

## 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.

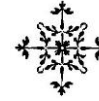
**Funerals:** Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Simeon before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

**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



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



## TO TICKLE YOUR FUNNY BONE: HONESTY AND MY FAVORITE ANIMAL

*Yep, some people can't handle the truth! My favorite animal Our Techer asked who my favorite animal was, and I said, "Fried chicken." She said I wasn't funny but she couldn't have been right, because everyone else laughed.*

*My parents told me to always tell the truth. I did. Fried chicken is my favorite animal. I told my dad what happened, and he said my teacher was probably a member of PETA. He said they love animals very much. I do too. Especially chicken, pork and beef. Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office. I told him what happened, and he laughed, too.. Then he told me not to do it again.*

*The next day in class my teacher asked me what live animal was my favorite. I told her it was chicken. She asked me why; so I told her it was because you could make them into fried chicken. She sent me back to the principal's office. He laughed and told me not to do it again.*

*I don't understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my teacher doesn't like it when I am. Today, my teacher asked me to tell her what famous military person I admired most. I told her, "Colonel Sanders." Guess where I am now...*

**(PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 2 October:**

5:00 PM: 61 11:00 AM: 77

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . . \$3,087.25**

**(SM) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 2 October:**

22 from St. Michael; 11 from St. Peter & Paul

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . . \$1,140.66**



- **Sun. Oct. 9** ECF classes – Classes begin at 9:30 – 10:45 AM. If your child is not registered, please bring your child any way!
- **Sun. Oct. 9** Oblates of St. Benedict meeting – 2 PM – 4 PM at the monastery. Ring #301.
- **Sun. Oct. 9** Bible Study at 4 PM in the social hall – Session 4
- **Tues. Oct. 11** Ladies Guild Meeting – 7 PM in the social hall.
- **Sat. & Sun. Oct. 15 & 16** Coffee & Donuts in the social hall after both Divine Liturgies.
- **Mon. Oct. 17** St. Benedicts Auxiliary Covered Dish and Auction. 5:30 PM in the social hall. Opened to parishioners and friends. A great opportunity for purchasing Christmas and other gifts early. Reservations are necessary. Please call Marge at 330-544-0107 for reservations.



### VERY GOOD NEWS

The Annual Byzantine Spirituality Conference is Happy to Host the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Eastern Catholic Bible Conference. It will be held November 4 & 5, 2016 at St John the Baptist Cathedral Munhall, Pa. It is entitled: *A Holy Nation The Church in God's Plan of Salvation.*

The speakers are excellent!! The talks include:

- Are Eastern Catholics “Bible Christians?”
- Reading the Bible in the Heart of the Church
- The Seven Ages of the Kingdom in the Bible
- Biblical Images of the Church
- Sacred Reading: How to Pray the Scriptures
- The Bible and the New Evangelization

Registrations are necessary. Brochures containing registration forms are beside the bulletins. *You are encouraged to attend this very enlightening program.*

9 OCTOBER 2016

### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	9 October	<i>Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost. The Holy Apostle James Alpheus. Our Venerable Father Andronicus and His Wife Athanasia. Our Righteous Forefather Abraham and his Nephew Lot. The Holy Marty Denis, Bishop of Paris.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Mike Yurtin – Paul & Lou Katona
(SM)	8:30 AM	+George Simko – wife, Millie
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Michael Vazur - Betty & John Vazur
Monday	10 October	<i>The Holy Martyrs Eulampius and Eulampia</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday	11 October	The Holy Apostle Philip, one of the Seven Deacons. Our Venerable Father Theophane, the Artist and Hymnographer, Bishop of Nicea. Our Holy Father John XX111, Pope of Rome.
(Chapel)	8:30 PM	+Sandra Slyk – Dom Marchese Family
Wednesday	12 October	<i>The Holy Martyrs Probus, Tarachus and Andronicus. Our Venerable Father Cosmas, Bishop of Maium, the Hymnographer. Our Holy Father Martin, Bishop of Tours.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30AM	+John Slovinsky Sr. – Mike & Carol Slovinsky
Thursday	13 October	The Holy Martyrs Carpus, Papilus and Agathonica.
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Mary Sohayda – daughter, Gerogia Cassidy
Friday	14 October	<i>The Holy Martyrs Nazarius, Gervase, Protasius and Celsus. Our Venerable Mother Paraskevia of Trnovo.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday	15 October	Our Venerable Father Euthymius the Younger. The Venerable Martyr Lucian, Priest of the Great Church of Antioch.
(PP)	5:00 PM	+Msgr. Sylvester Hladky – Hoso Family
Sunday	16 October	<i>Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost. Memory Of The Fathers At The Seventh Ecumenical Council.</i>
(SM)	8:30 AM	+Anthony – Marjorie, Paul & Cheryl
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Steve Zumerling – John & Judy Shuttic



## Attentive to the Word

### Twenty First Sunday After Pentecost

Lk. 7: 11 – 16

Tone 4 pg.141 - 142



The message was terse and professionally uninformative: "This is Chandler Regional Hospital. Your son is here. You will need to come over." A message from my son's roommate gave me a few more details. "Gus spent all night vomiting, and this morning he was deaf. I had to take him to the ER." I couldn't get any more information from the frantic calls I made before dashing out of the house. On the ride to the hospital, I reviewed all the possible causes: food poisoning, a mysterious bacterial assault, a tumor. It stuns me now to think that the most obvious reason never crossed my mind. For the last five years, my son has struggled with drug addiction. It began in high school, and it has haunted his life ever since. Why didn't I think of drugs when I got the message all parents dread? I suppose it's because Gus had been sober for four months, attending AA regularly, living with a sober friend, and acting for all the world like a guy who had gotten his life back on track. It has regularly been my mistake, during times of Gus's sobriety, to believe that he'd been "fixed." I didn't think about drugs because I thought that part of his life was over. Again.

When I got to the hospital, I found that Gus had overdosed on heroin. The drug had been mixed with lasix, a diuretic, which was causing severe dehydration and deafness. He was in the early stages of renal failure. The doctor was not sure whether his kidneys would stabilize. Gus was put into intensive care, so I made quick calls to my husband and our priest. That night Gus received the Sacrament of Anointing. I had never heard the words of this sacrament before. I thought, "These prayers can accompany the dead into eternity. They surround a sinner with the victory of the Cross." I desperately needed this kind of comfort, because Gus had not practiced his Catholic faith for a long time. He was the prodigal who still thought the pigsty might be more fun than his Father's house.

Gus pulled through, but because he came so close to death in the midst of hideously unredeemed circumstances, I have had some occasion to think about that kind of death. I have been sometimes comforted by the gospel story of the widow of Nain. Jesus happens across a weeping widow who has lost her only son. She asks and expects nothing of Him. Yet Jesus, moved by her tears, raises her son to life. I have often wondered about that son. What sort of person was he before he died? He could have been a good son, but he also could have been a rebel, a profligate, a crook; resentful, selfish, stubborn; It's impossible to tell. The mother's tears don't tell us anything but her grief, and nothing in the son's life would alter that. In fact, if her son had lived a bad life, she would have cried even more.

Jesus' pity for the woman meant life for her son. I am always moved by this. "This is what He's really like? He's touched by our own grief and tears?" This gives me profound hope for those who leave this life accompanied only by our tears, prayers, and love. I don't think I could face each day, which holds within it the possibility of this kind of death for my son, if I didn't believe what we see at work in this simple story. It's not that I expect my son to be saved by my tears, for each man must make his own choice of heaven or hell. But I see that Jesus is moved by our love for sinners. So many of His miracles of healing and resuscitation He worked because someone asked Him. Crying out for mercy on behalf of another is Jesus' own work. He seems moved to see this in us, too. I watched my son fade in and out as the priest gave him the sacrament. I knew he couldn't hear us; I thought he might die that night. What if I didn't see any visible sign of grace at work in his life? What if he passed into eternity as an overdosed heroin addict? I had to count on the loving mercy of Jesus. I could, because of the widow of Nain.

Some of the greatest moments in redemption history have come when men are asleep. Adam was asleep when God solved his only problem in the Garden: the need of a wife. Abraham was asleep when God made His first covenant with him for the Promised Land. Jacob was asleep when God renewed the covenant with him. Joseph was asleep when he saw his future in Jacob's family. And the other Joseph was asleep when he was told to be Mary's husband, father to Jesus. Who knows what the mercy of God can do for a man when he is on the edge of the sleep of death, no longer able to communicate, but not yet dead? Could we hope that Jesus might appear to him to call for the decision of heaven or hell? Would anyone, seeing Him in that way, refuse His loving call to "arise" (Lk 7:14)? Ask the widow of Nain.