

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 Saints 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.

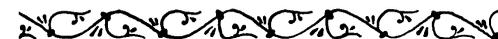
Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the Parish.

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.

LECTOR MINISTRY

Fr. Simeon has commissioned Timothy Byers to conduct Lector Classes at our Parish. This is for anyone, male or female, who would like to learn about this ministry in our church. A video series from our Archdiocese will be used during these sessions (approx. 4 sessions.) Perhaps, after attending these informative Lector Sessions, you may feel called to assist in this ministry.

Anyone interested, please sign up in the Social Hall.



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Today we salute fathers! Dads, we love you! The role of a Christian father is more important in today's world than ever before. It is a different roll than in earlier generations. In most households today, Dad is called upon to play more of a nurturing role in caring for children. If Mom works outside the home, Dad must take a more active role in doing household chores. Dad is no longer "lord of the castle." Hopefully, however, he has not been reduced to being another of the vassals.

Today's father needs to be nurturing of his children, supportive of his wife, and yet at the same time provide the spiritual leadership of the home that the Bible accords to fathers. It is a rare man, a special kind of man, who can combine all three of these qualities. Fathers play a critical role in the life of the family. Father's will have a powerful impact upon their families if they connect in three crucial areas.

First, the role of the father is to connect with his God. Second, the role of a father is to connect with his family. Third, the role of the father is to connect with his church.

As we pay tribute to our fathers on Father's Day, we call to mind the example and instructions of our own earthly fathers as well as the teachings of our spiritual fathers. May God, our heavenly Father, abundantly bless our living fathers and grant blessed repose and eternal memory to the fathers He has called to Himself.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of June 9:

5:00 PM: 59; 9:00 AM: 38; 11:00 AM: 63

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,877.75



- **Sat. & Sun. June 15 & 16** Coffee and Donuts after all Liturgies in honor of Father's Day.
- **Mon. June 17** Beginning of Apostles Fast in preparation for the Feast of SS. Peter and Paul. Fast goes through Fri., June 28.
- **Mon. June 24** Church Cleaning Party 9AM - Noon. We can use your help!
- **Sat. June 29** **SS. Peter and Paul Feast Day. Holy Day of Obligation.**
- **Sun. June 30** SS. Peter and Paul Feast Day Dinner. Sign-up sheet in Social Hall.



APOSTLE'S FAST

There is a fast in the Byzantine Church prior to the Holy Day of Saints Peter and Paul. This fast begins after the Sunday of All Saints and continues until the Holy Day itself. Since the celebration of All Saints depends on when Pascha is observed, the fast for Saints Peter and Paul varies from a couple of days to a month or more. This year the fast begins on June 17 through June 28.

Our church recommends abstaining from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays. Since that is only for 2 weeks, let's try to observe the fast during this time.

MANY THANKS



...to the members of the St. Benedict's Auxiliary and to all those who helped to make our Trash to Treasure Sale a huge success.

Good Job! ...to those wonderful parishioners who volunteered their time to clean up the "remnants" left by the recent storms at SS. Peter and Paul Cemetery.

...to Greg Lazor for the utility supply cabinet in the Social Hall bathroom.

SS. PETER AND PAUL DINNER

Just a reminder to sign up for SS. Peter and Paul Dinner. The Dinner will be in our Social Hall after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 30th. It will be catered by DiLucia's. The donation per person is \$12.00 for adult and \$5.00 for children, ages 4-10. **Reservation deadline is Sunday, June 23rd.** Hope to see all of you there! Come and enjoy a good dinner and good company.

JUNE 16, 2019

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	16 June	<i>SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS. Our Holy Father and Wonderworker Tychon, Bishop of Amathis.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM	Father's Day Remembrance
	9:00 AM	Father's Day Remembrance
	11:00 AM	Father's Day Remembrance
Monday	17 June	<i>The Holy Martyrs Manuel, Sabel and Ishmael. Our Venerable Father Hypatius, Hegumen of the Rufenianos Monastery.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	18 June	<i>The Holy Martyr Leontius.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Lucy Prokop - Mark & Nancy Schmidt
Wednesday	19 June	<i>The Holy Apostle Jude, Brother of the Lord.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Sandra Slyk - Milich family
Thursday	20 June	<i>The Holy Martyr Methodius, Bishop of Patara. Our Holy Father Nicholas Cabasilas.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Bill Shuttic - St. Benedict's Auxiliary
Friday	21 June	<i>The Holy Martyr Julian of Tarsus.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	22 June	<i>The Holy Martyr Eusebius, Bishop of Samosata.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Richard Susko - Jay & Joann Mulligan
Sunday	23 June	<i>SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Agrippina.</i>
	9:00 AM	+Millie Simko - Marjorie Reynolds
	11:00 AM	+Steve Zumerling - Edward & Patricia Alberts



Attentive to the Word

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

Matt. 10: 32-38 & 19: 27-30

Follow Directions on Pages 211 - 213

ALL SAINTS

This Sunday is everyone's name day, because on this day we celebrate all the saints who have lived and labored and prayed from the beginning of time until now.

The list of saints whom the Church honors is very large, but we know it is not complete, for there are many saints who have lived who are unknown to us. God chooses to reveal saints to the world at certain times because their lives have specific meaning for us in our struggles. This is a great and wondrous feast day, a feast day of great joy and celebration. Metropolitan Hierotheos of Machos says that the proof of any church is not to be found in the rational argumentation it offers in defense of its doctrine, because rational arguments can be made for anything. The proof of the Church is certainly not to be found in the money she has amassed, or in the buildings she has built, or in her influence in the world. Rather, the proof of the Church is in her saints. The saints prove that this is the place where God the Holy Spirit dwells.

Jesus said: "He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." St. Paul says in Galatians that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

How do we know that this Church is connected to the very life of God? How do we know that this is where God the Holy Spirit dwells, and that if we want to be connected to the energy of God the Holy Spirit we must be connected to the Church? Because where the Spirit lives, there are produced men and women who are love, who are joy, who are peace, who are patience, who are longsuffering, who are kindness, who are goodness, who are faithfulness, who are gentleness, who are self-control. The Holy Spirit produces people who *are these things*, not people who *have these things* episodically. You and I have them episodically. Every now and then we have love – it comes and it goes. Every now and then we have patience. Every now and then we have joy, or peace, or longsuffering, or kindness.

The saints, the holy ones, do not *have* love – they *are* love. They do not *have* joy, they *are* joy. They do not *have* peace, they *are* peace. Look at the martyrs and the stories of what they endured. We say, "How could *they* have endured that? There's no way I could have endured." How do we know that this is the Church, and that God dwells here? The answer is found in the saints. It was by clinging to the Church that the saints found God.

We think back in time to the great Fathers of the Church: St. John Chrysostom, St. Gregory the Theologian, St. Basil the Great. They lived in this Church. The great defenders of the faith – St. Athanasius, St. Gregory of Nyssa – lived in this Church. The holy martyrs – St. Barbara, St. Anastasia, St. Photini, St. Katherine – lived in this Church. Think back to the days of the Apostles: St. John the Apostle and Evangelist, St. Paul, St. Peter, St. Nathaniel, St. Andrew the First-Called, St. Timothy. They all dwelt in this Church. We think more recently to the newly declared saints: St. John Paul, II and St. John the Twenty-third. They lived in this Church. This is the Church of the saints. This is where we know God the Holy Spirit dwells, because "by their fruits you will know them" (Matt. 7:20).

By Fr. John Mack



PETER & PAUL FAST - HUMAN WEAKNESS

There is a fast in the Byzantine Church prior to the Holy Day of SS. Peter and Paul. This fast begins after the Sunday of All Saints and continues until June 28. The purpose of fasting is to discipline ourselves and this requires hard work and sacrifices. The discipline can open us to God's Spirit and to better understand His Word. Fasting is never easy but giving in to human weakness is. Free avoidance of certain foods along with prayer can give us strength and insights to see some of the weaknesses and contradictions we have in our lives.

SS. Peter and Paul, for whom this fast is sometimes named, were two of the strongest personages in the New Testament and two of its greatest saints. They also showed a great deal of human weakness and contradictions in their lives. St. Peter was a great one for contradicting himself. He proclaimed great devotion to the Lord, but when asked if he knew Him after His arrest, he denied any association. St. Paul spent years persecuting the early Christians around Jerusalem, only to be converted and spend the rest of his life proclaiming the life of the Risen Lord to all the then known world.

The contradictions in the lives of these two apostles should give us comfort and courage. For if they teach us anything, they teach us that we can overcome our weaknesses and the contradictions in our lives. We can be helped in this by observing the Apostles' Fast and so hope that we can gain spiritual wisdom which will help us build our character and make us holier in the sight of God.