

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

BINGO PARTY & RAFFLE (Sponsored by Parish Guild)



You have been looking forward to this since last April!

Sunday, September 29, 2019.

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

SS. Peter and Paul Social Hall

\$8.00 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 \$8.00???

RAFFLE: First Prize – FALL LOTTERY DISPLAY

(\$100 worth of Scratch-Offs)

Second Prize - \$100 CASH

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 **Sunday, October 6th, from 2:30 – 3:30 PM**. It will be held on the sidewalk along Elm Road between Warren Plaza and Harding High School. "Let us invest one hour to save a lifetime."

43RD ANNUAL CHINESE AUCTION

ST. MICHAEL'S CENTER

2140 Highland Road Hermitage, PA

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 6TH

ADMISSION - \$5.00 (includes lunch + 1 free tear sheet)

Tear Sheets – 7 for \$5.00

DOORS OPEN 1:00 PM DRAWING AT 2:15 PM



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of Sept. 21:

5:00 PM: **69**; 9:00 AM: **41**; 11:00 AM: **56**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,739.75



- **Sun. Sept. 29** Bingo Party 1 PM – 4 PM in Social Hall. Hope to see all of you there!
- **Sun. Sept. 29** Documentary Film “The Resurrection of a Nation” – 1:30 PM at Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH. More information on bulletin board in Social Hall.
- **Tues. Oct. 1** Solemn Holy Day – Protection of the Theotokos.
- **Weds. Oct. 2** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program 9 AM – 2 PM.
- **Tues. Oct. 8** Parish Guild Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall. Please bring a small wrapped gift for the “dice” game.

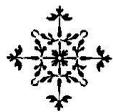


E.C.F. BEGINNING CLASSES ...

Religion Classes for our young people will begin Sunday, October 6th with a blessing of our children and Catechists. Classes for K through 12 will meet from 10:00 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 do so A.S.A.P. Extra registration forms are in the bulletin rack at the Belvedere entrance. 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.



ETERNAL MEMORY



Grant, O Lord, eternal rest to the soul of Your servant **+Dorothy Gladd** who has recently fallen asleep in the Lord. Please remember her and her family in your prayers.

SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	29 September	<i>SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.</i> <i>Our Venerable Father Cyriacus the Anchorite.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Dorothy Byers – Hosos Family +Millie Simko – Marjorie Reynolds +Fio Nuzzi – Janice & Mike
Monday	30 September	<i>The Holy Martyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia. (pg. 261)</i>
(PP)	6:00 PM	+Kenny Tisher – Ron Mosko
Tuesday	1 October	<i>THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY. The Holy Apostle Ananias. Our Venerable Father Romanos the Hymnographer.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday	2 October	<i>The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian. The Holy Martyr Justina. The Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	Int. of Sister Marion Dobos – Benedictine Sisters
Thursday	3 October	<i>The Holy Bishop and Martyr Denis the Areopagite.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Friday	4 October	<i>The Holy Martyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens. Our Venerable Father Francis of Assisi.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	5 October	<i>The Holy Martyr Charitina.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Wilma Taylor – Albert & Maria Butch
Sunday	6 October	<i>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Ellen Sarkauskas – Roger & Christiane Intention of Rosary Society Members



Attentive to the Word

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Luke 6: 31 – 36
Tone 7 Pgs. 156 – 158

“Do unto others as you would have others do unto you,” is often cited as a summary of Jesus’ teaching and as a reliable guide to Christian living. One often hears the remark that all religions must be the same, since all religions teach the Golden Rule. The Scriptural readings for the 16th Sunday after Pentecost can help put the Golden Rule into perspective.

The Gospel (Luke 6, 31-36) does indeed begin with Jesus saying “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” We will immediately misinterpret this saying, however, if we separate it from the rest of what Jesus says. He has just commanded love of enemies, patient endurance of wrongs, passivity and non-resistance in the face of aggressors. (“turn the other cheek...” 6, 27-31). He has just turned the whole order of society upside down by calling the poor blessed and the rich woeful (6, 20-26).

The Golden Rule is typically confused with some kind of self-sufficient, effortless politeness. This might be enough in a perfect world but Jesus’ teaching, in context, applies to the world sinful as it is. He commands us to show deference and respect even when others are not “nice” or “fair”. The Gospel we hear proclaimed involves charity to enemies, love to those who do not love us, and risky generosity with our material goods. Jesus clearly invites us beyond the safe boundaries of what is fair, nice or polite. He reminds us “Even sinners love those who love them...even sinners lend to sinners.” Here, as elsewhere, Jesus challenges us to do more than the bare minimum required by justice. And so the Golden Rule is not the summit and pinnacle of Jesus’ moral teaching. It is at best a bare minimum we are called to grow beyond.

What is the point of Jesus’ challenge? Like that other troublesome command recorded by St. Matthew, “Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect” (5, 48). Jesus here teaches a morality based not on human standards of fairness but rather on God’s own nature. In our Gospel passage, Jesus commands, “Be merciful just as your Father is also merciful - then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.” (I have reversed the phrases).

It is the doctrine of the Byzantine Catholic Church that people are made in God’s image and according to His likeness (Genesis 1, 26). The image of God is created into every human person and is evidenced by our gifts of intellect and free will. Our likeness to God will grow or lessen according to our choices and actions in using those gifts. Today Jesus teaches that we will become most like God in practicing mercy.

The goal of the Christian life is union with God, participation in the life of the Trinity. Jesus’ morality of mercy **beyond the Golden Rule** shows us how we can live more godly lives and so grow in likeness and nearness to God. For the Christian, ethics and morality are never ends in themselves and never standards we can pride ourselves on measuring up to. Our moral nature flows from our creation in the Divine Image and our ability to live moral lives is strengthened by encountering Christ in the Sacraments, by mutual support in the Church, by the example of the saints and by persistence in prayer. If we keep ourselves aware of how much God’s mercy has been poured out on us, we will grow in practicing a morality of mercy ourselves and so grow nearer to God in our daily lives.

By Fr. John Custer

OCTOBER 1 - THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS



From time immemorial, the Church has celebrated the Most-holy Theotokos as the patroness and protectress of the Christian people, who, by her intercessory prayers, implores God’s mercy for us sinners.

The Mother of God appeared several times after she left this earth. One of these times occurred in the 10th century in the Blachernae Church in Constantinople, in which were preserved her robe, veil and part of her belt. During the Vigil at 4 a.m., the Saints Andrew and Epiphanius saw a majestic woman walking toward the ambo (the area before the altar). She was not alone. St. John the Baptist, St. John the Theologian, and other saints and choirs of angels were escorting her. On reaching the center of the church, the Mother of God knelt down and prayed for a long time. She prayed so fervently that her face was bathed in tears. Then she stood up and went before the altar table, where she again prayed. Then she removed the veil over her head. It shone like lightning. She held it high, stretched over her arms, in a gesture of prayer of intercession for those present in the church and on us.

As a result, this commemoration on October 1 was instituted to remind us both of this event, and of the Mother of God’s constant protection, whenever we prayerfully seek that protection, that shelter, in distress.