

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARJORIE REYNOLDS –

THIS MONTH'S LUCKY WINNER OF THE LADY BUG BOX! 

## 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.

**NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO LADY BUG IN DECEMBER.**

We are going to let our Lady Bug rest in December. No tickets will be sold. We would still appreciate donations of Gift Cards – Lottery Tickets – Cash for prizes for our St. Nicholas' Day Dinner.

## CHRISTMAS ALMSGIVING

You will find white envelopes at each of the church entrances. These are for your donations to **AKRON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN HOWLAND**. Please drop them in the collection baskets with no names on the envelope.

Any checks should be made payable to: Sts. 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 and Apricot 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.

## FREE BOOKS AND TAPES

Please call Sister Barbara for an appointment.

## FREE ADULT EDUCATION

Live webinars, free of charge. An excellent opportunity for adult education in our Byzantine Church. Register at [EasternCatholic.org/Events](http://EasternCatholic.org/Events).

**Wednesday, December 8 @ 8 – 9 PM.**

The presentation will be *“Rejoice All Ye Peoples: The Feasts of the Old Testament.”* The presenter is Rev. Sebastian Carnazzo, Ph.D.

## PARISH GUILD MEETINGS

There will be no Parish Guild Meetings in December and January.

**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of November 27:**

5:00 PM: **49**; 9:00 AM: **36**; 11:00 AM: **49**

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: ..... \$2,312.00**



- **Sun., Dec. 5** ECF Classes today 10 AM TO 10:45 AM.
- **Tues., Dec. 7** Vigil Liturgy for Feast of the Maternity of The Holy Anna – Solemn Holy Day.
- **Sun., Dec. 12** St. Nicholas Feast Day Celebration.

***WELCOME BACK  
FATHER SIMEON!  
WE MISSED YOU!!!***



**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP FOR THE  
ST. NICHOLAS' DAY DINNER!!**



**ST. NICHOLAS FEAST DAY CELEBRATION**

We will be celebrating our annual St. Nicholas' Day Dinner at DiLucia's Banquet Hall on Sunday, December 12, following the 11 AM Divine Liturgy. Doors will not be opened until noon. Dinner is \$10 for adult parishioners and \$8 for children under 12. (Church will cover the additional cost.) Payment will be accepted on the day of the dinner. The served dinner will include soup, salad, stuffed chicken breast, mashed potatoes, French-style green beans, dessert, and beverage.

Please sign up in the Social Hall. **No reservations will be taken after December 5.** Come join us as a Parish Family for dinner, games, and prizes!

**100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY HOMEMADE COOKIE SALE**

Coming up on Saturday & Sunday, December 18 & 19, after all Liturgies.

Parishioners are all welcome to bake 3 – 5 dozen of their favorite holiday cookies.

**Drop off dates: Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from Noon – 2 PM and 5 PM – 7 PM;  
Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM – 10 AM.**

**Traying cookies: 10 AM on Saturday.**

Proceeds will benefit our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

If you have any questions, please call Marge Basista at 330-544-0107.

DECEMBER 5, 2021

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

|                 |                 |  |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Sunday          | 5 Dec.          | <i>28TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Sabbas the Sanctifier.</i>  |
| (Sun. Vigil)    | <b>5:00 PM</b>  | <b>Intention of Sister Barbara Pavlik – Benedictine Sisters</b>  |
|                 | <b>9:00 AM</b>  | <b>Intentions &amp; Spiritual Well Being of the Blake family – Betty Blake</b>   |
|                 | <b>11:00 AM</b> | <b>Intention of Rosary Society Members</b>   |
| Monday          | 6 Dec.          | <i>OUR HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA, THE WONDERWORKER.</i>  |
|                 |                 | <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>   |
| Tuesday         | 7 Dec.          | <i>Pre-festive Day of the Maternity of the Holy Anna. Our Holy Father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan.</i>  |
| (Vigil Liturgy) | <b>6:00 PM</b>  | <b>+Helena Smith</b>   |
| Wednesday       | 8 Dec.          | <i>FEAST OF THE MATERNITY OF THE HOLY ANNA. (pgs. 277 – 280)</i>   |
|                 |                 | <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>   |
| Thursday        | 9 Dec.          | <i>Our Venerable Father Patapius. The Holy Hannah, Mother of the Prophet Samuel.</i>   |
|                 |                 | <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>   |
| Friday          | 10 Dec.         | <i>The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes and EUGRAPHUS.</i>   |
|                 |                 | <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>   |
| Saturday        | 11 Dec.         | <i>Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite.</i>  |
| (Vigil Liturgy) | <b>5:00 PM</b>  | <b>+Stephen Zombar – Betty, Jen &amp; John</b>   |
| Sunday          | 12 Dec.         | <i>SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS. Our Venerable Father Spiridon the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Tremithus. Feast of the Mother of God of Guadalupe.</i> |
|                 | <b>9:00 AM</b>  | <b>+Millie Simko – Mr. &amp; Mrs. Clarence Reich</b>   |
|                 | <b>11:00 AM</b> | <b>+Patricia &amp; +Theodore Falatic – son, Ted, &amp; family</b>  |



Attentive to the Word  
28TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Luke 17: 12 - 19*

*Tone 3 Trop. of Resurrection - Pg. 135 &  
the rest from Feast of St. Nicholas -*

*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 – DECEMBER 8**

There are few observances that contrast Eastern and Western approaches to the mystery of salvation than this feast. In every conception we may emphasize the one who conceives or the one who is conceiving. Thus, the conception of St. John the Baptist (June 23) is observed as a feast of the Saint who was conceived, while the conception of Christ (the Annunciation, March 25) is kept as a Marian feast, emphasizing the one who conceived. The Byzantine Churches, which have celebrated Mary’s conception since the 7<sup>th</sup> century, emphasize the one who conceived, St. Ann, mother of the Theotokos.

The icon of the feast, of course, does not show Mary at all. It depicts her parents Joachim and Ann embracing. It shows the human dimension of this moment, a moment shared by so many couples when their first child is conceived. Inset into many depictions of this icon we find angels who announce to each parent separately the divine destiny their child will assume.

Both East and West emphasize Mary’s part in the incarnation on this day. The East does so by stressing the One to whom Mary in turn will give birth. The hymns of the feast stress the end of Ann’s childlessness. Ann “has produced the most beautiful fruit, who will bring forth the Bread of Immortality for the world, which in turn will bring all barrenness to an end.” (Kathisma Hymn at Matins). The childlessness of Ann is compared to the barrenness of the world, which cannot produce its own salvation. This must come from God.

In the East the feast celebrates Mary’s identity with the human race, of which she is the summit: “In you, O sovereign Lady, human nature finds its highest point, its joy and its pride. Proclaiming the strange wonder of your purity and singing to you with joy, it glorifies you as the Bride of God.” (First Ode, Matins)

*By Fr. Fred Saato*