

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.

CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- Absolutely no shrubbery or bushes of any kind.
- Any shrubbery or bushes will be removed by the cemetery committee.
- Planting of flowers within 12" of front of monument only.
- No fencing or border is to be placed in front of monument or grave.
- All monuments must be approved by the pastor and cemetery committee. Crosses are permitted only until a monument is placed.
- Toys, balloons, stuffed animals, etc. are not permitted.
- General Cemetery Cleanup: May of each year.
At this time, the previous year's décor and Christmas items are to be removed or they will be removed by the cemetery committee.

FREE ADULT EDUCATION

Live webinars, free of charge. Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events. **Wednesday evening 8 – 9 PM on June 3, 10, & 17.** The presentation will be "The Third Heaven – The Key to the Epistles of Saint Paul." The presenter is Rev. Sebastian Carnazzo. In this Bible study we'll explore what the scriptures tell us about the life of the thirteenth Apostle and the impact of his conversion on the Church, and learn how to read Saint Paul's epistles in the context of his life to understand them and his ministry to the Church more fully. An excellent opportunity for adult education in our Byzantine Church.



Dear Friends, This is a "goldmine" of a website for us at this very difficult time. We encourage you to tune in to the different services.

Once you open the website, click on "Eastern Catholic North America" to see Liturgy opportunities from all over the U.S. and Canada.

http://liveliturgy.com/?fbclid=IwAR3Y0osLGL5cC6m6w_ng7yO9FwTd_O7VBjpJq6WnEAe3awruGyFfICmf_UQ



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of May 16:

5:00 PM: 0; 9:00 AM: 0; 11:00 AM: 0

Church closed due to virus.

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . \$1,110.00

THANK YOU FOR SENDING IN OR DROPPING OFF YOUR DONATIONS!



MAY 24, 2020

➤ All May events are cancelled at this time.



WELCOME “HOME”. . . . It is so good to be back to worship in our Church!

Byzantine Catholics of the Archeparchy continue to be relieved of the obligations to attend Sunday and Holy Day Divine Liturgy. Even in areas where it is permitted, those who are ill, those vulnerable to infection, or who have a serious fear of catching the virus are encouraged to **not attend** services. These Faithful are encouraged to attend Divine Liturgy and services online.

During the time of this virus, please follow these guidelines during the pandemic:

1. Pews and center aisle are marked with blue tape to ensure 6 feet social distancing.
2. Families that live together, may sit together.
3. You are encouraged to wear masks.
4. In order to encourage participation in the Liturgy and to eliminate sanitizing Liturgy Books, members are encouraged to take a book home with them, wipe it off, and bring it back the following week.
5. For the reception of Holy Communion:
 - a.) The priest will wear a mask.
 - b.) The faithful are asked to tilt their heads back, open their mouths wide (like a big yawn), and **DO NOT CLOSE** their mouths on the spoon.
 - c.) Parishioners are asked to refrain from the reception of Holy Communion if they don't feel well, or if they are not able to hold their heads back and open their mouths wide.
6. There will be no congregating in the Social Hall.

In order to practice Social Distancing – Weekday Liturgies will be held in the Church until further notice. **If anyone is able to help with the “wipe downs” of the pews after any of the Liturgies, please call the office at 330-372-1875 or Mary Beth Byers at 330-544-6932.**



HA! HA! HA!

I swear my fridge just said “what the heck do you want now?”

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Sunday | 24 May | <i>SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS AT THE FIRST NICEAN COUNCIL. Postfestive Day of the Ascension. Our Venerable Father Simeon of the Wondrous Mountain.</i> |
| (Sun. Vigil) | 5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM | No Divine Liturgy No Divine Liturgy No Divine Liturgy |
| Monday | 25 May | <i>Postfestive Day of the Ascension. Feast of the Third Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist.</i> No Divine Liturgy |
| Tuesday | 26 May | <i>Postfestive Day of the Ascension. The Holy Apostle Carpus, One of the Seventy. Our Holy Father Augustine of Canterbury, Enlightener of England .</i> No Divine Liturgy |
| Wednesday | 27 May | <i>Postfestive Day of Ascension. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Therapont.</i> No Divine Liturgy |
| Thursday | 28 May | <i>Postfestive Day of Ascension. Our Venerable Father Nicetas, Bishop of Chalcedon. Repose of the Blessed Bishop Martyr Iuliu Cardinal Hossu.</i> No Divine Liturgy |
| Friday | 29 May | <i>Leave-taking (Otdanije) of Ascension. The Holy Venerable Martyr and Virgin Theodosia.</i> No Divine Liturgy |
| Saturday | 30 May | <i>Memory of all the Faithful Departed.</i> |
| (Vigil Liturgy) | 9:00 AM 5:00 PM | 5th All Souls Sat. Remembrance w/Reading of Diptychs +John J. Koza, Jr. – John & Dianna Koza |
| Sunday | 31 May | <i>PENTECOST SUNDAY.</i> |
| . | 9:00 AM 11:00 AM | +Robert, +Esther, & +Bob Shaffer – Jim & Anita +Robert Dellimuti, Sr. (40th day) |



Attentive to the Word

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

John 17: 1 - 13

Follow Directions on Pages 196 - 202



The First Ecumenical Council was summoned by Emperor Constantine the Great on May 20, 325. The Council assembled at Nicea in the province of Bithynia of Asia Minor and was formally opened by Constantine himself. The Council passed 20 canons including the Nicene Creed (described below), the Canon of Holy Scripture (Holy Bible), and established the celebration of Pascha (Easter).

The main reason for its being called was the Arian controversy. Arius, a presbyter (priest) from Alexandria, held that Jesus Christ was created by God and denying Christ's divinity. Arius argued that if Jesus was born, then there was time when He did not exist; and if He became God, then there was time when He was not. Arius' original intent was to attack another heretical teaching by which the three persons of the Godhead were confused (Sabellianism).

A number of bishops followed Arius, and the Church went into her first and perhaps deepest division of faith. Up to then, statements of faith were incorporated into Creeds recited by a candidate to Baptism. A baptismal Creed representing Arianism was submitted to the Council by Eusebios of Nicomedia but was at once rejected. Another Creed, representing the baptismal Creed of Jerusalem, was finally accepted with the addition of the very important term 'homoousios', meaning of the 'same substance'. Thus, the view that Christ was of the 'same substance' with the Father was received as orthodox. This Creed is known as the Nicene Creed, which read:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only begotten, born of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made.
Who for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man.
And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried.
And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end.

Another important decision of this Council was the establishing of a calendar formula by which Pascha (Easter) ought to be celebrated. Pascha occurs on the first full moon following the spring equinox and following the Hebrew Passover feast.

The Council also regulated matters of ecclesiastical importance regarding territorial and moral questions pertaining to both clergy and laity. One particular delegate, deacon Athanasios from Alexandria, proved the champion of Orthodoxy by his statements of faith and the draft of the Creed that bears his name.

Another delegate, who by his eloquent argument against imposing compulsory celibacy on all ranks of Clergy prevented outright celibacy in the Orthodox Church, was Paphnutios, an Egyptian who had been a disciple of St. Anthony. He had suffered such hardships and cruelty during the persecution of Maximin that his mutilated body proved an object of veneration to the assembled bishops, and his recommendations were highly respected.

The number of bishops who attended the Council was 318. Hence, this Council is also known as the Synod of the 318 Fathers. It closed on July 25, 325. Their memory is commemorated by the Church on the Seventh Sunday after Pascha.



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*.