

## 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.

## ETHNIC DINNER AND BASKET RAFFLE

The Ladies Guild will be sponsoring an Ethnic Dinner and Gift Basket Raffle on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2014**. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this delicious home-made dinner, invite your friends and relatives and give your support to our Ladies Guild, who do so much for us. **Dinner tickets will be available beginning the weekend of October 4, 2014**. Hope to see you there!

## LET US SHARE OUR BLESSINGS

We pray to the Lord, the giver of life and all good gifts, *for the health and blessings of those who are ill, homebound, in care facilities, and are unable to attend church*. In our good fortune and many blessings from God, let us not forget those who are also part of our parish family – remember them with prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, etc. Let us share our blessings!

## TRUMBULL COUNTY LIFE CHAIN

Life Chain is a pro-life prayer gathering of local churches held each year on the first Sunday of October. This is the 24<sup>th</sup> year the Life Chain has taken place, and parishioners of SS. Peter and Paul Church have taken part in it for many years. This year's event will take place on Sunday, October 5, 2014 from 2:30 to 3:30 PM beside Harding High School (that's our parish's assigned place). We will be standing together with other churches in prayer and visible demonstration that clearly states the "Abortion kills children." Life is our Lord's precious gift. Stand up for this precious gift.

## ANNUAL CHINESE AUCTION

Sunday October 5, 2014 at St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church Center, 2140 Highland Road, Hermitage, PA. Doors open at 1:00 PM. Drawings start at 2:15 PM. Admission and refreshments are only \$5.00. Let's give them our support.



## Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 28 September:

5:00 PM: **92**; 11:00 AM: **127**

Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos: **13**

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us ..... \$2,884.25**



- **Sun. Oct. 5** Eastern Christian Formation (ECF) classes have started for our young people – Kindergarten thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade – from 9:30 AM to 10:45AM. Remember, our young people are the future of our Church. Please enable them to become an integral part of our Byzantine Catholic Church by bringing them to Church with you and enrolling them in our catechetical program.
- **Sun. Oct. 5** Bible Study – 4 PM in the Social Hall – Session 2
- **Mon. Oct. 6** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM to Noon
- **Fri. Oct. 10** Bible Study – 10 AM in the Social Hall – Session 2
- **Sat. & Sun. Oct. 11 & 12** – Coffee and donuts in the Social Hall after the Divine Liturgies.
- **Sun. Oct. 12** Meeting of Oblates of St. Benedict – 2 PM to 4 PM at the Monastery. Please ring #301.
- **Tues. Oct. 14** St. Vincent de Paul Pizza Day – 9 AM to 2 PM.
- **Tues. Oct. 14** **Important Ladies Guild Meeting** – 7 PM in the Social Hall. We ask all members to be present.
- **Sun. Oct. 19** Ethnic Dinner in the Social Hall.



### For Quietening the Mind and Body

I needed to stop and reflect, so I worked faster.

I needed to think, so I took a class.

I needed to pray, so I read a book.

I needed a retreat, so I called some friends.

O God, Creator of silence and solitude,  
refuse me the escapes from myself and from You.

Let me heed Your call to retreat, to quiet my mind and body.

Help me find peace in Your gifts of nature and creation.

Help me to be an example of peace and harmony to my family,  
friends, co-workers . . . and to the world. Amen.

5 OCTOBER 2014

### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	5 October	<i>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Charitina.</i>
<b>(Sat. Vigil)</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Michael Poprik – Veronica (Poprik) Park</b>
<b>(SM)</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Prayer Intention of Altar/Rosary Society</b>
<b>(PP)</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Barbara Ochtyun – M/M Michael Chamer</b>
Monday,	6 October	<i>The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday,	7 October	<i>The Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Wednesday,	8 October	<i>Our Venerable Mother Pelagia.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Thursday,	9 October	<i>Holy Apostle James Alpheus. Venerable Father Andronicus and his wife Athanasia. Our Righteous Forefather Abraham and his nephew Lot. Holy Martyr Denis, Bishop of Paris.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Friday,	10 October	<i>Holy Martyrs Eulampius and Eulampia.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday	11 October	<i>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>
<b>(Vigil Liturgy)</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Msgr. Sylvester Hladky – Hoso Family</b>
Sunday,	12 October	<i>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. MEMORY OF THE FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL. Holy Martyrs Probus, Tarachus and Andronicus. Venerable Father Cosmas, Bishop of Maium, the Hymnographer. Holy Martyr Martin, Bishop of Tours.</i>
<b>(SM)</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Health and Welfare of Barbara Hash - Family</b>
<b>(PP)</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Peter Prokop – wife, Helen &amp; son, Douglas</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### *Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

***Tone 8 Pages 161 – 163***

“Do unto others as you would have others do unto you,” is often cited as a summary of Jesus’ teaching and as a reliable guide to Christian living. One often hears the remark that all religions must be the same, since all religions teach the Golden Rule. The Scriptural readings for the 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost can help put the Golden Rule into perspective.

The Gospel (Luke 6, 31-36) does indeed begin with Jesus saying “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” We will immediately misinterpret this saying, however, if we separate it from the rest of what Jesus says. He has just commanded love of enemies, patient endurance of wrongs, passivity and non-resistance in the face of aggressors. (“turn the other cheek...” 6, 27-31). He has just turned the whole order of society upside down by calling the poor blessed and the rich woeful (6, 20-26).

The Golden Rule is typically confused with some kind of self-sufficient, effortless politeness. This might be enough in a perfect world but Jesus’ teaching, in context, applies to the world sinful as it is. He commands us to show deference and respect even when others are not “nice” or “fair”. The Gospel we hear proclaimed involves charity to enemies, love to those who do not love us and risky generosity with our material goods. Jesus clearly invites us beyond the safe boundaries of what is fair, nice or polite. He reminds us “Even sinners love those who love them...even sinners lend to sinners.” Here, as elsewhere, Jesus challenges us to do more than the bare minimum required by justice. And so the Golden Rule is not the summit and pinnacle of Jesus’ moral teaching. It is at best a bare minimum we are called to grow beyond.

What is the point of Jesus’ challenge? Like that other troublesome command recorded by St. Matthew, “Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect” (5,48), Jesus here teaches a morality based not on human standards of fairness but rather on God’s own nature. In our Gospel passage, Jesus commands, “Be merciful just as your Father is also merciful...then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked” (I have reversed the phrases).

It is the doctrine of the Byzantine Catholic Church that people are made in God’s image and according to His likeness (Genesis 1,26). The image of God is created into every human person and is evidenced by our gifts of intellect and free will. Our likeness to God will grow or lessen according to our choices and actions in using those gifts. Today Jesus teaches that we will become most like God in practicing mercy.

The goal of the Christian life is union with God, participation in the life of the Trinity. Jesus’ morality of mercy **beyond the Golden Rule** shows us how we can live more godly lives and so grow in likeness and nearness to God. For the Christian, ethics and morality are never ends in themselves and never standards we can pride ourselves on measuring up to. Our moral nature flows from our creation in the Divine Image and our ability to live moral lives is strengthened by encountering Christ in the Sacraments, by mutual support in the Church, by the example of the saints and by persistence in prayer. If we keep ourselves aware of how much God’s mercy has been poured out on us, we will grow in practicing a morality of mercy ourselves and so grow nearer to God in our daily lives.

*By Fr. John Custer*



The late Saint John XXIII, Pope of Rome said two of the greatest gifts of God are our heads and our hearts. With our heads, we learn; with our hearts, we love. He begged us to learn and to love to the utmost of our ability. Saint John XXIII was known for his love. He loved not only Catholics, but all the peoples of the world. He turned former antagonists of the Church into friends. He did this with love.

Today’s Gospel tells us of the love we should have....not only for our friends who love us, but even for our enemies. Our Lord said: “To you who hear me, I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you and pray for those who maltreat you.....Do unto others what you would have them do unto you.” If Christians would live according to these words of Christ, the world would be a much better place in which to live. Christian love must be love in practice...not in theory. Some people are like the child who prayed: “O Lord, I give you all I am and all I have.” He read this out of a prayer book; but then, realizing what this meant, he hurriedly added, “....that is, all except my little white rabbit.”

We all have little white rabbits in some way. We love up to a point, ...then, the little white rabbit comes in....”all except...” But Jesus made no exceptions. He loved everyone...the old, young, rich, poor, sinner, saint, friends, and enemies. We also must make no exceptions.