

## 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. Andrew to schedule.

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

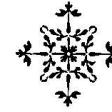
**Funerals:** Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Andrew before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

**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:** The Parish office is open from 10 AM – 2 PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.

## ETERNAL MEMORY



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

## 95<sup>TH</sup> BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY . . .

There is bus transportation for Thursday July 23, 2015 to Kennywood Park. Call the Office for more information. Deadline for bus reservation is July 8. We can order the discount park tickets from the parish office. *Park ticket prices* are: \$24.00 (ages 3 to 54) and \$14.00 (age 55+). *Luncheon tickets* are \$15.00 (ages 11+) and \$8.00 (ages 3 to 10). Deadline for park tickets and luncheon orders is July 5, 2015. These must be pre-paid – and in our Parish Office by July 5, 2015. This is a nice way to spend quality family time, see old friends and make new ones.

## REMEMBERING THE HOMEBOUND

We pray to the Lord, the Giver of Life and all good gifts, for the health and blessings of those who are ill, homebound, in care facilities, and are unable to attend church. In our good fortune and many blessings from God, let us not forget those who are also part of our parish family – remember them with prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, etc. Let us share our blessings!

## 48<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GRECIAN FESTIVAL

July 22 – 26, 2015, St. Demetrios Center, 3223 Atlantic St. NE. Wednesday & Thursday: 4-11; Friday & Saturday: 4 – 12; Sunday: 1 – 10. Free Admission & Free Parking. FUN FOR ALL! Greek Food – Gyros – Loukoumathes – Souvlaki – Greek Pastries – Dining Facilities – Ethnic Music – Ethnic Dancers – Rides and Much More!



### Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 28 June:

5:00 PM: 73; 11:00 AM: 107

Feast of SS Peter & Paul: 42

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . . \$3,971.60**

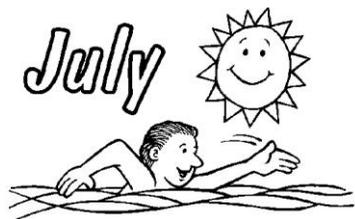


- **Sat. July 11** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9 AM to 2 PM. Your help is needed.
- **Tues. July 14** St. Vincent de Paul Pizza Day – 9AM to 2 PM. People are still hungry, so we still need your help!



**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

July 23 – Byzantine Family Day at Kennywood Park.  
 August 23 – Our Parish Picnic.



**SUMMER IS HERE** – and a time for Vacations – much needed vacations! A time to re-create and come back to the pilgrimage of life! It is a time of summer breezes, beautiful flowers, and many times – poor church attendance. We still have a need to gather as God’s people and to worship – even if we are on vacation or traveling, there are many opportunities to give time to the Lord! As you leave, have a wonderful, safe and happy time! And when you return, know that you were missed and we are happy to see you back with us – with such renewed life.

**FAITH AND FUN DAY – 2015**

Altar Servers! Mark your calendar for Thursday, August 20, and get ready for another great day of “Faith and Fun.” Open to all active altar servers (elementary through college), this exciting day, sponsored by the Office of Vocations, is a way to say “Thank You” to active altar servers for volunteering time and service to your Church. From a faith presentation and Divine Liturgy with Archbishop William, to a hearty lunch, Consol Energy Center tour, and Laser Storm tag, and ending with Pirates vs. Giants baseball game and “Faith Night” personal testimony presentation by Pirate players – you will have a memorable day-long experience.

Don’t delay – space is limited, so sign up with Father Andrew ASAP!

5 JULY 2015

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	5 July	<i>SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Venerable Father Athanasius of Mt. Athos.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Sandra Bishop – husband, Ken</b>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Prayer Intentions of the Rosary Society</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Doris Mosko – Ron Mosko</b>
Monday,	6 July	<i>Our Venerable Father Sisoës the Great</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday,	7 July	<i>Venerable Fathers Thomas of Maleum and Acacius, mentioned in The Ladder.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Wednesday,	8 July	<i>Holy Great Martyr Procopius.</i>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+John &amp; +Josephine Wargo – daughter, Elizabeth</b>
Thursday,	9 July	<i>Holy Martyr Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina.</i>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+Jackie Pilasky – Jane E. Smith</b>
Friday,	10 July	<i>Holy 45 Martyrs in Nicopolis in Armenia. Venerable Father Anthony of the Kiev Lavra. Maronite Franciscan Brothers, Francis, Abd-el-Mooti and Raphael Massabki, and 8 others killed in Damascus in 1860.</i>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+Mary Zentkovich – Betty Zombar</b>
Saturday	11 July	<i>Holy Martyr the illustrious Euphemia. Passing of Olga, Princess of Kiev, baptized Helen. Holy Father Benedict.</i>
(PP)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+John &amp; Pauline Kostraba &amp; Pat Harper – J. Mirabelli</b>
Sunday,	12 July	<i>SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Holy Martyrs Proclus and Hilarion. Venerable Fr. Michael of Malein.</i>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+Michael Guinaugh – Nancy DeAngelo</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Gregory Alex – Margaret Gnat</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Matthew 9: 1 – 8

Tone 5 Pages 146 - 148



In the Epistle to the Romans (12:6-14), St. Paul's image of the Church as the Body of Christ is a classic one. With this image, there is a refusal to insist on a dead uniformity in Church membership. We all have gifts that can be used both to preach the Gospel in various ways to others, and to enhance the faith that people already possess. We all have abilities that can be used to deepen community spirit and the intensity of our common experience of the Lord.

St. Paul speaks of the gifts of prophecy, exhortation, teaching, administration and generosity - the ability to help with time or money. These differences make the Body of Christ a dynamic entity that is not static, but a growing,

thriving community. All Christians are obliged to enable each other to realize that every person is an integral and important part of the Church. The different members of the Body are not to be ranked in order of importance but in order of function. We are all functionally interrelated. There are no super-Christians among us. We all contribute to the community Jesus founded. Are we doing our share? Are we offering our time and talents to the Church or is some other organization in town getting them?

All through Jesus' public life He was constantly looking for occasions to teach His message and mission to the human race. On many occasions He showed His divinity by manifesting His power over the ills of the body. But many times He also showed His power and His concern over the ills of the souls at the same time. Jesus used every opportunity to show His followers that He possessed divine power over sin. He wanted them to know that He could forgive sins on His own right.

One such occasion is recorded in the Gospel for this Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, taken from St. Matthew (9:1-8). A paralyzed man was brought to Him. Jesus saw the faith of the man and of those who brought him, and immediately said, "Have courage,

son, your sins are forgiven." At this the Scribes judged Jesus to be blaspheming. Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked them, "Why do you harbor evil thoughts? Which is less trouble to say, 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Stand up! Roll up your mat and go home.'" Jesus shows them that if He has the divine power to heal the man instantly, he surely also has the power to forgive sins. Both require divine power.

It is certainly consoling to know that Christ has this power of forgiveness and that he gave this power to the Apostles and their successors on Easter Sunday. From that day on down to our day the Church has exercised this wonderful power through her sacramental ministers in the Sacrament (Mystery) of Reconciliation.

We should ask ourselves if we really appreciate this great sacrament of forgiveness. Do we consider it another instance of Our Lord exercising His power of spiritual healing? Is a summer celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) on our schedule? The opportunity is always provided. Let us avail ourselves of God's generosity and forgiveness.

By Fr. Gary Powell, OFM cap.



The gospels many times speak about paralysis. Being paralyzed is a very devastating situation. But in all these gospel stories we must look with spiritual eyes and listen with spiritual ears because many times the paralysis is more than physical. Spiritual paralysis due to sin or the inability to adjust to life's circumstances are also meant in biblical paralysis.

There are so many people in the world today who are sad, dejected, feel that they don't amount to much because of these negative feelings about themselves. They have such a poor image of themselves. Therefore, they become spiritually and emotionally paralyzed in their own lives. People lose their zest for living: have no goals, no future out-look. This is sad because it is not God's plan for any of us. Jesus said, "I have come to give life and to give it more abundantly."

Yet people ignore God acting in their lives with so many excuses. I'm too tired: I'm not smart enough: It will take too long: I'm too sick: I'm too old - and a whole long litany of negative attitudes. Never let these excuses stand in your way in accomplishing God's will in your life.