

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.

PRAYER FOR HELP IN DIFFICULT TIMES

Lord, life's trials sometimes feel as though they are more than I can possibly bear. On those days when I feel completely over-burdened and overwhelmed, give me that added strength I need to get through the day with courage and honor. When I feel as though I am at wit's end, find a way to reassure me so I am able to endure for another day. When loved ones die and crushing trials come my way, show me how to carry on. Send someone to help lighten my heavy burden. When others take advantage of me, whisper some words of encouragement into my ear so I know You are at my side and that I do have the will and power to overcome the most impossible of trials. Lord, please assure me that I will never be given a burden heavier than I can carry. Amen.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of April 25:

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: \$1,320.00



➤ All May events are cancelled at this time.

St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program has been cancelled until further notice.

FREE ADULT EDUCATION

Live webinars, free of charge. Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events. Wednesday evenings 8 – 9 PM on May 6, 13, and 20. The presentation will be “Purification of the Heart – The First Stage of the Spiritual Life.” The presenter is Rev. Deacon Thomas Moses. The purification of the heart is the first of three stages, the essential starting point of the Christian life. How do we identify the presence of the passions in our own lives, and what are the means, the medicine, that the Church gives us to overcome them? An excellent opportunity for adult education in our Byzantine Church.

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

Dear God,
I think you’d be proud of me! So far today I’ve done all right. I haven’t gossiped, lusted, lost my temper, or been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or overindulgent. I’m very thankful for that.
In a few minutes, though, I’m going to get out of bed. From then on I’m probably going to need a lot of help.
Amen.

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

MAY 3, 2020
SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	3 May	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN. The Holy Martyr Timothy and His Wife Maura. The Passing of our Venerable Father Theodosius of the Pecherskaya Lavra.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	No Divine Liturgy No Divine Liturgy No Divine Liturgy
Monday	4 May	<i>The Holy Martyr Pelagia.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	5 May	<i>The Holy and Glorious Martyr Irene. Our Venerable Father Nicephor, Hegumen of the Medikion Monastery.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday	6 May	<i>MID-PENTECOST. The Holy and Just Job the Long-suffering.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Thursday	7 May	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy Martyr Acacius.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Friday	8 May	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian. Our Venerable Father Arsenius the Great.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	9 May	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy Prophet Isaiah. The Holy Martyr Christopher. Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father Nicholas to Bari.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	No Divine Liturgy
Sunday	10 May	<i>SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN. Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy Apostle Simon the Zealot.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	No Divine Liturgy No Divine Liturgy

No Divine Liturgies due to the Coronavirus.





Attentive to the Word

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN

John 5: 1 - 15

Follow Directions on Pages 181 - 183

THE PARALYTIC MAN



The man who had been ill for 38 years went to the Bethesda pool in hope of being healed. But after 38 years of infirmity, of prayer, of medical treatments, of waiting for a miracle, his hope had gradually turned to hopelessness. He still went to the pool (what else was there to do?) but he no longer expected to be among those healed.

When Jesus asked him, "Do you want to be well?" the obvious answer should have been "Of course I do! Why else would I come here?" But that was not his answer. Instead of saying yes to Jesus' question, he gave an explanation for why he was not healed – a justification for his sorry condition (verse 7).

We can empathize with him. Thirty-eight years of disappointment and suffering would wear almost anyone down. But does his example also have a message for us? Have we become worn down by our chronic problems and sins, so that we despair of things ever getting better? If so, Jesus' healing of this man has a message for us. Jesus took the initiative to enter his life (verse 6) and heal him despite his despairing response (verses 7-8). Jesus even healed him although he had no idea of who Jesus was, much less faith in him (verses 12-13), and even though Jesus would bring grief on his own head by this healing (verse 16). Jesus is likewise concerned to rescue us from our infirmities and despair, no matter how long they have lasted and how weak our faith may be.

For reflection: Do my thoughts dwell more on hopes that I will be healed from my sins and infirmities, or on reasons why my situation is hopeless?

MID-PENTECOST

We celebrate all that God has done for us in His Son, Jesus Christ - the Cross, Tomb, Resurrection, Ascension, and Descent of the Holy Spirit. The whole event is summarized in the term: Paschal Mystery, and is celebrated for fifty days. The twenty-fifth day of this celebration is called the Feast of Mid-Pentecost. It celebrates Christ as Teacher. The Gospel of the feast emphasizes Jesus as Teacher. He teaches with divine authority.

The feast was half over by the time Jesus went into the temple area - and began to teach. The Jews were filled with amazement and said, "How did this man get his education when he had no teacher?" This was Jesus' answer: "My doctrine is not My own; it comes to Me from Him Who sent Me."

The Icon shows Christ seated in the center of the assembly on a circular bench in the temple. Two groups of elders, to whom Christ speaks, flank Him and are represented with expressions of astonishment. The question can be read on their faces, "How did this man get His education when He had no teacher?"

Although the Gospel for the feast describes Christ during His ministry, the Icon refers to His childhood experience when He was found in the temple by His parents (Lk. 2:41-49). The emphasis here is that the teaching of Jesus comes from His Father, "from Him Who sent Me." Jesus holding the Gospel Book, is to show that His teaching is embodied in the life, spirit, and truth which is recorded in all of the Gospels. The Icon speaks to us and calls to us to see Jesus as our Way, Truth, and Life.



Christ is Risen!

Indeed He is Risen!