

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 William Rupp to schedule.

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

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Father William Rupp 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 William Rupp is available on other days and times by appointment.

ETERNAL MEMORY



Grant, O Lord, eternal rest to the soul of Your servant +**Richard Kilbert, Sr.** who has recently fallen asleep in the Lord. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.



WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

*God is a little like General Electric
He lights your path.*

*God is a little like Bayer Aspirin
He works wonders.*

*God is a little like Hallmark Cards
He cared enough to send the
very best.*

*God is a little like Tide
He gets out the stains that
others leave behind.*

*God is a little like Alberto VO-5 Hair Spray
He holds through all kinds of weather.*

*God is a little like Dial Soap
Aren't you glad you know Him?
Don't you wish everyone did?*

*God is a little like Alka Seltzer
Oh, what a relief He is!*

*God is a little like Scotch Tape
You can't see Him but you
know He's there.*

*And one of my favorites is,
He is like air,
we can't see it but we know
it's there.*

*God is a little like the Copper Top Battery
Nothing can outlast Him.*

*God is a little like American Express
Don't leave home without Him!*

Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of September 3:

5:00 PM: 50; 10:00 AM: 88

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,778.75



- **Tues., Sept. 13** Vigil Liturgy for Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross at 6:00 PM.
- **Wed., Sept. 14** No meat on Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.
- **Wed., Sept. 14** Office Closed (Feast Day). Lisa will be in office on Tues., 9/13.
- **Mon., Sept. 26** Church Cleaning Party 9 AM – Noon. Come lend a helping hand.
- **Sun., Oct. 2** ECF Classes will begin. Classes for K through 12 will meet from 9:00 AM to 9:45 AM in the Social Hall. Registration forms are in the bulletin rack at the Belvedere entrance.



THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE IS

“GOING BANANAS”



After each of the Liturgies: September 10 – 11, 17 – 18, & 24 – 25, we will be selling a variety of Banana Breads. Each weekend 2 different flavors will be available. Breads will cost \$6.00 each.

Please stop by the Social Hall and support this event. Enjoy some homemade Banana Bread!

P.S. – We will let the Lady Bug rest for this month.

CHINESE AUCTION BASKETS

Baskets are being made for a Chinese Auction Fundraiser to benefit our 100th Anniversary. Tickets will go on sale the weekend of **September 17th** after the Liturgies.

Please first call Ruth Ann Capito @ 330-398-0667 to donate or to help out.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

In the Byzantine Tradition, each communicant is supposed to receive the Eucharist with their first name stated. The priest says, “The servant of God, (name), partakes of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and for life everlasting. Amen.” Therefore, as Father Will is learning names, please state your first name when you approach the holy chalice. When receiving Holy Communion, please just tilt your head back and open your mouth. There is no need to bend back as Father is able to reach your mouth even if you are very tall.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022
SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	11 Sept.	<i>SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Post-festive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. Our Venerable Mother Theodora of Alexandria.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 10:00 AM	+Steve Zombar – Betty, John & Jennifer +Douglas Winland – Trudy Vasco
Monday	12 Sept.	<i>Leave-taking (Otdanije) of the Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Autonomous.</i> No Divine Services
Tuesday	13 Sept.	<i>Pre-festive Day of the Feast of 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>
(Vigil Liturgy)	6:00 PM	+Elizabeth Prokop – J. Burns
Wednesday	14 Sept.	<i>FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. The Passing of our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople. (pgs. 253 – 258)</i> No Divine Services
Thursday	15 Sept.	<i>Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross. The Holy Great Martyr Nicetas. Our Venerable Father Symeon, Archbishop of Thessalonica.</i> No Divine Services
Friday	16 Sept.	<i>Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross. The Holy Great Martyr Euphemia.</i> No Divine Services
Saturday	17 Sept.	<i>Saturday after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross. The Holy Martyr Sophia (Wisdom) and Her 3 Children, Faith, Hope and Charity .</i>
(Vigil Lit.)	5:00 PM	+Terri Yoder – Starr family
Sunday	18 Sept.	<i>SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS. Our Venerable Father Eumenius the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Gortyna.</i>
	10:00 AM	+Bill Fusselman – Mary Ann Karchut & Bob Fejko



Attentive to the Word
SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

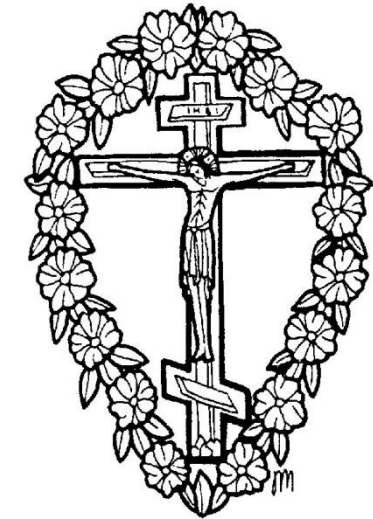
John 3: 13 – 17

*Tone 5 Troparion only Pg. 146; follow directions
 on Pgs. 248 & 249 (under heading Sept. 8 – 12)*



On the Sunday which precedes the great and important feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14), our Church prescribes a portion of Saint Paul's letter to the Galatians (6:11-18) and a few short verses from Saint John's Gospel (3:13-17) for our reflection and spiritual consideration.

Saint Paul tells his readers that the cross of Christ is what gives his life focus and perspective. At the time Saint Paul wrote to the Galatians, there were individuals in the community forcing pagan converts to follow the old Jewish practices which they then bragged about having the converts observe. Saint Paul corrects these individuals and tells them that what really matters is having been made new all over again in Christ through His cross. The Cross opened again the gates of Paradise



closed by Adam's sin when he ate the forbidden fruit. The tree of the cross stands forever as the sign of God's great love for fallen mankind.

The text taken from Saint John's Gospel emphasizes that great love. Saint John writes, "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not perish but may have everlasting life." This short verse (3:16) is often quoted. Sometimes you may see it on T-shirts, in sports arenas and other public places. It is a stirring reminder that our Creator did not abandon us to perdition but kept His promise to send a Redeemer Who came in the Person of His own Son, Jesus – our Lord.

Verse 16, however, must be linked with the dramatic and challenging words of our Lord recorded further on in Saint John's Gospel (15:13):

"There is no greater love than this - to lay down one's life for one's friends." Here Jesus talks about what He would do for us when He was nailed to His cross – there to give His life that we might have life.

The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross marks the occasion of its discovery by Saint Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine in the early fourth century. In our churches, a cross, after solemn ceremony, is prominently displayed on the tetrapod, decorated with arrangements of beautiful flowers to remind us as Saint Paul did the Galatians, of the proper focus we must keep as we walk behind our Lord bearing the burdens, the hurts, the disappointments, the suffering and sadness which can be and is sometimes part of our human condition.

Our Church also reminds us that behind the darkness of the Cross shines a bright promise and hope of the new life gained by it because Jesus gave His life for us: "Come, O people, let us contemplate the marvelous wonder; let us bow before the power of the Cross. For the tree of Paradise gave rise to the reign of death, and now a Tree has made our life blossom forth when the sinless Savior was nailed upon it. And now, all the nations that are nourished by this incorruptible food sing praises: You destroyed death by Your cross and set us free. O Lord, glory to You." (Veneration hymn at Matins)

The cross is venerated for eight days during which the troparion, "We bow to Your Cross, O Lord, and we glorify Your holy resurrection" is sung at all Services. Cross and Resurrection are never separated. Although the cross meant death, by His death Jesus brought and bought us unending life. May we live our lives to merit and gain life eternal.

(By Msgr. John T. Sekellick)

VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated on September 14. Veneration of the Holy Cross became public with the discovery of the true Cross of Christ about the year 326. It was discovered during excavation operations under Archbishop Macarius of Jerusalem (314-335). Tradition credits St. Helena with the discovery of the true cross of Christ. St. Helena sent a large portion of the Holy Wood to her son, Emperor Constantine the Great, in Constantinople. Another portion was sent to Rome which was later deposited in the Basilica of the Holy Cross of Jerusalem.

The first public veneration of the Holy Cross took place in Jerusalem on September 14, 335. The annual observance of the veneration of the Holy Cross attracted a great multitude of pilgrims. To enable the many pilgrims to view and venerate the Holy Cross, the Bishop elevated the relics of the Cross. This was the beginning of the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. "We bow to Your cross, O Lord, and we glorify Your holy resurrection."