

## 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.

## PENTECOST SUNDAY/ MEMORIAL SERVICES ...*(weather permitting)*

**(PP) Pentecost Sunday, June 9** – 2:00 PM at SPP Cemetery

**(SM) Monday, June 10** – 10:00 AM at SM Cemetery

## 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. There will be more information to follow.

### FATHER'S DAY REMEMBRANCE

*Please remember the following at our Parish's Father's Day Remembrance*

_____	Living	Deceased
_____	Living	Deceased
_____	Living	Deceased

**Please circle** Saturday, 5:00 PM    Sunday, 9:00 AM    Sunday, 11:00 AM  
**Liturgy time:**

*Requested by:*

\_\_\_\_\_

Please print each name and circle the correct notation

Donation for each name is \$5.00

***\*DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019\****



## Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of May 19:

5:00 PM: 80; 9:00 AM: 40; 11:00 AM: 60

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . \$3,040.41**



- **Thurs. May 30 Major Holy Day - Ascension of our Lord.**
- **Wed. June 5** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM.
- **Tues. June 11** Parish Guild Meeting 7:00 PM in Social Hall.



### TRASH TO TREASURE SALE

Saturday, June 8, 2019, from 8 AM – 3 PM in SS. Peter & Paul Social Hall and Parking Lot. You are invited to rent table spaces at \$20.00 per table or parking lot spaces at \$10.00 per space to sell your superfluous items. You are responsible for the set-up, pricing, sale and removal of your items. Doors will be open Friday, June 7, from 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM and from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM to enable you to “Set-up.” All vendors are expected to be at their tables or outdoor spaces by 7:45 AM on Saturday, June 8, and remain open for business until 3:00 PM (unless you are “sold out”). Registration blanks are available in the Social Hall.

Please call Elaine at 330-770-1100 if you need clarification or have any further questions. **Remember: Spaces are limited and are reserved on a first come – first serve basis. So, get your reservations and payment in early! Deadline is Sunday, June 2.**



*Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!*

MAY 26, 2019

### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	26 May	<i>SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND. The Holy Apostle Carpus, One of the Seventy. Our Holy Father Augustine of Canterbury, Enlightener of England .</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Wilma Taylor – Duane &amp; Janet Ulery</b> <b>+Emory Holowatch – Anne Myers</b> <b>+Ann Closson – daughter, Sandy</b>
Monday	27 May	<i>The Holy Bishop-Martyr Therapont.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday	28 May	<i>Our Venerable Father Nicetas, Bishop of Chalcedon.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Wednesday	29 May	<i>Leave-taking (Otdanije) of Pascha. The Holy Venerable Martyr and Virgin Theodosia.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>+Regina Saylor – John &amp; Dianna Koza</b>
Thursday	30 May	<i>THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.</i>
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>+Carl Verney – Wife, Marialice</b>
Friday	31 May	<i>Postfestive Day of the Ascension. The Holy Apostle Hermes. The Holy Martyr Hermeas.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday	1 June	<i>Postfestive Day of the Ascension. The Holy Martyr Justin and His Companions.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Rebecca Kapusta - Elaine &amp; Harry Vislosky</b>
Sunday	2 June	<i>SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS AT THE FIRST NICEAN COUNCIL. Postfestive Day of the Ascension. Our Venerable Father Nicephor the Confessor.</i>
	<b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Intention of Rosary Society Members</b> <b>+Helen Sekula – Betty Kopnisky</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

*John 9: 1 – 38*

*Follow Directions on Pages 189 – 191*



Blindness is an image of men and women without faith. We search, we grope, we go in all directions, we are unsure and often unaware. We miss so much because we just don't get it. One of the ways of being spiritually blind is to find blame, to put blame on ourselves or others. It is self-defeating behavior. Look at the question that the disciples ask Jesus in the Gospel story. *As he went along, Jesus says to a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he should have been born blind?"* To this question as to who was to blame for

the tragedy of a man born blind, Jesus replied, *"Nobody. He was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him."* (John 9: 1-3).

We spend a lot of energy wondering who can be blamed for our own or other people's tragedies – our parents, ourselves, the immigrants, the Jews, the gays, the blacks, the fundamentalists, the Catholics? There is a strange satisfaction in being able to point our finger at someone, even ourselves. It gives us some sort of explanation and offers us some form of clarity. But Jesus doesn't allow us to solve our own, or other people's problems through blame.

How wonderful it is to see people with faith who see God working in their lives! Look at the first words dialogue that take place in our Divine Liturgy whenever a deacon serves with the priest: It is time for the Lord to act! That's what our worship is about, and that's what our faith is about and that's what Jesus is about. It is about God entering our lives, lifting us up, supporting us, strengthening us, and healing us. If we live with this faith, with this sense of God in our lives then we can handle our life's ups and downs. All of us have our own tragedies – death, depression, betrayal, rejection, poverty, separation, loss and so on. We seldom have control over them. We can choose to live them as occasions to blame, or as occasions to see God at work.

*By Fr John Zeyack*



## ASCENSION

Jesus did not live with his disciples after his resurrection as he had before his death. Filled with the glory of his divinity, he appeared at different times and places to his people, assuring them that it was he, truly alive in his risen and glorified body. To them he presented

himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the Kingdom of God. (Acts 1:3)

The Ascension of Christ is his final physical departure from this world after the resurrection. It is the formal completion of his mission in this world as the Messianic Savior. It is his glorious return to the Father who had sent him into the world to accomplish the work that he had given him to do. (John 17:4-5)

The Church's celebration of the Ascension, as all such festal celebrations, is not merely the remembrance of an event in Christ's life. Indeed, the Ascension itself is not to be understood as though it were simply the supernatural event of a man floating up and away into the skies. The Holy Scripture stresses Christ's physical departure and his glorification with God the Father together with the great joy which his disciples had as they received the promise of the Holy Spirit, who was to come to assure the Lord's presence with them, enabling them to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth.

In the Church the believers in Christ celebrate these very same realities with the conviction that it is for them and for all men that Christ's departure from this world has taken place. The Lord leaves in order to be glorified with God the Father and to glorify us with himself. He goes in order to "prepare a place" for us, and to take us also into the blessedness of God's presence. He goes to open the way for all flesh into the "heavenly sanctuary." He goes in order to send the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father, to bear witness to him and his gospel in the world, by making him powerfully present in the lives of his disciples.

By Fr. Thomas Hopko



## MEMORIAL DAY



St. Paul once said: "You are not your own, for you are bought with a price." The reference here, of course, is to our salvation; Jesus came to earth and paid with His death on the cross to redeem us from eternal death, hell, which is the due payment for our sins.

But we, who live in this great land of ours today, live a life of freedom only because of the great sacrifices of others. Not only have we been "bought with a price" as far as our eternal destiny is concerned, we have also been redeemed, so to speak, as far as our earthly domicile is concerned.

In these days when so much is said about the high cost of living (yes, and of dying, too!), it is fitting to pause on Memorial Day and acknowledge the great price that thousands of others have paid that we might live in this land of freedom, the United States of America.

Memorial Day came as a result of the Civil War. This was America's greatest war in the lives that were lost, in the issues and principles at stake, in the fact that it was fought on American soil, and in the results that have come from it.

Since that time, Memorial Day has become a national holiday to honor the dead of all wars. In 1971, it was declared a national holiday by Congress, which was to be celebrated the last Monday in May. It differs from Veteran's Day, which is observed on November 11, which honors *all veterans - the living and the dead.*