

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.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES AND CALENDARS

The 2021 Church Calendars and Contribution Envelopes are ready for pick-up in the Social Hall. If there is any name or address correction, if you are unable to locate your envelopes, or if you wish a set of envelopes, please call the office, or drop a note in the collection basket. **This year all envelope numbers were reassigned due to the number of deaths and relocation of former parishioners. Please discard your old envelopes at the end of 2020. If you want proper credit for your contributions, you must use the envelopes you were assigned for the year 2021.**

Our Parish family would like to thank the Peter Rossi & Son Memorial Chapel for their generosity in providing our calendars this year. God bless them for their kindness and generosity!

JUST A REMINDER

With Covid-19 still on the scene, please do not congregate or visit in the Social Hall before and after the Divine Liturgies. Thank you for your cooperation!

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

“Reverend, I hope you didn't take it personally when my husband walked out during your sermon.”

“Well, is everything all right?”

“Oh yes,” answered the embarrassed wife.
“Joe has been sleepwalking for years now.”



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of December 26:

5:00 PM: 22; 9:00 AM: 30; 11:00 AM: 46

Christmas Eve: 65; Christmas Day: 9:00 AM: 13; 11:00 AM: 19

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,653.91
Christmas Offerings: \$11,474.00



- **Sun. Jan. 3** 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.
- **Fri. Jan. 1** Circumcision of our Lord – Solemn Holy Day.
- **Weds. Jan. 6** Theophany of our Lord – Holy Day of Obligation.

NO FASTING FROM DECEMBER 25 THROUGH JANUARY 4.

JAN. 5 – DAY OF STRICT FAST (NO MEAT, EGGS, OR DAIRY PRODUCTS.)



NEWLY SANCITIFIED JORDAN WATER

On the Feast of Theophany we will celebrate the Great Sanctification of Water. The dispenser containing the newly sanctified water is located by the Belvedere Avenue entrance. You are encouraged to take some water home for your sanctification.

MANY THANKS!

Thanks and God’s Blessings to all those who participated in our Parish Philip’s Fast Outreach – from November 15th thru December 23rd. Before Covid-19, St. Vincent de Paul Meals program was providing meals for approximately 125 people daily. They are now providing more than 400 meals daily. St. Vincent de Paul Society Meals Program was very grateful for the extremely generous supply of cookies and \$400.00 monetary donations given to them by our parishioners during the Philip’s Fast. Your sacrifices and generosity helped to feed many people. **God Bless all of you!**

JANUARY 3, 2021
SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	3 Jan.	<i>SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY. Pre-festive Day of Theophany. The Holy Prophet Malachi. The Holy Martyr Gordius. Venerable Genevieve of Paris.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Charles Hite – Elizabeth Miller. +Joan Kacenga – Mike & Sue Johnson +Helen Sekula – Helen M. Falatic
Monday	4 Jan.	<i>Pre-festive Day of Theophany. Synaxis of the Holy 70 Apostles. Our Venerable Father Theoctist, Hegumen at Cuomo in Sicily.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	5 Jan.	<i>Vigil of the Theophany. The Holy Martyrs Theopempt and Theona. Our Venerable Mother Syncretica. The Holy Prophet Micah.</i>
	6:00 PM	Intention of Betty Zombar – Maryln Cook
Wednesday	6 Jan.	<i>THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. (Pages 312 – 316)</i>
	6:00 PM	Health & Welfare of SP&P Parishioners – Ron Mosko
Thursday	7 Jan.	<i>SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY FORERUNNER, PROPHET AND BAPTIST JOHN.</i>
(SPP)	8:30 AM	+Randy Rose – John & Dianna Koza
Friday	8 Jan.	<i>Post-festive Day of Theophany. Our Venerable Father George the Chozebite. Our Venerable Mother Dominica. Our Holy Father and Confessor Emilian.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	9 Jan.	<i>Saturday after Theophany. Post-festive Day of Theophany. The Holy Martyr Polyeuct.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Gloria Sipes – Terry Taylor
Sunday	10 Jan.	<i>SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY. Post-festive Day of Theophany. Our Holy Father Gregory of Nyssa. The Venerable Dometian, Bishop of Melitene. Our Venerable Father Marcion, Priest and Treasurer of the Great Church.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Health/Blessings on Paul Simon – Marjorie & Cheryl +Gerald Lickwar - family



Attentive to the Word

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY

Mark 1: 1 – 8

Tone 6 Pg. 152 and follow directions
on Pgs. 309 - 311

FEAST OF THEOPHANY

“You have revealed Yourself to the world today, and Your Light, O Lord, has shined upon us . . . We recognize You and exclaim to You: You have come and revealed Yourself, O inaccessible Light.” (Kontakion – Theophany)

The Sixth of January is the Feast of the Theophany. Originally it was the one Christian feast of the “Shining Forth” of God to the world in human form as Jesus. It included the celebration of Christ’s birth, the adoration of the Magi and all the childhood events such as the Circumcision, Presentation in the Temple, as well as His baptism by John in the Jordan.

Epiphany means “shining forth” or “manifestation”. The Feast, in our church, is more often and correctly called “Theophany”, which means the “manifestation of God”. Theophany is – after Easter and Pentecost – the greatest Feast of the Eastern Church: greater even than the Feast of the Nativity of Christ. It commemorates the baptism of Our Lord by John, the Baptist and the public manifestation of the incarnate Word to the world. At the River Jordan, God reveals Himself in the person of Jesus. He is the Word of God incarnate; on Him rests the Holy Spirit from all eternity; the Father witnesses to the divinity of Christ and proclaims Him to be His only Son . . . “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased . . .” On this day of Theophany, God reveals Himself fully: He is one in three Persons. This is the mystery which allows us to call on the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit as one God. Nothing can be added to this vision or manifestation. We celebrate the baptism of Jesus Christ as a Theophany because the Holy Trinity was made manifest for the first time.

The blessing of the water on the feast shows that Jesus was baptized for us in the Jordan River, and has transformed and changed the waters and **ALL CREATION** by

His Presence. It is **NOW** the Kingdom of God presented and manifested to **us**. And as the water and all creation are transformed by Christ’s presence, so too, we are blessed to show that our entire lives have been transformed and brought into the presence of God through Christ!



THE LORD’S THEOPHANY IN THE JORDAN



Come, O faithful,
Having enjoyed the Master’s hospitality,
The Banquet of Immortality in the lowly manger,
Let us run to the Jordan,
There to see a strange mystery,
Revealing the Light from on high.

The feast of Christ’s Birth has passed;
It shone more brightly than the sun.
The day of His Epiphany is coming;
That day will be even more radiant.

There the shepherds gave glory with the angels,
Worshipping God made man.
Here John’s right hand will touch the Master
As he cries out in fear:
Sanctify both me and the waters,
O Only Merciful One!

The feast which passed was radiant,
But the coming one is even more glorious!
There the Magi worshipped the Savior;
Here the servant baptizes the Master.
There the shepherds saw the Child and were amazed;
Here the voice of the Father proclaims
the only-begotten Son!