

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.

SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON

The 51st annual pilgrimage will be held from 13 August through 15 August 2016. Metropolitan William will celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, 14 August at 7 PM. All of our local clergy are asked to concelebrate with Archbishop William. You are encouraged to attend this Divine Liturgy. The feast of the Dormition (Assumption) is a Holy Day of Obligation in both the East and West. You can fulfill your obligation to attend the Divine Liturgy on this Feast Day by attending this Vigil Liturgy at the Shrine. See complete schedule at www.ourladyoflebanonshrine.com

MARIAPOCH PILGRIMAGE

The Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma invites you to its annual eparchial pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch, 17486 Mumford Road, Burton, OH on 13 August and 14 August. See complete pilgrimage schedule at www.mariapoch.org.

BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

Once again we will be offering a Bible Study Class on Sunday afternoon at 4 PM. In these sessions, we will be studying *Walking Toward Eternity: Daring to Walk the Walk*. This is a 8 session course and **will begin Sunday, 11 September 2016**. If you are interested, please call 330-372-1875 or email sppbyzchurch@gmail.com to register. Registrations are necessary so that we can order the number of books needed for the sessions. The cost for the materials is \$14.

WORKSHOP FOR CATECHIST AND INTERESTED ADULTS

August 20, 2016 – 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary. Topic: “*We Journey with God and Each Other*”. Registrations are needed. Cost: \$25. Brochures are at the Belvedere entrance.



(PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 17 July:

5:00 PM: 59 11:00 AM: 87

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$1,834.25

(SM) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 17 July:

18 from St. Michael; 7 from St. Peter & Paul

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$333.00



- **Mon. July 25** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM to Noon. Many hands make light work...we can use your help!
- **Thurs. July 28** Byzantine Catholic Day – Kennywood Park
- **Aug. 1 – 14** **Fast in preparation for the Feast of the Dormition of the Blessed Mother.** We recommend abstaining from meat on Wednesday and Friday
- **Wed. Aug. 3** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9 AM to 2 PM. We can use your help.



A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

Metropolitan William and the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will honor all those couples celebrating their milestone wedding anniversary of 10, 25, 40, 50, 55, 60, 65 or additional years that are multiples of five during this year of 2016. Please inform the Parish Office by 1 August 2016 if you are celebrating one of these milestone anniversaries, so that your names can be submitted to the Chancery. The Archieparchial celebration will take place at St. Elias Church, Munhall on Sunday, 11 September 2016 at 3 PM. **Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this.**

COMBINED PARISH PICNIC



Please mark your calendars for the afternoon of Sunday, **August 21st at St. Demetrios Center Grounds at 3223 Atlantic, NE.** We are planning a combined parish picnic with St. Michael Parish. Keep the date open and plan to have a fun afternoon with your fellow parishioners. Last year we had a wonderful time! We hope to see all of you there! More information and sign-up sheets will be forthcoming.

24 JULY 2016

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	24 July	<i>TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Great Martyr Christine. The Holy Martyrs Boris and Gleb, baptized Roman and David.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Dorothy Byers – M/M Harry Bobco, Jr.
(SM)	8:30 AM	Prayer Intentions of the Rosary Society
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Anna Bernard – John & Carol Parish
Monday	25 July	<i>Dormition of St. Ann, Mother of the Mother of God. Memory of the Holy Women Olympiada and Euphraxia. Commemoration of the Fifth Ecumenical Council.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	26 July	<i>Holy Priest-Martyr Hermolaus and His Companions. Holy Venerable Martyr Paraskevia. Venerable Father Moses of the Carpathian Monastery of the Caves.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Tom James – wife, Patricia
Wednesday	27 July	<i>Holy Great Martyr Panteleimon. Memory of our Holy Father Clement, the Wonder-worker, Archbishop of Ohrid.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+John & +Josephine Wargo – daughter, Elizabeth
Thursday	28 July	<i>Holy Apostles and Deacons Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon and Parmenas. Blessed Mother Alphonsa Muttathupadathu of Kerala.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Friday	29 July	<i>Holy Martyr Callinicus.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	30 July	<i>Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus and Their Companions.</i>
(PP)	5:00 PM	+Frank & +Barbara Pavlik – Pavlik family
Sunday	31 July	<i>ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Prefestive Day of the Procession of the Venerable and Life-creating Cross. Holy and Righteous Eudocimus.</i>
(SM)	8:30 AM	Heath of Sue Johnson – M/M Robert Cabosky
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Fr. Andrew Chura – M/M Richard McGrath



Attentive to the Word Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Mt. 17:14 – 23

Tone 1 Pages 125 - 127

The famous story of the Old Testament involving a small, shepherd boy by the name of David and a towering giant by the name of Goliath is well-known. The Israelites were fighting a losing battle against their enemies, the Philistines. The Jews were overwhelmed by the size of this towering enemy warrior. When they saw him, they reacted by noticing only how big he was. But David saw how much smaller he was than God.

In today's gospel (Matt. 17:14-23) Jesus helps us put into perspective the giants that intimidate and try to control our lives. He tells His disciples and us, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there', and it will move, and nothing will be impossible to you."

The gospel is telling us that there is no difficulty bigger than God. He is bigger than any temptation, any sin, any failure, any problem. When we place our lives in His hands, through a personal act of faith, He gives us the power to become bigger than we ever dreamed we could be – bigger than an illness, bigger than our weaknesses, bigger than our hatred, bigger than our prejudices, bigger than our defeats. With Christ we can have a giant within us. Saint John writes in his first epistle: "He who is in you (that is Christ) is greater than he who is in the world (that is Satan)" (1 John 4:4).

In today's gospel, Jesus Himself restores a boy to his right mind after His own disciples fail because they doubted the powers He had given them. In those disciples we easily see ourselves when we confront the giants and mountains of life. The secret to understanding and undoing them is to believe that no person, no situation, no set of circumstances is bigger than God.

A man whose life was guided by that kind of belief was Saint Paul. He was afflicted with a serious physical infirmity which he talks about in his second letter to

the Corinthians. He calls it his "thorn in the flesh". Even though he prayed to be delivered from it, God instead gave Him the power to live with it. That thorn in the flesh did not make Paul an invalid; it drove him to greater dependence on Christ and to greater power.

Today's gospel helps us to face the mountains in our own lives the conviction that faith can and will move them.

by Rev. John T. Sekellick, J.C.L.



A LIFE OF FAITH



The Gospel for the 10th Sunday after Pentecost tells the story about Jesus curing a young boy (Matthew 17: 14 – 22). All the Gospels give sample witness to the power of prayer. In this Sunday's Gospel we see Jesus respond to the prayer of faith of a man who asks Him to take pity on his son. When Jesus told His disciples that they could not cure the boy because they lacked trust or faith, He meant that they had failed to recognize the source of their power, which was Himself.

On the other hand, Jesus does not choose to cure every sickness or heal every disease, and He does not choose to do so in our own time either. To say that every sick person lacks sufficient faith is to be guilty of rash judgment of the person and to be presumptuous of God. For example, St. Theresa of Lisieux, (1873-1897) the Little Flower, died of tuberculosis at the age of twenty-four. There was nothing wrong with her faith. To say that God should have cured her and prolonged her life is to presume that we know more about it than God.

There is a mystery about life and its suffering. Faith is necessary, not to bring about cures and alleviate suffering, but to live with God and to accept God's will in our lives. A life of such total trust can do wondrous things and achieve great results in others. Is our faith deep, secure and abiding? Can we honestly say and believe that God is in charge of our lives - whatever happens? Are we open to responding to the Lord's call for unwavering faith?