

## 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 and Lisa Mosko are in the Parish office from 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Father Simeon is available on other days and times by appointment.

## RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

PLEASE ENTER THE CENTER AISLE ONE ROW AT A TIME FROM EITHER SIDE. USE SOCIAL DISTANCING BY FORMING A SINGLE LINE WHERE THE "X'S" ARE MARKED. SEPARATE AT THE ICON TABLE TO FORM TWO LINES.



**Mon., July 27** Church Cleaning Party 9:00 AM – Noon. We could use your help.

## LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE – Puns for the “educated Minds”

- ❖ Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
- ❖ A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
- ❖ Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
- ❖ I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.
- ❖ A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to the hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said: “No change yet.”
- ❖ A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- ❖ The short fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

## A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

Metropolitan William and the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will honor all those couples celebrating their milestone wedding anniversary of 10, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, and every 5 years thereafter in this year of 2020. **Please inform the Parish Office by July 20, 2020 if you have celebrated or are going to celebrate one of these milestone anniversaries so that your names can be submitted to the Chancery.** Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Archeparchial celebration will tentatively take place at St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA on Sunday, September 13, 2020 at 3:00 PM. If there is a cancellation, you will be notified. Certificates are sent to all couples, whether they are able to attend or not. Please call the church office or drop your name and current phone number in the collection basket and we will call you. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request.



**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of July 4:**

5:00 PM: 37; 9:00 AM: 38; 11:00 AM: 30

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . \$3,167.00**

## A MEDICAL OPINION:

### Germes and the Reception of Holy Communion...unto the Healing of soul and body

Contrary to popular opinion, wines and other beverages of antiquity produced through fermentation, were probably more important in providing disease-free drinking fluids than in their tendency to intoxicate. Ancient Greeks drank their water mixed with wine, and also used wine to cleanse wounds and soak dressings. More recently, military physicians of the last century observed that during epidemics of cholera, wine drinkers were relatively spared by the disease, and troops were advised to mix wine into the water.

Wine has been shown to be an effective antiseptic even when the alcohol is removed. In fact, 10% alcohol is a poor antiseptic, and alcohol only becomes optimally effective at concentrations of 70%. The antiseptic substances in wine are inactive in fresh grapes because these molecules are bound to complex sugars. During fermentation, these antiseptic substances are split off from the sugars and in this way become active. These molecules are polyphenol, a class of substances used in hospitals to disinfect surfaces and instruments. The polyphenol of wine has been shown to be some 33 times more powerful than the phenol used by Lister when he pioneered antiseptic surgery.

Same year wines can be diluted up to 10 times before beginning to show a decrease in their antiseptic effect. The better wines gradually improve with age over the first 10 years and can be diluted 20 times without a decrease of the antiseptic effect. This effect then remains more or less constant over the next 20 years and becomes equivalent to a new wine after another 25 years. (Modern antiseptics and antibiotics for disinfecting wounds have surpassed wine effectiveness because the active ingredients in wine are rapidly bound and inactivated by proteins in body tissues.)

In preparing communion, the hot water that is added to the wine will increase greatly the antiseptic effect of the polyphenol. Disinfection occurs more rapidly and more effectively at 45° centigrade than at room temperature (22-25°). Another contribution to the antiseptic effect comes from the silver, copper, and zinc that makes up the chalice itself, ensuring that microbes are unable to survive on its surface.

Throughout the centuries no disease has been transmitted by the taking of Holy Communion. Diseases, such as Influenza and Hepatitis B, known to be transmitted by shared eating utensils, have never been acquired from the communion spoon. HIV is known not to be transmitted through shared eating utensils and considering the antiseptic qualities of the Holy Communion received by the faithful, there is no likelihood of acquiring HIV infection through the Common Cup.

(By Edanual Kolyvas, M.D., Doctor of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology)

## JULY 12, 2020 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	12 July	<i>SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyrs Proclus and Hilarion. Our Venerable Father Michael of Malein.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Frank Hoso, Jr. – Hoso family</b> <b>+Harry Reynolds – Trudy Vasco</b> <b>+Elizabeth Prokop – M.S. Prokop</b>
Monday	13 July	<i>Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel. Our Venerable Father Stephen of the Monastery of St. Sabbas. Our Holy Father Julian, Bishop of Kenoman.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday (SPP)	14 July <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>The Holy Apostle Aquila.</i> <b>+Jim Johnson, Sr. (40<sup>th</sup> day) – wife, MaryAnn &amp; Jim, Jr.</b>
Wednesday (SPP)	15 July <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>The Holy Martyrs Cyricus and Julitta. The Holy Great Prince Vladimir, Equal to the Apostles, who was baptized Basil.</i> <b>Health &amp; Welfare of Mosko family – Ron Mosko</b>
Thursday (SPP)	16 July <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>The Holy Martyrs Athenogenes, Bishop of Sebaste and His Ten Disciples.</i> <b>Health &amp; Welfare of Lois Maddox - friends</b>
Friday	17 July	<i>The Holy Great Martyr Marina. The Blessed Martyr Paul Gojdich, Bishop of Presov.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday (Vigil Liturgy)	18 July <b>5:00 PM</b>	<i>Holy Martyr Hyacinth of Amastris. Holy Martyr Emilian.</i> <b>+Jeffrey Hoso – Hoso family</b>
Sunday	19 July	<i>SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. MEMORY OF THE FATHERS AT THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS. Our Venerable Mother Macrina, Sister of St. Basil the Great.</i>
	<b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Judy Dinko – John &amp; Irene Chekan</b> <b>+”Buddy” Hite – Kathy &amp; John Shinosky</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Matt. 9: 1 – 8*  
*Tone 5 Pages 146 – 148*



In the Epistle to the Romans (12:6-14), St. Paul's image of the Church as the Body of Christ is a classic one. With this image, there is a refusal to insist on a dead uniformity in Church membership. We all have gifts that can be used both to preach the Gospel in various ways to others, and to enhance the faith that people already possess. We all have abilities that can be used to deepen community spirit and the intensity of our common experience of the Lord.

St. Paul speaks of the gifts of prophecy, exhortation, teaching, administration and generosity - the ability to help with time or money. These differences make the Body of Christ a dynamic entity that is not static, but a growing, thriving community. All Christians are obliged to enable each other to realize that every person is an integral and important part of the Church. The different members of the Body are not to be ranked in order of importance but in order of function. We are all functionally interrelated. There are no super-Christians among us. We all contribute to the community Jesus founded. Are we doing our share? Are we offering our time and talents to the Church or is some other organization in town getting them?

All through Jesus' public life He was constantly looking for occasions to teach His message and mission to the human race. On many occasions He showed His divinity by manifesting His power over the ills of the body. But many times He also showed His power and His concern over the ills of the souls at the same time. Jesus used every opportunity to show His followers that He possessed divine power over sin. He wanted them to know that He could forgive sins on His own right.

One such occasion is recorded in the Gospel for this Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, taken from St. Matthew (9:1-8). A paralyzed man was brought to Him. Jesus saw the faith of the man and of those who brought him, and immediately said, "Have courage, son, your sins are forgiven." At this the Scribes judged Jesus to be

blaspheming. Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked them, "Why do you harbor evil thoughts? Which is less trouble to say, 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Stand up! Roll up your mat and go home.'" Jesus shows them that if He has the divine power to heal the man instantly, he surely also has the power to forgive sins. Both require divine power.

It is certainly consoling to know that Christ has this power of forgiveness and that he gave this power to the Apostles and their successors on Easter Sunday. From that day on down to our day the Church has exercised this wonderful power through her sacramental ministers in the Sacrament (Mystery) of Reconciliation.

We should ask ourselves if we really appreciate this great sacrament of forgiveness. Do we consider it another instance of Our Lord exercising His power of spiritual healing? Is a summer celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) on our schedule? The opportunity is always provided. Let us avail ourselves of God's generosity and forgiveness.

*By Fr. Gary Powell, OFM cap.*



The gospels many times speak about paralysis. Being paralyzed is a very devastating situation. But in all these gospel stories we must look with spiritual eyes and listen with spiritual ears because many times the paralysis is more than physical. Spiritual paralysis due to sin or the inability to adjust to life's circumstances are also meant in biblical paralysis.

There are so many people in the world today who are sad, dejected, feel that they don't amount to much because of these negative feelings about themselves. They have such a poor image of themselves. Therefore, they become spiritually and emotionally paralyzed in their own lives. People lose their zest for living: have no goals, no future out-look. This is sad because it is not God's plan for any of us. Jesus said, "I have come to give life and to give it more abundantly."

Yet people ignore God acting in their lives with so many excuses. I'm too tired: I'm not smart enough: It will take too long: I'm too sick: I'm too old - and a whole long litany of negative attitudes. Never let these excuses stand in your way in accomplishing God's will in your life.