

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 scriptio 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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TOM SARSANY – THIS MONTH'S LUCKY WINNER OF THE LADY BUG BOX!

YOU HAVE TO PLAY TO WIN! Tickets are being sold in the Social Hall for chances to win the contents of the Lady Bug Box. This box contains Instant Lottery Tickets and/or Gift Cards. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be going towards our 100th Anniversary Celebration. We would like to continue this fundraiser monthly with your support. Any donations of Instant Lottery Tickets and/or Gift Cards would be welcome and appreciated.

Next month's drawing will be held on Sunday, September 26th, after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy.

Will You Be The Next Lucky Winner???????

Stop in the Social Hall and check out the LADY BUG BOX.



What's in the box? Who knows.... it is different every month!

Buy your tickets this Sunday!!!



CLARIFICATION OF PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED IN FR. SIMEON'S ABSENCE:

While Fr. Simeon is recuperating, any needs required by parishioners are to be arranged through the church office.

If a priest is needed for emergency anointing of parishioners who are seriously ill, please call the office and we will do our best to take care of your request. If a parishioner is hospitalized at St. Joseph's, St. Elizabeth's or Trumbull Memorial, there is a Catholic Chaplain who is on call for emergency anointing, confession, "last rites," etc., and they will be able to take care of these needs at this time.

In case of the death of a parishioner, the Funeral Home will call the office and we will arrange for a priest to work with the funeral director and the family for the funeral service and burial.

Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of August 28:

5:00 PM: **48**; 9:00 AM: **45**; 11:00 AM: **51**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,916.00



- **Tues., Sept. 7** Vigil Liturgy for Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos at 6:00 PM.
- **Mon., Sept. 13** Vigil Liturgy for Exaltation of the Holy Cross at 6:00 PM.
- **Tues., Sept. 14** Parish Guild Meeting at 7 PM in Social Hall. All Parishioners are invited.



RUMMAGE SALE

Friday and Saturday, September 24 & 25

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM in Social Hall.

Donations may be dropped off after Liturgies. No donations will be accepted after September 19. No furniture or large appliances. Only new or nearly new clothing please. We will also have a Bake Sale.

Come and buy a **LUCKY LOTTERY GRAB BAG** with an instant lottery ticket attached. We are accepting donations of \$1 instant tickets to be put in the bags.

Please call Elaine at 330-770-1100 if you have any questions.

CHINESE AUCTION

St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church in Campbell is having their annual 3-Tier Chinese Auction on Sunday, Sept. 12, at St. Michael's Hall, 405 Robinson Road, Campbell.

Admission is \$7.00 and includes 25 tier-one tickets and lunch. Doors open at noon and drawings begin at 2:00 PM. Great prizes, gift certificates, and theme baskets.

THANK YOU....

....to the newly ordained Priest, Father Robert Jones, who celebrated his very first Divine Liturgy at Saints Peter and Paul Church on Saturday. At the last moment, he was asked to fill in at our Parish. This does not happen very often that a priest celebrates his first Liturgy in any other parish, but his home parish. Father Robert did a great job and celebrated a beautiful Liturgy. We wish Father Robert and his wife, Liz, a blessed ministry in the Byzantine Catholic Church.

LITURGY STIPENDS

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

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	5 Sept.	<i>FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Prophet Zachary, Father of the Forerunner and His Wife, the Holy and Venerable Elizabeth.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Intention of Sr. Barbara – Ron Mosko +Elizabeth Prokop – Kathleen & Richard Fetcenko +Lucy & +John Sherock & +Paul & +Ann Nuzzi – Pat Guliano
Monday	6 Sept.	<i>Memory of the Miracle of the Holy Archangel Michael at Colossae in Chionia. The Holy Martyr Eudoxius and His Companions.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	7 Sept.	<i>Prefestive Day of the Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Martyr Sozon.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	6:00 PM	+Sister Julia Rohaly – Benedictine Sisters
Wednesday	8 Sept.	<i>FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF THE THEOTOKOS (pgs. 243 – 246).</i> No Divine Liturgy
Thursday	9 Sept.	<i>Post-festive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy and Just Grandparents of God Joachim and Anna. The Holy Martyr Severian.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Friday	10 Sept.	<i>Post-festive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Martyrs Menodora, Mitrodora and Nymphodora.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	11 Sept.	<i>Saturday Before the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Post-festive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. Our Venerable Mother Theodora of Alexandria.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Steve Zombar – Raiti family
Sunday	12 Sept.	<i>SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Leave-taking (Otdanije) of the Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Autonomous.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Mary Ann Johnson (40th day) – Leon & J. Johnson families +Betty Vazur – Patricia Sudik & family



Attentive to the Word
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matt. 22: 35 - 46

Tone 6 Pgs. 152 - 153



Jesus silenced the Sadducees when they taunted him over a hypothetical problem. A woman married the brother of her dead husband, and then when he died, she married another brother, going through seven brothers. Whose wife would she be in heaven? Jesus demolished their argument, based on equating this lifetime with eternity. Surely they should know that heaven is not a continuation of life as we know it. Life in the beyond is not to be compared with this world.

What is religion all about? This is what Jesus is explaining. One theologian quite popular in the last century, Paul Tillich, trying to widen the definition of religion said it is a person's "ultimate concern." The artist's religion is his painting, the composer's his music, the architect's his building. This is using the term religion beyond the boundaries of theology. Jesus makes clear the true meaning of religion: Ultimate love of God, and love for all humanity. And He places them in proper perspective.

You must love God with everything that is within you. St. Augustine wrote, "Love God; then do as you please." If a person does just that and thinks through the implications, he cannot make an error, for he will thereby love everything else that God has created. Some, however, find a way to base their beliefs on God, and then appoint themselves His defense attorney. They make a lifetime of hating what they perceive as variation from their definition of God. The infamous Inquisition of the Middle Ages was such a distortion of faith. We all know the type who has enough religion to hate what God hates, but cannot find it within their hearts to love what He loves.

Another opposite extreme is to reject a deity who would allow suffering on earth. The famous Dostoevsky novel *Brothers Karamazov* takes up this theme. Ivan is an atheist. He cannot make himself believe in a God who would permit innocent suffering to happen. Why does God permit men to torture others, or to bring agony to children? Such a God is either impotent or unconcerned. Suffering is indeed a deep mystery. Jesus Himself does not offer any explanation other than to share the suffering of mankind on the Cross. Love is always an ongoing challenge. Obstacles arise on the journey through life that cause us to pause at times and measure the love we say we have for others.

The Sadducees based their religion on ritual observances, formulas of prayer and sacrifices they felt pleased the Lord. But David's prayer reminds us: "You do not desire sacrifice, else I would give The Pharisees built their faith on observance of laws. They made a religion of legalism, following rules that they imposed on others, harnessing God's freedom into a system. But Jesus offers a faith that transcends all human limits to His grace and glory.

By Fr. Vladimir Berzonsky



BIRTH OF THE MOTHER OF GOD - SEPTEMBER 8



Tradition is the source for details surrounding the birth of the Mother of God. While the birth of our Lord and St. John the Baptist are recorded in Sacred Scripture, the birth of the Mother of God has come to us only from non-Scriptural sources. The Icon of the Feast is based upon these sources.

The Icon of the Nativity of the Mother of God shows St. Anne reclining on a bed with an attendant at her side. The Virgin is generally represented in swaddling clothes, and in the arms of a midwife who is seated on a stool. St. Joachim is presented speaking with his wife. The midwife is reduced in size to focus attention on the holy parents and infant. In icons, the importance of a person is indicated by size. Size is not a physical feature of a person, but a qualitative element relating to importance. St. Anne gazes downward upon her newborn daughter. The servant in the middle stands ready to assist the mother.

The liturgy rejoices in the Nativity of the Mother of God with hymns and chants of deeply spiritual and poetic character. The chant sung at Vespers of this Feast summarizes the Church's thinking about this event. "Indeed, some famous barren women have given birth by the will of God. But the birth of Mary surpasses all births in honor and splendor, as is worthy of the majesty of God. She was born of a barren mother in a miraculous way. Mary herself gave birth in the flesh to the God of All, incarnate in her womb without human seed, against the laws of nature ..." The liturgy and icon call us to praise and worship God in His wondrous presence in our lives.