

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.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

The laity, dedicated to Christ and anointed by the Holy Spirit, are marvelously called and wonderfully prepared so that ever more abundant fruits of the Spirit may be produced in them. For all their works, prayers and apostolic endeavors, their ordinary married and family life, their daily occupations, their physical and mental relaxation, if carried out in the Spirit, and even the hardships of life, if patiently borne—all these become "spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Pet 2:5). Together with the offering of the Lord's body, they are most fittingly offered in the celebration of the Eucharist. Thus, as those everywhere who adore in holy activity, the laity consecrate the world itself to God.

Vatican II, Constitution on the Church

HELP THE HOMELESS FLAPJACK BREAKFAST

A teenage parishioner from St. Anne's Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church in Austintown is seeking support for his Agabags service project. These bags, named after the word "agape" or "sacrificial love," are care packages that are distributed to the homeless in the Youngstown area. You can support this cause by donating money at the table by the Belvedere entrance and/or by attending his pancake breakfast from 8am-12 noon on Saturday, May 30 at St. Anne's social hall. More information is posted in the social hall.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Monsignor Sylvester Hladky Memorial Foundation will continue to offer scholarships toward tuition for students of all grade levels who wish to attend a Catholic elementary school, junior high or high school. Applications are now available for students for the 2015-2016 school year who are in need of financial assistance.

Parents may request an application *before May 31, 2015* by calling (330) 847-8257 or by writing to the following address: Monsignor Sylvester Hladky Memorial Foundation, PO Box 184, Warren, OH 44482. **All applications must be returned to the above address by June 6, 2015.**



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 17 May:

5:00 PM: 78; 11:00 AM: 94

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$3,864.35



- **Sun. May 24** Panachida for Pentecost at Ss. Peter & Paul Cemetery – 2:00 PM.
- **Tues. May 26** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM - Noon
- **Wed. June 3** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We can use your help.
- **Tues. June 9** St. Vincent de Paul Pizza Day – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- **Tues. June 9** Ladies Guild Meeting in the Social Hall – 7 PM



FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

The Father's Day Breakfast will be held after the 11:00 Liturgy on June 21. The cost of the breakfast will still be \$8, but the menu items will be different from what was served on Mother's Day. The youth would appreciate your continued support and generosity.

PENTECOST MONDAY

Before His Ascension, Jesus issued what has come to be called The Great Commission. A "commission" is "an authoritative command; a directive; a command." "Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" In Mt 28:18-20, Jesus charged His disciples to "go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you" Though addressed to the Lord's closest followers, this "Great Commission" clearly applies to the entire body of Christ.

When Jesus spoke these words directly to His disciples, and indirectly to us, He was giving the Church her marching orders. He was telling exactly what He expected us to do in His physical absence. The disciples took the Lord's command seriously. They went into the world and shared the Gospel of Jesus and thousands upon thousands were saved by the grace of God. Their message was so powerful and their witness so effective that their critics accused them of "turning the world upside down", Acts 17:6.

The truth is we all have a specific call in life. God has a purpose for each of us. We have a responsibility to answer that call by obediently following Him, no matter what the consequences. His command to make disciples is not beyond us, for all He asks is that we look in faith to Him to provide us with the grace to accomplish the task He has given to us...**And He promises to be with us.**

24 MAY 2015

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	24 May	<i>PENTECOST SUNDAY.</i>
Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Josephine Benedicktus – Friends of Ss. Peter & Paul Church
(SM)	8:30 AM	+Jason Lazor – Mike & Sue Johnson
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Todd Zumerling – Zoe Gardishar

THIS IS A FAST FREE WEEK!

Monday,	25 May	<i>PENTECOST MONDAY.</i>
(PP)	9:00 AM	Deceased Service Men and Women

Tuesday,	26 May	<i>Pentecost Tuesday. Holy Apostle Carpus, One of the Seventy. Holy Father Augustine of Canterbury, Enlightener of England. Feast of the Third Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist (transferred from Monday).</i>
		Clergy Days

Wednesday,	27 May	<i>Pentecost Wednesday. Holy Bishop-Martyr Therapont.</i>
		Clergy Days

Thursday,	28 May	<i>Pentecost Thursday. Venerable Father Nicestas, Bishop of Chalcedon..</i>
		No Divine Liturgy

Friday,	29 May	<i>Pentecost Friday. Holy Venerable Martyr and Virgin Theodosia.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy

Saturday	30 May	<i>Leave-taking of Pentecost. Venerable Father Isaac, Hegumen of the Dalmatian Monastery.</i>
(PP)	5:00 PM	+John, +Mary & +Paul Fejko – Robert Fejko

Sunday,	31 May	<i>SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS. Holy Apostle Hermes. Holy Martyr Hermeas.</i>
(SM)	8:30 AM	+Michael Guinaugh – Rosary Society
(PP)	11:00 AM	Special Intention of Margaret Gnat



Attentive to the Word

Pentecost Sunday
John 7: 37- 52 & 8:12
Pages 203 - 208



Before His Ascension into heaven, our Lord promised to send the Holy Spirit Who would teach His followers all things (John 16: 13). Saint Luke records His words also in the Acts of the Apostles, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will bear witness for Me to the ends of the world" (Acts 1:4). Today, through the liturgy of the Church, we celebrate the fulfillment of that promise: Christ sends the Holy Spirit to do His work for the Church. We kneel on Pentecost Sunday and sing a special prayer to implore the Holy Spirit, the "Treasury of Blessings," to use the power of His rich gifts on our behalf.

The Holy Spirit works in our souls to guide us in our association with others. But the Spirit is more than a guide; He is the Third Person of the Trinity, God Himself. His work is to strengthen and support us along the pathways of this life. To cultivate a deep spiritual relationship with the "Giver of Life" we must place no obstacle to the movement of grace, God's divine energy, within us in order to adhere to the command of the Lord, that is, to love one another (John 15: 12). Saint John tells us in his first epistle, "He who loves 'God must also love his brother" (1: 22).

Sometimes a great fault in our relationship with others is paying too much attention to living standards but neglecting Christian standards. How often do you hear the lament today that there is an acute shortage of kindness and consideration, and instead a selfishness is found among people? Yet, we know it is only in the love of others that we can make visible the invisible Christ, Whose life we share so intimately through holy baptism.

The clearest description of the work of the Spirit is given by Saint Paul in the epistle to the Galatians: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Gal. 5:22). This list could be elongated

by a description of the whole Christian life-situation: unobtrusive loyalty; self-forgetful kindness (such as in the tender care of the sick); duty done without fuss or bragging (as by mothers and fathers raising a family); the sinner's unshakeable confidence that God's mercy is unfathomable; steadfastness in temptations (especially in alcoholic or chemical dependency); kindness and sympathy towards another in need; ardent perseverance in silent prayer; patience under suffering; the joy of a good conscience. This and much more is the work of the Spirit today.

If the Holy Spirit were withdrawn from the world, we should realize quite clearly what His presence means. The world would be like a land from which the water has vanished. Water is not very remarkable because it is so common, but once it is gone, everything changes. Green fields wither into desert. Psalm 104 metaphorically describes the life of natural things as the breath or spirit of God. All living beings exist through this spirit: "When You hide Your face, they are dismayed; when You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth." (Psalm 104:29-30)

Today the Church joyously celebrates its' birthday because it receives the supernatural life of the Spirit: "Behold, we celebrate today the Feast of Pentecost, the descent of the Holy Spirit, the fulfillment of the Promise and the realization of Hope. How noble and awesome is this great mystery! Wherefore, O Lord and Creator of All, we cry out: 'Glory to You!" (*From the office of Vespers*)

Pentecost is the beginning of her mission to the world and the beginning of Christian unity within the diversity of nations, languages and cultures. We decorate our churches and homes with greenery as symbols of that new growth and new life. Jesus Christ has kept His promise, and the work of His Church and our salvation will continue and is secure!

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

MEMORIAL DAY

This day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. Since our nation was founded, almost two million men and women have sacrificed their lives to defend and preserve this precious land of hopes and dreams. When we pray for those who serve our country in the armed forces may we remember that that are REAL people and not merely statistics. They are people with family, friends and loved ones. May their memory be eternal!