

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 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 Fr. Simeon is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Fr. Simeon whenever a loved-one is hospitalized.

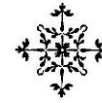
Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Simeon before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of Sts. 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: Sister Barbara is in the Parish office from 10 AM – 2 PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Father Simeon is available on other days and times by appointment.

ETERNAL MEMORY



Father Robert Halas, a priest of our Eparchy, has recently fallen asleep in the Lord. May the Lord grant to his servant, the priest Robert blessed repose and eternal memory.

ALTAR SERVER CLASS

Several of our young people have voiced a desire to assist our priest as altar servers. We will be scheduling an instruction class soon. The opportunity to become an altar server is open to all children who have made their First Reconciliation. It requires a commitment on the part of each child and parent for regular attendance at the Divine Liturgy and other Liturgical Services. There will be a "Sign-up Sheet" on the bulletin board in the Social Hall for those who wish to make that commitment.

CHOCOLATE BYZANTINE CROSS SALE

We will have *Chocolate Byzantine Crosses* for sale for Easter. The orders must be **prepaid** and must be **in the office by 6 March 2016**. Envelopes are located at the Church entrances for those interested in purchasing *Dark, Milk or White Chocolate Crosses*. The purchase price is \$5.00 each.

"CHANGED BY THALERHOF"... The Warren Carpatho-Rusyn Society is sponsoring a documentary film depicting the Carpatho-Rusyns and their internment in the concentration camps of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1914. The film is being shown at the Butler Institute of American Art on Sunday, February 28, 2016 at 2:00 PM. It is a highly recommended and free event.



(PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 14 February:

5:00 PM: **64** ; 11:00 AM: **98**

Pre-sanctified Liturgy: 26

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,368.00

(SM) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 14 February:

25 from St. Michael; **10** from St. Peter & Paul

Pre-sanctified Liturgy: 6 from St Michael; **9** from St. Peter & Paul

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$511.00



- **Sun. Feb. 21** ECF Religion Classes - 9:30 to 10:45 AM.
- **Sun. Feb. 21** Bible Study 4 PM in the Social Hall – Session 2.
- **Mon. Feb.22** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM to Noon. We can use your help.



NUTROLLS AND PASKA BREADS

The Ladies Guild will be baking Rolls and Paska Bread for the Feast of the Resurrection. **Advance orders only!** Rolls available are nut, apricot, poppy, apricot-nut, and lekvar (prune). Rolls are \$10 each and will be ready for pick up on the weekend of 12 & 13 March. Both regular paska bread and paska bread with raisins are available for \$6 each. Paska bread will be ready for pick up on the weekend of 19 & 20 March. **Order forms are located in the Social Hall. Deadline to place your order is 6 March 2016.**

WANTED . . . PUSSYWILLOWS

It seems a little strange to be asking for pussywillows in the month of February, but with the spring-like weather that we have been experiencing, some plants and pussywillows have already emerged from their winter nap. Please . . . when your pussywillows **begin** to blossom, please cut them and bring them to church. We will store them here until Palm Sunday. **DO NOT PUT THEM IN WATER.**

SPIRITUALITY DAY

The Benedictine Sisters of Queen of Heaven Monastery are offering a Day of Spirituality on Saturday, 27 February 2016. It will be held in the Social Hall from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. **To register, please call 330-856-1813 or e-mail gohm@netdotcom.com before Monday, 22 February 2016.**

DAY OF REFLECTION FOR CATECHISTS & INTERESTED ADULTS – MARCH 12

at St. John’s Cathedral, Munhall,PA.
 . . . entitled “Iconography: No separation between Humanity and Divinity.” The presenter is Father Elias Rafaj, who is both an Iconographer and an excellent teacher. He has the gift of taking a difficult theological concept and explaining it in a way anyone can understand. Brochures are on the Belvedere side entrance. (Perhaps we could car pool?)

21 FEBRUARY 2016

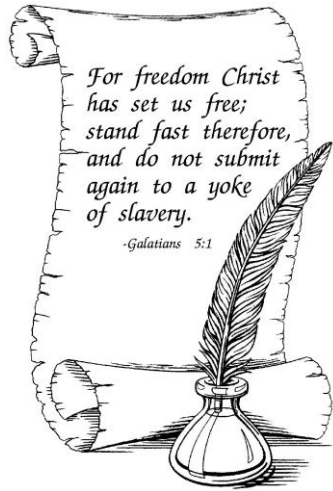
SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	21 February	<i>SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. Our Venerable Father Timothy of Symbola Our Holy Father Eustathius, Archbishop of Great Antioch.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Elizabeth Zombar – Stephen & Betty Zombar
(SM)	8:30 AM	+George Simko – wife, Millie
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Leonard Markovich – Don Yocum, Jr.
Monday	22 February	<i>Finding of the Venerable relics of the Martyrs at Eugenia.</i> No Divine Services
Tuesday	23 February	<i>The Holy Martyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna.</i> No Divine Services
Wednesday	24 February	<i>First and Second Finding of the Head of the Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.</i>
(SM)	6:00 PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy with observance of 3rd All Souls.
Thursday	25 February	<i>Our Holy Father Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople.</i> No Divine Services
Friday	26 February	<i>Our Holy Father Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza. Holy Great Martyr Photina the Samaritan.</i>
(PP)	6:00 PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
Saturday	27 February	<i>Third All Souls Saturday. Venerable Father and Confessor Procopius the Decapolite.</i>
(PP)	9:00 AM	Third All Souls Divine Liturgy with reading of Diptychs.
(PP)	5:00 PM	+Michael Begeny – Barbara & Jose Avilies
Sunday	28 February	<i>THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Our Venerable Father and Confessor Basil, Fellow Ascetic of Procopius.</i>
(SM)	8:30 AM	Prayer Intention of Rosary Society
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Pauline Kostraba – Steve, Angela & Sam Kostraba



Attentive to the Word
Second Sunday of the Great Fast
Mark 2:1 – 12
Tone 6 p. 152 - 153 and p. 222 - 223

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT



*For freedom Christ
has set us free;
stand fast therefore,
and do not submit
again to a yoke
of slavery.*

-Galatians 5:1

We have already completed two weeks of the Great Fast. The basic Lenten Themes – prayer and penance, fasting and forgiveness, almsgiving and asceticism – have been placed before us in the various Services of our Church.

Now it is time to look at the real goal of these practices. The Great Fast is not a type of “spiritual Olympic Games.” The goal is not to try to outdo others or even to outdo ourselves. The real reason for our Lenten effort is freedom. We need to be set free from whatever has a hold on us. In other words, all of our efforts during this season are directed to the goal of setting us free from anything that ties us down in slavery and whatever keeps us from

sharing in a deeper relationship with God.

During Lent it is well to remember attitudes that are harmful to my neighbor – which lead to these positive denials:

- Denial of gossip, in order to know the meaning of thoughtfulness
- Denial of faultfinding, to know the meaning of friendship
- Denial of hasty judgments, to know the meaning of understanding
- Denial of bitterness, to know the meaning of joy
- Denial of bigotry, to know the meaning of humanity

During Lent it is well to remember attitudes that are harmful to my family – which lead to these positive denials:

- Denial of irrational anger, in order to know the meaning of self-control
- Denial of stinginess, to know the meaning of generosity
- Denial of pettiness, to know the meaning if openness
- Denial of cowardice, to know the meaning of courage
- Denial of hardness, to know the meaning of forgiveness

During Lent it is well to remember attitudes that are harmful to myself – which lead to these positive denials:

- Denial of arrogance, in order to know the meaning of wisdom
- Denial of selfishness, to know the meaning of freedom
- Denial of self-righteousness, to know the meaning of faith
- Denial of despair, to know the meaning of hope
- Denial of hate, to know the meaning of love



PRAYER OF ST. EPHREM

Lord and Master of my life,
spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair,
lust for power, and idle chatter.

Instead, bestow on me your servant,
the spirit of integrity, humility, patience and love.

Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins
and not judge my brothers and sisters;
for You are blessed forever and ever. Amen.