

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

Please remember the following at our Parish's Mother Day Remembrance

| | | |
|-------|--------|----------|
| _____ | Living | Deceased |
| _____ | Living | Deceased |
| _____ | Living | Deceased |

Please circle Liturgy time: Saturday, 5 PM Sunday, 11 AM

Requested by:

Please print each name and circle the correct notation

Donation for each name is \$5.00

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS SUNDAY, 1 MAY 2016

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 17 April:

8:00 PM: 78 11:00 AM: 103

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,765.90

(SM) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 17 April:

25 from St. Michael; 6 from St. Peter & Paul

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$323.00

Special K of C donation \$3,038.79



- **Sun. Apr. 17** Last ECF Religion Classes Today...beginning at 9:30 AM.
- **Mon. Apr. 25** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM to Noon.
- **Sat. Apr. 30** Four of our children will make their First Reconciliation. They will receive their First Solemn Communion at the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 1st.
- **Wed. May 4** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9 AM to 2 PM. We can use your help.
- **Thurs. May 5** Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. Major Feast Day (obligation).



JUST A FEW REMINDERS . . .

If you intend to renew your subscription to *THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC WORLD*, please do so by May 10th. There is a price increase in July, 2016, and we would like to complete the order for 2016.

With the emphasis today on creating a “safe environment “ in our communities, we must be aware of this in our churches also...we would rather be “safe than sorry”. Our complex is unlocked and unsupervised during the times of our Liturgical Services. Just a precautionary reminder to our parents: if your children need to use the restroom during the Divine Liturgy, the children should be accompanied by an adult and should, if possible, use the upstairs washroom.

Please check the bulletin board in the Social Hall for the “Extra Activities” that are occurring both locally and within our Eparchy. There is often not enough room in the bulletin to include everything that we would like to.

MANY THANKS . . .

To the Knights of Columbus, Council #3350 of Newton Falls for their generous donation to St. Michael’s Byzantine Catholic Church in the amount of \$3, 038.79. They are no longer an active council and St. Michael’s Church in Newton Falls was one of the recipients in the disbursement of their funds, to go toward needed roof and other repairs. God Bless them for their kindness and generosity. We ask you to remember them in your prayers.

24 APRIL 2016

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Sunday | 24 April | <i>SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN. Holy Martyr Sabbas the Goth.</i> |
| (Vigil Liturgy) | 5:00 PM | +John, +Mary & +Paul Fejko – Robert Fejko |
| (SM) | 8:30 AM | +Helen Gurlea – Helen Falatic |
| (PP) | 11:00 AM | +Steve Zummerling (40th day) – M/M Donald Kovac |
| Monday | 25 April | <i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Holy Apostle and Evangelist Mark.</i> No Divine Liturgy |
| Tuesday | 26 April | <i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Holy Martyr Basil, Bishop of Amasea.</i> |
| (Chapel) | 8:30 AM | +Sister Margaret Chuma – Benedictine Sisters |
| Wednesday | 27 April | <i>Otdanije (Leave-taking) of Mid-Pentecost. Holy Bishop-Martyr Simeon, cousin of our Lord. Venerable Father Stephen, Bishop of Vladimir in Volhinia.</i> |
| (Chapel) | 8:30 AM | +Sandra Slyk – Dominic Marchese Family |
| Thursday | 28 April | <i>Holy Apostles Jason and Sosipater. Holy Martyrs Dadas, Maximus and Quintillian. Holy Father Cyril, Bishop of Turov.</i> |
| (Chapel) | 8:30 AM | +Lucy Prokop – Slovinsky Family |
| Friday | 29 April | <i>Nine Holy Martyrs of Cyzice. Venerable Father Memnon the Wonderworker.</i> No Divine Liturgy |
| Saturday | 30 April | <i>Holy Apostle James, Brother of John the Theologian.</i> |
| (PP) | 5:00 PM | +Irene Brienz (40th Day) – Steve & Betty Zombar |
| Sunday | 1 May | <i>SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND. Holy Prophet Jeremiah. Passing of Blessed Clement Sheptyckyj (1951).</i> |
| (SM) | 8:30 AM | ++Michael Guinaugh – Michael & Sue Johnson |
| (PP) | 11:00 AM | Intention of the children celebrating 1st Reconciliation |



Attentive to the Word **Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

John 4:5 – 42
Pages 186 - 188

Oh, how we in North America take water for granted! We turn on the faucet and it comes-clean, fresh and tasty. For the most part, we use it not only for washing and laundry, but for drinking and cooking without asking whether it is useable or not.

People in other countries aren't so lucky. Sometimes the water is impure, or if it is useable it can be brackish and vile tasting. Very often, even in large cities in some countries, there is water only for certain hours every day, or even just a day or two a week. Yes, we don't appreciate the great gift of water. A parishioner in my former parish said once, "Father, I didn't appreciate how important water was, or how wonderfully available it is in the States, until I went to Viet Nam. There we measured it by the teaspoonful. We had so little of it.

In today's Gospel lesson, Jesus and His disciples are traveling the hot, dusty roads of Samaria. They come upon the village of Sichar and Jacob's well, a source of fresh, cool well water. Jesus asks a Samaritan woman for a drink. Then He promises her "living water." She understands this to mean water from a flowing stream, rather than from the still water of the well. Jesus, however, was speaking of the living water of God's grace and of Himself the Source of Living Water.

The Gospel lessons of last Sunday, today and next Sunday all contain the theme of water. Last Sunday the paralytic wanted to get into the water of the Sheep Pool once God's healing angel stirred the waters. Next Sunday, Jesus instructs the man born blind to wash in the Pool of Siloam to be able to see. These three lessons are used in the Paschal cycle of both the Byzantine and Roman traditions. The Roman Church reads them during Lent as instructions in the preparation of the catechumens for Baptism on Easter Eve. In our tradition they are read after Pascha as "continuing education" for the newly baptized Christians.

Baptism is our Easter. By being buried with Jesus in Baptism and rising with Him as well, as Saint Paul tells us in Romans, we are identified with Him. Paul puts it this way in Galatians:" All you who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." In Baptism we not only enter the healing waters like the paralytic, we also are enabled to see with the eyes of faith like the man born blind after he washed in Siloam. Like St. Photini - the Samaritan woman in today's Gospel - in the living water of Baptism we

drink of the "Fountain of Immortality" ... Jesus Christ Himself, *the Source of the living water of divine grace.*

Human life cannot exist without water. How natural of God to make water the medium of giving us spiritual life! Every time we take a glass of H₂O we can recall our baptismal commitment to reject Satan with all his evil and sin, and to commit ourselves to Jesus the Fountain of Living Water. Every time we bathe or swim, we can recall our burial "into Christ" in the font. Every time we see the ocean, or a lake, a mighty river, or even just a rippling brook, we can remember how God took such a simple, yet necessary, thing like water and made it a sign of His love for us and the means of our adoption into His family.

By *Very Reverend Archpriest Charles Mezzomo*

A LESSON IN COMPASSION

At one time a paperboy had a rural delivery route. One day as he was on his bike, delivering papers to the various farms he saw a sign which said, "PUPPIES FOR SALE." Well little boys and puppies just go together. He asked, "Mister, how much are the puppies?" "\$25 the farmer replied." The little boy looked sad and dejected because he didn't have the money. He said I can't afford that but can I see them anyway? He said, "O.K. They're around the back." The farmer whistled and a mother dog came around the corner with four of the cutest puppies jumping, yelping and tagging along. Then a fifth puppy came straggling around the house, dragging one hind leg.

The paperboy asked, "What's the matter with that puppy, mister?"

"Well, son, that puppy is crippled. We took her to the vet. The x-ray showed that the dog was born without a hip joint and he will never be right."

The paperboy dropped his bag of papers and reached into his pocket and took out 50 cents. He begged, "Please mister, I want to buy that puppy. I'll pay you 50 cents per week until the \$25 is paid. Honest I will."

The farmer replied, "But, son, you don't seem to understand. That puppy will never be able to run or jump. That puppy will be crippled forever. Why in the world do you want such a useless pup as that?"

The paperboy paused a moment, then reached down and pulled up his pant leg, exposing a metal leg brace and a leather knee strap. The boy answered, "Mister, that puppy is going to need someone who understands what it's like to be crippled to help him through this life." Wasn't that the whole meaning behind the Christmas and Easter stories? God became one of us in the person of Jesus Christ to help us through this life but it doesn't end there. We have help not only in this life but a hope in eternal life ahead.

Christ is Risen!

Indeed He is Risen!