

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 scription 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: Lisa Mosko is 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.

A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM SKURLA

Covid Obligations – Restrictions Lifted

We have all known and felt the impact of COVID-19 in so many ways as individuals and families, among friends and at work. It has been a time of hardship and struggle, of separation and isolation. It has also had an impact on our lives of faith. Now, as life returns to normalcy in so many ways, it is also time for us to return to Sunday Divine Liturgy. In our Archeparchy, we will reinstate the obligation to attend the Divine Liturgy in person on Sundays and Holy Days beginning on **Sunday, August 15, 2021**, the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, the Mother of God. As your Archbishop, I had dispensed you from this obligation in the Spring of 2020 as the developing coronavirus pandemic required people not to assemble in group settings. Now, with the impact of the pandemic considerably reduced, it is again possible for the faithful to assemble for the Liturgy. This obligation, as is always the case, does not apply to those who are seriously ill or have a serious health risk.

God Bless You!

THE DORMITION FAST

During the first 14 days of August each year, the Byzantine Church enters into a fast period in honor of the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary. Our Church has the highest regard for the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, for her special role in the salvation of mankind. We call the Virgin Mary "Theotokos", from the Greek, which means "The Birth-Giver or the Bearer of God." This is the highest title that can be bestowed upon any member of the human race.

Knowing that she holds such a high place in the Kingdom of Heaven and that she is eternally present at the throne of God interceding for us, we should pray for her love, guidance, and protection.

Every year the Byzantine Church sets aside the first 14 days of August in honor of the Virgin Mary. This fast period is climaxed on August 15th, when the Church gathers to celebrate the Great Feast of the Dormition (Falling-Asleep) of the Theotokos. During this fourteen day fast period, the Church encourages that the Paraklis Service be held in honor of the Mother of God.

The word "paraklis" has two different meanings: the first is "consolation," from which the Holy Spirit is called the "Paraclete," or "Consoler"; the second is "supplication" or "petition". The Service of the Paraklis to the Theotokos consists of hymns of supplication to obtain consolation and courage. It should be prayed in times of temptation, discouragement or sickness. It is used more particularly during the two weeks before the Dormition of the Theotokos, from August 1 to August 14. The theme of the Paraklis Service centers around the petition. . "Most Holy Mother of God, save us."

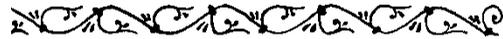
Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of July 17:

5:00 PM: **49**; 9:00 AM: **36**; 11:00 AM: **45**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,696.00



- **Mon., July 26** Church Cleaning Party 9 AM – Noon. Come lend a helping hand.
- **Aug. 1 – 14** **Fast in preparation for the Feast of the Dormition of the Blessed Mother.** We recommend abstaining from meat on Wednesday and Friday and your own private prayers.
- **Wed., Aug. 4** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program 9 AM – 2 PM.



A MESSAGE FROM FATHER SIMEON

As you know, I haven't been feeling well for some time now, especially since I have had Covid-19. Recovery and side effects have made life difficult for me, and I have not been able to give 100% to our Parish family. For this, I apologize and ask your forgiveness.

I will be away on medical leave for a while. Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec, Jr. will temporarily serve the spiritual needs of the Parish. I ask you to welcome Father Miron and give him the same love and cooperation that you have given me. Please remember me in your prayers! You will be remembered in mine! Any well wishes and correspondence should be sent to the Parish office or placed in the collection basket.

Thank you,
Father Simeon

PARISH PICNIC



Please mark your calendars for the afternoon of Sunday, August 15th at our Social Hall and grounds after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy. Keep the date open and plan to have a fun afternoon with your fellow parishioners. Last year we had a wonderful time! We hope to see all of you there! More details will be coming soon!

LITURGY STIPENDS

The Divine Liturgy Stipend has been increased to \$20 by the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh effective July 1, 2021.

JULY 25, 2021 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	25 July	<i>NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Dormition of St. Ann, Mother of the Mother of God. Memory of the Holy Women Olympiada and Euphraxia. Commemoration of the Fifth Ecumenical Council.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM +Tom James – wife, Pat & family 9:00 AM +John & +Margaret Kostrub – Mary Ann Moneyppenny 11:00 AM +Mary Passek – daughters & sons	
Monday	26 July	<i>The Holy Priest-Martyr Hermolaus and His Companions. The Holy Venerable Martyr Paraskevia. Our Venerable Father Moses the Carpathian of the Monastery of the Caves.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	27 July	<i>The Holy Great-Martyr Panteleimon. Memory of our Holy Father Clement, the Wonder-worker, Archbishop of Ohrid.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday	28 July	<i>The Holy Apostles and Deacons Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon and Parmenas. Our Blessed Mother Alphonsa Muttathupadathu of Kerala.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Thursday	29 July	<i>The Holy Martyr Callinicus.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Friday	30 July	<i>The Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus and Their Companions.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	31 July	<i>Prefestive Day of the Procession of the Venerable and Life-creating Cross. The Holy and Righteous Eudocimus. The Holy Joseph of Arimathea.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Sandy Bishop – husband, Ken Bishop
Sunday	1 August	<i>TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Procession of the Wood of the Venerable and Life-creating Cross. The Holy Seven Maccabees, their Mother Solomonica and Elder Eleazar.</i> 9:00 AM +Douglas Winland – Marjorie Reynolds 11:00 AM Bill & Alexis Fusselman (50 th Anniversary)



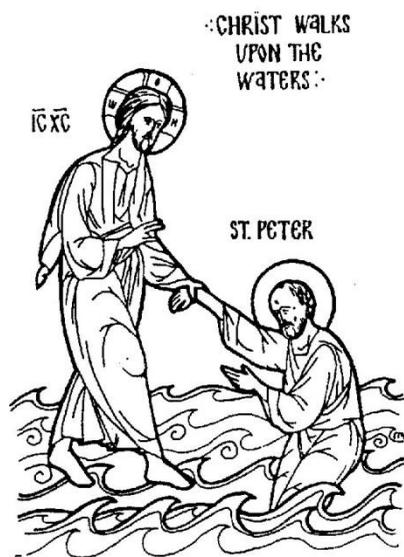
Attentive to the Word
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 8 Matt. 14: 22 - 34

Pgs. 161 - 163



JESUS' INVITATION – COME!



In the Epistle for the 9th Sunday after Pentecost we once again hear from St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 3:9-17). Wherever St. Paul went he laid the same foundation: the proclamation of Jesus as Lord and Savior. It was his tremendous function to introduce people to Jesus because it is in Jesus that we can: 1) find forgiveness for past sins, 2) find strength for the present, and 3) find hope for the future.

The concluding thought reminds us that we are the temples of God in which the Spirit of God dwells. Wherever God is, holiness is present. It is our obligation to be holy because of our Baptism. It's rather unsettling to think that God

is forced to dwell within us when our thoughts and actions do nothing to proclaim Jesus as Lord. A good examination of our consciences this week might reveal some startling revelations about how we are actually living our lives.

In Matthew's Gospel story (Matthew 14:22-34) for this Sunday, we hear about Jesus walking on the water – and at Jesus' invitation, Peter doing the same. Notice that Peter did something no other disciple did: He stepped out of the boat!

We very easily point out Peter's lack of faith and Jesus' saving power. But maybe we should not judge so quickly. If we say Peter was a weak person, what about the followers who stayed securely inside the boat?

At least Peter took a chance. He was willing to risk walking toward Jesus. How about us? Do we take risks for Jesus? Are we willing to step outside the boat?

Most people don't take chances. They play it safe and go about their ordinary routine. "Don't disturb" is the sign they wear. As long as nothing extraordinary happens to them, they are happy to be dull and ordinary. They certainly are not going to rock the boat themselves. However, Peter rocked the boat and made waves. He was also in over his head, but he trusted in God to protect him.

It's easy to sit inside the boat protected and somewhat safe from the storms around us. But God calls us to do more than sit on a bench. He wants us to step outside, to learn something new, to step out of our rut, to reach out, to discover the new and good things which could enrich us.

What can we do this week to step out of our boat? What is the Lord calling us to, which rocks the boat? How could we make waves in our lives to stir up the calm water around us?

Can I actually join a Pro-Life March in my town instead of watching it on TV? Could I make time in my busy schedule to attend an Adult Education Class? Would I actually dare to speak to the relatives everyone else ignores? At work, could I refrain from using foul language or God's name in vain? Can I speak out against racial, ethnic or religious bigotry when everyone else accepts it?

The Liturgy this week gives us the chance to ask for God's help, renew our faith, and go out and take a chance.

May the Word of God dwell in our hearts and guide the actions of our lives.