

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.

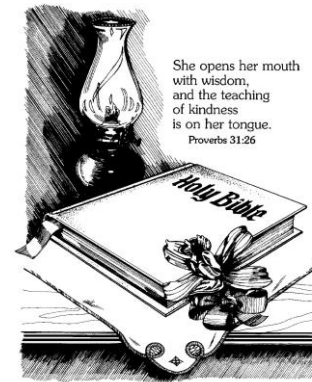
Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Simeon before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

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.

MOTHER'S DAY



Once upon a time, there was a child ready to be born. So one day he asked God: "They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?" God replied: "Among the many angels, I chose one for you. She will be waiting for you and will take care of you." Said the child, "But tell me, here in Heaven, I don't do anything else but sing and smile, that's enough for me to be happy. And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me, if I don't know the language that men talk?" God responded "Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak." "And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?" "Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray." "I've heard that on earth there are bad men, who will protect me?" "Your angel will defend you even if it means risking its own life." "But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore." "Your angel will always talk to you about me and will teach you the way for you to come back to me, even though I will always be next to you." At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices from earth could already be heard, and the child in a hurry asked softly: "Oh Father, if I am about to leave now, please tell me my angel's name." Said God, "Your angel's name is of no importance. You will simply call her MOM!"

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

“A Mother like yours is more than a memory. She is a living presence.”
Your Mother is always with you. She's the whisper of the leaves as you walk down the street; she's the smell of bleach in your freshly laundered socks; she's the cool hand on your brow when you're not well. Your Mother lives inside your laughter. And she's crystallized in every teardrop. She's the place you came from, your first home; and she's the map you follow with every step you take. She's your first love and your first heartbreak; and nothing on earth can separate you – not time, not space – not even death!



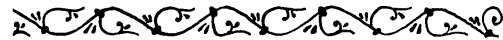
Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of May 5:

5:00 PM: 75; 9:00 AM: 42; 11:00 AM: 73

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$4,356.43



- **Sat. & Sun. May 11 & 12** Mother’s Day Remembrance.
- **Sat. & Sun. May 11 & 12** Coffee & Donuts after all Divine Liturgies.
- **Tues. May 14** Parish Guild Meeting – 7:00 PM in Social Hall. LCR Game – Bring quarters.
- **Sun. May 19** Meeting of Oblates of St. Benedict - 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the Monastery. Please ring #301.
- **Mon. May 20** Church Cleaning Party 9:00 AM - Noon. We can use your help!



MANY THANKS

Our heartfelt thanks go out to our dedicated Catechists, to the Parents who faithfully brought their children to classes, and to the Children themselves. We have a wonderful group of children who have formed their own little “community.” We are grateful to have such wonderful Catechists and substitutes who have volunteered their time every week and are very creative in preparing their lessons. Special thanks to them. If there are any others who would like to teach or are willing to be a substitute, please call Sr. Barbara at the office. Enjoy your “summer vacation”, but please don’t take a vacation from God. Remember to attend the Divine Liturgy every Sunday. God bless you all!

TRASH TO TREASURE SALE

Saturday, June 8, 2019, from 8 AM – 3 PM in SS. Peter & Paul Social Hall and Parking Lot. You are invited to rent table spaces at \$20.00 per table or parking lot spaces at \$10.00 per space to sell your superfluous items. You are responsible for the set-up, pricing, sale and removal of your items. Doors will be open Friday, June 7, from 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM and from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM to enable you to “Set-up.” All vendors are expected to be at their tables or outdoor spaces by 7:45 AM on Saturday, June 8, and remain open for business until 3:00 PM (unless you are “sold out”). Registration blanks are available in the Social Hall.

Please call Elaine at 330-770-1100 if you need clarification or have any further questions. **Remember: Spaces are limited and are reserved on a first come – first serve basis. So, get your reservations and payment in early! Deadline is Sunday, June 2.**



Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

MAY 12, 2019
SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	12 May	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN. Our Holy Fathers Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus and Germanus, Patriarch of Constantinople.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Mother’s Day Remembrance Mother’s Day Remembrance Mother’s Day Remembrance
Monday	13 May	<i>The Holy Martyr Glyceria.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday (Chapel)	14 May 8:30 AM	<i>The Holy Martyr Isidore.</i> +Lucy Prokop – Mark & Florence Sedlak
Wednesday (Chapel)	15 May 8:30 AM	<i>MID-PENTECOST. Our Venerable Father Pachomius the Great. Our Venerable Father Isaiah the Wonderworker, Bishop of Rostov.</i> +Anna McGrath (40th Day) – Ron Mosko
Thursday (Chapel)	16 May 8:30 AM	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Our Venerable Father Theodore the Consecrated, Disciple of St. Pachomius. The Holy Martyrs Vitus, Modestus and Crescentia. The Passing of the Blessed Martyr the Priest Vladimir Bajrak at the Drohobych Prison (1946).</i> +John & +Josephine Wargo – Elizabeth Cantelmo
Friday	17 May	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy Apostle Andronicus and His Companions. The Passing of the Martyr and Priest Ivan Ziatyk (1952).</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday (Vigil Liturgy)	18 May 5:00 PM	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy Martyr Theodotus of Ancyra. The Holy Martyrs Peter, Denis and their Companions. The Holy Seven Virgins.</i> +Frank Hoso, Jr. – Hoso Family
Sunday	19 May	<i>SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN. Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Holy Martyr Patrick, Bishop of Prusa and His Companions.</i> 9:00 AM 11:00 AM +Harry Reynolds – Mr. & Mrs. Mick Johnson +Brian Koehn – Mom & Mike



Attentive to the Word

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN

John 5: 1 – 15

Follow Directions on Pages 181 – 183

THE PARALYTIC MAN

The Gospel for the third Paschal Sunday (John 5:1-15) recounts the healing of the paralyzed man at the pool of Bethesda, one of the outer precincts of Jerusalem. The details of this cure focus on the therapeutic effect of the water as it bubbles from its underground spring. The pool is a clear image of Christian baptism which in ancient times was reserved to the vigil of Easter. We were reminded of this in our own day as we heard the joyous chanting of Galatians 3:27, "All you who have been baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ" at the Easter Liturgy.

The healing water of Bethesda, however, were stirred only occasionally and in this one place, whereas the baptismal waters of the Church are active everywhere. The water of the pool only healed the body; baptism heals both body and soul. The former relieves the body of physical sickness; the latter delivers the soul from sin. The water of the pool cured only one person each year; the grace of baptism flows daily for all who come to it in faith. In the holy Mystery of Baptism is found a far more generous fund of grace than the pool of Bethesda.

At Bethesda, the stirring of the water by an angel was the signal for healing. The Holy Spirit descends into the waters of Baptism with no visible movement because the grace given at Baptism is a sign of the Spirit's presence, where God's mark of ownership is stamped on the baptized (Ephesians 1:13-14).

In biblical imagery, water, then, is life and salvation. Interestingly, at the account of creation, water itself is not enumerated among the works of creation; it is presupposed. The saving acts of God in the Old Testament for the Chosen People take place in the context of water. We need think only of Noah's deliverance at the Great Flood and the crossing through the Red Sea at the Exodus. The care and providence of God are expressed as His leading one beside still waters. (Psalm 23:2) Jesus applies the same principle to Himself, promising to give living water which is eternal life to the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:5-42) and His invitation, "If anyone thirst, let him

come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture says - from within him there shall flow rivers of living water." (John 7:37-38)

The paralyzed man, after his cure at the pool, identified Jesus to the religious leaders who were indignant that He "worked" on the Sabbath. Baptism is our declaration of union with Jesus, expressing solidarity with Him - crucified and risen (Romans 6:3-4). Immersion into water, then, is the death of the believer to sin and self while the water is at the same time the water of eternal life. As we continue our celebration of the Paschal Mystery, may we be mindful of our own spiritual healing in the waters of baptism.

By Msgr. John Sekellick

MID-PENTECOST

On Wednesday after the Sunday of the Paralytic, which falls exactly in the middle of the Pentecost season, that period between Easter (the Resurrection) and the feast of the Pentecost or Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Eastern Church celebrates the feast of Mid-Pentecost which means "Half Way" because it is the half-way mark between the feast of Easter and the feast of the Pentecost. The feast of Mid-Pentecost has an eight day post-feast which lasts to the Wednesday after the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman.

The Pascal Mystery: the Cross, Tomb, Resurrection, Ascension and the Descent of the Holy Spirit is celebrated for fifty days. The twenty-fifth day of this celebration is called the Feast of Mid-Pentecost and commemorates Christ as Teacher.

The reason for this feast is based on the Gospel of St. John in which it is written: "When, however, the feast (i.e., the feast of Tabernacles) was already half over, Jesus went up into the temple and began to teach." (John 7, 14) There he spoke of his divine mission and of miraculous water: "My teaching is not my own, but his who sent me. ... If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture says, 'from within him there shall flow rivers of living waters.' He said this, however, of the spirit whom they, who believed in him were to receive." (John 7,16; 37-39)

The feast of the Mid-Pentecost aims to strengthen our faith in the risen Christ, to inspire us to observe the commandments of God and to predispose us for the feast of the Ascension of our Lord and the Descent of the Holy Spirit. In the matins service of that day at the Sticheras of Praises we sing: "Brethren, having been enlightened by the resurrection of the Savior Jesus Christ, and having reached the half-way mark of the feast of the Lord, let us sincerely observe the commandments of God, so that we may become worthy to celebrate the Ascension and receive the coming of the Holy Spirit."