

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 and Lisa Mosko are in the Parish office from 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Father Simeon is available on other days and times by appointment.

PHILIP'S FAST OUTREACH 2020

Since St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program is in dire need of desserts that can easily be bagged or boxed, this will be our Parish Outreach for 2020. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Social Hall to bake cookies, brownies, etc. (anything that does not have icing or is not messy, and that can be put into a baggy.) Your baked goods can be brought to the social hall and will be delivered to St. Vincent de Paul for their Meals Program.

There are 33 “food distribution” days between November 16th and December 23rd. That is going to require a lot of cookies...so much more than one family can sign up for the same day. Make it a fun family Christmas preparation project! Also, if you cannot bake, donations will be accepted. You have always come through for those in need. Jesus said, “Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do to Me.” We are counting on you to do whatever you are able, to help feed our brothers and sisters in Christ! Call Elaine at 330-770-1100 if you have any questions! God bless us all!

FREE ADULT EDUCATION

Live webinars, free of charge. Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events. **Mondays, November 30 – December 14 @ 8 – 9 PM.** This has already started but you can still join in. The presentation will be “Seven Ages of the Kingdom – A Study of Salvation History.” The presenter is Rev. Daniel Dozier. The Church as God's Holy People is at the heart of His unfolding plan of salvation that is ultimately fulfilled in Christ. In this Bible study we'll explore how this plan for a universal covenant kingdom unfolds in Scripture through particular stages in the history of God's People. What better way to prepare for the coming of Christ during this Nativity Fast, than by learning about how all of history has paved the way for the Savior of mankind! An excellent opportunity for adult education in our Byzantine Church.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of November 28:

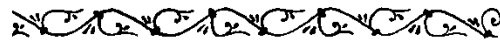
5:00 PM: 27; 9:00 AM: 33; 11:00 AM: 54

Thanksgiving Eve: 25

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,827.00



- **Sun. Dec. 6** ECF Classes meet promptly at 10 AM. Try to come a few minutes early so that we can get the temperatures taken in the Social Hall. Parents are asked to remain until after temperatures are taken. Parents may wait for their children in the Social Hall, but they are asked to practice social distancing and to wear a mask. *No one is permitted downstairs except teachers and students.*
- **Sat. & Sun. Dec. 5 & 6** St. Nicholas Parish Celebration.
- **Mon. Dec. 7** Vigil Liturgy for Feast of the Maternity of The Holy Anna – Solemn Holy Day.



ST. NICHOLAS PARISH CELEBRATION

St. Nicholas is the Patron Saint of Byzantine Catholics. We cannot let this beautiful feast go by without a celebration! Due to the drastic increase of Covid-19 cases in Ohio, we will have to limit our usual St. Nicholas Dinner to “carry out” only. The cost per dinner is \$10.00. **If you signed up for the dinner, don’t forget to pick up your dinner after the Liturgy you will be attending on Dec. 5th or Dec. 6th.**

CONGRATULATIONS . . .

. . . to our Seminarian John Welch. John has been studying hard at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Pittsburgh preparing for the priesthood. He began his third year of studies this past September. On December 8th John will be receiving the “Order of Reader,” which is the first step toward ordination to the priesthood.

We are proud of you, John! You are in our prayers always!

HOMEMADE CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

St. Benedict’s Auxiliary will sponsor a cookie tray sale to benefit the Benedictine Sisters. The cookie tray sale will be on **Saturday, December 19th, from 10:00 AM until Noon.**

Auxiliary members and other parishioners who like to bake and would like to help are asked to bake at home and **bring their cookies to the Social Hall on Thursday, December 17th, from Noon to 3:00 PM.**

(Hint): The more cookies we have, the more trays we can assemble, and the delicious and beautifully arranged cookies will be ready for your Christmas celebration. We thank you in advance for your help!

DECEMBER 6, 2020

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Sunday | 6 Dec. | <i>TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. OUR HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA, THE WONDERWORKER.</i> |
| (Vigil Liturgy) | 5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM | +Marialice Verney – Paul & Nancy Danko Health & Blessings for Marjorie Simon – Paul & Cheryl +Steve Zumerling – Mr. & Mrs. Steve Wareham |
| Monday | 7 Dec. | <i>Prefestive Day of the Maternity of the Holy Anna. Our Holy Father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan. (pg. 277)</i> |
| (Vigil Liturgy) | 6:00 PM | Blessings on Mary Beth Byers – friends |
| Tuesday | 8 Dec. | <i>FEAST OF THE MATERNITY OF THE HOLY ANNA.</i> |
| | | No Divine Liturgy |
| Wednesday | 9 Dec. | <i>Our Venerable Father Patapius The Holy Hannah, Mother of the Prophet Samuel.</i> |
| (SPP) | 8:30 AM | Health/Welfare of Sr. Agnes Knapik – Sr. Anna Maria |
| Thursday | 10 Dec. | <i>The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes and EUGRAPHUS.</i> |
| (SPP) | 8:30 AM | +Joanne Emory – sister, Elizabeth & family |
| Friday | 11 Dec. | <i>Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite.</i> |
| | | No Divine Liturgy |
| Saturday | 12 Dec. | <i>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.</i> |
| (Vigil Liturgy) | 5:00 PM | +David Mosko – Hosko family |
| Sunday | 13 Dec. | <i>SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS. The Holy Martyrs Eustratius, Auxentius, Eugene, Mardarius and Orestes. The Holy Virgin Martyr Lucy.</i> |
| | 9:00 AM 11:00 AM | Health of Greg Lazor – Ted Falatic family +Doris Mosko – son, Ron |



Attentive to the Word

**27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NICHOLAS OF MYRA ARCHBISHOP**

Luke 17: 12 – 19 & Luke 6: 17 – 23

**Tone 2 Pg. 130 and the rest from
Pgs. 274 - 276**

FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS – DECEMBER 6

It is easy to understand why this holy bishop has become so closely connected with the festival of Christ's birth. The stories about the saint, fabricated and embroidered in Christian imagination over the ages, in various times and places, all tell of the simple faith and love of the man known only for his goodness and love.



The extraordinary thing about the image of St. Nicholas in the Church is that he is not known for anything **extraordinary**. He was not a theologian and never wrote a word ... yet he is famous in the memory of believers as a zealot for the true faith! He was not an ascetic and did no outstanding feats of fasting and vigils ... yet he is praised for his possession of the “fruit of the Holy Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control!” He was not a mystic (in our present meaning of the term) ... yet he lived daily with the Lord and

was godly in all his words and deeds! He was not a prophet in the technical sense ... yet he proclaimed the Word of God, exposed the sins of the wicked, defended the rights of the oppressed and afflicted, and battled against every form of injustice with supernatural compassion and mercy! In a word, he was a

good pastor, father and bishop to his flock, known especially for his love and care of the poor. Most simply put, he was a **divinely good person!**

The Messiah has come so that human beings can live lives which are, strictly speaking, humanly impossible. He has come so that people can really **be good!** One of the greatest and most beloved examples among believers that this is true, is the holy bishop of Myra ... about almost nothing else is known ... except that he was **good!** For this reason alone, he remains “**the very spirit of Christmas.**” (Pay special attention to the Troparion and Kontakion for the Feast of St. Nicholas.)

THE CONCEPTION OF SAINT ANN

Celebrated for many centuries under a variety of titles, the feast widely known as the Immaculate Conception is celebrated in the Eastern Church as the Feast of the Conception of Saint Ann. This feast commemorates Saint Ann's conception of Mary, the Mother of God.

The writings of the early Church tell us that Mary's parents, Joachim and Ann, prayed earnestly for a child. Ann and Joachim had lived devoutly in marriage for many years. They gave a third of their income to the poor and a third to the Temple. Still, they were scorned for being without offspring. With heavy hearts, they prayed that God would bless them with a child to comfort them in their old age. The Lord God answered their prayers by allowing Ann to conceive a child who would be the mother of God's own Son, Jesus Christ.

Thus, we see in this feast how marvelously God prepared for the birth of His own Son. Our Lord Jesus Christ was mystically born from the virginal womb of a woman who herself was immaculately conceived from a barren womb! Let us, therefore, cry out to the Mother of God, "Hail, O Womb of Divine Incarnation! Hail, O you through whom creation is renewed! Hail, O you through whom the Creator becomes a babe! Hail, O bride and Maiden ever-pure!" (From the *Akathist*)