

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, 5:00 PM - 5:30 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.

Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Sr. Barbara is in the office from 10 AM – 2 PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.

St. Nicholas Feastday Celebration

December 4th, after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy. All Parishioners and their families are invited to a covered-dish dinner in the Social Hall. Main entrée, dessert, and beverages will be provided. Parishioners are asked to bring a covered-dish, if they so desire. **If you plan to attend the dinner, we ask that you sign your family name on the sign-up sheet, with the number attending, so that we might be better prepared with food and seating arrangements as well as treats for the children. The sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board on the Belvedere Side entrance and in the Social Hall.** Our ECF Children will also present a short program and of course, St. Nicholas will be present. We hope to see all of you there!

Out Reach Project

. . . Our Parish will be collecting personal hygiene and other items not covered under food stamp or other programs for the needy. Each week, for the next 4 weeks, we will be collecting different items, and ask that you bring them with you to Church. **December 3rd and 4th**, will be the week for **paper products** (toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, diapers, etc.)

Spirituality Day!

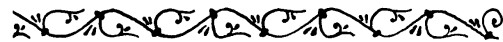
The Benedictine Sisters are offering a spirituality day on Saturday, December 10 from 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM in the Social Hall. The presenter is Reverend Archpriest John G. Petro, Rector of our Seminary in Pittsburgh. His topic is "The Cave Within." There will be time for reflection, questions and an opportunity to receive the Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession). To register, please call 330-856-1813 or e-mail gohm@netdotcom.com before Tuesday, December 6. There is no charge for the day. This will be an excellent help in preparing for the Nativity of Christ.



Our return for the gifts He continues to shower upon us . . . \$3,217.00



- Today, Nov 27 No ECF Catechetical Classes today. Classes will resume Sunday, December 4th, at 9:30 AM – 10: 45 AM. The children will attend the 11 AM Divine Liturgy together. A short St. Nicholas Day Program will follow.
There are several Major Holy Days coming up – December 6 and 8. Please bring the children to Church on those days, so that they are better able to make association with what they are learning, and with what they should be living in their life in the Church.
- **Thurs., Dec. 1 Parish Council Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall.**
- Thurs., Dec. 1 & Sun. Dec. 4 Session 8 of *A Quick Journey through the Bible*. The classes meet on Sunday at 4:00 PM and Thursday at 10:30 AM
- Sat. Dec. 3 Traditional Holy Supper – 4 PM at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Social Hall, sponsored by the Carpatho Rusyn Society. Adults: \$15.00 Children: \$7.50. Call Jim Basista (330-544-0107) for tickets and information.
- Wed. Dec. 7 St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9 AM to 2 PM
- Sat. Dec. 10 Spirituality Day – 1 PM to 4:30 PM in the Social Hall. Call 330-856-1813 or email qohm@netdotcom.com before Tuesday, December 6th to register. There is no charge for the day.



PARKING LOT UPDATE:

The Parking Lot is almost finished. Railings for the entrances are on order and should be arriving soon for installation. Curbing is done. **Please follow the entrance and exit arrows for Church Services and functions.**

27 NOVEMBER 2011

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	27 November	TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Holy Marty James the Persian. Venerable Father Palladius. Holy Icon of the Theotokos, called “the Sign.”
	Vigil Liturgy 6:00 PM 8:15 AM 11:00 AM	+ Steve Zombar – Elizabeth, Steve, Betty & Jen Zombar Intention of the Parish Family + Michael Prokop – wife, Elizabeth and Family
Monday,	28 November	<i>Holy Venerable Martyr Stephen the Younger. Holy Martyr Irenarchus.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday,	29 November	<i>Holy Martyr Paramon. Holy Martyr Philemon. Venerable Father Acacius mentioned in The Ladder of St. John.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday,	30 November (Chapel)	<i>Holy and Glorious Apostle Andrew the First-called.</i> 8:30 AM 6:00 PM + Willa Mancini – St. Benedict’s Auxiliary Moleben to Emmanuel
Thursday,	1 December (Chapel)	<i>Holy Prophet Nahum.</i> 8:30 AM + Charles Sedilko – Mary Lou & Pat Straple
Friday,	2 December (Chapel)	<i>Holy Prophet Habakkuk. Blessed Confessor Ivan Slezyuk, Bishop of Ivano-Frankivsk.</i> 8:30 AM + George Prince – Trustees/Msgr. Hladky Foundation
Saturday,	3 December	<i>Holy Prophet Zephaniah</i> Vigil Liturgy 6:00 PM +Donald Slovinsky – Father and Family
Sunday,	4 December	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Holy Great Martyr Barbara. Venerable Father John of Damascus. 8:15 AM 11:00 AM Intention of the Parish Family +Edward Sarsany – Sarsany Family



Attentive to the Word
*Twenty-fourth Sunday after
Pentecost*
Luke 13: 10 - 17

The Touch of the Master's Hand

It was not only the physical condition of this woman that was restored on that Sabbath day. Many scholars point to this text as the place where Jesus restored the dignity of all women. Jesus argues that this crippled woman is of more importance to God than livestock because she is a daughter of Abraham. And so, with the touch of his hand he not only restores her health but her place in the community. It reminds me of the song by the Christian artist Wayne Watson "The Touch of the Master's Hand," which coincidentally the lyrics were a poem written by a woman by the name of Myra Brooks Welch.

Listen to her words:

Tw'as battered and scarred, and the auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
To waste much time on the old violin,
But held it up with a smile.
"What am I bidden, good folks," he cried,
"Who will start bidding for me?
A dollar, a dollar" --then, "Two!" "Only two?
Two dollars, and who'll make it three?
Three dollars, twice;
"Going for three --" But no,
From the room, far back, a gray-haired man
Came forward and picked up the bow;
Then wiping the dust from the old violin,
And tightening the loose strings.
He played a melody pure and sweet
As sweet as a caroling angel sings.

The music ceased and the auctioneer
With a voice that was quiet and low,
Said what am I bidden for the old violin?
And he held it up with the bow.
A thousand dollars, and who'll make it two?

Two thousand! And who'll make it three?
Three thousand, once; three thousand twice;
And going, and gone!" said he.
The people cheered, but some of them cried,
"We do not quite understand
What changed its worth?" Swift came the reply:
"The touch of the master's hand.

And many a man with life out of tune,
And battered and scattered with sin,
Is auctioned off cheap to the thoughtless crowd,
Much like the old violin.
A "mess of pottage," a glass of wine;
A game -- and he travels on.
He's "going" once, and "going" twice,
He's "going" and "almost gone."

But the Master comes and the foolish crowd
Never quite understands
The worth of a soul and the change that's wrought
By the touch of the Master's hand.

I think Ms. Brooks understood what happened to the crippled woman in today's Gospel
and how one touch from the Master's Hand can transform a life.

(Brett Blair)

