

## 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.

## EIGHT WAYS TO LIVE A MERCIFUL LIFE ...

1. **DON'T JUDGE.** Merciful people don't say, "You got what you deserved," or "You caused this yourself." Maybe the person did act recklessly, or refused to see a doctor, or continued to smoke or eat junk food. Let God be the judge of what happened. You are called to offer mercy and help in whatever way you can – no matter what the circumstances.

*What attitudes would you have to change in order to stop judging others?*

2. **DARE TO REALLY CARE.** Allow yourself to look beneath another person's surface needs and feel what that person is going through. Maybe it is physical pain, Or, maybe it is loneliness, rejection, discouragement, or fear. Imagine that you are seeing this person through the eyes of Jesus. Then decide how you can help that person.

*How would your life change if you began to really care about other people?*



**THANK YOU - ONE AND ALL!** A big "thank you" from the Ladies Guild for your support and help in making their Bingo/Card Party a big success! Winners of the 50/50 and the \$300 raffle are respectively:

**Barbara Blackshere      and      Mary Ellen Palajsa**



**(PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 9 October:**

5:00 PM: 79    11:00 AM: 80

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: ..... \$2,750.05**

**(SM) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 9 October:**

19 from St. Michael; 8 from St. Peter & Paul

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: ..... \$408.00**



- **Sun. Oct. 16** ECF Classes – 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM. Parents, attendance has not been good so far. Your child’s religious education is very important. Please try to be faithful in getting your child to ECF classes.
- **Sun. Oct. 16** Bible Study at 4 PM in the social hall – Session 5
- **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.
- **Mon. Oct. 24** Church Cleaning Party – 9:00 AM to Noon. We could use your help.



**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.*

16 OCTOBER 2016

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	16 October	<i>Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost. Memory Of The Fathers At The Seventh Ecumenical Council.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy (SM) (PP))	5:00 PM 8:30 AM 11:00 AM	+Msgr. Sylvester Hladky – Hoso Family +Anthony – Marjorie, Paul & Cheryl +Steve Zumerling – John & Judy Shuttic
Monday	17 October	<i>The Holy Prophet Hosea (Osee). The Holy Venerable Martyr Andrew of Crete.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday (Chapel)	18 October 8:30 PM	The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke. <b>Int. of Sr. Margaret Mary – Benedictine Srs.</b>
Wednesday (Chapel)	19 October 8:30AM	<i>The Holy Prophet Joel. The Holy Martyr Varus. Our Venerable Father John of Rila</i> <b>+John Lacusky – M/M George Halko</b>
Thursday (Chapel)	20 October 8:30 AM	The Holy Great Martyr Artemius. <b>+Irene Frankos – Joan &amp; Joe Veverka</b>
Friday	21 October	<i>Our Venerable Father Hilary the Great.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday (PP)	22 October 5:00 PM	The Holy Bishop Abercius, Equal to the Apostles, Wonder Worker. The Holy Seven Children of Ephesus. Our Holy Father John Paul 11, Pope of Rome <b>Int. of Dianna J. Koza – John Koza 111</b>
Sunday (SM) (PP)	23 October 8:30 AM 11:00 AM	<i>Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost. The Holy Apostle James, the Brother of God</i> <b>+Ann Petro – M/M Michael Johnson</b> <b>+Patricia Harper – Emil Kostraba Family</b>



**Attentive to the Word**  
**Sunday Of The Fathers Of The 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**Ecumenical Council**

**Lk. 8: 5 – 15**

**Tone 5 Pg. 146 and Pgs. 263 - 264**

As the Church progressed through history it was faced with many difficult decisions. The Church always settled difficulties and made decisions by reaching a consensus of opinion among all the believers inspired by God who were led by their appointed leaders, first the apostles and then the bishops.



The first church council in history was held in the apostolic church to decide the conditions under which the gentiles, that is, the non-Jews, could enter the Christian Church (see Acts 15). From that time on, all through history councils were held on every level of church life to make important decisions. Bishops met regularly with their priests, also called presbyters or elders, and people. It became the practice, and even the law, very early in church history that bishops in given regions should meet in councils held on a

regular basis.

At times in church history councils of all of the bishops in the church were called. All the bishops were not able to attend these councils, of course, and not all such councils were automatically approved and accepted by the Church in its Holy Tradition. In the Eastern Church only seven such councils, some of which were actually quite small in terms of the number of bishops attending, have received the universal approval of the entire Church in all times and places. These councils have been termed the Seven Ecumenical Councils (see table below).

The dogmatic definitions (dogma means official teaching) and the canon laws of the ecumenical councils are understood to be inspired by God and to be expressive of His will for men. Thus, they are essential sources of Eastern Christian doctrine.

Besides the seven ecumenical councils, there are other local church councils whose decisions have also received the approval of all Eastern Churches in the world, and so are considered to be genuine expressions of the Eastern Christian faith and life. The decisions of these councils are mostly of a moral or structural character. Nevertheless, they too reveal the teaching of the Eastern Church.

**The Seven Ecumenical Councils**

Nicea 1	325	Formulated the First Part of the Creed, defining the divinity of the Son of God
Constantinople I	381	Formulated the Second Part of the Creed, defining the divinity of the Holy Spirit
Ephesus	431	Defined Christ as the Incarnate Word of God and Mary as Theotokos
Chalcedon	451	Defined Christ as Perfect God and Perfect Man in One Person
Constantinople II	553	Reconfirmed the Doctrines of the Trinity and of Christ
Constantinople III	680	Affirmed the True Humanity of Jesus by insisting upon the reality of His human will and action
Nicea II	787	Affirmed the propriety of icons as genuine expressions of the Christian Faith

(by Father Thomas Hopko)