

## 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.

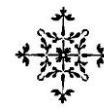
**Funerals:** Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Andrew before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

**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 departed servant, +**Sister Julia Rohaly, OSB** who fell asleep in the Lord recently. Please remember her and her family in your prayers.

## 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 31<sup>st</sup>**). 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.



## Some Thoughts and Suggestions:

Take time to Think	--	it is the source of power
Take time to Play	--	it is the secret of "youth"
Take time to Read	--	it is the fountain of wisdom
Take time to Love		
and to be Loved	--	it is a God-given privilege
Take time to be Friendly	--	it is the road to happiness
Take time to Laugh	--	it is the music of the soul
Take time to Give	--	life is too short to be selfish
Take time to Work	--	it is the pride of success
Take time for Charity	--	it is the key to heaven
Take time to Pray	--	it is the greatest power on earth

## Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 23 August:

5:00 PM: 69; 11:00 AM: 88

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . . . \$2,161.25



- **Sun. Aug. 30** Our Parish Picnic, approximately 12:45 PM – Don't forget to sign up on the registration sheet, and plan to bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share. It will be an afternoon of fun.
- **Wed. Sept. 2** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9 AM to 2 PM
- **Sat. & Sun. Sept. 5 & 6** Pilgrimage to Mt. St. Macrina, Uniontown, PA
- **Tues. Sept. 8** Ladies Guild Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall
- **Sat. & Sun. Sept. 12 & 13** Coffee & Donuts in the Social Hall after both Liturgies.
- **Mon. Sept. 21** St. Benedict Auxiliary Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall – Bring a prospective member and a small wrapped gift for the dice game.
- **Tues. Sept. 22** St. Vincent de Paul Pizza Day – 9 AM to 2 PM – We can use your help.



## BIBLE STUDY

Once again our Parish will be offering a Bible Study Class. *However, this time it will be conducted only on Sunday afternoon at 4 PM.* In these sessions, we will be studying the *Book of Revelation*. This is a 12 session course and **will begin Sunday, 20 September 2015.** If you are interested, please call the office to register. Envelopes are also available by the Belvedere Entrance for registration. Registrations are necessary so that we can order the number of books needed for the sessions. The cost for the materials is \$20.00.

## E.C.F. BEGINNING CLASSES ...

...are just around the corner. Letters and registration forms have been sent to parents of the children who have attended classes in the past years. If you have not received a registration form for your child or are in need of one, please call the office. We encourage parents who have children ages 5 thru 18 to enroll in our ECF classes. We ask that you return the forms by September 6, 2015, so that we can order and receive the text books before the start of classes.

30 AUGUST 2015

## SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	30 August	<i>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Post-festive Day of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist. Holy Fathers Alexander, John and Paul the Younger, Patriarchs of Constantinople.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Elizabeth Zombar – John &amp; Irene Chekan</b>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Health of Marjorie Reynolds – Bob &amp; Marianne Cabosky</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Irene Frankos – Bob &amp; Dorothy Dellimuti</b>
Monday,	31 August	<i>Feast of the Deposition of the Venerable Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos.</i>
(PP)	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>+Lucy Prokop – St. Benedict Auxiliary</b>
Tuesday,	1 September	<i>Beginning of the Church Year (7524 in Byzantine Reckoning). Venerable Father Simeon the Stylite and his mother. Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos of Miasena. Holy Martyr Aeithalas. Forty Holy Women Martyred with their Instructor Ammon the Deacon. Holy Martyr Callista and her two brothers, Evod and Hermongenes. Just Joshua, Son of Nun.</i>
		<b>Chancery</b>
Wednesday,	2 September	<i>Holy Martyr Mammias. Venerable Father John the Faster, Patriarch of Constantinople.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Thursday,	3 September	<i>Holy Martyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia. Venerable Father Theoctist, Companion of St. Euthymius the Great. Holy Deaconess Phoebe of Cenchreae.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Friday,	4 September	<i>Holy Martyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch. Holy Prophet Moses, who saw God.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday	5 September	<i>Holy Prophet Zachary, Father of the Forerunner and His Wife, the Holy and Venerable Elizabeth.</i>
(PP)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+George Syrko – Chris, Dawn &amp; Angela Nakell</b>
Sunday,	6 September	<i>FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Memory of the Miracle of the Holy Archangel Michael at Colossae in Chionia. Holy Martyr Eudoxius and His Companions.</i>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Prayer Intentions of the Rosary Society</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Ida Ochtyun – Al &amp; Maria Butch</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### *Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost*

*Mt. 22: 1 – 14*

*Pages 146-148 and 355-357*

*or Use the papers provided*

The original meaning of Christ's story of the banquet feast in God's Kingdom was an indictment of the Jews. They had been the intended guests, but they refused the invitation. God sent His Son to prepare the great wedding festival for Himself, but the chosen people chose to reject the invitation. So He went out to find others who didn't even know there was to be a banquet. Whatever they were doing otherwise, they were ordered to stop, and they were told to make themselves ready, because God would not do without a celebration party. His joy could not be complete without company.

The king is God. He was furious. The city He had burned was Jerusalem. Those who rejected His Son were punished. This gospel was written probably in Alexandria, Egypt, after Jerusalem had been destroyed. It gives a reason for what was a horrible incident for all, Jews and Christians.

How many baptized into Christ since then, have better things to do with their time than to celebrate with God the joy of their own salvation? How do you think He will treat those who reject, ignore, or scorn the banquet He has prepared for them? Prayer and fellowship in the Church is an obligation, a requirement they decide they can do without. Yet this is about happiness and celebration, not a tiresome duty. It isn't opposed to worldly pleasures, tending to one's home or business. It asks only that life be prioritized, and God's wishes are our first priority.

It addresses the modern illusion that God's great love will excuse all our sins. We need not dress for the occasion, means that no preparation is necessary. "Just as I am" is the slogan of contemporary America. Not so, says the Lord. As in the Russian proverb: "He came to dinner and brought his own spoon." But you cannot do that. If you come to God's great banquet expecting to celebrate with the

saints, be warned. You do not set your own conditions for the party. You have a lifetime to prepare your baptismal garment, making your soul clean and pure, without a spot or wrinkle or any such thing (Eph. 5:27).

*By Fr. Vladimir Berzonsky*



## SEPTEMBER 1

Do you know why the first day of September marks the beginning of the Church year? We are accustomed to think of January 1st as the beginning of the year. But the tradition of computing the start of a new year with autumn was common to the lands of the Bible and to all the lands around the Mediterranean. The summer harvest was at an end, the crops were stored, and people prepared for a new agricultural cycle. It was an appropriate time to begin a new year.

Many of the hymns for the first day of the Church year state that the coming year is God's to give and God's to bless -- A YEAR OF THE LORD! These hymns take their theme from Psalm 65 (64 in the Greek Septuagint), a psalm of praise to the Creator Who is awesome as the Holy Lord, but who richly sustains the earth with His abundant goodness.

"Bless, O Lord, the crown (that is, the beginning) of the year with Your goodness!" The goodness of the Lord is His love, mercy and grace. The Church's prayer is that the coming year will be a year of grace, a year blessed by God. Each year *can be* a year of grace, a year blessed by God.

The prayers and hymns of the Byzantine Church not only recite the wonderful works of God in creation and history for our salvation but also frequently offer guidance about how to make each year a year of grace, a year of the Lord. For example, the very first hymn of the new liturgical year, chanted at Vespers in the joyful first tone, reminds us that prayerful daily dependence on God is the basic attitude of the Christian and Christian life. This hymn is also interesting because it refers to another key passage in the Bible and addresses all the faithful.