

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 REQUEST!

One of our parishioners, Greg Lazor, the Cantor for the 9:00 AM Sunday Divine Liturgy, recently suffered a heart attack. After almost a week of tests, he had to undergo by-pass surgery recently. Greg is at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Youngstown. Please remember Greg and his wife, Cathy in your prayers!

Please remember all of our sick and homebound who are ill. They are also part of our Parish family.

PHILIP'S FAST OUTREACH 2020

As we all know, Philip's Fast begins our preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Christ on the 25th of December. Every fast is a special time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In the past we have used the "Angel tree" to purchase the items requested by a child or a nursing home resident, etc. Our "Outreach" for this year, literally "fell into our laps."

St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program is in dire need of desserts that can easily be bagged or boxed. Before this pandemic and the loss of jobs, etc., they used to feed approximately 120 people 5 days per week. Presently, they are serving about 300 to 330 people 6 days per week. Since March, they have served only carry-out meals. The containers needed to provide these meals have really depleted their funds, so they had to "rob Peter to pay Paul" and the dessert budget got cut.

Since St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program is in dire need of desserts that can easily be bagged or boxed, this will be our Parish Outreach for 2020. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Social Hall to bake cookies, brownies, etc. (anything that does not have icing or is not messy, and that can be put into a baggy.) Your baked goods can be brought to the social hall and will be delivered to St. Vincent de Paul for their Meals Program.

There are 33 "food distribution" days between November 16th and December 23rd. That is going to require a lot of cookies...so much more than one family can sign up for the same day. Make it a fun family Christmas preparation project! Also, if you cannot bake, donations will be accepted. You have always come through for those in need. Jesus said, "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do to Me." We are counting on you to do whatever you are able, to help feed our brothers and sisters in Christ! Call Elaine at 330-770-1100 if you have any questions! God bless us all!



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of November 14:

5:00 PM: 41; 9:00 AM: 36; 11:00 AM: 31

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,506.00



- **Sun. Nov. 22** ECF Classes meet promptly at 10 AM. Try to come a few minutes early so that we can get the temperatures taken in the Social Hall. Parents are asked to remain until after temperatures are taken. Parents may wait for their children in the Social Hall, but they are asked to practice social distancing and to wear a mask. *No one is permitted downstairs except teachers and students.*
- **Sat. Nov. 21** Entrance of the Theotokos – Solemn Holy Day.
- **Mon. Nov. 23** Church Cleaning Party 9:00 Am – Noon. We could use your help.
- **Wed. Nov. 25** Thanksgiving Liturgy.
- **Wed. Dec. 2** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program 9 AM – 2 PM.
- **Sat. & Sun. Dec. 5 & 6** St. Nicholas Parish Celebration.

ST. NICHOLAS PARISH CELEBRATION – DEADLINE TO SIGN UP NOV. 22

St. Nicholas is the Patron Saint of Byzantine Catholics. We cannot let this beautiful feast go by without a celebration! Due to the drastic increase of Covid-19 cases in Ohio, we will have to limit our usual St. Nicholas Dinner to “carry out” only. The main entrée will be provided by DiLucia’s Catering & Banquet Center. The menu will be posted next to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Social Hall. The cost per dinner is \$10.00. **On the sign-up sheet, please write your requested number of dinners under the Liturgy you will be attending on Dec. 5th or Dec. 6th.** Even though we cannot be together physically – we hope you will still “celebrate” with us as our Parish family.

THANKSGIVING DAY

Thursday we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. It is an appropriate time for us to reflect on our blessings. It is a day to express our gratitude to Almighty God for His abundant gifts. He is the source of all blessings, as we pray in the Ambo prayer of the Divine Liturgy. "For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from You, the Father of Lights."

There is no true prayer without thanksgiving. Today we take good things too much for granted. In the hot dry desert when the sun beats down unmercifully, we treasure water more than gold. After being without food for a few days, we know the importance of food. When our pockets are empty, we realize the value of money. When we are ill, we finally acknowledge the wonders of health. We can go on and on to enumerate how we take so many things for granted and it is only when we are deprived of them that we really begin to appreciate them. We do have reason to be thankful, don't we?

NOVEMBER 22, 2020 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	22 Nov.	<i>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Postfestive Day of the Entrance. The Holy Apostle Philemon and His Companions. The Holy Martyrs Cecilia, Valerian, Tiburtius and Maximus.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Charles Wilkes – wife, Tammy +Robert & +Esther Shaffer – Jim & Anita Shaffer +Judy Dinko – Wiley Byers family
Monday	23 Nov.	<i>Postfestive Day of the Entrance. Our Holy Fathers Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium and Gregory, Bishop of Agrigento.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	24 Nov.	<i>Postfestive Day of the Entrance. The Holy Great Martyr Catherine. The Holy Great Martyr Mercury.</i>
(SPP)	8:30 AM	+Cathy Hropchock – Benedictine Sisters
Wednesday	25 Nov.	<i>Leave-taking (otdanije) of the Feast of the Entrance. Our Holy Fathers and Martyrs Clement, Pope of Rome and Peter, Bishop of Alexandria. THANKSGIVING LITURGY.</i>
(SPP)	7:00 PM	Intention of Parish family – Ron Mosko
Thursday	26 Nov.	<i>Our Venerable Father Alypius the Stylite. Commemoration of Dedication of Church of Holy Great Martyr George in Kiev.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Friday	27 Nov.	<i>Holy Martyr James the Persian. Our Venerable Father Palladius. Holy Icon of the Mother of God, called “the Sign.”</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	28 Nov.	<i>The Holy Venerable Martyr Stephen the Younger. The Holy Martyr Irenarchus.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Craig McKnight – John & Dianna Koza
Sunday	29 Nov.	<i>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Paramon. The Holy Martyr Philemon. Our Venerable Father Acacius.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Susan Welch – Jen & John Welch Health of Greg Lazor – Ted Falatic family



Attentive to the Word

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Luke 12: 16 – 21

Tone 8 Trop. of Resurrection – Pg. 161 & the rest from Feast of Entrance of the Theotokos – Pgs. 268 - 271

Aside from the obvious message in today’s parable – that we should not place earthly riches ahead of our spiritual riches – there are other things that are important to understand: The rich man had many barns to fill with food, but he could have put food into the bellies of the poor. If a man has more than another, he is obligated to give to one who needs. The bellies of the poor are abundant storehouses, and the wonder of these storehouses is that when food is put into them, it does not perish. In the words of our Savior, every single cup of water that is given to those in need will be remembered on the last day.



Everyone must understand that this is not just a moral teaching saying that we should give to others. There is depth here as far as why we give to others . . . everything belongs to God anyway. This is another mistake the rich man made when he thought about his long-lasting goods. Oh, rich man, you have no goods! Everything is God’s. God has given some of it to you – and has given it to you in abundance in order that you could “give unto others.”

The purpose of our life is to become rich towards God and to know Him. Therefore, we are only His stewards. We must have that attitude about ourselves. God has given us many things of a physical nature and we can enjoy them. But we must understand what our true treasure is. Language can’t communicate what God wants to give us . . . “eye has not seen, ear has not heard, the mind cannot comprehend what God has in store for those who love Him.” But we must live and act as good stewards of God’s gifts.

ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS



The feast of the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple praises and glorifies God for His plan of salvation. God prepares for Himself a holy dwelling place. The Byzantine Church never tires of praising the Mother of God for her role in our salvation. She is called the "Heavenly Tabernacle" in the Kontakion of the Feast. Her body is the living tabernacle of the God Incarnate. Through Mary, God has taken on our human nature and elevated us to become “sharers of the divine nature.” This is God’s plan, and in the Virgin Mary, this plan of salvation was achieved.

In the Icon of the Entrance of the Mother of God, Mary is shown as a young girl being escorted to the Temple by her parents, Joachim and Anna. She is also accompanied by the holy virgins carrying candles. In all the icons of the Presentation, the High Priest greets the holy family at the entrance of the Temple. The Church honors the Virgin Mary as the God-bearer, (in Greek: Theotokos) the one who, in God’s plan of salvation, would give birth to God the Word.

TROPARION - Today is the prelude of God’s benevolence and the herald of our salvation; for the Virgin openly appears in the temple of God and foretells Christ to all. Let us also with full voice exclaim to her: “Rejoice, fulfillment of the Creator’s Plan.”



A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Oh, God, when I have food help me to remember the hungry. When I have work, help me to remember the jobless. When I have a warm home, help me to remember the homeless. When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer; and remembering, help me to destroy my complacency and stir up my compassion. Make me concerned enough to help, by word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted. Amen.

