

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. Andrew to schedule.

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

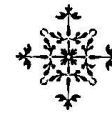
Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Andrew before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

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: The Parish office is open from 10 AM – 2 PM Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.

ETERNAL MEMORY



Grant, O Lord, eternal rest to the soul of your servant +**Josephine Benediktus** who has recently fallen asleep in the Lord. Please remember Josephine and her family in your prayers.

PAPAL LITURGY BUS TRIP

The Archeparchy will be hosting a bus trip for the Papal Liturgy in Philadelphia Saturday, 26 September – Sunday, 27 September 2015. There are a limited number of spaces for this trip and reservations are on a first come first serve basis. Brochures with details are available at the entrances. Deadline to register is 1 June 2015.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS LECTURE...

...Sponsored by the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Pittsburgh, PA. Thursday, 7 May 2015, 7 PM at St. John Cathedral Center, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, PA 15120. Guest Speaker is Dr. Scott Hahn and his topic is: *The Our Father as a Synthesis of the Pattern of Scripture*. The event is FREE but due to space limitations, registration is required by 30 April. Register by calling (412) 321-8383 or email office@bcs.edu.

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE.

The Orientale Lumen Foundation (past organizers of the Seminary Concert Tours) is sponsoring a Marian Pilgrimage to Eastern Europe for Byzantine Catholics on August 7-18, 2015. The trip will include visits to the Marian Shrines of Litmanova and Lutina in Slovakia, and Mariapocs in Hungary; liturgies in the Cathedrals of Presov and Bratislava; tours of wooden churches and other cultural sites; and joint fellowship activities with European Byzantine Catholics. The land package is only \$1995 per person, double occupancy, and includes transportation, accommodations and some meals. Single rooms are available for an extra \$500. Airfare is extra. Registration and \$500 deposit is due by May 15, 2015. For more details, and to register online, visit www.olconference.com and click on the Pilgrimage button. Or call [703-691-8862](tel:703-691-8862).



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 19 April:

8:00 PM: **81**; 11:00 AM: **121**

Feast of St. George: **9**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$3,110.00



➤ **Sun. Apr. 19** ECF Religion Classes – 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM. We only have 1 classe remaining in the catechetical year, so we ask your cooperation in bringing your children for this last classe.

MOTHERS' DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The youth of our Parish will hold a Mothers' Day Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, 10 May following the 11 AM Divine Liturgy. Details are posted at all the entrances. Proceeds will go towards the 2016 National ByzanTEEN Youth Rally to be held in Cleveland.

ROMANIAN MOTHER'S DAY DINNER

Sunday, **3 May 2015, 12:15 PM**. Holy Resurrection Romanian Orthodox Church, 1836 North Road NE, Warren. Menu: Chicken Stew, Corn Meal w/ Cheese, Braised Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, Bread & Butter, Dessert, Coffee and Cash Refreshments. \$10 minimum donation.

MOTHER'S DAY REMEMBRANCE		
<i>Please remember the following at our Parish's Mother Day Remembrance</i>		
	Living	Deceased
	Living	Deceased
	Living	Deceased
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, 3 MAY 2015*</i>		

26 APRIL 2015

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	26 April	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN. Holy Martyr Basil, Bishop of Amasea.</i> (Vigil Liturgy) 5:00 PM (SM) 8:30 AM (PP) 11:00 AM Sp. Int. of Millie Syrko - Friends +George Simko – wife, Millie +Lillian Klein – Mike & Janice Clark
Monday,	27 April	<i>Holy Bishop-Martyr Symeon, Cousin of our Lord. Venerable Father Stephen, Bishop of Vladimir in Volhynia.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday,	28 April	<i>Holy Apostles Jason and Sosipater. Holy Martyrs Dadas, Maximus and Quintillianus. Holy Father Cyril, Bishop of Turov.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday,	29 April	<i>MID-PENTECOST. Nine Holy Martyrs of Cyzice. Venerable Father Memnon the Wonderworker.</i> PA Catholic Conference – Harrisburg, PA
Thursday,	30 April	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Holy Apostles James, Brother of John the Theologian.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Friday,	1 May	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Holy Prophet Jeremiah. Passing of Blessed Clement Sheptyckyj..</i> (Chapel) 8:30 AM +Joanne Emory – Elizabeth Cantelmo
Saturday	2 May	<i>Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Holy Father Athanasius the Great.</i> (PP) 5:00 PM +Sylvester Minarish – Leonard Raynish
Sunday,	3 May	<i>SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN. Holy Martyr Timothy and his Wife, Maura. Passing of our Venerable Father Theodosius of the Pecherskaya Lavra.</i> (SM) 8:30 AM (PP) 11:00 AM Prayer Intentions of the Rosary Society Intention of the children celebrating 1st Reconciliation



Attentive to the Word

Sunday of the Paralytic Man

John 5: 1 – 15

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THE OSCAR OUTLOOK

Our kids were part of the Sesame Street generation. They grew up watching what was then the most creative, groundbreaking children's program of its time. And Sesame Street has always had an interesting cast of Muppet characters to make learning more interesting. Who can forget Bert and Ernie, and Mr. Snuffaluffagus, and Big Bird (who looks sort of like a canary on steroids)? And, of course, that epitome of poor hygiene, Oscar the Grouch. In case you've been culturally deprived, Oscar is this hairy creature with big eyes and a bad attitude who lives in a garbage can. He even sings a song called, "I Love Trash". Oscar doesn't have to live in a garbage can. He chooses to. No wonder he's got a bad attitude! Well, today I want to talk about the "*The Oscar Outlook*".

No one would choose to live in the garbage, would they? Well, in a way, a lot of people do just that. Which leads us to what I consider the most curious question Jesus ever asked. He is at the pool of Bethesda, which many in that day believed had healing powers when it was stirred by an angel. Jesus sees a paralyzed man lying there who had been an invalid for 38 years. In our Gospel reading for today from the John 5:6, "Jesus asked him, 'Do you want to get well?'" There's that curious question. "'Sir', the invalid replied, 'I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.' Jesus said to him, 'Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.' At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked."

Now why would Jesus ask a paralyzed man if he wants to get well? St. John doesn't tell us, but I have a guess. He had been in his paralyzed condition so long that he might have almost been afraid to be well. Which is like a lot of us when it comes to the baggage – let's call it the "garbage" – of our lives. When you've experienced pain in your past - maybe abuse . . . betrayal . . . tragedy – it's easy to begin to define your role in life as a "victim". You may very well have been the victim of some person or situations that hurt you very much and over which you had no control.

But continuing to dwell on the pain of your past – continuing to define yourself by the pain of your past – is, in some ways, it's like following the Oscar approach to life .

. . sort of living in the trash can, dwelling on – or dwelling in – the garbage of your life. You hate it, but you keep returning to it mentally and emotionally. And you start to get an Oscar the Grouch outlook on life – negative, grouchy, thin-skinned, pitying yourself too much, and spilling garbage on other people.

And Jesus comes along and asks the question – "Do you want to get well?" Living amidst the garbage of your past is a choice. Jesus has been setting people free from their emotional trash cans for 2,100 years! It will mean facing your issues instead of running from them . . . maybe working through them with a confessor or trained counselor. . . it may mean doing some forgiving, a lot of praying, and letting Jesus into the corners of your heart that have been off limits to Him before.

The trash of your past is very real – but you don't have to live there any longer! Jesus has come and summoned you to "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk!" Leave the past in the garbage can – and follow Jesus to a new beginning!

MID-PENTECOST

We celebrate all that God has done for us in His Son. Jesus Christ - the Cross, Tomb, Resurrection, Ascension, and Descent of the Holy Spirit. The whole event is summarized in the term: Paschal Mystery, and is celebrated for fifty days. The twenty-fifth day of this celebration is called the Feast of Mid-Pentecost. It celebrates Christ as Teacher. The Gospel of the feast emphasizes Jesus as Teacher. He teaches with divine authority.

The feast was half over by the time Jesus went into the temple area - and began to teach. The Jews were filled with amazement and said, "How did this man get his education when he had no teacher?" This was Jesus answer: "My doctrine is not My own; it comes to Me from Him Who sent Me."

The Icon shows Christ seated in the center of the assembly on a circular bench in the temple. Two groups of elders, to whom Christ speaks, flank Him and are represented with expressions of astonishment. The question can be read on their faces, "How did this man get. His education when He had no teacher?"

Although the Gospel for the feast describes Christ during His ministry, the Icon refers to His childhood experience when He was found in the temple by His parents. (Lk. 2:41-49) The emphasis here is that the teaching, of Jesus comes from His Father, "from Him Who sent Me." Jesus holding the Gospel Book, is to show that His teaching is embodied in the life, spirit, and truth which is recorded in all of the Gospels. The Icon speaks to us and calls to us to see Jesus as our Way, Truth, and Life.