

## 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 scription 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:** Lisa Mosko is 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.

## LADY BUG BOX IS BACK IN JANUARY!!

*Buy your tickets for a chance to win a \$50 Gift Card for White House Fruit Farm plus instant Lottery Tickets! You have to play to win!* Tickets are being sold in the Social Hall for chances to win the contents of the Lady Bug Box.

**This month's drawing will be held on Sunday, January 31st, after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy. Will You Be The Next Lucky Winner???????**

### A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

O God of new beginnings and wonderful surprises  
thank You for the gift of a new year.

May it be a time of grace for me,  
a time to grow in faith and love,  
a time to renew my commitment to following Your Son, Jesus.

May it be a year of blessing for me,  
a time to cherish my family and friends,  
a time to renew my efforts at work,  
a time to embrace my faith more fully.

Walk with me, please, in every day and every hour of this new year,  
That the light of Christ might shine through me,  
In spite of my weaknesses and failings.

Above all, may I remember this year  
That I am a pilgrim on the sacred path to You. Amen.

### CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES AND CALENDARS

**The 2022 Church Calendars and Contribution Envelopes are ready for pick-up in the Social Hall.** *If there is any name or address correction, if you are unable to locate your envelopes, or if you wish a set of envelopes, please call the office, or drop a note in the collection basket. This year all envelope numbers were reassigned due to the number of deaths and relocation of former parishioners. Please discard your old envelopes at the end of 2021. If you want proper credit for your contributions, you must use the envelopes you were assigned for the year 2022.*

*Our Parish family would like to thank the Peter Rossi & Son Memorial Chapel for their generosity in providing our calendars this year. God bless them for their kindness and generosity!*

**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of December 18:**

5:00 PM: 46; 9:00 AM: 35; 11:00 AM: 54

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: ..... \$2,883.00**



- **Sun., Dec. 26** No ECF Classes today - Christmas Vacation! Classes resume on Jan. 2.
- **Sat., Jan. 1** Circumcision of our Lord – Solemn Holy Day.
- **Wed., Jan. 5** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program 9 AM – 2 PM.

**NO FASTING FROM DECEMBER 25 THROUGH JANUARY 4.**

### CHRIST IS BORN!

We are finally celebrating the Christmas Season. It's the time to offer our thanks to God for sending us His Son, Jesus Christ. As we continue this celebration, let's not forget the sick, the lonely, and all who find this time of year difficult.

Thank you for your generous prayers and support of this church. I am personally grateful to God and to all of you for the honor of being your Pastor. May we continue to support and care for one another in faith and the love of Jesus Christ.

Glorify Him!  
*Father Simeon*

### CHRISTMAS ALMSGIVING

In addition to the white envelopes at the church entrances for monetary donations to **AKRON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN HOWLAND**, a table will be set up in the Social Hall for material contributions. A list of needed items will be posted in the Social Hall, which includes a variety of gift cards. If donating gift cards, please place them in the white envelopes and drop them in the collection baskets. Please do not put names on the envelopes.

Any checks should be made payable to: Saints Peter and Paul Church.

**The deadline to donate is January 1, 2022.**

Thank you for your generosity!

### KOLACHI SALE

**We will continue selling kolachi after the Liturgies until they are all sold. We only have Nut left. They are \$12 each and freeze well for the holidays.** Proceeds will benefit our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

If you have any questions, please call Pat James at 330-507-6273.

### PARISH GUILD MEETING

There will be no Parish Guild Meeting in January.

### LITURGY STIPENDS

The Divine Liturgy Stipend has been increased to \$20 by the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh effective July 1, 2021.

## DECEMBER 26, 2021 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	26 Dec.	<p><i>SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, MEMORY OF THE HOLY &amp; RIGHTEOUS JOSEPH THE BETROTHED; OF DAVID, THE KING; AND OF THE HOLY APOSTLE JAMES, THE BROTHER OF GOD. SYNAXIS OF THE MOTHER OF GOD. The Holy Martyr Euthymius, Bishop of Sardis.</i></p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> +Sr. Agnes Knapik – Robert &amp; Marianne Cabosky <b>11:00 AM</b> +William F. Isabella, Jr. – Shirley Wade &amp; family</p>
Monday	27 Dec.	<p><i>THE HOLY APOSTLE, FIRST MARTYR AND ARCHDEACON STEPHEN. Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore, Brother of Theophane the Hymnographer.</i></p> <p><b>No Divine Liturgy</b></p>
Tuesday	28 Dec.	<p><i>Post-festive Day of Christmas. The Holy 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia. The Blessed Martyr Gregory Khomyshyn, Bishop of Stanislaviv (1945).</i></p> <p><b>(SPP) 8:30 AM</b> +Sr. Ambrose Chuchvara – Benedictine Sisters</p>
Wednesday	29 Dec.	<p><i>Post-festive Day of Christmas. The Holy Innocents killed by Herod in Bethlehem. Our Venerable Father Marcellus, Hegumen of the Akimetes.</i></p> <p><b>No Divine Liturgy</b></p>
Thursday	30 Dec.	<p><i>Post-festive Day of Christmas. The Holy Martyr Anysia. The Venerable Zoticus, Priest and Protector of Orphans.</i></p> <p><b>(SPP) 8:30 AM</b> +Emory Holowatch – Anne Myers</p>
Friday	31 Dec.	<p><i>Leave-taking of Christmas. Venerable Mother Melany of Rome.</i></p> <p><b>No Divine Liturgy</b></p>
Saturday	1 Jan.	<p><i>CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. OUR HOLY FATHER BASIL THE GREAT, ARCHBISHOP OF CAESAREAIN CAPPADOCIA. Saturday before Theophany.</i></p> <p><b>(Vigil Liturgy) 5:00 PM</b> +John Koza, III &amp; +Edward Smith – Dianna Koza</p>
Sunday	2 Jan.	<p><i>SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY. Pre-festive Day of Theophany. Our Holy Father Sylvester, Pope of Rome.</i></p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> <b>Intention of Rosary Society Members</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> <b>Health &amp; Int. of Helen Kuhar – Ruth Ann &amp; Gabriel Capito</b></p>



**Attentive to the Word**  
**SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

*Matthew 2: 13 – 23*

*Tone 6 – Pg. 152 and follow directions*

*on Pgs. 302 – 305*



Today is the last Sunday of the year. Christmas marks the beginning of a new relationship with our God, because His Son entered into human life. He became what we are, so that we can become what He is by nature, so that we can share in the very life of God. It's a time to celebrate God's eternal beginning into our lives and to hope and to be restored to grace. It's always a new beginning for all mankind.

New Year's marks the beginning of our yearly calendar. It's an end to an old year and the beginning of a new year. It's a time to celebrate, to hope, to be renewed and to look back and, also and more importantly, to look ahead and to make a new start.

Theophany is after next week. Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of his ministry. Repent, change, make your life over, because the Kingdom of God is at hand. In the Gospel story of Jesus' birth, Jesus was born in a cave and placed in a manger because there was no room for Him in the inn. Jesus began His life on earth being crowded out. Much of ourselves could be reflected in that inn. Are not our lives sometimes so busy and preoccupied with so many things, albeit good, that Jesus Christ gets crowded out? There is just so much room in any person's life. Sometimes our busyness and much good activity crowds out time for Jesus Christ Himself.

The same is true for Herod's Castle. He doesn't have room for another king. He must destroy him before he has to face any competition. He can't accept Jesus' birth as good news. It's a threat to his way of life. A lot of people today don't accept Jesus because then they would have to surrender their own lives to Christ. They would have to change their lifestyle. They would have to seek justice and truth. And these can carry a heavy price. They would just rather get rid of Jesus.

What are we called to do? What's the birth of Jesus calling for in my life? What's New Year's crying out for me to begin anew or to restore. How is Jesus' call to change, that begins His preaching after His baptism, calling me to change?

To begin anew we have to make some quiet time, some time for reflection. As we struggle with our own personal shortcomings, let us ask God's help in our own forgiving and loving. This is where we begin anew.

Try to seek after the things that matter, to not be afraid to admit mistakes, and to not be afraid to change and grow. There is hope for us and for our world. It has to begin with us - in our homes - in our families. It has to begin with a lot of love and acceptance of our everyday humanness and weakness. It has to begin with faith that God will give us the strength to make the changes needed.

Act today to show love to your family and friends. Act today to reach out in compassion to the stranger in need. Act today to forgive and to ask for forgiveness. Commit yourself today to daily prayer and to reflection on the Holy Scriptures - do not wait for a better day, or a calmer time. This outpouring of love and compassion, forgiveness and prayer is the most powerful action we can undertake to counteract hatred and evil, fear and anxiety, death and destruction.

With the love of Jesus in our hearts may we enter into the New Year of God's grace.

*By Fr. John Zeyack*



**FEAST OF THE CIRCUMCISION:** “When the eighth day arrived for His circumcision, the name Jesus was given the Child, the name the angel had given Him before He was conceived.” Our Lord submitted to the law even though He was the Creator of all mankind and of the entire universe. We would do well to follow His example by also submitting to the law – His law: “Love God with all your heart and soul, with all your strength and mind. Love your neighbor as yourself.” What a world this would be if we all did that. Maybe we can't expect all the people of the world to submit to His law – but we can begin with ourselves – here and now!

**FEAST OF ST. BASIL:** We also remember St. Basil the Great on this day, who was the Archbishop of Caesarea. He reformed the Liturgy, defied the Emperor in defense of the Faith, and worked for unity of the Church. He also was responsible for organizing monastic life in his time. He was known as “St. Basil the Great”. In him we can see the power of faith in Christ to change and transform our lives.

*CHRIST IS BORN!*

*GLORIFY HIM!*