

## 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.

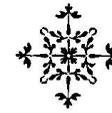
**Funerals:** Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Simeon before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

**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.

## ETERNAL MEMORY



Grant, O Lord, eternal rest to the soul of Your servant +**Charles “Buddy” Hite** who has recently fallen asleep in the Lord. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.



## 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**

Tickets will be sold this weekend. Get your tickets early to ensure a seat!

## 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 6<sup>th</sup>, 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.”

**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of Aug. 31:**

5:00 PM: **68**; 9:00 AM: **66**; 11:00 AM: **44**

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . \$2,664.25**



- **Sun. Sept. 8** Lector Classes begin after 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy in the Social Hall. Other tentative dates are Sept. 15 & 22, if needed.
- **Tues. Sept. 10** Important Parish Guild Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall.
- **Sat. & Sun. Sept. 14 & 15** Coffee & Donuts after all Divine Liturgies.
- **Mon. Sept. 16** St. Benedict’s Auxiliary Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall. Please bring a small wrapped gift for the “dice” game.
- **Mon. Sept. 23** Church Cleaning Party 9 AM – Noon. We can use help!
- **Sun. Sept. 29** Bingo Party 1 PM – 4 PM in Social Hall. Hope to see all of you there!



## ECF REGISTRATIONS

Parents & Guardians: You received a mailing concerning registration of your children in our Catechetical program. **Registrations are due by September 15<sup>th</sup>, in order to assist us in the preparations for the beginning of the ECF school year.** If you did not receive a mailing, and you have children in grades K thru 12, please call the office or see Sister Barbara for registration forms. The success of the program depends upon the cooperation and support of all of us. Our children are the future of our parish & our Church. Help us to assist you in the spiritual education of your children.



**....to the Parish Guild for the purchase of the new doors in the Social Hall!**

## SEPTEMBER 8, 2019 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	8 September	<i>SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF THE THEOTOKOS.</i>
<b>(Sun. Vigil)</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Elizabeth Prokop – John Jamovick</b> <b>+Emory Holowatch – George &amp; Sue Dewitz</b> <b>+Doris Mosko – Ron Mosko</b>
Monday	9 September	<i>Post-festive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy and Just Grandparents of God Joachim and Anna. The Holy Martyr Severian.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday	10 September	<i>Post-festive Day of the Feast of the Birth of the Mother of God. The Holy Martyrs Menodora, Mitrodora and Nymphodora.</i>
<b>(Chapel)</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+Helena Smith</b>
Wednesday	11 September	<i>Post-festive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. Our Venerable Mother Theodora of Alexandria.</i>
<b>(Chapel)</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+Joanne Emory – Elizabeth Cantelmo</b>
Thursday	12 September	<i>Leave-taking (Otdanije) of the Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Autonomous.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Friday	13 September	<i>Pre-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross. The Commemoration of the Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection of our Lord in Jerusalem. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cornelius.</i>
<b>(PP)</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>+Harry Reynolds – wife, Marjorie</b>
Saturday	14 September	<i>FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. The Passing of our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople.</i>
<b>(Vigil Liturgy)</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+John Vazur – Mary L. Sudik</b>
Sunday	15 September	<i>SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. The Holy Great Martyr Nicetas.</i>
	<b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Ann Simko – Trudy Vasco</b> <b>+Theodore Falatic – Ron Mosko</b>



## Attentive to the Word

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

BIRTH OF THE THEOTOKOS

*Luke 10: 38 - 42 & 11: 27 - 28*

*Troparion - Pg. 141; the rest from Pgs. 243 - 246*



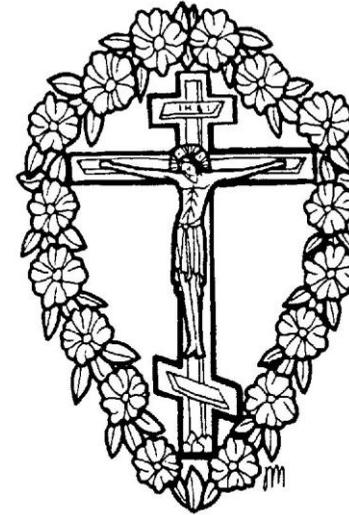
Tradition is the source for details surrounding the birth of the Mother of God. While the birth of our Lord and St. John the Baptist are recorded in Sacred Scripture, the birth of the Mother of God has come to us only from non-Scriptural sources. The Icon of the Feast is based upon these sources.

The Icon of the Nativity of the Mother of God shows St. Anne reclining on a bed with an attendant at her side. The Virgin is generally represented in swaddling clothes, and in the arms of a midwife who is seated on a stool. St. Joachim is presented speaking with his wife. The midwife is reduced in size to focus

attention on the holy parents and infant. In icons, the importance of a person is indicated by size. Size is not a physical feature of a person, but a qualitative element relating to importance. St. Anne gazes downward upon her new-born daughter. The servant in the middle stands ready to assist the mother. The liturgy rejoices in the Nativity of the Mother of God with hymns and chants of deeply spiritual and poetic character. The chant sung at Vespers of this Feast summarizes the Church's thinking about this event. "Indeed, some famous barren women have given birth by the will of God. But the birth of Mary surpasses all births in honor and splendor, as is worthy of the majesty of God. She was born of a barren mother in a miraculous way. Mary herself gave birth in the flesh to the God of All, incarnate in her womb without human seed, against the laws of nature ..." The liturgy and icon call us to praise and worship God in His wondrous presence in our lives.

**TROPARION - Your birth, O Virgin Theotokos, heralded joy to the universe, for from you arose the Son of Justice, Christ our God. Removing the curse, He gave the blessing, and by destroying Death He granted us eternal life.**

## THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS



Where is your power? Where do you get your strength? Where do we, as Christians, seek power? If we read the Gospels, if we follow St. Paul, we have to say with him, I glory in the cross of Jesus. I find my strength in the Cross. It is a sign of contradiction to our world. For the world seeks power in authority over others. Jesus says, those who are greatest among you serve the rest! The world seeks power in money. Jesus says, give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's. Money is not the measure of our status or goodness. The world seeks power in fame. Jesus lived completely unknown. He preached in a far distant and impoverished land, which was under the power of the Romans. He was no rock star or sports figure, yet more people have given their lives for Him than for any other person. He is the Son of God who came down to lift us up.

Like Moses in the Desert who lifted the bronze image of the serpent and saved the people from the bites of the serpents, Jesus lifted up, saves us from the bite of sin, from the destruction of our souls, from the poison of hate and revenge because He says to us "forgive your enemies" as He Himself forgives from the Cross. He frees us from the constraints of this world, for from the Cross He opens the gates of Paradise to the thief. By the Cross Jesus restores the integrity of our souls and bodies, of our spirits and our life.

Jesus doesn't take away the reality of death. Jesus Himself went through the most horrible and painful death. But He leads us through death to eternal life by the Cross. That's why the Cross is power for us. That's why the Cross is strength for us in sickness or in temptation. That's why the Cross is courage for us to do right in spite of opposition. That's why the Cross is held up for us and given to us to lead us to a life of dedication and service, to teach us to forgive and accept forgiveness, to rescue us from fear and hopelessness.

*Please come to kiss the cross and honor your Lord who died for you on it.  
Embrace it for our Lord died on it for us. Embrace it for it is our Glory.  
Embrace it for it is power and strength. Embrace it for it is hope.  
Embrace it for it is salvation.*

*By Fr John Zeyack*