

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.

REMEMBERING THE HOMEBOUND

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!



DATES TO REMEMBER:

July 26 – Byzantine Family Day at Kennywood Park.

August 19 – Our Parish Picnic at SS. Peter & Paul Social Hall & grounds.



SUMMER FESTIVALS:

St. Demetrios Greek Festival – July 25 – 29

Wednesday & Thursday – 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Friday & Saturday – 4:00 PM to 12 Midnight

Sunday – 1:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Greek Dining and Greek Pastries; Greek Music; Greek dancers; Fireworks

Visit www.warregreekfest.com for more information.

Warren Italian Heritage Festival – August 9 – 12

Courthouse Square – Downtown Warren

Entertainment, Exhibits, Games, Pageants, Wine-tasting Competition, Contests, Parade, and Rides and much more. Italian Outdoor Mass – 9:30 AM August 12th.

Visit www.warrenitalianfestival.com for schedules and more information.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 24 June:

5:00 PM: 53; 9:00 AM: 42 11:00 AM: 104

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,979.50



1 JULY 2018

- **Sun. July 1** SS. Peter and Paul Feast Day Dinner in the Social Hall, after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy. Donation : Adults \$10.00 . Children: (Ages 4-10) \$5.00.



A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

Metropolitan William and the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will honor all those couples celebrating their milestone wedding anniversary of 10, 25, 35, 40, 45, 50, (and every 5 years thereafter) in this year of 2018. **Please inform the Parish Office by 22 July 2018 if you are celebrating one of these milestone anniversaries so that your names can be submitted to the Chancery.** The Archieparchial celebration will take place at St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA on Sunday, 9 September 2018 at 3:00 PM. Certificates are sent to all couples, whether they are able to attend or not. Please call the church office or drop you name and current phone number in the collection basket and we will call you. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request.



GOD BLESS AMERICA!

AMERICA – BLESS GOD!

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Edward Gibbon, author of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, has attributed the fall of the Roman Empire to:

1. The rapid increase of divorce; the undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home, which is the basis of human society.
2. Higher and higher taxes and the spending of public monies for free bread and circuses for the populace.
3. The mad craze for pleasure; sports becoming every year more exciting and more brutal.
4. The building of gigantic armaments when the real enemy was within, the decadence of the people.
5. The decay of religion--faith fading into mere form, losing touch with life and becoming impotent to warn and guide the people.

Interesting! Let's bring God back to the "land of the Free and the home of the Brave."

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	1 July	<i>SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Unmercenary Healers and Wonderworkers Cosmas and Damian.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Betty & Steve Zombar (50th Anniv.) – John & Jen +Michael P. Lickwar, Jr. – Mary Anne Kilbert +Sandra Kohut – Marlene & Richard Limber
Monday	2 July	<i>Deposition of the Venerable Robes of our Most Holy Lady, the Mother of God at Blachernae.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday (Chapel)	3 July 8:30 AM	<i>The Holy Martyr Hyacinth.</i> +Dorothy Byers – St. Benedict's Auxiliary
Wednesday	4 July	<i>Holy Father Andrew of Jerusalem, Archbishop of Crete. Venerable Mother Martha, Mother of St. Simeon the Venerable. Venerable Father Procopius of Sazava.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Thursday (Chapel)	5 July 8:30 AM	<i>Our Venerable Father Athanasius of Mt. Athos.</i> +Patricia Mindek – Elaine Borowski
Friday	6 July	<i>Our Venerable Father Sisoës the Great.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday (Sun. Vigil)	7 July 5:00 PM	<i>Our Venerable Fathers Thomas of Maleum and Acacius.</i> +Robert Blake – Ron & Anne Whitfield
Sunday	8 July	<i>SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Great Martyr Procopius.</i> 9:00 AM 11:00 AM
		+Emory Holowatch (40th day) – M/M George Dewitz +Bill Shuttic (40th day) – Janet Yocum



Attentive to the Word
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Mt. 9:1-8

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In the Epistle to the Romans (12:6-14), St. Paul's image of the Church as the Body of Christ is a classic one. With this image, there is a refusal to insist on a dead uniformity in Church membership. We all have gifts that can be used both to preach the Gospel in various ways to others, and to enhance the faith that people already possess. We all have abilities that can be used to deepen community spirit and the intensity of our common experience of the Lord.

St. Paul speaks of the gifts of prophecy, exhortation, teaching, administration and generosity - the ability to help with time or money. These differences make the Body of Christ a dynamic entity that is not static, but a growing, thriving community. All Christians are obliged to enable each other to realize that every person is an integral and important part of the Church. The different members of the Body are not to be ranked in order of importance but in order of function. We are all functionally interrelated. There are no super-Christians among us. We all contribute to the community Jesus founded. Are we doing our share? Are we offering our time and talents to the Church or is some other organization in town getting them?

All through Jesus' public life He was constantly looking for occasions to teach His message and mission to the human race. On many occasions He showed His divinity by manifesting His power over the ills of the body. But many times He also showed His power and His concern over the ills of the souls at the same time. Jesus used every opportunity to show His followers that He possessed divine power over sin. He wanted them to know that He could forgive sins on His own right.

One such occasion is recorded in the Gospel for this Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, taken from St. Matthew (9:1-8). A paralyzed man was brought to Him. Jesus saw the faith of the man and of those who brought him, and immediately said, "Have courage, son, your sins are forgiven." At this the Scribes judged Jesus to be blaspheming. Jesus

knew what they were thinking and asked them, "Why do you harbor evil thoughts? Which is less trouble to say, 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Stand up! Roll up your mat and go home.'" Jesus shows them that if He has the divine power to heal the man instantly, he surely also has the power to forgive sins. Both require divine power.

It is certainly consoling to know that Christ has this power of forgiveness and that he gave this power to the Apostles and their successors on Easter Sunday. From that day on down to our day the Church has exercised this wonderful power through her sacramental ministers in the Sacrament (Mystery) of Reconciliation.

We should ask ourselves if we really appreciate this great sacrament of forgiveness. Do we consider it another instance of Our Lord exercising His power of spiritual healing? Is a summer celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) on our schedule? The opportunity is always provided. Let us avail ourselves of God's generosity and forgiveness.

By Fr. Gary Powell, OFM cap.



The gospels many times speak about paralysis. Being paralyzed is a very devastating situation. But in all these gospel stories we must look with spiritual eyes and listen with spiritual ears because many times the paralysis is more than physical. Spiritual paralysis due to sin or the inability to adjust to life's circumstances are also meant in biblical paralysis.

There are so many people in the world today who are sad, dejected, feel that they don't amount to much because of these negative feelings about themselves. They have such a poor image of themselves. Therefore, they become spiritually and emotionally paralyzed in their own lives. People lose their zest for living: have no goals, no future out-look. This is sad because it is not God's plan for any of us. Jesus said, "I have come to give life and to give it more abundantly."

Yet people ignore God acting in their lives with so many excuses. I'm too tired: I'm not smart enough: It will take too long: I'm too sick: I'm too old - and a whole long litany of negative attitudes. Never let these excuses stand in your way in accomplishing God's will in your life.