

## 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 Father Simeon to schedule.

**Mystery of Crowning:** Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the Parish Family. Must meet with Father Simeon before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Father 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 Father Simeon is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Father Simeon whenever a loved one is hospitalized.

**Funerals:** Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Father 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.

***Congratulations and Prayerful Best Wishes to:  
Russell George Greskovich,  
who was received into the church through Baptism on Feb. 27th.***



***CONGRATULATIONS TO MARIANNE CABOSKY –  
THIS MONTH'S LUCKY WINNER OF THE LADY BUG BOX!*** 

***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 box contains Instant Lottery Tickets and/or Gift Cards. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be going towards our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. We would like to continue this fundraiser monthly with your support. Any donations of Cash, Instant Lottery Tickets and/or Gift Cards would be welcome and greatly appreciated.

***This month's drawing will be held on Sunday, March 27th, after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy.***

***Will You Be The Next Lucky Winner???????***



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME** . . . . begins next Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to turn your clocks **ahead** one hour.

### **FREE BOOKS AND TAPES**

A lot of good reading for Lent. Please call Sister Barbara at 330-240-2534 for an appointment.

### **LITURGY STIPENDS**

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

**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of February 26:**

5:00 PM: **55**; 9:00 AM: **37**; 11:00 AM: **49**

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . . \$2,945.15**



- **Sun., March 6** ECF Classes today 10 AM to 10:45 AM.
- **Sat., March 12** Second All Souls' Saturday – Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM – Pg. 428.
- **Sat. & Sun., March 12 & 13** Homemade Cabbage & Noodles Sale after Liturgies. Anyone interested in helping with the preparation, please call Pat James at 330-507-6273 for times.

### HOMEMADE CABBAGE & NOODLES SALE

We will be selling homemade cabbage & noodles on Sat. & Sun., March 12 & 13, in the Social Hall. Carry-outs available after each Liturgy as quantities last - \$6 for a quart container. Proceeds to benefit the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund.

### 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY/SUPER CASH BONANZA TICKETS

Tickets will be sold for the Super Cash Bonanza raffle in the Social Hall for the next 3 weeks. It is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. For every \$5 ticket sold, \$1 will go to the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund. There are a total of 25 prizes in all!



### CHOCOLATE BYZANTINE CROSS SALE – 2022

The feast of the Resurrection of Christ will soon be upon us! You will again have an opportunity to order *Chocolate Byzantine Crosses* for your family and/or friends. Envelopes are located at the Church entrances for those interested in purchasing *Dark, Milk or White Chocolate Crosses*. The purchase price is \$6.00 each. The orders must be **prepaid**. Just drop your order envelopes in the collection basket. **The crosses will be ready for pick-up Palm Sunday weekend, April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Last day to order is Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. (If paying by check, make check payable to: Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church).**



### 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE SIGN-UP SHEETS

We need everyone to join together and help to plan our 100 year anniversary celebration. There are sign-up sheets in the Social Hall. There are copies on the table explaining each category: Banquet and Invitations; History; Advertisement; Liturgy; and Fundraising.

### MARCH 6, 2022 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	6 March	<i>FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY. MEMORY OF THE HOLY PROPHETS. The Holy Forty-Two Martyrs of Ammorium.</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	<b>5:00 PM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Steve Zombar – Raiti family</b> <b>+Bob Blake – Betty Blake</b> <b>Intention of Rosary Society Members</b>
Monday	7 March	<i>The Holy Martyrs and Bishops of Cherson: Basil, Ephrem, Capiton, Eugene, Etherius and others. The Passing of the Martyr the Priest-Exarch Leonid Feodorov (1935).</i> <b>No Divine Services</b>
Tuesday	8 March	<i>Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theophylact.</i> <b>No Divine Services</b>
Wednesday	9 March	<i>The Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste. The Holy Martyr Ursasianus of Nicomedia.</i> <b>6:00 PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy</b>
Thursday	10 March	<i>The Holy Martyr Codratus and His Companions.</i> <b>No Divine Services</b>
Friday	11 March	<i>Our Holy Father Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem.</i> <b>6:00 PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy</b>
Saturday	12 March	<i>Second All Souls' Saturday. Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theophane of the Sygrian Mountain. Our Holy Father Gregory, Pope of Rome. Our Holy Father Symeon, the New Theologian.</i> <b>9:00 AM Second All Souls' Liturgy with reading of Diptyches.</b> <b>5:00 PM +Sister Agnes Knapik, OSB – Elizabeth Cantelmo</b>
(Vigil Liturgy)		
Sunday	13 March	<i>SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. The Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father Nicephor, Patriarch of Constantinople.</i> <b>9:00 AM +Robert, +Esther &amp; +Bob Shaffer – Jim &amp; Anita Shaffer</b> <b>11:00 AM +Michael &amp; +Stella Stemock – son, Mark Stemock</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

*John 1: 43 - 51*

**Tone 8 Pg. 161 and Pgs. 220 - 221**

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. 221 Magnification

## Icons and the Icon Screen

In the Eastern Church the icons bear witness to the reality of God's presence with us in the mystery of faith. The icons are not just human pictures or visual aids to contemplation and prayer. They are the witnesses of the presence of the Kingdom of God to us, and so of our own presence to the Kingdom of God in the Church.

The iconostasis or icon screen in the Eastern Church exists to show our unity with Christ, his mother and all the angels and saints. It exists to show our unity with God. The altar table, which stands for the Banquet Table of the Kingdom of God, is placed behind the royal doors, between the icons of the Theotokos and Child and the glorified Christ, showing that everything which happens to us in the Church happens in history between those "two comings" of Christ: between his coming as the Savior born of Mary and his coming at the end of the age as the King and the Judge.

The icons on the royal doors witness to the presence of Christ's good news, the gospel of salvation. The four evangelists who recorded the gospels appear, and also an icon of the Annunciation, the first proclamation of the gospel in the world. Over the doors we have the icon of Christ's Mystical Supper with his disciples – the icon of the central mystery of the Christian faith and the unity of the Church in the world. It is the visual witness that we too are partakers in the "marriage supper of the lamb" (Revelation 19:9), that we too are blessed by Christ "to eat and drink at my table in my kingdom" (Luke 22:30), blessed to "eat bread in the Kingdom of God." (Luke 14:15)

Over and around the central gates are icons of the saints. The deacon's doors (for the servants of the altar) usually have icons depicting deacons or angels. The first row also has an icon of the person or event in whose honor the given building is dedicated, along with other prominent saints or events. Depending on the size of the iconostasis, there may be rows of icons of the apostles, the major feasts of the Church, (*ours are on the wall on either side of the icon screen*), the prophets and other holy people blessed by God – all crowned on the top by the cross of Christ.

Besides the iconostasis, Eastern Church buildings often have icons or frescoes on the walls and ceilings. The "canon" of Church design, is to have the icon of Christ the Almighty (Pantecrator) in the center of the building, and the icon of the Theotokos with Christ appearing within her, found over or behind the altar area. This latter icon is called the "image of the Church" (Platytera) since Mary is herself the prototype of the entire assembly of believers in whom Christ must dwell. In the altar area it is also traditional to put icons of the saints who composed Church liturgies and hymns. Directly above the altar table there is usually an image of Christ in glory — enthroned or transfigured or resurrecting, and sometimes offering the Eucharistic gifts. What a rich Tradition!

## First Sunday of Great Lent

The Gospel reading prescribed for the first Sunday of the Great and Holy Fast (John 1:43-51) describes the apostle Philip bringing Nathaniel, who will also become a follower of Jesus, to Him. Jesus says to Nathaniel, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Surprised by this revelation, Nathaniel declares, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God." Jesus replies that Nathaniel will see "greater things" than any powers of long-distance sight.

This episode in the life of our Lord opens up a vast field for consideration. We cannot know what Nathaniel was doing or thinking under that fig tree. Was it a moment of temptation, or perplexity, of grace, or simply one of relaxation or rest? Whatever Nathaniel's disposition at the time, it would seem our Lord would not have mentioned it if it had not been a decisive moment, a turning point in this young man's life.

In the life of each of us, there has been or will be a moment or perhaps moments in which Jesus, Himself invisible, saw us and intervened. Was it at a time when we were in questionable company or circumstances? Was it in a moment of spiritual weakness, of temptation - and the temptation failed? Was there a certain crisis we faced, perhaps unemployment, poor health or trying family circumstances? Perhaps, unexpectedly, these were resolved in a surprising way that only divine Providence could offer, even if our own expectations were not actually met. Now during this holy, penitential season we should use some of our time with due consideration to reflect on those moments in our lives, especially those critical times when out of human weakness, we might have questioned the events and circumstances of our lives such as the loss of a loved one, the experience of tragedy, the challenge of the great enticements all around us today. Such are the moments when, as it were, Jesus sees us "under the fig tree." Those are times of special grace to keep us aware that God always sees us, that we are loved and that God promises a life far greater than anything we can imagine – life with our Creator!