty perches of arrogance, pride and self-assurance. It is His presence we must seek, not simply knowledge through observation and study from afar. "I must stay at your house ..."

For Zacchaeus, meeting Jesus did not simply entail a casual introduction or handshake on the road. Jesus was, in effect, saying to Zacchaeus, "You want to know me really? Then you must open up your personal life to Me. Take Me where you live." For us truly to know Jesus, we must bring Him into our homes; that is, our day-to-day existence. It is not enough to attend an occasional liturgy, or give thought to Him on the great occasion of His birth or Resurrection. To know Him truly we must allow Him into every "room" of our heart. He must abide with us. If we keep certain "rooms" closed to Him, then those aspects of our lives are denied His presence and therefore His peace,

mercy and blessing. Many of us claim we want to know Jesus and know Him intimately. But in truth, we want to know Him at a distance. We are perfectly happy to climb up a tree and watch Him pass by. We can feel good about ourselves — after all, didn't we make the effort to climb the tree? Yes, we can simply watch Him pass by. But if that is all we seek, then our lives remain unchanged. That wasn't good enough for Zacchaeus. He responded as Christ encouraged him: "Make haste ... come down ... I must stay at your house."

What was the result of Zacchaeus's response to Christ's bidding? Jesus Himself tells us in the closing verses of the Gospel passage: "Today salvation has come to this house ... for the Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost." "Make haste ... come down ... let Me stay at your house ..." If we respond as Zacchaeus did, then nothing short of the eternal salvation of our souls is given us. What more could we possibly want?

*By Very Rev. Stephen Rogers*



### THE CHOICE THAT MUST BE MADE

It's really interesting that Luke records this story of Jesus' encounter with Zacchaeus just shortly after he had the encounter with another rich man. You can go back just a few verses in your Bible from the Zacchaeus story to Luke 18:18-27. You'll find this story of the ruler who came to Jesus and asked, "Good teacher what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus told him, "Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and come, follow me." As Jesus watches the back of the rich man walking away sorrowfully he says, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

Then Luke records this story of another rich man, Zacchaeus, who demonstrates what is possible with God! He was freed from greed to live generously; he was delivered from perpetrating injustice to promoting justice; he was lifted from the path that leads to destruction and led on the path of eternal life. What is the difference in these two rich men? Both men sought Jesus. Both demonstrated the first step toward new life: seeking Jesus.

If we really want the power to change, we need to devote time and energy to getting closer to Jesus. What is it that helps you go deeper in your relationship with Christ? Spending time with the scriptures, spending time in prayer, reaching out to meet the needs of others in his name? These are some of the ways to meet Jesus.