

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.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Many years ago, when I was young, a business associate of my father's died under particularly tragic circumstances, and I accompanied my father to the funeral. The man's widow and children were surrounded by clergy and psychiatrists trying to ease their grief and make them feel better. They knew all the right words, but nothing helped. They were beyond being comforted. The widow kept saying, "You're right, I know you're right, but it doesn't make any difference." Then a man walked in, a big burly man in his eighties who was a legend in the toy and game industry. He had escaped from Russia as a youth after having been arrested and tortured by the czar's secret police. He had come to this country illiterate and penniless and had built up an immensely successful company. He was known as a hard bargainer, a ruthless competitor. Despite his success, he had never learned to read or write. He hired people to read his mail to him. The joke in the industry was that he could write a check for a million dollars, and the hardest part would be signing his name at the bottom. He had been sick recently, and his face and his walking showed it. But he walked over to the widow and started to cry, and she cried with him, and you could feel the atmosphere in the room change. This man who had never read a book in his life spoke the language of the heart and held the key that opened the gates of solace where learned doctors and clergy could not.

Harold S. Kushner, *WHEN ALL YOU'VE EVER WANTED ISN'T ENOUGH*



BYZANTINE SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE - 2015

November 7, 2015 at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Munhall, PA., sponsored by our Byzantine Catholic Office of Religious Education. \$35.00 includes lunch. Three excellent speakers, to help us to move from knowing "about Jesus" to developing a real relationship to the God who loves us. Call the parish office if you are interested. There is a discounted price for 5 or more reservations sent in together. Deadline is October 28th.

Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 27 September:

5:00 PM: 75; 11:00 AM: 114

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$3,573.37



- **Sun. Oct. 11 E.C.F. RELIGION CLASSES HAVE BEGUN FOR OUR CHILDREN. 9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM.** If you have children from Kindergarten to Grade 12, and have not registered, it's not too late. Just show up and we will take good care of you. Please try to have your children on time for classes. Thank you for your cooperation. We hope to have a very good year.
- **Sun. Oct.11** SP&P Ethnic Dinner and Basket Raffle after the 11 AM Divine Liturgy. Come One, Come All! Very good food! And beautiful Baskets for the Raffle.
- **Sun. Oct. 11** Bible Study at 4 PM in the Social Hall – Session 3
- **Tues. Oct. 13** Ladies Guild Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall.
- **Sat. Oct. 17 & Sun. Oct. 18** Farewell Reception for Fr. Andrew
- **Mon. Oct. 19** St. Benedict's Auxiliary Craft Auction and Covered Dish – 5:30 PM in the Social Hall. **All are invited, but we do need reservations for the covered dish dinner. Call 330-544-0107 with the number of people attending before Thursday, Oct. 15th.** A good opportunity to look ahead for your Thanksgiving needs and Christmas shopping.



ETHNIC DINNER AND BASKET RAFFLE (TODAY)

The Ladies Guild is sponsoring an Ethnic Dinner and Gift Basket Raffle **TODAY, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2015.** Give your support to our Ladies Guild, who do so much for us. **Dinner tickets are available after both Liturgies this weekend. Adults: \$10.00 Children: (6 and under) \$5.00. Carry-outs are available.** Ladies, you don't need to cook today! Bring your husband and family for a delicious homemade meal, along with beverages and dessert.

FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR FATHER ANDREW

A "Farewell" Reception for Father Andrew is being planned for October 17 and 18 after both Divine Liturgies in the Social Hall. SS. Peter and Paul and St. Michael parishioners are invited to attend to wish Father Andrew well in his new assignment and to thank him for all he has done for our Parish Families.

11 OCTOBER 2015

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	11 October	<i>TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. MEMORY OF THE FATHERS AT THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL. Holy Apostle Phillip, one of the Seven Deacons. Venerable Father Theophane, the Artist and Hymnographer, Bishop of Nicea. Holy Father John XXIII, Pope of Rome.</i>
	(Vigil Liturgy) 5:00 PM	+Donald Slovinsky – Dad & family
	(SM) 8:30 AM	+Jason Lazor – Greg and Cathie Lazor
	(PP) 11:00 AM	+Helen Sekula – M/M Michael Bahrey
Monday,	12 October	<i>Holy Martyrs Probus, Tarachus and Andronicus. Venerable Father Cosmas, Bishop of Maium, the Hymnographer. Holy Father Martin, Bishop of Tours. Chancery</i>
Tuesday,	13 October	<i>Holy Martyrs Carpus, Papilus and Agathonica. No Divine Liturgy</i>
Wednesday,	14 October	<i>Holy Martyrs Nazarius, Gervase, Protasius and Celsus. Venerable Mother Paraskevia of Trnovo. Passing of Blessed Martyr, the Priest Roman Lysko (1949). No Divine Liturgy</i>
Thursday,	15 October	<i>Venerable Father Euthymius the Younger. Venerable Martyr Lucuian, Priest of the Great Church of Antioch. No Divine Liturgy</i>
Friday,	16 October	<i>Holy Martyr Longinus the Centurion. No Divine Liturgy</i>
Saturday	17 October	<i>Holy Prophet Hosea. Venerable Martyr Andrew of Crete.</i>
	(PP) 5:00 PM	+Msgr. Sylvester Hladky – Hoso Family
Sunday,	18 October	<i>TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke.</i>
	(SM) 8:30 AM	Intention of St. Michael Parish Family
	(PP) 11:00 AM	Intention of SS. Peter & Paul Parish Family



Attentive to the Word

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost *Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council*

Luke 7:11-16

Pages 135 - 136 & 263 - 264

NICEA 2



Over the past several months, the media has been providing us with all sorts of information and presentations on candidates for political office. Each candidate tries to impress the viewer that he or she is the best, if not even perfect, candidate for the election eventually to take place. The candidates take issue with another candidate's position and approach on topics which are of concern for the voter.

Depending on who is elected, their political philosophy or way of thinking will affect the outcome of legislation and government control involving legal matters on the human level. Because of the way society is made up, we always will be subject to one form of government or another. Government, however, to be just and proper, itself is subject to the higher authority of God's laws.

In mid-October, our Church commemorates the Fathers at the Second Council of Nicea which settled the controversy raging at the time in the Byzantine Empire regarding the proper veneration of holy images. This controversy was fueled by the interference of the emperor, Leo, who waged a vicious campaign against religious images in the year 726. Over sixty years later, in 787, the Second Council of Nicea declared the authentic teaching of the Church regarding religious images.

In our own time, there is another kind of image-breaking raging. It, of course, is the anti-life attitude being perpetrated against our unborn. Abortion, in a very real sense, is the image-breaking controversy of our own time. Didn't God say as He created Adam, "Let us make man in Our Image and Likeness?" Abortion, and the parallel issues of euthanasia or mercy killing (sometimes called death with dignity), contraception, certain forms of scientific research and the new false but legal definitions of family and marriage is our present iconoclasm.

Respect for life is simply not a concept which can be debated and argued on a political platform, and what is far worse, decided by fallible individuals. Respect for all life is a core belief of our holy Faith. Thus the Second Vatican Council clearly teaches: "Whatever is opposed to life itself, such as any type of murder, genocide, abortion, euthanasia, or willful self-destruction, whatever violates the integrity of the human person such as mutilation, torments inflicted on body or mind, attempts to coerce the will itself; whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children; as well as disgraceful working conditions, where people are treated as mere tools for profit, rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things and others of their like are infamies indeed, poisoning human society." *Gaudium et Spes (The Church Today)*.

In the eighth century, it was perfectly legal and protected by civil sanction to destroy holy images on canvas, plaster, wood and stone. In previous centuries, it was perfectly legal to practice slavery. In today's world, it is legal to destroy God's image through the practice of abortion, some methods of stem-cell research and assisted suicide. Iconoclasm and slavery have long been abolished.

The Fathers at the Second Council of Nicea as well as in previous and subsequent Councils clearly teach the truths of our holy Faith regardless of political correctness and secularist attitudes. May it be our fervent and unrelenting prayer, in the context of Respect for Life that, in our own time, the destruction of God's living and holy image through abortion and other anti-life methods also be definitively ended.

By Msgr. John T Sekellick