

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.

PRAYERS THIRD WEEK OF GREAT LENT

In this third week of the Fast, O thrice-holy Lord, watch over those who are fasting. Make us worthy to persevere in the observance of your commandments, so that, in all purity, we may contemplate and celebrate your glorious Resurrection.

Let us love the fast of the spirit, which by the help of the Spirit weakens the most violent passions; it gives us the strength to do holy deeds, raises our spirit towards heaven, and obtains pardon for our sins. God will grant us this in his goodness. Amen.



NUTROLL SALE

The Parish Guild will be baking Rolls for the Feast of the Resurrection. **Advance orders only!** Rolls available are nut, apricot, poppy, apricot-nut, Cranberry-nut and lekvar (prune). Rolls are \$10 each and will be ready for pick up on the weekend of April 6-7. **Order forms are located in the Social Hall. Deadline to place your order is March 27, 2019.**

Please Note: Paska Orders will be taken later.

ANNULMENT WORKSHOP – March 26: 7 PM – 8 PM at St. Mary's, 356 South Belle Vista Ave., Youngstown, OH.

Divorced Catholics and anyone interested in learning about the annulment process are welcome to attend a free, one-hour workshop during Lent with Rev. Valerian M. Michlik, JCOL, Judicial Vicar; and Jay Conzemius, JCL, Tribunal Director and Judge. Topics will include: theology of marriage; ministry of the tribunal; marriage annulment types; why, when and how to start the petition for annulment process; and a process overview. Afterward participants can ask questions and /or start the process. No Reservations are required, but email Tribunal@diopitt.org or call 412-456-3033 so seating arrangements can be made.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 17 March:

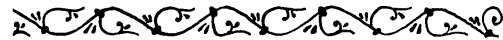
5:00 PM: **67**; 9:00 AM: **44**; 11:00 AM: **72**

Pre-sanctified Liturgy: Wed. **36** Fri. **32**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . \$3,150.40



- **Sun. Mar. 24** ECF Classes - 9:55 to 10:45 AM.
- **Mon. Mar. 25** Major Holy Day – Annunciation. Liturgy 6:00 PM.
- **Wed. Mar. 27** Church Cleaning Party 9:00 AM – Noon. We can use your help!
- **Tues. Apr. 2** Parish Guild Meeting 7:00 PM in Social Hall.
- **Wed. Apr. 3** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.



SPIRITUALITY DAY

The Benedictine Sisters are offering a Day of Spirituality in preparation for the Resurrection of Christ, on **Sunday, March 31 from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM**. It will be held at SS. Peter and Paul Social Hall at 180 Belvedere Avenue, N.E., Warren, Ohio.

The presenter will be Very Reverend Robert M. Pipta. He is the Rector of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Pittsburgh, PA. His topic is “*Living in Peace and Repentance*.” The Great Fast of Lent is a blessed time for utter truthfulness about ourselves – our spiritual obstacles, selfish passions, bad habits – and the value of repentance cannot be underestimated. Father Pipta will help us examine ways in which we can journey closer to God while unearthing the prayer treasures of the Byzantine Christian Lenten observance.

There will be time for reflection, questions and refreshments, and an opportunity to receive the Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession). To register, call 330-856-1813 or email qohm@byzben.org by Sunday, March 24, 2019.



CHOCOLATE BYZANTINE CROSS SALE – 2019

We will have *Chocolate Byzantine Crosses* for sale for Easter. The orders must be **prepaid** and must be **in the office by March 31st**. Envelopes are located at the Church entrances for those interested in purchasing *Dark, Milk or White Chocolate Crosses*. The purchase price is \$5.00 each and will be ready for pick-up Palm Sunday, April 14th.

EASTER SALE

Egg-in-Wraps – Ukranian, Old World and Slavic Pin Art - \$5/pkg.
Lamb Butter/Chocolate Molds - \$12/pkg.
See Betty Zombar or Father Simeon for purchase.

24 MARCH 2019

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	24 March	<i>THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Prefestive Day of the Annunciation. Our Venerable Father Zachary. Our Holy Father Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Dorothy Byers – Elaine & Harry Vislosky & family Prayer Intentions of Rosary Society Members +Donald Sutyak – Ropchock family
Monday	25 March	<i>ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.</i>
	6:00 PM	+Frank Hoson, Jr. – John & Dianna Koza
Tuesday	26 March	<i>Leave-taking (Otdanije) of Annunciation. Synaxis of Gabriel the Archangel.</i>
		No Divine Services
Wednesday	27 March	<i>Mid-Lent. Our Venerable Mother Matrona of Thessalonica.</i>
	6:00 PM	Pre-sanctified Liturgy
Thursday	28 March	<i>Our Venerable Father Hilary the Younger. The Holy Stephen the Wonderworker.</i>
		No Divine Services
Friday	29 March	<i>Our Venerable Father Mark, Bishop of Arethusa, and of the Deacon Cyril, and others who suffered martyrdom under Julian the Apostate.</i>
	6:00 PM	Pre-sanctified Liturgy
Saturday	30 March	<i>Fourth All Souls’ Saturday. Our Venerable Father John Climacus, Author of “The Ladder.”</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Fourth All Souls Sat. w/Reading of the Diptyches +Millie Simko – Mr. & Mrs. Frank Arundel
Sunday	31 March	<i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. MEMORY OF OUR HOLY FATHER JOHN CLIMACUS. Our Venerable Father Hypatius, Bishop of Gangra.</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Harry Reynolds – Rick & Karen Reynolds +Robert Shaffer – Jim & Anita Shaffer



Attentive to the Word

Third Sunday of the Great Fast

Veneration of the Cross

Mk. 8:34 - 9:1

Tone 3 Page 135 and Pages 223 - 225

Liturgy of St. Basil during Great Lent:

(In place of Antiphons) Pages 16 & 17 Typical Psalms

Beatitudes Pgs. 23-24; (Instead of "It is truly proper,") Pg. 225 - Magnification



The third Sunday of Lent is dedicated to the veneration of the Holy Cross. For this reason you will see the Cross decorated with a garland of flowers upon the Tetrapod and the faithful will come forward to kiss the Cross in veneration.

It is interesting to note that the theme of the Cross which dominates the hymnology for this Sunday is developed in terms not of suffering but of victory and joy. More than that, the theme *songs* (Irmosi) of the Sunday Canon are taken from the Paschal Service ...

"The Day of the Resurrection," and the Canon is a paraphrase of the Easter Canon.

The meaning of all this is clear. We are in "mid-lent." On the one hand, the physical and spiritual effort, if it is serious and consistent, begins to be felt; its burden becomes more burdensome, our fatigue is more evident. We need help and encouragement. On the other hand, having endured this fatigue, having climbed the mountain up to the point – we begin to see the end of our pilgrimage and the rays of Easter grow in their Intensity.

Lent is our self-crucifixion, our experience, limited as it is, of Christ's commandment heard in the Gospel lesson of this Sunday: "It any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Mark 8:34). But we can neither take up our cross and follow Christ unless we have His Cross which He took up in order to save us. It is His Cross that gives not only meaning but also power to others.

At the Divine Liturgy, the Trisagion Hymn ("Holy God, Holy and Mighty...") is not sung, but it is replaced with "We bow to your Cross O Lord, and we glorify Your holy resurrection. After singing each verse of the hymn, the faithful make a profound bow. After the Liturgy, every one present will come forward to kiss the Cross.

FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION



freely and willingly."

In his homily on the Annunciation, Nicholas Cabasilas states, "The Incarnation was not only the work of God, but also that of the will and faith of the Virgin. Without the consent of the Most Pure, without the collaboration of her faith, the plan of God would have been as impossible to realize as it would have been without the intervention of the three divine Persons themselves. God had chosen her for His Mother and borrowed the flesh she willingly accepted to surrender to Him. As He was incarnate of His own free will, He wanted His mother to give Him birth as

To express the importance of the Annunciation and Mary's acceptance of God's invitation, Byzantine churches portray the icon the Annunciation on the Royal Doors of the iconostas, the entrance into the Holy of Holies. The four Evangelists are also depicted on the Royal Doors to signify that as the Holy Spirit descended upon Mary to bring about the Incarnation of the Word of God as Man, He also descended upon the Evangelists to bring about the Word of God in the Gospels.

The Troparion of the Feast begins, "**Today is the beginning of our salvation and the revelation of the eternal mystery: The Son of God becomes the Son of a Virgin.**" Thus, with a song of praise our Church greets the feast of the Annunciation of the Mother of God, calling it the beginning of our salvation. This is one of the most important feasts of our Liturgical Year. It has been celebrated in the East since the year 353 as told by St. Athanasius. The feast of the Annunciation is not only one of the twelve greatest Feast Days of the Church, but it's service is taken even if it should fall on Palm Sunday, Great and Holy Friday, or on the feast of the Resurrection of our Lord (Pascha).

"GIVE-UP'S" THAT ARE GOOD FOR OUR SOULS...

Give up hatred – return good for evil. *Give up being negative* – be positive.

Give up jealousy – congratulate someone for a good job well done.

Give up complaining – be grateful. *Give up worry* – instead, trust God.

Give up gossiping – control your thoughts and your tongue.

Give up discouragement – be full of hope. *Give up anger* – be more patient.

Give up gloom – enjoy beauty around you. *Give up being a pessimist* – be optimistic.

Give up harsh judgments – think kindly thoughts of others.

Give up pettiness – be more mature.

St. Paul tells us to fill our minds with everything that is good, true and pure. He knew it wouldn't be easy, but he knew there is also God's help to see us through tough times.