

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 Father Simeon to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the Parish Family. Must meet with Father Simeon before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Father 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 Father Simeon is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Father Simeon whenever a loved one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Father 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.

KOLACHI BAKING

Anyone wishing to help bake Kolachi, please come to the Social Hall on **Friday, April 1st, and/or Saturday, April 2nd, at 9 AM.**

Kolachi will be sold for \$12 each after Liturgies April 2nd and 3rd.

Nut, Apricot, Apricot Nut, Cranberry Nut, and Poppysed will be available. There are no pre-orders. Please call Patty James at 330-507-6273 for any questions.

LADYBUG BOX

4 Super Cash Bonanza tickets have been donated to our March Ladybug drawing. This month's drawing will be held on Sunday, March 27th, after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy.

Tickets are being sold in the Social Hall for chances to win the contents of the Ladybug 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 Cash, Instant Lottery Tickets and/or Gift Cards would be welcome and greatly appreciated.

***YOU HAVE TO PLAY TO WIN!
Will You Be The Next Lucky Winner???????***

GREAT FAST CHARITY

St. Vincent de Paul is in need of desserts. On March 2nd our group prepared 411 carryout meals. Any donations of baked or store-bought cookies, cakes, cupcakes, sweet breads, etc. are appreciated. Items should be suitable for putting in individual baggies. **Please – No pies and nothing with nuts or peanut butter.**

Your donations may be dropped off in our Social Hall kitchen. Please call Elaine Vislosky at 330-770-1100 for any questions. Thank you!

PUSSYWILLOWS NEEDED

Spring is almost here, (even though it doesn't feel like it), so keep your eyes open for the budding of the pussywillows. Please cut them when they bud (before they turn yellow), and bring them to the Social Hall. **Do not put them in water.**

FREE BOOKS AND TAPES

A lot of good reading for Lent. Please call Sister Barbara at 330-240-2534 for an appointment.

Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of March 12:

5:00 PM: **52**; 9:00 AM: **31**; 11:00 AM: **38**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,355.81



- **Sun., March 20** ECF Classes today 10 AM to 10:45 AM.
- **Sat. & Sun., March 19 & 20** Homemade Cabbage & Noodles Sale after Liturgies.
- **Fri., March 25** Major Holy Day – Annunciation – Liturgy 6:00 PM.
- **Mon., March 28** Church Cleaning Party 9 AM – Noon. Come lend a helping hand.

100th ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISER MEETING

This meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 22nd, at 6 PM** in the Social Hall. Come with your fundraising ideas. We want to discuss events for 2022. All parishioners are welcome.

COLLECTION FOR THE EPARCHY OF UKRAINE

Please put all donations in a separate envelope marked “Ukraine Donation.” Envelopes are available at our church entrances. If paying by check, make check payable to Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church as we will send them one check.

Donations must be received no later than March 20th.

Pray for the Ukrainian people and the end to this war. Thank you!

HOMEMADE CABBAGE & NOODLES SALE

We will be selling homemade cabbage & noodles on **Sat. & Sun., March 19 & 20**, in the Social Hall. Carry-outs available after each Liturgy as quantities last - \$6 for a quart container. Proceeds to benefit the 100th Anniversary Fund.

100TH ANNIVERSARY/SUPER CASH BONANZA TICKETS

This is the last weekend to purchase tickets for the Super Cash Bonanza Raffle in the Social Hall. It is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. For every \$5 ticket sold, \$1 will go to the 100th Anniversary Fund. **There are a total of 25 prizes in all!**

CHOCOLATE BYZANTINE CROSS SALE – TODAY IS LAST DAY TO ORDER

The feast of the Resurrection of Christ will soon be upon us! You will again have an opportunity to order *Chocolate Byzantine Crosses* for your family and/or friends. Envelopes are located at the Church entrances for those interested in purchasing *Dark, Milk or White Chocolate Crosses*. The purchase price is \$6.00 each. The orders must be **prepaid**. Just drop your order envelopes in the collection basket. **The crosses will be ready for pick-up Palm Sunday weekend, April 9th and 10th.** (If paying by check, make check payable to: *Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church*).



MARCH 20, 2022 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

| | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| Sunday | 20 March | <i>THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Our Venerable Fathers of the St. Sabbas Monastery, killed by Saracens (796).</i> |
| (Sun. Vigil) | 5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM | +Betty Vazur – Patricia Sudik & family +Millie Simko – Mr. & Mrs. Richard Simko & family +Eugenia Vesa – Janice & Mike Clark |
| Monday | 21 March | <i>Our Venerable Father and Confessor James, Bishop of Catania.</i> No Divine Services |
| Tuesday | 22 March | <i>The Holy Martyr Basilides, Priest of Ancyra.</i> No Divine Services |
| Wednesday | 23 March | <i>Mid-Lent. The Holy Venerable Martyr Nikon and his students martyred with him. Our Holy Mother Rafka.</i> 6:00 PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy |
| Thursday | 24 March | <i>Pre-festive Day of the Annunciation. Our Venerable Father Zachary. Our Holy Father Artemon, Bishop of Seleucia of Pisidia.</i> No Divine Services |
| Friday | 25 March | <i>ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY. (Pg. 329)</i> 6:00 PM +John Koza, III – John & Lisa Mosko |
| Saturday | 26 March | <i>Leave-taking of Annunciation. Synaxis of Gabriel the Archangel.</i> (Vigil Liturgy) 5:00 PM +Frank Hoson, Jr. – Ron Mosko |
| Sunday | 27 March | <i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. MEMORY OF OUR HOLY FATHER JOHN CLIMACUS. Our Venerable Mother Matrona of Thessalonica.</i> 9:00 AM +Harry Reynolds – Mike & Rosanne Dando 11:00 AM +Mark Sharon – Gary Sharon & family |



Attentive to the Word

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST VENERATION OF THE CROSS

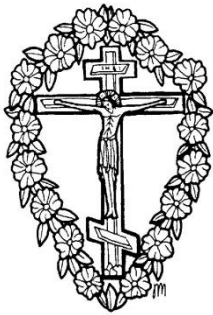
Mark 8:34 – 9:1

Tone 2 Pg. 130 & Pgs. 223 – 225

Liturgy of St. Basil during Great Lent:

(In place of Antiphons) Pages 16 & 17 Typical Psalms

Beatitudes Pgs. 23-24; (Instead of “It is truly proper,”) Pg. 225 Magnification



The third Sunday of Lent is dedicated to the veneration of the Holy Cross. For this reason you will see the Cross decorated with a garland of flowers upon the Tetrapod and the faithful will come forward to kiss the Cross in veneration.

It is interesting to note that the theme of the Cross which dominates the hymnology for this Sunday is developed in terms not of suffering but of victory and joy. More than that, the theme *songs* (Irmosi) of the Sunday Canon are taken from the Paschal Service ...

“The Day of the Resurrection,” and the Canon is a paraphrase of the Easter Canon.

The meaning of all this is clear. We are in “mid-lent.” On the one hand, the physical and spiritual effort, if it is serious and consistent, begins to be felt; its burden becomes more burdensome, our fatigue is more evident. We need help and encouragement. On the other hand, having endured this fatigue, having climbed the mountain up to the point – we begin to see the end of our pilgrimage and the rays of Easter grow in their Intensity.

Lent is our self-crucifixion, our experience, limited as it is, of Christ’s commandment heard in the Gospel lesson of this Sunday: “It any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” (Mark 8:34). But we can neither take up our cross and follow Christ unless we have His Cross which He took up in order to save us. It is His Cross that gives not only meaning but also power to others.

At the Divine Liturgy, the Trisagion Hymn (“Holy God, Holy and Mighty...”) is not sung, but it is replaced with “We bow to your Cross O Lord, and we glorify Your holy resurrection. After singing each verse of the hymn, the faithful make a profound bow. After the Liturgy, every one present will come forward to kiss the Cross.

FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION



In his homily on the Annunciation, Nicholas Cabasilas states, “The Incarnation was not only the work of God, but also that of the will and faith of the Virgin. Without the consent of the Most Pure, without the collaboration of her faith, the plan of God would have been as impossible to realize as it would have been without the intervention of the three divine Persons themselves. God had chosen her for His Mother and borrowed the flesh she willingly accepted to surrender to Him. As He was incarnate of His own free will, He wanted His mother to give Him birth as freely and willingly.”

To express the importance of the Annunciation and Mary’s acceptance of God’s invitation, Byzantine churches portray the icon the Annunciation on the Royal Doors of the iconostas, the entrance into the Holy of Holies. The four Evangelists are also depicted on the Royal Doors to signify that as the Holy Spirit descended upon Mary to bring about the Incarnation of the Word of God as Man, He also descended upon the Evangelists to bring about the Word of God in the Gospels.

The Troparion of the Feast begins, “**Today is the beginning of our salvation and the revelation of the eternal mystery: The Son of God becomes the Son of a Virgin.**” Thus, with a song of praise our Church greets the feast of the Annunciation of the Mother of God, calling it the beginning of our salvation. This is one of the most important feasts of our Liturgical Year. It has been celebrated in the East since the year 353 as told by St. Athanasius. The feast of the Annunciation is not only one of the twelve greatest Feast Days of the Church, but its service is taken even if it should fall on Palm Sunday, Great and Holy Friday, or on the feast of the Resurrection of our Lord (Pascha).

“GIVE-UP’S” THAT ARE GOOD FOR OUR SOULS...

Give up hatred – return good for evil. *Give up being negative* – be positive.

Give up jealousy – congratulate someone for a good job well done.

Give up complaining – be grateful. *Give up worry* – instead, trust God.

Give up gossiping – control your thoughts and your tongue.

Give up discouragement – be full of hope. *Give up anger* – be more patient.

Give up gloom – enjoy beauty around you. *Give up being a pessimist* – be optimistic.

Give up harsh judgments – think kindly thoughts of others.

Give up pettiness – be more mature.

St. Paul tells us to fill our minds with everything that is good, true and pure. He knew it wouldn’t be easy, but he knew there is also God’s help to see us through tough times.