

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.

BLESSING OF FLOWERS



The Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God is a Major Feast in our Church. On this Feast, we bless flowers to offer thanks for God's gifts and to see that, in their fullness, all these gifts offer newness of life. These blessed flowers are then taken home, to remind us of the constant presence of God in our lives. You are reminded to bring flowers to be blessed.

MT. ST. MACRINA PILGRIMAGE TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE

Bus Transportation for Mount Saint Macrina Pilgrimage, Uniontown, PA is available on Sunday, September 6, 2015 on a first come, first serve basis.. Round-trip fare is \$20.00 per person (non-refundable). The bus will leave at 8:00 AM from the Byzantine Center on Shady Run Road, Youngstown. Please arrive by 7:30 AM. The bus will depart from Uniontown, PA at 7:00 PM. Please call Theresa or Tony Swindler at 330-759-2655 to reserve a seat (deadline is August 31st). Make checks payable to: *St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church* and mail to: Theresa Swindler, 217 Mansell Dr., Youngstown, OH 44505. We thank Theresa for providing this opportunity for us.

GCU CHARITY GOLF SCRAMBLE

The GCU is holding a Charity Golf event to assist with the funding for the renovations on Mt. Macrina Manor Nursing Home, a ministry of the Sisters of St. Basil in Uniontown, PA. The event is a 4 person golf scramble planned for a 1 PM shotgun start on **Friday, 4 September 2015**. The tournament is open to everyone, GCU members and non-members alike. In addition to golf, the entry fee includes cart, lunch at the turn, prizes and a buffet dinner. The cost for this event is \$100 per golfer with a discount of \$20 for those entering a complete foursome. The tournament is being held at Seven Oaks Country Club, Beaver, PA. Deadline to enter is 24 August 2015. Applications are available online at www.gcuusa.com/PDF/CharityScrambleApp.pdf or see Fr. Andrew for one.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 2 August:

5:00 PM: **78**; 11:00 AM: **97**

Feast of Transfiguration: **25**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$3,341.75



- **Aug. 1 – 14** **Fast in preparation for the Feast of the Dormition of the Blessed Mother.** We recommend abstaining from meat on Wednesday and Friday.
- **Tues. Aug. 11** St. Vincent de Paul Pizza Day – 9 AM to 2 PM
- **Tues. Aug. 11** Ladies Guild Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall
- **Mon. Aug 24** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM - Noon

COMBINED PARISH PICNIC (Please note the date change)



Please mark your calendars for the afternoon of Sunday, **August 30th** at **St. Demetrios Center Grounds at 3223 Atlantic, NE.** We are planning a combined parish picnic with St. Michael Parish. Once again, our parish will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages. **You provide your “specialty” to share with everyone else. Please bring a serving utensil and don’t forget to mark your container and utensil.** If you plan on attending, please sign your name and the number attending to the sign-up sheet located in the social hall or at the Belvedere Avenue entrance, so that we can properly prepare. We hope to see all of you there!

YOU ARE INVITED

July 4, 1900 marked the founding of St. Mary’s Greek Catholic Church, Youngstown, Ohio. St. Mary’s Church was the first church established to serve people who immigrated from the former Austro-Hungarian Empire to America and desired to worship God in the religious expression familiar to them. Our SS. Peter & Paul Parish is a daughter parish of St. Mary’s.

To celebrate the founding of St. Mary’s Church 115 years ago, our Parish Family is invited to attend a **Parish Indoor Picnic** at St. Mary’s Social Center, 356 S. Belle Vista Avenue on **Thursday, August 13. Festivities begin at 5:15 PM and a three meat buffet will be served at 6:00 PM.** Cost is \$19 per adult and \$5 for children under ten. Entertainment will be provided. **Please make your reservation by calling 330-799-8163 or 330-792-1578 by Monday, August 10.**

ASSUMPTION PILGRIMAGE

The 50th annual pilgrimage will be held August 13, 14, & 15 at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon, 2759 North Lipkey Road, North Jackson, OH. See complete pilgrimage schedule on bulletin board.

9 AUGUST 2015

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	9 August	<i>ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Post-festive Day of Transfiguration. Holy Apostle Matthias.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Tom Raiti – Doris Zombar
(SM)	8:30 AM	+Robert Banky – Marjorie Reynolds
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Anna Sudik – Mary Craciun
Monday,	10 August	<i>Post-festive Day of Transfiguration. Holy Martyr and Archdeacon Lawrence.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday,	11 August	<i>Post-festive Day of Transfiguration. Holy Martyr Euplus.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday,	12 August	<i>Post-festive Day of Transfiguration. Holy Martyrs Photius and Anicetus.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Thursday,	13 August	<i>Otdanije (Leave-taking) of the Feast of Transfiguration. Venerable Father Maximos the Confessor.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Friday,	14 August	<i>Pre-festive Day of the Dormition. Holy Prophet Micah. Translation of the Relics of our Father Theodosius, Hegumen of the Pecherskaja Lavra.</i>
(PP)	6:00 PM	+ Edward Brienz (40th Day)
Saturday	15 August	<i>THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY, THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.</i>
(PP)	5:00 PM	+Ann Lubas
Sunday,	16 August	<i>TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Post-festive Day of Dormition. Translation of the Icon of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, the icon not made by human hands, from Edessa to Constantinople. Holy Martyr Diomedes.</i>
(SM)	8:30 AM	+Jason Lazor – Micheline M. Hayda
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Todd Zumerling – John Senoyuit



Attentive to the Word

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Mt. 18: 23 – 35

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or Use the papers provided

Because of their importance and prominence, it is sometimes quite difficult for us to conceive of distinguished and famous people angry with each other. Such a situation arose one time between the renowned William M. Thackeray and Charles Dickens just before Christmas in 1863. When they met in London, neither would speak to the other. Thackeray, however, disturbed by this set of circumstances, grasped Dickens' hand to say that he could not stand the coldness between them. Dickens was profoundly moved, and the jealous anger gave way to reconciliation. Not long afterwards, Thackeray suddenly died but Dickens was able to stand at the grave of his friend in gratitude that they had shaken hands so warmly only a few days before.

Time and again, Jesus stressed forgiveness. After teaching the disciples the "Lord's Prayer," He said, "Yes, if you forgive others when they offend you, your heavenly Father will forgive you too. But if you do not forgive others when they offend you, your heavenly Father will not forgive you for your offenses."

After preaching the Sermon on the Mount which contained the Beatitudes, Jesus continued, "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who treat you badly."

As our Lord hung on the cross, He looked upon those who crucified Him and prayed, "Father, forgive them! They do not know what they are doing." This unforgettable scene at the crucifixion underlined what He had always taught: forgiveness – even as it was costing Him His life.

What a contrast to the wicked servant in today's Gospel. He had refused to forgive a fellow servant a small debt even though he had been forgiven one many times greater. Is it no small wonder Jesus concluded His parable: "Then his master called him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound then to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?' And in anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how My heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart."

Nothing is more contrary to the teachings of Christ than the lack of forgiveness – grudge bearing. For some, this lasts for years – to their own spiritual and often physical

detriment. The verb "To forgive" in the gospel story literally means **to set free, to let loose**. When we set others free by our forgiveness, we truly set in motion the dynamic words of Christ, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

Jesus insisted on forgiveness because this is the form love must take in our relationship with others. A mark of an authentic follower of Christ is one who speaks the forgiving word first – the word that dissolves grudges, anger and ill-will: the invitation to reconciliation. God, in Christ, took the first step in reaching out to us with forgiveness. The all-consuming task is given to us to follow that example with each other.

By Fr. John Sekellick, J.C.L.



THE ICON OF THE FALLING ASLEEP OF MARY



To understand the Dormition, or the Falling Asleep of Mary, it is helpful to study the icon of the feast. You will note the body of Mary in a reclining position to represent her death. Above her, inside a radiant ray of light, is the Lord Jesus. He is surrounded by angels and is holding His Mother's soul, pictured as a babe, in swaddling clothes to denote birth through death into eternal life. At the right, near the head of the Virgin, is Peter, who is weeping and censuring. At the left is Paul, and on either side of the bed-like structure can be seen the other apostles weeping. On some icons of the Dormition, one finds a little pagan character who tries to upset the Virgin's bier. An angel comes to smite him.

The point expressed here is the argument decided at the Council of Ephesus about whether Mary was the birthgiver of the man Christ (Chistotokos) or the God-Man (Theotokos). The icon shows the triumph of orthodoxy by the angel's smiting the character who would upset the Church's official teaching that Mary is the Theotokos, (birthgiver of the God-Man, Jesus).

This beautiful icon can be used to explain death to children. When we die, the body falls asleep in the Lord and is placed in a cemetery where it will rest. The soul is taken to heaven by Jesus. At the Second Coming of Jesus, He will raise the body and re-unite it with the soul. Thus we shall be with the Lord forever.