

## 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 Saints 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.

## LECTOR MINISTRY

Fr. Simeon has commissioned Timothy Byers to conduct Lector Classes at our Parish. This is for anyone, male or female, who would like to learn about this ministry in our church. A video series from our Archdiocese will be used during these sessions (approx. 4 sessions.) Perhaps, after attending these informative Lector Sessions, you may feel called to assist in this ministry. Anyone interested, please sign up in the Social Hall.



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

Prayer is not a “spare wheel” that you pull out when in trouble; it is a “steering wheel.”

Do you know why a car's windshield is so large and the rearview mirror is so small? Because our past is not as important as our future. So, look ahead and move on.

Friendship is like a book. It takes a few seconds to burn, but it takes years to write.

All things in life are temporary. If things are going well enjoy them, they will not last forever. If they are not going well, don't worry, they can't last long either.

Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, God smiles and says: “Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end.”

When God solves our problems, we have faith in His abilities. When God doesn't solve our problems, He has faith in our abilities.

When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them; and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.

A blind man asked St. Anthony, “Can there be anything worse than losing your eyesight?” He replied: “Yes, losing your vision.”

Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles; it takes away today's peace.



## Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of June 30:

5:00 PM: 75; 9:00 AM: 39 11:00 AM: 70

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . \$3,571.25**



➤ **Mon. July 22** Church Cleaning Party 9 AM - Noon. We could use your help!



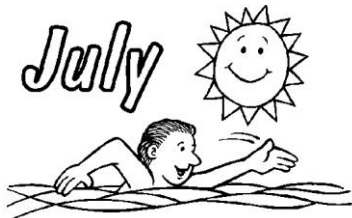
**MANY THANKS**



...to the members of the Parish Guild and to all those who helped to make our Parish Feast Day Dinner a huge success!

**99TH BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY - JULY 25, 2019**

If there is any interest in possible transportation to Kennywood Park, please call the office by July 1<sup>st</sup> so arrangements can be made. **See the bulletin board in the Social Hall for discount ticket and lunch prices.** Payment must accompany your reservations. In order to receive your park tickets and lunch wristbands, **orders must be in the office by July 5th.**



**SUMMER IS HERE** – and a time for Vacations – much needed vacations! A time to re-create and come back to the pilgrimage of life! It is a time of summer breezes, beautiful flowers, and many times – poor church attendance. We still have a need to gather as God’s people and to worship – even if we are on vacation or traveling. There are many

opportunities to give time to the Lord! As you leave, have a wonderful, safe and happy time! And when you return, know that you were missed and we are happy to see you back with us – with such renewed life.



**A PRAYER WHEN LIGHTING A CANDLE**

Lord, may this candle be a light for you to enlighten me in my difficulties and decisions. May it be a fire for You to burn out of me all pride, selfishness, and impurity. May it be a flame for You to bring warmth into my heart towards my family, my neighbors, and all those who meet me. Through the prayers of Mary, Virgin and Mother, I place in Your care those I come to especially remember. (*Mention your intention.*) I cannot stay long here with You in Your church. In leaving his candle, I wish to give You something of myself. Help me continue my prayer in everything I do this day. Amen.

JULY 7, 2019

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	7 July	<i>FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Our Venerable Fathers Thomas of Maleum and Acacius, Mentioned in the Ladder.</i>
<b>(Sun. Vigil)</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Sandy Bishop - Ken Bishop</b> <b>Prayer Intention of Rosary Society Members</b> <b>+Randy Rose - Byers Family</b>
Monday	8 July	<i>The Holy Great Martyr Procopius.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday <b>(Chapel)</b>	9 July <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>The Holy Martyr Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina.</i> <b>+James Danko - Ron &amp; Donna Johns</b>
Wednesday  <b>(Chapel)</b>	10 July  <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>The Holy 45 Martyrs in Nicopolis in Armenia. Our Venerable Father Anthony of the Kiev Lavra. The three Maronite Franciscan brothers, Francis, Abd-el-Mooti and Raphael Massabki, and eight others with them, killed in Damascus in 1860.</i> <b>+Margaret Gnat - Dom &amp; Bernie Marino</b>
Thursday  <b>(Chapel)</b>	11 July  <b>8:30 AM</b>	<i>The Holy Martyr the Illustrious Euphemia. The Passing of Olga, Princess of Kiev, baptized Helen.</i> <b>+Becky Kapusta - Sylvia &amp; Rich Perhacs</b>
Friday	12 July	<i>The Holy Martyrs Proclus and Hilarion. Our Venerable Father Michael of Malein.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday  <b>(Vigil Liturgy)</b>	13 July  <b>5:00 PM</b>	<i>Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel. Our Venerable Father Stephen of the Monastery of St. Sabbas. Our Holy Father Julian, Bishop of Kenoman.</i> <b>+Craig McKnight - John &amp; Dianna Koza</b>
Sunday	14 July	<i>FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. MEMORY OF THE FATHERS AT THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS. The Holy Apostle Aquila..</i> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> <b>+Mary &amp; Michael Johnson - Mike &amp; Sue Johnson</b> <b>+Anne Evans - William Burick Family</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Matt. 8: 5 – 13*

*Tone 3, Pgs. 135 – 137*

#### COMPASSION – FAITH – HUMILITY

Jesus gave a great compliment in today's Gospel.

He said, "I have not found so great a faith in all Israel." Where would you look for such a person? For those of you who served in the military, could you imagine finding such a person in the armed forces? But that is exactly where Christ found this man of great faith.



This soldier in today's Gospel was a Roman centurion. This means that he was in charge of 100 soldiers in the pagan Roman army. This man of some social prominence had a servant whom he cared about deeply. That is why he went to Christ. This centurion gives us examples of three virtues in action – not just in theory – but in action.

First of all the centurion was a man of great compassion. Remember at the time of Our Lord the Romans practiced slavery and had a reputation for being cruel to slaves. In this culture a centurion could have easily let a servant die and buy another. After all they were ONLY property. However, he was concerned about his servant. This shows compassion.

One of the greatest tragedies of our times is that many people who bear the name of "Christian" rarely feel or show compassion. People become so wrapped up in themselves and in their own concerns that they don't even take notice of others. They don't take time for other people. There are so many lonely people, even members of this church, who are shut-ins at home, in nursing homes, VA centers and many of them will die before their time not because of their afflictions but from loneliness and the feeling that nobody cares. Of course the classic bible illustration of this is the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The second virtue we find in the centurion is his great faith. This was the virtue Jesus noticed up front. He said, "Speak only the word and my servant shall be healed." The centurion was not even Jewish. He probably worshipped all the pagan

Roman gods. He most probably didn't know anything about Jewish faith and the longing for the Messiah and Savior. He probably didn't believe in only one God. Also he was a man of social standing so for him to go to Jesus, this poor itinerant preacher of no social standing, was a tremendous act of faith.

The third virtue is one of humility. This is not a popular virtue in our day at all. In our "me first" generation, pride, stubbornness and selfishness are high on the list. Pride involves putting other things before God, his Church and others. Many people operate like this: "I'll go to church ONLY if it fits my schedule; OR only if I don't have a ball game, a trip or something "MORE" important." Last week we heard the Gospel, "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness." Our commitment to Christ and His Church cannot be a hobby or a pastime. What is the first of the Ten Commandments? "I am the Lord Your God. You shall not have strange gods before me." God wants first place or no place! The virtue of humility involves doing God's will even when I feel like it or not or even when something else looks more exciting to do.

We can learn so many things from this centurion and this Gospel. Here is a sobering question as a fitting close to this message. Ask yourself this. If I were put in front of Christ today or encountered Him like the centurion did, what would He say? "I have never found such faith in all of Israel or America." What would He say about me?



Jesus had a bad habit of talking to people who were considered by the religious Jews of His time bad company. This is one of the things I like about Him the most! He was frequently caught talking to Roman soldiers, small children, shady ladies, people of other religions and people of other colors.

Jesus did not see people in the categories we place them. When will we as people who live in His kingdom understand? To Him there is no race or culture. To Him there is no net worth economically. To Him there is no age. To Him there is no gender. To Him there is no scar, stain or sin...that conditions or affects in any way His desire and ability to give those who come to Him...His complete and undivided attention, His love, acceptance and forgiveness. Jesus gives this to all of us. Today, He gives it to this stranger who comes publicly imploring Jesus to heal his servant...This human-being dressed in a uniform, un-Kosher in every meaning of the word...desperately asking for help.