

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 10 AM – 2 PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Father Simeon is available on other days and times by appointment.

MOTHER’S DAY REMEMBRANCE		
<i>Please remember the following at our Parish’s Mother Day Remembrance</i>		
	Living	Deceased
	Living	Deceased
	Living	Deceased
Please circle Liturgy time: Saturday, 5 PM Sunday, 11 AM		
<i>Requested by:</i>		

Please print each name and circle the correct notation Donation for each name is \$5.00 <i>*DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS SUNDAY, 1 MAY 2016*</i>		

MOTHER’S DAY BUFFET . . . Sponsored by St. Nicholas Byzantine Church, Youngstown, OH. Sunday, May 8th from 11 AM to 4 PM at Byzantine Center at the Grove, 3801 Shady Run Rd., Youngstown, OH. Menu is quite involved (See Bulletin Board in Social Hall). Cost includes tax and gratuity.



(PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 10 April:

8:00 PM: **57** 11:00 AM: **109**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,720.20

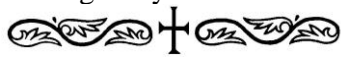
(SM) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 10 April:

20 from St. Michael; **10** from St. Peter & Paul

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$315.00



- **Sun. Apr. 17** ECF Religion Classes Today...beginning at 9:30 AM
- **Sun. Apr. 17** Bible Study – 4 to 6 PM in the Social Hall. Session 8
- **Sat. & Sun. Apr. 16 & 17** Coffee & Donuts in the Social Hall after the Divine Liturgies
- **Mon. Apr. 18** Meeting of St. Benedict’s Auxiliary – 7 PM in the Social Hall. There will be a special Speaker at this meeting to which all parishioners and friends are invited. See details below.
- **Mon. Apr.25** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM to Noon.



YOU ARE INVITED. . .

Jerry & Cindy Stevens of “Me and My Honey” Company will be the speakers at the St. Benedict’s Auxiliary Meeting on Monday evening, April 18th, at 7 PM in the Social Hall. They will bring a small part of their hives with them and talk about the importance of bees to our environment. They will also speak to the kind of plants we can plant to encourage pollination. They will provide information of how their products are made and how they are used. There is no charge to attend, but we need reservation numbers to assure refreshment and handout sufficiency. It should prove to be an evening well spent. Please call 330-360-0731 to register.



BE HEALED JOHN 5:1-9

Three guys were fishing in a lake one day, when Jesus walked across the water and joined them in the boat. When the three astonished men had settled down enough to speak, the first guy asked humbly, "Jesus, I've suffered from back pain ever since I took shrapnel in the Vietnam War ... Could you help me?"

"Of course, my son," Jesus said, and when he touched the man’s back he felt relief for the first time in years.

The second guy, who wore very thick glasses and had a hard time reading and driving asked if Jesus could do anything about his poor eyesight. Jesus smiled, removed the man’s glasses and tossed them into the lake. When they hit the water, the man’s eyes cleared and he could see everything distinctly.

When Jesus turned to the third man, the guy put his hands out defensively -- "Don't touch me!" he cried, "I'm on a disability pension."

17 APRIL 2016

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	17 April	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC. Our Venerable Father Simeon of Persia. Venerable Acacius, Bishop of Melitene.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Sandra Bishop – Elaine Shappell
(SM)	8:30 AM	+George Simko – wife, Millie
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Michael Kuhar – wife, Helen & daughter
Monday	18 April	<i>Venerable Father John, Disciple of Holy Gregory the Decapolite.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	19 April	<i>Venerable Father John of the Ancient Cave.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Sylvia Sabino – Byers Family
Wednesday	20 April	<i>MID-PENTECOST. Our Venerable Father Theodore Trichinas.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	Health/Welfare of Selanik Family
Thursday	21 April	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Holy Bishop-Martyr Januarius and His Companions. Holy Martyr Theodore of Perga.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Francesca Iannoti – P. Dudley & S. Phillips
Friday	22 April	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Venerable Father Theodore the Sykeote.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	23 April	<i>Post-Festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. HOLY, GLORIOUS AND VICTORIOUS GREAT MARTYR GEORGE THE WONDER WORKER.</i>
(PP)	5:00 PM	+John, +Mary & +Paul Fejko – Robert Fejko
Sunday	24 April	<i>SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN. Holy Martyr Sabbas the Goth.</i>
(SM)	8:30 AM	+Helen Gurlea – Helen Falatic
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Steve Zummerling (40th day)



Attentive to the Word Sunday of the Paralytic Man

John 5:1 – 15
Pages 181 - 183

MID-PENTECOST

On most feasts of our Church year we display an icon which depicts the event commemorated and explains its theological meaning. This is not the case on the Feast of Mid-Pentecost which is observed this week. This feast is observed on the 25th day of our 50 day Paschal season: the actual mid-point of this observance. It serves to turn our minds towards the climax of these fifty days, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. As the highpoint of the Lord's presence in our midst was His death and resurrection, its climax was the event which brought us to share in His resurrection life: the coming of the Spirit upon mankind in the Church.

The icon of this feast depicts the Gospel scene of the adult Christ teaching in the temple during the Jewish festival. Often, however, the icon venerated on Mid-Pentecost depicts the twelve year old Jesus "in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions" (Lk 2:46), indicating that at all times and in every way Christ is the Source of wisdom, the Illuminator of our souls.

We have no documented witness to the origins of this feast, but it was widely known by the fifth century. Today this feast is only observed in Byzantine Churches, but this was not always so. Peter Chrysologus was a Western bishop who said that the feast was observed in the Ambrosian rite and other Western usages.

St. Theophan the Recluse wrote about this Feast:

"On Mid-Pentecost we hear the call of the Lord: 'Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink' (John 7:37). If this is so, then let us all run to Him. Whatever you thirst for – so long as it is not contrary to the spirit of the Lord – you will find relief in Him. If you thirst for knowledge, run to the Lord, for He is the one and only Light, enlightening every man. If you thirst for cleansing from sin and quenching of the flames of your conscience, run to the Lord, for He tore asunder the handwriting of our sins upon the Cross. If you thirst for peace in your heart, run to the Lord, for He is the treasury of all good, whose abundance will teach you to forget all deprivations and despise all earthly good, so as to be filled with Him alone. If you need strength, He is almighty. If you need glory, His glory surpasses the world. If you desire freedom, He gives true

freedom. He will resolve all of our doubts, loose the bonds of our passions, dispel all our troubles and difficulties, will enable us to overcome all obstacles, temptations and intrigues of the enemy, and will make smooth the path of our spiritual life. Let us all run to the Lord!"

Pretty good advice...even in 2016.



THE PARALYTIC MAN



The man who had been ill for 38 years went to the Bethesda pool in hope of being healed. But after 38 years of infirmity, of prayer, of medical treatments, of waiting for a miracle, his hope had gradually turned to hopelessness. He still went to the pool (what else was there to do?) but he no longer expected to be among those healed.

When Jesus asked him, 'Do you want to be well?' the obvious answer should have been "Of course I do! Why else would I come here?" But that was not his answer. Instead of saying yes to Jesus' question, he gave an explanation for why he was not healed – a justification for his sorry condition (verse 7).

We can empathize with him. Thirty-eight years of disappointment and suffering would wear almost anyone down. But does his example also have a message for us? Have we become worn down by our chronic problems and sins, so that we despair of things ever getting better? If so, Jesus' healing of this man has a message for us. Jesus took the initiative to enter his life (verse 6) and heal him despite his despairing response (verses 7-8). Jesus even healed him although he had no idea of who Jesus was, much less faith in him (verses 12-13), and even though Jesus would bring grief on his own head by this healing (verse 16). Jesus is likewise concerned to rescue us from our infirmities and despair, no matter how long they have lasted and how weak our faith may be.

For reflection: Do my thoughts dwell more on hopes that I will be healed from my sins and infirmities, or on reasons why my situation is hopeless?

Christ is Risen!

Indeed He is Risen!