

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.



Sat. & Sun., July 25 & 26 Blessing of Cars after each Divine Liturgy for the **Feast of the Great Prophet Elijah.**

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

PARISH PICNIC



Our Annual Parish Picnic is on **Sunday, August 16th**, approximately **12:15 PM in the Social Hall.** Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, our usual picnic procedure will change. The picnic will be open to parishioners only. The parish will provide picnic foods for the picnic. **No other food may be brought in.** We will have both carry-out and dine-in as we did for our patronal feast. We will observe the mandates set by our governor for Trumbull County. Right now, masks and social distancing are mandatory for Trumbull County. **Please put your name on the list if you plan to attend, so that we can plan for the purchase of food and supplies. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Social Hall. Next year will be better!!!**

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 11:

5:00 PM: 50; 9:00 AM: 33; 11:00 AM: 35

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . \$3,206.20

A MEDICAL OPINION:

Germs 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)

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>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Jeffrey Hoso – Hoso family +Judy Dinko – John & Irene Chekan +”Buddy” Hite – Kathy & John Shinosky
Monday	20 July	<i>FEAST OF THE HOLY AND GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIJAH. (Page 343)</i>
(SPP)	6:00 PM	+Bill Shuttic - Friends
Tuesday	21 July	<i>Our Venerable Father Simeon, Fool for Christ, and His Fellow Ascetic John. The Holy Prophet Ezekiel.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday	22 July	<i>The Holy Myrrh-bearer Mary Magdalene, Equal to the Apostles. Translation of the Relics of the Holy Bishop-Martyr Phocas.</i>
(SPP)	8:30 AM	+Marialice Verney – Steve & Betty Zombar
Thursday	23 July	<i>The Holy Martyrs Trophimus and Theophilus and Their Companions. The Holy Martyrs Appolinaris and Vitalis, Bishops of Ravenna. Repose of Our Holy Father Basil (Hopko), Bishop of Midila.</i>
(SPP)	8:30 AM	+Martha Ochtyun – Pat Rinda
Friday	24 July	<i>The Holy Great Martyr Christine. The Holy Martyrs Boris and Gleb, baptized Roman and David.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	25 July	<i>Dormition of St. Ann, Mother of the Mother of God. Commemoration of the Fifth Ecumenical Council.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Dorothy Byers – Byers family
Sunday	26 July	<i>EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Priest-Martyr Hermolaus and His Companions. The Holy Venerable Martyr Paraskevia. Our Venerable Father Moses the Carpathian of the Monastery of the Caves.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Millie Simko – Mr. & Mr. Richard Simko & family +Helen Sekula – Helen M. Falatic



Attentive to the Word

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday of the Fathers of the

Six Ecumenical Councils

Matt. 9: 27 – 35; John 17: 1 – 13

Tone 6 Pgs. 152 – 153 & Pgs. 341– 342

MEDITATION:

Are there any blind-spots in your life that keep you from recognizing God's power and mercy? Faith opens the way for us to see the power of God's kingdom and to experience his healing presence in our lives.

The word *mercy* literally means "*sorrowful at heart*". But mercy is something more than compassion, or heartfelt sorrow at another's misfortune. Compassion empathizes with the sufferer. But mercy goes further; it removes suffering. A merciful person shares in another's misfortune and suffering as if it were his own.

In Jesus we see the fullness of God's mercy and the power of his kingdom – power to save from death and destruction, to forgive sins and lift the burden of guilt, and to heal infirmities and release the oppressed. Jesus never refused to bring God's mercy to those who earnestly sought it.

How can we seek and obtain God's mercy? God gives mercy to the lowly in heart – to those who recognize their need for God and for his forgiveness and healing power. Faith is a gift freely given by God to help us know God personally, to understand his truth, and to live in the power of his love. For faith to be effective, it must be linked with trust and obedience – an active submission to God and a willingness to do whatever he commands.

When two blind men approached Jesus, he questioned their earnestness in order to test and strengthen them in faith and trust in his power. Their faith grew as they responded to his word with confident hope. He restored their sight – both physically and spiritually to the reality of his kingdom. Jesus wants us to live in the confident expectation that he will fulfill his promises to us and bring us into the fullness of his kingdom – a kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17). Do you know the peace and joy of God's kingdom?

Lord, help me to draw near to you with confidence and trust in your saving power and mercy. Free me from doubt and unbelief that I may approach you confidently and pray boldly with expectant faith. Let your kingdom come and may your will be done in me.

SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

On the Sunday that falls from the 13th to the 19th of July, our Church remembers the bishops who gathered in collegial assembly under the grace of the Holy Spirit to take common and definitive action for the doctrinal and pastoral good of the Christian faithful. They are called "ecumenical," *meaning universal, involving the entire Church*. Through the history of the Church, only the first seven Councils are universally recognized and undisputed among Christian Churches. An ecumenical council differs from a general meeting or council of bishops in that a *synod* is concerned with local or regional issues and does not involve the Church as a whole.

These Councils decided definitively what we are to believe about Christ. Today, these issues seem almost irrelevant in the face of modern-day concerns; however, without the clear teachings of the Fathers, our Faith would be foundationally weakened.

At Matins for this Sunday, our Church proclaims, "When the holy preachers of Christ fully received the light from the Holy Spirit, they spoke with divine insight, with few but deeply meaningful words inspired from above, bringing to the front the evangelical doctrines and traditions of true worship. When these were clearly revealed to them from on high, they were enlightened and thus established the faith received from God." (*Matins at the Praises*)



THE HOLY PROPHET ELIJAH:



Elias, also known as Elijah, was one of the greatest and most remarkable prophets of the Old Testament. Of his origin, not much is known, except that he was from the city of Tishba. He appeared on the historical scene during the reign of Ahab. He delivered to that impious king the message of Yahweh: Israel would be punished by a long drought and Ahab's house would fall. He then lived to see the tragic end of Ahab. Next we hear of Elias in connection with Ochozias, Ahab's son and successor, to whom he predicted that the injuries received in a fall would be fatal. The end of the earthly life of Elias came mysteriously. As he was conversing with Eliseus on the hills of Moah, "a fiery chariot, and fiery horses parted them both asunder, and Elias went up by a whirlwind into heaven" (Kgs. 2:11). Jews, Christians and Moslems pay high honor to Elias; Carmelite monks cherish the belief that their order was in some sense founded by him. Together with Moses, he appeared at Christ's transfiguration.