

## 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 21 September:**

5:00 PM: **93**; 11:00 AM: **116**

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us ..... \$3,316.35**



- **Sun. Sept. 28** 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. *There will be a special blessing for the students and teachers this morning.* 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. Sept. 28** Bible Study – 4 PM in the Social Hall – Session 2
- **Wed. Oct. 1** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9 AM to 2 PM. We can use your help.
- **Thurs. Oct. 2** Bible Study – 10 AM in the Social Hall – Session 2
- **Mon. Oct. 6** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM to Noon.
- **Sat. & Sun. Oct. 11 & 12** – Coffee and donuts in the Social Hall after the Divine Liturgies.



**READ: LUKE 5: 1 –11**

Peter was not a "what if" thinker. When Jesus asked him to sail his boat back out into fishing waters and throw his nets in again for a big catch, Peter did it. He could have given in to doubts, concentrating on what *might* happen and what the crowd on shore *might* say. After all, the probability of catching many fish in the daytime was slim. Fish in the Sea of Galilee were active at night.

In his obedience to Christ, Peter did not deny these facts. The logical limitations were real. Still, he recognized Jesus' deity with one powerful statement of faith: "...Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but at Your bidding I will let down the nets" (Luke 5:5). Peter focused on the One *giving the directions, not the possible consequences of following the directions.* And God sent fish pouring into the nets, a bursting load for two boats.

You can trust God to take care of every problem when His commands seem unreasonable. He is not a God of disappointment or fear; He will never "leave you hanging," afraid of the future. As you obey God's Word with confidence in His provision, He handles the outcome.

28 SEPTEMBER 2014

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	28 September	<i>SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Venerable Father &amp; Confessor Chariton. Wenceslaus, prince of the Czechs. Holy Prophet Baruch. Passing of Blessed Father and Confessor Bishop Nicetas Budka. (1949)</i>
(Sat. Vigil)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+George Teringo, Sr. – Bill &amp; Alexis Fusselman</b>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Special Intention of Barbara Hash</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Fio Nuzzi – Janice and Mike</b>
Monday,	29 September	<i>Our Venerable Father Cyriacus the Anchorite.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday,	30 September	<i>The Holy Martyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia.</i>
(PP)	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>+Mary Fabrizio – St. Benedict's Auxiliary</b>
Wednesday,	1 October	<i>THE PROTECTION OF THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY. Holy Apostle Ananias. Venerable Father Romanos the Hymnographer.</i>
(PP)	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Akathist to the Mother of God.</b>
Thursday,	2 October	<i>HOLY Bishop-Martyr Cyprian. Holy Martyr Justina. Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ.</i>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Intention of Sr. Marion Dobos – Benedictine Sisters</b>
Friday,	3 October	<i>Holy Bishop and Martyr Denis the Areopagite.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday	4 October	<i>The Holy Martyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens. Our Venerable Father Francis of Assisi.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Michael Poprik – Veronica (Poprik) Park</b>
Sunday,	5 October	<i>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Charitina.</i>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Prayer Intention of Altar/Rosary Society</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Barbara Ochtyun – M/M Michael Chamer</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 7 Pages 156 – 158

#### “I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN”



Simon Peter turns from a hearer to a doer. Imagine his boat serving as a primitive church. He and his fellows had just returned from an exhausting night's fishing. They are not just weary; they are a bit discouraged. As he listens to Jesus explaining the wonders of God and a world that is hidden from ordinary eyes, suddenly the Lord turns to him and says that He would like Simon to go back out into the sea. There are fish out there that he missed catching. Was it a test? Quite! Impulsive Simon Peter must have thought: What can He teach me about fishing, I who had been doing this all my life? Besides, he wanted only to be lulled by comforting

words about God, not ordered to return to the sea.

It explains something about Jesus. His sermon was a show and tell lesson. He told Simon what He expected, and when the disciple obeyed, then He showed him where the fish were. Our Lord is the God who acts, and He does so through us. True Christianity is not for spectators. The world is a field, we are in a contest, and every one of us is a player.

Then Simon Peter says: Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord! At another occasion he was not averse to rebuking Jesus (Matt. 16:23). But here he realizes that this Teacher is no ordinary human being. His Lord is of one essence with the Lord Almighty. Here is a moment in his lifetime that he will never forget. May each of us have something similar happen to us in our days on this earth.

To understand what happened to Peter that day is to grasp the essential difference between Eastern Christian Christianity and all other varieties. At first, Peter loved, honored, and was ready to obey Jesus. He saw Him as a special human being, which many Christians and even non-Christians would agree with. But until

the net of Christ's true nature caught him, recognizing God at work in Him, he was only an admirer. In time Peter would understand much more about Christ; but at the moment he saw God in Him.

Our Byzantine Church never tires of explaining the inexplicable mystery – that Jesus Christ is the only-begotten, unique Son of God, true God of true God, as the Creed proclaims. God alone is capable of saving us from sin and death. Because Christ is God, it is not only possible, salvation *has become* the supreme goal of our lives.

By Fr. Vladimir Berzonsky



#### OCT. 1 PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD



This week we celebrate the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God. The history of this feast dates back to the year 911 when the Mohammedan hordes (Saracens) attacked the city of Constantinople during the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise. Plague was rampant. The terror-stricken people gathered within the church to pray to the Mother of God. St. Andrew and his disciple, St. Theophanius, both from Slavonic tribes, were in Constantinople at the time. They entered the Church of Blachernae where the people were praying all night while the Christian army fought against the attack of the Saracens. At dawn, St. Andrew and St. Theophanius saw the Mother of God appearing with out-stretched arms and imploring God's mercy upon the besieged Christians. She held a veil as a sign of her protection. To the great joy of the inhabitants the Christian soldiers were blessed with a striking victory over the Moslems. On their return home the two saints publicized the miracle among the Slavonic people.

As a result, this feast of "Pokrov" (Protection) of the Mother of God was introduced into the Church on October 1<sup>st</sup> to remind us both of this event, and of the Mother of God's constant protection, whenever we prayerfully seek that protection, that shelter, in distress. Holy Mother of God, guide, protect, and pray for us!