

## 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.

## A PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE TOO MUCH

To my brothers and sisters in developing countries.

While I was deciding which oat bran cereal to eat this morning,  
you were searching the ground for leftover grains  
from the passing wheat truck.

While I was jogging at the health center, you were working  
in the wealthy landowner's fields under a scorching sun.

While I was choosing between diet and regular soda,  
your parched lips were yearning for the touch of water.

While I complained about the poor service in the  
gourmet restaurant, you were gratefully  
receiving a bowl of rice.

While I poured my "fresh and better" detergent in  
the washing machine, you stood in the river  
with your bundle of clothes.

While I watched the evening news on my wide screen  
television set, you were being terrorized and taunted  
by a dictatorship government.

While I read the newspaper and drank my cup of  
steaming coffee, you walked the dusty, hot miles  
to the tiny, crowded school room to  
try to learn how to read.

While I scanned the ads for a bargain on an extra piece of  
clothing, you woke up and put on the same shirt  
and pants that you have worn for many months.

While I built a 4 bedroom house for the 3 of us,  
your family of 10 found shelter in a one-room hut.

While I went to church last Sunday and felt more than  
slightly bored, you looked out upon the earth and  
those around you and felt gratitude to God  
for being alive for one more day.

**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of August 27:**

5:00 PM: **50**; 10:00 AM: **68**

**Beheading of John the Baptist: 14**

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . . \$2,214.60**



- **Mon., Sept. 5** Labor Day. Office will be closed.
- **Wed., Sept. 7** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program 9 AM – 2 PM.
- **Wed., Sept. 7** Vigil Liturgy for Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos at 6:00 PM.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO MARY JENNINGS –**

**THIS MONTH'S LUCKY WINNER OF THE LADY BUG BOX!** 



**THE 100<sup>TH</sup> 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 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Tickets will go on sale the weekend of September 17<sup>th</sup> after the Liturgies.

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

**CHRISTIAN ONE-LINERS**

*Opportunity may knock once,  
but temptation bangs on  
the front door forever.*

*The task ahead of us is never as  
great as the Power behind us.*

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	4 Sept.	<i>THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch. The Holy Prophet Moses, who saw God.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>+Lynn Byers Britton – Byers family</b> <b>+Edward Smith – mother, Dianna Koza</b>
Monday	5 Sept.	<i>The Holy Prophet Zachary, Father of the Forerunner and His Wife, the Holy and Venerable Elizabeth.</i> <b>No Divine Services</b>
Tuesday	6 Sept.	<i>Memory of the Miracle of the Holy Archangel Michael at Colossae in Chionia. The Holy Martyr Eudoxius and His Companions.</i> <b>No Divine Services</b>
Wednesday	7 Sept.	<i>Pre-festive Day of the Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Martyr Sozon.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>+Mary Passek – daughters &amp; sons</b>
Thursday	8 Sept.	<i>FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF THE THEOTOKOS. (pgs. 243 – 246)</i> <b>No Divine Services</b>
Friday	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> <b>No Divine Services</b>
Saturday	10 Sept.	<i>Saturday Before the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Post-festive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos. The Holy Martyrs Menodora, Mitrodora and Nymphodora.</i>
(Vigil Lit.)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Steve Zombar – Betty, John &amp; Jennifer</b>
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>
	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>+Douglas Winland – Trudy Vasco</b>



Attentive to the Word  
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 4 Matt. 21: 33 – 42

Pgs. 141 – 142



We as the Christian Church should receive this parable with fear and trembling. If the nation of Israel had been given great riches, what have we as Eastern Catholic Christians been given? We no longer wait for the Messiah, He has come. In fact, we're preparing even now to receive His body and blood in the Divine Liturgy. Man's salvation is no longer prophesied, but was fulfilled in Christ. We are no longer slaves of the law, but free in the love of Christ. And we, who are in possession of the fullness of this Mystery, are we caring for it any better than God's first chosen people?

The vineyard of the Church is planted. It is hedged from the world by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Our altar is the heavenly altar, and our worship takes place in the heavens. We have been given all we need for the bountiful harvest. But what will our Lord find when He returns? Will we be working diligently in the vineyard – both tilling the soil of our own hearts, as well as calling those outside the vineyard to enter into the joy of the Lord? Or will we just be living, taking advantage of what the Lord has given us, but not doing our part in return?

Christ makes it abundantly clear both in this morning's parable and in other places, if we don't use the gifts we've been given – both as a Church body, and as individual Christians – then the gifts will be taken away. And we'll be called to give an account for our failures. In response to the love and mercy of our Savior, let us strive to bring forth fruits worthy of the kingdom of Heaven. Fruits of love, mercy and compassion. Fruits of prayer, of a sinless life, and Christ-likeness. Fruits that we can give to our Master in return for all that He has given us.

GIVING . . . .

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the **heart**: *love, kindness, joy, understanding, sympathy, tolerance, forgiveness.*

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the **mind**: *ideas, dreams, purposes, ideals, principles, plans, inventions, poetry.*

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of **words**: *encouragement, inspiration, guidance.*

Emerson said it well: "Rings and jewels are not gifts, but they are apologies for gifts. The only gifts – true gifts – are a portion of yourself." God has offered us the gift of becoming His sons and daughters through faith. This is the gift we have all received. This is the heart of our worship and celebration.

THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS



When the time drew near for the birth of the Savior of the world, there lived in the Galilean city of Nazareth a descendant of King David, Joachim, with his wife, Anna. They were both pious people and were known not for their royal ancestry, but for their humility and charity.

Their entire lives were permeated with love for God and people. They lived to a ripe old age but never had children and this grieved them very much. In spite of their old age, they did not cease to petition God to send them children. They made a vow that if a child were born to them, they would consecrate it to the service of God. At that time, every Jew hoped that his posterity would take part in the kingdom of the Messiah, that is, Christ the Savior. Therefore, every childless Jew was held in contempt by the others, for this was considered a great punishment by God for one's sins. This was especially trying to Joachim, as a descendant of King David, because from his seed Christ was to be born.

For their patience, great faith, love for God and for each other, God sent Joachim and Anna great joy. Toward the end of their lives a daughter was born to them. According to the command of an angel of God, She was given the name Mary. The birth of Mary brought joy not only to Her parents, but to all people, because She was foreordained by God to be the Mother of the son of God, the Savior of the world. The Nativity of the Holy Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Eastern Churches as one of its major holidays on September 8.