

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.

MILK CHOCOLATE BYZANTINE CROSS SALE – 2020

Since our church was closed for all of the Easter season, I have about 45 extra milk chocolate Byzantine Crosses for sale @ \$6.00 each. If anyone is interested, please call Sister Barbara @ 330-240-2534.

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

- ❖ Quarantine has turned us into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We are told “no” if we get too close to strangers. And we get really excited about car rides.
- ❖ Can everyone please just follow the government instructions so we can knock out this coronavirus and be done?! I feel like a kindergartner who keeps losing more recess time because one or two kids can't follow directions.
- ❖ Day 7 at home and the dog is looking at me like, “See? This is why I chew the furniture!”
- ❖ The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!
- ❖ Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands???



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of August 29:

5:00 PM: 51; 9:00 AM: 36; 11:00 AM: 32

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,744.16



- Mon., Sept. 7 Have a safe Labor Day!
- Tues., Sept. 8 **Birth of the Theotokos.** It is a Solemn Holy Day.



GOD PROMISES

God didn't promise us a bed of roses
 If we would walk with Him,
 But he did promise us forgiveness
 And wash away our sins.

He didn't promise us great riches
 Of silver and of gold.
 But He did promise us a home in heaven
 Where we never will grow old.

He didn't say we'd have no worries
 Or pain, sickness and death,
 But He did say cast your burdens on me
 And I will give you rest.

He said to love one another
 That's the greatest gift of all,
 I gave you sisters and brothers
 Lean on them lest you fall.

He said band together all my people
 For the time is drawing nigh,
 When you hear of wars and rumors of wars
 I could come in the twinkling of an eye.

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	6 Sept.	<i>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Memory of the Miracle of Holy Archangel Michael at Colossae in Chionia. The Holy Martyr Eudoxius and His Companions.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Elizabeth Vazur (40th day) – Patricia Sudik & fam. +Millie Simko – Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Lucarell +Steve Zumerling – Ed & Pat Alberts
Monday	7 Sept.	<i>Prefestive Day of the Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Martyr Sozon.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	8 Sept. 6:00 PM	<i>FEAST OF BIRTH OF THEOTOKOS. (Pgs. 243 -246)</i> +Frank Hoson, Jr. – Robert Fejko
Wednesday	9 Sept. (SPP) 8:30 AM	<i>Postfestive Day of Birth of Theotokos. The Holy Grandparents of God Joachim & Anna. The Holy Martyr Severian.</i> +Kathryn Granata – Pat Rinda
Thursday	10 Sept. (SPP) 8:30 AM	<i>Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Martyrs Menodora, Mitrodora and Nymphodora.</i> +Helena Smith
Friday	11 Sept.	<i>Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. Our Venerable Mother Theodora of Alexandria.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	12 Sept. (Vigil Liturgy) 5:00 PM	<i>Otdanije (leave-taking) of the Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos. Saturday before the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Autonomous.</i> +Nicholas Karousis – John & Dianna Koza
Sunday	13 Sept. 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	<i>SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. The Commemoration of the Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection of our Lord in Jerusalem. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cornelius.</i> +Harry Reynolds – Trudy Vasco +Joan Bernard – Richard & Mary Anne Kilbert



Attentive to the Word

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matt 22: 1 – 14

Tone 5 Pages 146 - 148

The original meaning of Christ's story of the banquet feast in God's Kingdom was an indictment of the Jews. They had been the intended guests, but they refused the invitation. God sent His Son to prepare the great wedding festival for Himself, but the chosen people chose to reject the invitation. So He went out to find others who didn't even know there was to be a banquet. Whatever they were doing otherwise, they were ordered to stop, and they were told to make themselves ready, because God would not do without a celebration party. His joy could not be complete without company.

The king is God. He was furious. The city He had burned was Jerusalem. Those who rejected His Son were punished. This gospel was written probably in Alexandria, Egypt, after Jerusalem had been destroyed. It gives a reason for what was a horrible incident for all Jews and Christians.

How many baptized into Christ since then have better things to do with their time than to celebrate with God the joy of their own salvation? How do you think He will treat those who reject, ignore, or scorn the banquet He has prepared for them? Prayer and fellowship in the Church is an obligation, a requirement they decide they can do without. Yet this is about happiness and celebration, not a tiresome duty. It isn't opposed to worldly pleasures, tending to one's home or business. It asks only that life be prioritized, and God's wishes are our first priority.

It addresses the modern illusion that God's great love will excuse all our sins. We need not dress for the occasion means that no preparation is necessary. "Just as I am" is the slogan of contemporary America. Not so, says the Lord. As in the Russian proverb: "He came to dinner and brought his own spoon." But you cannot do that. If you come to God's great banquet expecting to

celebrate with the saints, be warned. You do not set your own conditions for the party. You have a lifetime to prepare your baptismal garment, making your soul clean and pure, without a spot or wrinkle or any such thing (Eph. 5:27).

By Fr. Vladimir Berzonsky



THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS



When the time drew near for the birth of the Savior of the world, there lived in the Galilean city of Nazareth a descendant of King David, Joachim, with his wife, Anna. They were both pious people and were known not for their royal ancestry, but for their humility and charity.

Their entire lives were permeated with love for God and people. They lived to a ripe old age but never had children and this grieved them very much. In spite of their old age, they did not cease to petition God to send them children. They made a vow that if a child were born to them, they would consecrate it to the service of God. At that time, every Jew hoped that his posterity would take part in the kingdom of the Messiah, that is, Christ the Savior. Therefore, every childless Jew was held in contempt by the others, for this was considered a great punishment by God for one's sins. This was especially trying to Joachim, as a descendant of King David, because from his seed Christ was to be born.

For their patience, great faith, love for God and for each other, God sent Joachim and Anna great joy. Toward the end of their lives a daughter was born to them. According to the command of an angel of God, She was given the name Mary. The birth of Mary brought joy not only to Her parents, but to all people, because She was foreordained by God to be the Mother of the son of God, the Savior of the world. The Nativity of the Holy Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Eastern Churches as one of its major holidays on September 8.