

## 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.

## JANUARY ALL SAINT DINNER

Sunday, 18 January 2015, 12:15 PM Serving. Holy Resurrection Romanian Orthodox Church, 1836 North Road, Warren. Dinner includes Romanian Sausage, Pork Steak, Corn Meal w/ Cheese, Braised Sauerkraut, Oven Browned Potatoes, Bread, Dessert, Coffee. A minimum of \$10 donation is requested.

## PROPER RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The cold and flu season is upon us. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the proper way to receive Holy Communion. Please tilt your head back, open your mouth widely, without extending your tongue and wait for Father to drop the Body and Blood of our Lord into your mouth. **Please do not close your mouth upon the spoon.** Also, please assist with the distribution by holding the Red Communion Cloth under your chin, in the case that the Eucharist would drop and not fall to the floor.

## BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

Once again we will be offering a Bible Study Class on Sunday afternoon at 4 PM and Thursday at 10 AM. In these sessions, we will be studying the *Book of Galatians*. *This is a 8 session course and will begin Sunday, 1 February 2015 and Thursday, 5 February 2015. If you are interested, please call the office to register.* Registrations are necessary so that we can order the number of books needed for the sessions. The cost for the materials is \$20.00. **Deadline for registration is Wednesday, 21 January, 2015.**

## CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES AND CALENDARS

**Please pick up your contribution envelopes in the Church, on the Belvedere side!** *If there is any name or address correction, if you are unable to locate your envelopes, or if you wish a set of envelopes, please call the office, or drop a note in the collection basket. This year all envelope numbers were reassigned due to the number of deaths and relocation of former parishioners. Please discard your old envelopes at the end of 2014. If you want proper credit for your contributions, you must use the envelopes you were assigned for the 2015 year. Also, for a few weeks, please put your name on the envelope.*



**Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 11 January:**

5:00 PM: 51; 11:00 AM: 156

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us ..... \$3,159.00**



- **Sun. Jan. 11** ECF Religion Classes – 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM. Vacation time is over, so we ask our parents to renew their commitment to getting our children into the routine of class attendance *every Sunday until 3 May 2015*.
- **Sun. Jan. 18** Meeting of Oblates of St. Benedict – 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the Monastery. Please ring #301.



### MOLEBEN FOR PRO-LIFE

On January 22, 2015 our nation will remember the 42st anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. Since that tragic decision, more than 55 million children's lives have been lost to abortion, and the lives of millions of their parents have been shattered. Pope Francis and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have called upon all Catholics to join them in prayer to end abortion. A **Moleben for Pro-life** will be celebrated at our parish on **Thursday, 22 January 2015 at 6 PM**. All are invited and encouraged to participate and bring a friend or two.

### ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE

During our Liturgical Year our Byzantine Church remembers its faithful departed in a special way on 5 All Souls Saturdays. The first All Souls Saturday is 7 February 2015. There is an envelope in your offertory box for these All Souls Remembrances. If you wish to have your loved ones remembered on these special days, please submit the names, printed, with an offering in the envelope by **February 1** so that the names can be organized. Previously submitted names do not need to be resubmitted, only additional names. Thank you for your prompt attention.

### MAINTENANCE HELP NEEDED

Bill Maddox has been experiencing some back issues and is unable, at this time, to do maintenance work around the church and manor. I am in need of help, especially with snow removal from the sidewalks and entrances into the buildings. If anyone is able and willing to help, please contact Fr. Andrew.

18 JANUARY 2015

### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	18 January	<i>THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS. Holy Fathers Athanasius and Cyril of Alexandria.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+John &amp; +Pauline Kostraba – Andy &amp; Pat Kostraba</b>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+George Simko – wife, Millie</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Doris Mosko – Fedyszak Family</b>
Monday,	19 January	<i>Venerable Father Macarius of Egypt.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday,	20 January	<i>Venerable and God-bearing Father Euthymius the Great.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Wednesday,	21 January	<i>Venerable Father Maximus the Confessor. Holy Martyr Neophyte. Holy Martyrs Eugene, Candidus, Valerian and Aquila. Holy Virgin Martyr Agnes of Rome.</i> <b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Thursday,	22 January	<i>Holy Apostle Timothy. Holy Venerable-Martyr Anastasius the Persian.</i>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Sr. Agnes Knapik – Benedictine Sisters</b>
(PP)	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Pro-life Moleben</b>
Friday,	23 January	<i>Holy Martyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra. Holy Martyr Agathangel. Commemoration of the Sixth Ecumenical Council.</i>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+William Paczak – Donna McCreanor</b>
Saturday	24 January	<i>Venerable Mother Xenia of Rome. Holy Martyrs in Pidlashia, the Blessed Vincent Lewoniuk and his companions..</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Lucy Superak – John &amp; Dianna Koza</b>
Sunday,	25 January	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. Holy Father Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople.</i>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+Fr. Andrew Kolitsos – Nancy Dice/Mark Visickamin</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Margaret Seman – Henry &amp; Karen McCormick</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### *Sunday of Zacchaeus*

*Luke 19: 1-10*

*Tone 7 Pages 156 - 158*



This Sunday we hear the gospel account of Zacchaeus the tax collector. Careful attention should be paid to Christ's instructions to Zacchaeus, for in them we can all find the way to see Jesus. "Make haste ..." Jesus was passing through Jericho. Now was the time to seek Him. He might not pass this way again. Zacchaeus needed to seize the opportunity to meet Christ. In exhorting the Church at Corinth, Saint Paul declares, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2). In the hustle and bustle of life, how easy it is to ignore "the one thing needful" because of all life's little emergencies. But in the midst of the laundry, the carpooling, the commute to work, all the activities that comprise our lives, Jesus is passing by. We must "make

haste" to meet Him; we must not let life get in the way of the Source of Life. Right now, today, we must seek Him. And we must do it every day.

"Come down..." Zacchaeus had ascended into a tree to see the Truth (Jesus). From his lofty perch he thought he could see. And though from the height of the tree he could see Jesus at a distance, he had to come back down to meet Him. Oftentimes we attempt, through our own strength, to ascend to truth and happiness. Some climb the corporate ladder; others acquire knowledge in ivory towers. But it is not through lofty position, through knowledge, or through power that we encounter the Prince of Peace. We come to know Him by coming down from our lofty perches of arrogance, pride and self-assurance. It is His presence we must seek, not simply knowledge through observation and study from afar. "I must stay at your house ..." For Zacchaeus, meeting Jesus did not simply entail a casual introduction or handshake on the road. Jesus was, in effect, saying to Zacchaeus, "You want to know me really? Then you must open up your personal life to Me. Take Me where you live." For us truly to know Jesus, we must bring Him into our homes; that is, our day-to-day existence. It is not enough to attend an occasional liturgy, or give thought to Him on the great occasion of His birth or Resurrection. To know Him truly we must allow Him into every "room" of our heart. He must abide with us. If we keep certain "rooms" closed to Him, then those aspects of our

lives are denied His presence and therefore His peace, mercy and blessing. Many of us claim we want to know Jesus and know Him intimately. But in truth, we want to know Him at a distance. We are perfectly happy to climb up a tree and watch Him pass by. We can feel good about ourselves — after all, didn't we make the effort to climb the tree? Yes, we can simply watch Him pass by. But if that is all we seek, then our lives remain unchanged. That wasn't good enough for Zacchaeus. He responded as Christ encouraged him: "Make haste ... come down ... I must stay at your house."

What was the result of Zacchaeus's response to Christ's bidding? Jesus Himself tells us in the closing verses of the Gospel passage: "Today salvation has come to this house ... for the Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost." "Make haste ... come down ... let Me stay at your house ..." If we respond as Zacchaeus did, then nothing short of the eternal salvation of our souls is given us. What more could we possibly want?

By Very Rev. Stephen Rogers

### THE CHOICE THAT MUST BE MADE

It's really interesting that Luke records this story of Jesus' encounter with Zacchaeus just shortly after he had the encounter with another rich man. You can go back just a few verses in your Bible from the Zacchaeus story to Luke 18:18-27. You'll find this story of the ruler who came to Jesus and asked, "Good teacher what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus told him, "Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and come, follow me." As Jesus watches the back of the rich man walking away sorrowfully he says, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

Then Luke records this story of another rich man, Zacchaeus, who demonstrates what is possible with God! He was freed from greed to live generously; he was delivered from perpetrating injustice to promoting justice; he was lifted from the path that leads to destruction and led on the path of eternal life. What is the difference in these two rich men? Both men sought Jesus. Both demonstrated the first step toward new life: seeking Jesus.

If we really want the power to change, we need to devote time and energy to getting closer to Jesus. What is it that helps you go deeper in your relationship with Christ? Spending time with the scriptures, spending time in prayer, reaching out to meet the needs of others in his name? These are some of the ways to meet Jesus.