

## 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 souls of Your servants +**Andrew V. Greskovich, Sr.**, +**Margaret Gnat** and +**Gerald Lickwar** who have recently fallen asleep in the Lord. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

## “MOVIE AFTERNOON”...get rid of those “Winter Blahs”

Sunday Afternoon – January 21 at 2:00 PM – we will meet in the Social Hall for an afternoon of relaxation, camaraderie, and enjoyment. The “Price” is right ... No Charge...Movie “refreshments” will be provided. The “Feature” of the day is: *Angels in the Outfield*. (Quite entertaining for both the young and the young at heart). Laughter is good for whatever ails you. Come and join us for an afternoon of fun!

## LAST WEEK for....2018 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES & CALENDARS

The 2018 Contribution Envelopes *are ready for pick-up in the Social Hall. They will remain in the Social hall until January 21<sup>st</sup>. Last year, the cost for mailing the envelopes boxes, was \$3.34 per box and postage rates are rising at the end of January. We need to be good stewards of the financial support to your church. We will mail the envelopes to “out of state” contributors and to the home bound parishioners. After January 21<sup>st</sup>, the envelopes will be in the parish office and will be able to be picked up during regular office hours. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.*

## NEEDED – EMERGENCY AID

... for a single mom and a well – mannered teen in need of temporary housing and temporary storage for their possessions. They are a good, Catholic family in danger of losing their possessions if they are not removed by Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>. The home in which they were living is in process of being sold. If you, (or someone you know) are able to help, please call 740-616-3717.



## (PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 7 January:

5:00 PM: 62; 9:00 AM: 29 11:00 AM: 79

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . . \$3,621.10**



- **Sun. Jan. 14** ECF Classes resume today – 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM
- **Sun. Jan. 21** “Movie afternoon” – 2:00 PM.
- **Mon. Jan. 22** Church Cleaning Party – 9:00 Am to Noon. Many hands make light work, so if you can lend a hand, it will be greatly appreciated.

**\*\*\*Ladies Guild Anniv. Dinner – Jan.30, 2018 – 5:00 PM at Buena Vista\*\*\*  
WE HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU THERE!**



**OUR PILGRIM VOCATION ICON HAS NOT RETURNED FROM ITS PILGRIMAGE! PLEASE BRING HIM BACK SO HE CAN GET READY FOR HIS NEXT VISIT TO THE HOME OF ONE OF OUR PARISHIONERS.**

**PILGRIM VOCATION PROGRAM**

*We have gotten a little lax in our Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program. For the last 2 weeks, our Vocation Icon has been lying on the table in the front of the candle stand. Vocations are the result of the Christian Community actively engaged in prayer that “the master of the harvest will send out laborers for his harvest.” One way we can all be involved in vocation ministry is through prayer. Everyone in the Parish is invited to pray for and encourage others within the Church that they might respond generously to God’s call in their lives. Please sign up today on the sheet posted in the Social Hall to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon in your home. You will be greatly blessed.*

**ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE**

During our Liturgical Year our Byzantine Church remembers its faithful departed in a special way on 5 All Souls Saturdays. The first All Souls Saturday is 3 February 2018. There is an envelope in your offertory box for these All Souls Remembrances. If you wish to have your loved ones remembered on these special days, please submit the names, printed, with an offering in the envelope by **January 21** so that the names can be organized. Previously submitted names do not need to be resubmitted, only additional names. Thank you for your prompt attention.

14 JANUARY 2018

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	14 January	<i>THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. THE SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS. (Leave-taking of Theophany)</i> <i>Venerable Fathers killed in Sinai and Raitho in 312.</i> <b>+Sr. Mary John Semon – Kathy &amp; John Shinosky</b> <b>+Mary Reese – Mike &amp; Karen Zak</b> <b>+Harry Reynolds – David &amp; Pauline Walton</b>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	
Monday	15 January	<i>Our Venerable Fathers Paul of Thebes and John the Hutterdwell.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday	16 January	<i>Veneration of the Chains of the Holy, Glorious and Illustrious Apostle Peter.</i> <b>+Irene Frankos – K. Sekela &amp; R. Mazarik</b>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	
Wednesday	17 January	<i>Our Venerable Father Anthony the Great.</i> <b>+Edward Brienz, Sr. – Carol &amp; Phyllis</b>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	
Thursday	18 January	<i>Our Holy Fathers Athanasius and Cyril of Alexandria.</i> <b>Intention of Sr. Agnes Knapik – Benedictine Sisters</b>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	
Friday	19 January	<i>Our Venerable Father Macarius of Egypt.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday	20 January	<i>Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Euthymius the Great.</i> <b>+Kay Roscoe – Hosos family</b>
(Sunday Vigil)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	
Sunday	21 January	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. Our Venerable Father Maximus the Confessor. The Holy Martyr Neophyte. Holy Martyrs Eugene, Candidus, Valerian and Aquila. Holy Virgin Martyr Agnes of Rome.</i> <b>+Stephen Sernulka, III – Rick &amp; Mary Ryznar</b> <b>+Brian Koehn – Mom &amp; Mike</b>
	<b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	



*Attentive to the Word*  
*Thirty-Second Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Sunday of Zacchaeus.*

*LK: 19: 1 - 10*

*Res. Tone 7 Pg. 156: Theophany: 316 - 318*

*(Music for the above is on pages. 312 - 316)*



This Sunday we hear the gospel account of Zacchaeus the tax collector. Careful attention should be paid to Christ's instructions to Zacchaeus, for in them we can all find the way to see Jesus. "Make haste ..." Jesus was passing through Jericho. Now was the time to seek Him. He might not pass this way again. Zacchaeus needed to seize the opportunity to meet Christ. In exhorting the Church at Corinth, Saint Paul declares, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2). In the hustle and bustle of life, how easy it is to ignore "the one thing needful" because of all life's little emergencies.

But in the midst of the laundry, the carpooling, the commute to work, all the activities that comprise our lives, Jesus is passing by. We must "make haste" to meet Him; we must not let life get in the way of the Source of Life. Right now, today, we must seek Him. And we must do it every day.

"Come down..." Zacchaeus had ascended into a tree to see the Truth (Jesus). From his lofty perch he thought he could see. And though from the height of the tree he could see Jesus at a distance, he had to come back down to meet Him. Oftentimes we attempt, through our own strength, to ascend to truth and happiness. Some climb the corporate ladder; others acquire knowledge in ivory towers. But it is not through lofty positions, through knowledge, or through power that we encounter the Prince of Peace. We come to know Him by coming down from our lofty perches of arrogance, pride and self-assurance. It is His presence we must seek, not simply knowledge through observation and study from afar. "I must stay at your house ..."

For Zacchaeus, meeting Jesus did not simply entail a casual introduction or handshake on the road. Jesus was, in effect, saying to Zacchaeus, "You want to know me really? Then you must open up your personal life to Me. Take Me where you live." For us truly to know Jesus, we must bring Him into our homes; that is, our day-to-day existence. It is not enough to attend an occasional liturgy, or give thought to Him on the great occasion of His birth or Resurrection. To know Him truly we must allow Him into every "room" of our heart. He must abide with us. If we keep certain

"rooms" closed to Him, then those aspects of our lives are denied His presence and therefore His peace, mercy and blessing. Many of us claim we want to know Jesus and know Him intimately. But in truth, we want to know Him at a distance. We are perfectly happy to climb up a tree and watch Him pass by. We can feel good about ourselves — after all, didn't we make the effort to climb the tree? Yes, we can simply watch Him pass by. But if that is all we seek, then our lives remain unchanged. That wasn't good enough for Zacchaeus. He responded as Christ encouraged him: "Make haste ... come down ... I must stay at your house."

What was the result of Zacchaeus's response to Christ's bidding? Jesus Himself tells us in the closing verses of the Gospel passage: "Today salvation has come to this house ... for the Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost." "Make haste ... come down ... let Me stay at your house ..." If we respond as Zacchaeus did, then nothing short of the eternal salvation of our souls is given us. What more could we possibly want?

*By Very Rev. Stephen Rogers*



## **THE CHOICE THAT MUST BE MADE**

It's really interesting that Luke records this story of Jesus' encounter with Zacchaeus just shortly after he had the encounter with another rich man. You can go back just a few verses in your Bible from the Zacchaeus story to Luke 18:18-27. You'll find this story of the ruler who came to Jesus and asked, "Good teacher what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus told him, "Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and come, follow me." As Jesus watches the back of the rich man walking away sorrowfully he says, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

Then Luke records this story of another rich man, Zacchaeus, who demonstrates what is possible with God! He was freed from greed to live generously; he was delivered from perpetrating injustice to promoting justice; he was lifted from the path that leads to destruction and led on the path of eternal life. What is the difference in these two rich men? Both men sought Jesus. Both demonstrated the first step toward new life: seeking Jesus.

If we really want the power to change, we need to devote time and energy to getting closer to Jesus. What is it that helps you go deeper in your relationship with Christ? Spending time with the scriptures, spending time in prayer, reaching out to meet the needs of others in his name? These are some of the ways to meet Jesus.