

## 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 11 AM – 2:30 PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Father Simeon is available on other days and times by appointment.

## ST. NICHOLAS DINNER

Our St. Nicholas Dinner will be held in the Social Hall after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy on 2 December 2018. It will be catered by DiLucia's. The cost per person is: Adults = \$10.00; Children (ages 7-12) = \$5.00; Children (6 & under) free. *Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Social Hall.*

## BYZANTINE SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE 2018

... is being held at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Munhall, PA on Saturday, November 10, 2018, from 9:30 AM to 2:45 PM. The Title is: "*Parish Life from Maintenance to Discipleship.*" **This conference will take a look at life in our Byzantine Catholic Church from the time of immigration up to the present era, and will also address the challenge of Discipleship for the Future.** Registration is required and is \$35.00 per person (includes lunch). Registration brochures are next to the bulletins. Deadline is Nov. 5, 2018.

## PRAYER BEFORE AN ELECTION

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community. We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom. We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. Amen.



**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 28 October:**

5:00 PM: **76**; 9:00 AM: **46**; 11:00 AM: **67**

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . \$2,699.50**

- **Sun. Nov.4** Classes for K through 12 will meet from 9:55 to 10:45 AM.
- **Sun. Nov. 4** Pilgrim Virgin “Icon of Our Lady of Fatima” presentation at SS. Peter and Paul, **today from 1:00 PM to approximately 3:15 PM**. See fliers at entrances for more information!
- **Wed. Nov. 7** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Extra help is needed this week...an hour or two will be appreciated.
- **Sun. Nov. 11** Carpath-Rusyn Society meeting at 2:00 PM. A documentary film on the life of Sergeant Michael Strank entitled “Our Flag Still Waves” will begin at 2:00 PM. All are invited! More info is on the bulletin board!



### NUT ROLL PICK-UP

You may pick-up your order of rolls on Saturday, November 10, 2018, between 3:00 PM and 6:30 PM, or before & after all Divine Liturgies, this weekend. If there are any extra rolls available, they will also be sold at those times. *Thank you for your support, from St. Benedict’s Auxiliary!*



### FEAST OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL THE HOLY ANGELS



On November 8<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the Feast of St. Michael the Great Archangel and all the holy angels. The word “angel” means messenger, and many times in both the Old and New Testaments, this is how God used them. They were sent to minister, to heal, to warn, and to protect.

There are many people who do not believe in the existence of spirits – angels and devils. But angels and devils do exist. This was and is the teaching of the Church. Angels are servants of God who work for us. Devils are spirits who alienated themselves from God and who work against us.

The Devil is our number one enemy! He is the tempter who led many people astray. Remember, devils are former angels who turned against God. They are very intelligent and have thousands of years of experience turning people away from God.

*St. Michael, defend us against the workings of the devil!*

### 4 NOVEMBER 2018 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	4 November	<i>TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Our Venerable Father Joannicus. Holy Martyr Nicander, Bishop of Myra. The Priest Hermas.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Barbara A. Myers – John &amp; Dianna Koza</b> <b>+Peter Sernulka – wife Nancy Sernulka &amp; family</b> <b>+Michael &amp; +Mary Lickwar – Lickwar family</b>
Monday	5 November	<i>Holy Martyrs Galaction and Episteme. Passing of the Blessed Martyr Gregory Lakota.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday	6 November	<i>Our Father Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople.</i>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+John &amp; +Anna Dzemyan – Jim &amp; Marge Basista</b>
Wednesday	7 November	<i>Holy Thirty-three Martyrs of Melitene. Venerable Father Lazarus, the Wonder-worker.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Thursday	8 November <b>6:00 PM</b>	<i>ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND ALL THE ANGELS</i> <b>+Harry Reynolds – Trudy Vasco</b>
Friday	9 November	<i>Holy Martyrs Onesiphorus and Porphyrius. Venerable Mother Matrona.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday	10 November <b>5:00 PM</b>	<i>Holy Apostles Erastus, Olympas and Rhodion and their Companions.</i> <b>+Jeffrey Hoson – Hoson family</b>
Sunday	11 November <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<i>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Holy Martyrs Menas, Victor and Vincent. Holy Martyr Stephanis. Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore.</i> <b>+Millie Simko – Bob &amp; Marianne Cabosky</b> <b>+Margaret Gnat – David &amp; Wendy Austin</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

*Lk. 8: 41 - 56*

*Tone 7 - Pages 156 - 158*

Today's Gospel shows two examples of pure true faith. The woman cured of a hemorrhage and the raising of the daughter of Jairus show complete abandoning and placing trust in God.

For the woman there was more than just a physical healing going on here. In Jewish society anytime there was a flow of blood of blood, even from a woman's monthly cycle, she was considered unclean, sinful and unfit to mix with regular society. This goes back to the Old Testament book of Leviticus. It was a law and a mind-set that went back many centuries. Therefore, Jesus was not only restoring her physical health but restoring her place in decent society.

When the daughter of Jairus was raised it was an act of desperation and pure faith running to Jesus for a girl who was most probably dead.

As modern Americans with our self-assured, gotta-be-in-control attitudes it is very hard for us to abandon our own powers and turn to the higher power of Jesus Christ. Sometimes it takes an act of desperation like we see in these Gospel events. To have a complete, open, pure faith and trust in the living God is such a beautiful thing.

I have an example: Tess was a bright eight year old when she heard her Mom and Dad talking about her little brother, Andrew. All she knew was that he was very sick and they were completely out of money. They were moving to an apartment complex next month because Daddy didn't have the money for the doctor bills and our house. Only a very costly surgery could save him now and it was looking like there was no-one to loan them the money. She heard Daddy say to her tearful Mother with whispered desperation, "Only a miracle can save him now."

Tess went to her bedroom and pulled a glass jelly jar from its hiding place in the closet. She poured all the change out on the floor and counted it carefully. Three times, even. The total had to be exactly perfect. No chance here for mistakes. Carefully placing the coins back in the jar and twisting on the cap, she slipped out the back door and made her way 6 blocks to the Rexall Drug Store with the big red Indian Chief sign above the door. She waited patiently for the pharmacist to give her some attention but he was too busy at this moment. Tess twisted her feet to make a scuffing noise. Nothing. She cleared

her throat with the most disgusting sound she could muster. No good. Finally she took a quarter from her jar and banged it on the glass counter. That did it!

"And what do you want?" the pharmacist asked in an annoyed tone of voice. "I'm talking to my brother from Chicago whom I haven't seen in ages," he said without waiting for a reply to his question.

"Well, I want to talk to you about my brother," Tess answered back in the same annoyed tone. "He's really, really sick... and I want to buy a miracle."

"I beg your pardon?" said the pharmacist.

"His name is Andrew and he has something bad growing inside his head and my Daddy says only a miracle can save him now. So how much does a miracle cost?" "We don't sell miracles here, little girl. I'm sorry but I can't help you," the pharmacist said, softening a little.

"Listen, I have the money to pay for it. If it isn't enough, I will get the rest. Just tell me how much it costs."

The pharmacist's brother was a well-dressed man. He stooped down and asked the little girl, "What kind of a miracle does your brother need?"

"I don't know," Tess replied with her eyes welling up. "I just know he's really sick and Mommy says he needs an operation. But my Daddy can't pay for it, so I want to use my money."

"How much do you have?" asked the man from Chicago. "One dollar and eleven cents," Tess answered barely audibly. "And it's all the money I have, but I can get some more if I need to."

"Well, what a coincidence," smiled the man. "A dollar and eleven cents-the exact price of a miracle for little brothers." He took her money in one hand and with the other hand he grasped her mitten and said "Take me to where you live. I want to see your brother and meet your parents. Let's see if I have the kind of miracle you need."

That well-dressed man was Dr. Carlton Armstrong, a surgeon, specializing in neuro-surgery. The operation was completed without charge and it wasn't long until Andrew was home again and doing well. Mom and Dad were happily talking about the chain of events that had led them to this place. "That surgery," her Mom whispered, "was a real miracle. I wonder how much it would have cost?"

Tess smiled. She knew exactly how much a miracle cost... one dollar and eleven cents ..... plus the pure faith of a little child. Oh that we could have that kind of pure faith in a loving Lord. What lessons we can learn from this Gospel and from this little child.

*A miracle is not the suspension of natural law, but the operation of a higher law in the lives of ordinary people.....*