

## 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.

**WELCOME:** to our newest member, "Gomez" Sibenik.



## ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

It has been quite some time since our Parish Advisory Council has met, so we may have to refresh our memories as to the members of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish who are currently serving on the Advisory Council and their function. The following are a few guide lines as they appear in the Pastoral Handbook of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh:

1. The Advisory Council is to assist in the work of the church and will be concerned with spiritual, educational, financial and social needs of the parish.
2. Ex-officio members of the Parish Advisory Council are the pastor and the director of religious education.
3. The lay members of the Parish Advisory Council are not elected, but are appointed by the pastor for a three year term. The pastor may ask for recommendations for these positions from the congregation.
4. The decisions of the Parish Advisory Council are advisory only, and are not binding on the pastor or the parish.
5. When a pastor is transferred, the Parish Advisory Council ceases to exist after the first meeting with the new pastor. The new pastor may elect to retain them for a period of time or he may establish an entirely new council.

Members of the current Parish Advisory Council are:

Patricia James	Laura Henning	Stephanie Sudik
William Shuttic	Richard Perhacs	Loretta Greskovich
Wiley Byers	Gregory Lazor	

**An Advisory Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 4 February 2016, at 7:00 PM** in the Social Hall. We hope to see all of you there, so that we can have a productive 2016 as we work and grow together as a parish family. Come with your "vision and ideas" and also with your commitment to bring your "advice" to fruition.



**(PP) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 24 January:**

5:00 PM: 59 ; 11:00 AM: 95

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: ..... \$2,963.00**

**(SM) Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 24 January:**

21 from St. Michael; 14 from St. Peter & Paul

**Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: ..... \$433.00**



- **Sun. Jan. 31** ECF Religion Classes - 9:30 to 10:45 AM
- **Mon. Feb. 1** Ladies Guild Anniversary Dinner Meeting and nomination of Officers – 5:30 PM at Buena Vista Restaurant.
- **Wed. Feb. 3** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9 AM to 2 PM.
- **Feb. 12 & 13** (SM) Ladies Baking Days.
- **Sun. Feb. 14** Bible Study 4 PM in the Social Hall – Session 1



### VALENTINE BAKE SALE

The Ladies of St. Michael’s Parish will be baking at Ss. Peter and Paul Social Hall on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, February 13 ... just in time to celebrate St. Valentine’s Day. Their specialties are: Nut Rolls - \$10.00; Angel Food Rolls - \$10.00; Nut Horns - \$6.00 per dozen; and Kiffles - \$6.00 per dozen. *The sale will be by orders only. **Deadline for orders is Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Please call 330-872-7718 or 330-872-0746 to place an order** or if you are attending St. Michael’s Church, there will be a sign-up sheet in the vestibule of the church. *Orders will be ready for pick-up on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at (PP) for parishioners of PP and at (SM) for St. Michael parishioners. There will be No Deliveries.**

### YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The year-end contribution statements are ready to be picked up. They are in alphabetical order, on tables in the Social Hall. The statements will be there until February 10<sup>th</sup>. If you want them after that date, you will have to request them from the office.

### BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

Once again we will be offering a Bible Study Class on Sunday afternoon at 4 PM. This will be an 8 week course entitled: ***Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, and will begin Sunday, February 14, 2016.*** This course will provide the easiest way to understand the Bible and to get the “big picture” of God’s love for His people. Registration Forms are at all church entrances or email Stephen Byers at [stivvy@yahoo.com](mailto:stivvy@yahoo.com). The cost for the materials is \$15.00. **Deadline for registration is Sunday, 7 February, 2016.** You can mail your registration to the office, drop it in the collection basket in a sealed envelope, or give it to Stephen Byers.

31 JANUARY 2016

### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	31 January	<i>MEATFARE SUNDAY. Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Healers Cyrus and John.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Michael Hoso – Hoso Family</b>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+Tim Ferry – Michael &amp; Sue Johnson</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Victor Burick – William Burick Family</b>
Monday	1 February	<i>Cheesefare Monday. Prefestive Day of the Encounter. Holy Martyr Tryphon.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Tuesday	2 February	<i>ENCOUNTER OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST WITH SIMEON AND ANNA. Cheesefare Tuesday.</i>
(SM)	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Prayer Intention of Rosary Society</b>
(PP)	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Intention of Father Simeon – Benedictine Sisters</b>
Wednesday	3 February	<i>Cheesefare Wednesday. Synaxis of the Holy Prophet Simeon and the Prophetess Anna.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Thursday	4 February	<i>Cheesefare Thursday. Postfestive Day of the Feast of the Encounter. Venerable Father Isidore of Pelusium.</i>
(Chapel)	<b>8:30 PM</b>	<b>+Sister Miriam Konkus – Benedictine Sisiters</b>
Friday	5 February	<i>Cheesefare Friday. Postfestive Day of the Feast of the Encounter. Holy Martyr Agatha.</i>
		<b>No Divine Liturgy</b>
Saturday	6 February	<i>Cheesefare Saturday. Memory of all the Holy Ascetics. Leave-taking of the Encoun ter.Venerable Father Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna. Holy Martyrs Silvanus, and Companions.</i>
(PP)	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+Donald Sutyak – M/M Walter Mintus</b>
Sunday	7 February	<i>CHEESEFARE SUNDAY. Venerable Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus. Passing of Priest-Martyr Peter Verhun.</i>
(SM)	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>+Jason Lazor – Greg &amp; Cathie Lazor</b>
(PP)	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>+Lucy Prokop – Bill Maddox Family</b>



## Attentive to the Word

### Sunday of Meatfare

Mt. 25:31 – 46

Tone 3 p. 135 - 136 and p. 217 - 218

## SUNDAY OF MEATFARE

We believe that Jesus will come in Glory to judge the living and the dead!  
This is a part of our creed, what we believe as Christians.

This morning's gospel reading gives us a description, a vision of that last judgment. Awesome! Terrifying! A time of reward and punishment. A time of separation and eternal loss. A time of judgment. How are we going to be judged? On the way we treat others – We either have an open heart or a closed heart.

We know a lot about hearts today. They get clogged and then they don't work right. They race, they lose their timing, and then they no longer give life. We get very serious about taking care of our hearts.

The heart is the center of love. We give our heart to those we love. And Jesus' judgment is based on how we have had an open heart or a closed heart to others. It is easy to love those who love us. It is easy to love those from whom we expect a reward. I was hungry. I was thirsty. I was a stranger. I was naked. I was ill. I was in prison. How *open* was your heart? How *closed* was your heart?

Don't be afraid to fill your heart and to reach out in love. Love makes us vulnerable. We may be taken advantage of. We may be used. We may not be appreciated. We may be misjudged. It is so easy to find an excuse not to love.

But St. John rightly says in his epistle, *He Himself made us a promise, and the promise is no less than this: eternal life.* That's what Jesus brings and gives. *Let no one deceive you; the man who acts in holiness is holy indeed, even as the Son is holy.*

*The man who sins belongs to the devil because the devil is a sinner from the beginning. It was to destroy the devil's works, that the Son of God revealed himself...No one whose actions are unholy belongs to God, nor anyone who fails to love his brother.*

Don't be afraid to fill your heart with people and things you love, for the love of God won't occupy space in your heart any more than a singer's voice occupies space in a concert hall.

Love is not like a loaf of bread. If I give a chunk of the loaf to you I have less to offer others. Love is like Eucharistic Bread: I receive the whole Christ. You receive the whole Christ too; and so does the next and the next.

You can love your mother with your whole heart, and your husband or wife, and each of your children. The wonder is that giving the whole of it to one person does not force you to give less to another. On the contrary, each one of us now gets more. For if you love only your friend and no one else it is a feeble heart that you offer. Your friend would stand to gain if you also gave it to others.

Certainly, we are limited. We are constrained by time, energy, and talent. But we can all do something. Maybe we can't do everything for everyone all the time. But we can do something. And it's those little things that we do that open up our hearts, that love become visible, and that let Christ become present and visible to others.

Come, to me. Come and receive my blessings. Come and be filled with God's love.

By Fr. John Zeyack



"The bread you do not use is the bread of the hungry. The garment hanging in your wardrobe is the garment of the person who is naked. The shoes you do not wear are the shoes of the one who is barefoot. The money you keep locked away is the money of the poor. The acts of charity you do not perform are the injustices you commit."

- St. Basil the Great