

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. Andrew 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.

NUTROLL SALE

St. Benedict's Auxiliary will be taking orders for nutrolls, poppyseed, apricot, apricot-nut and lekvar rolls. The rolls will be ready for pick-up on Saturday, 21 November from 3 PM to 6:30 PM. The rolls are \$10.00. There is an order blank on the bulletin board in the Social Hall, or you may call Mary Villareal at 330-372-5187. They freeze well, so you can get an early start for your holiday baking. **Deadline to order is Thursday, November 12th.**

REMEMBERING THE HOMEBOUND

We pray to the Lord, the Giver of Life and all good gifts, for the health and blessings of those who are ill, homebound, in care facilities, and are unable to attend church. In our good fortune and many blessings from God, let us not forget those who are also part of our parish family – remember them with prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, etc. Let us share our blessings!

PRAYER BEFORE AN ELECTION

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community. We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom. We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. Amen.

Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 25 October:

5:00 PM: **71**; 11:00 AM: **107**

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,480.00



- **Sun. Nov. 1 E.C.F. RELIGION CLASSES HAVE BEGUN FOR OUR CHILDREN. 9:30 AM TO 10:45 AM.** If you have children from Kindergarten to Grade 12, and have not registered, it's not too late. Just show up and we will take good care of you. Please try to have your children on time for classes. Thank you for your cooperation.
- **Sun. Nov. 1** Bible Study at 4 PM in the Social Hall – Session 6
- **Wed. Nov. 4** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program – 9 AM to 2 PM. We can use your help!
- **Tues. Nov. 10** Ladies Guild Meeting – 7 PM in the Social Hall
- **Sat. Nov. 14 & Sun. Nov. 15** Meet and Greet Father Simeon in the Social Hall after Both Divine Liturgies.
- **Sun. Nov. 15** Meeting of Oblates of St. Benedict – 2 to 4 PM at the Monastery. Ring # 301.



WHAT KIND OF CHRISTIAN ARE YOU?

A lot of Christians are like wheelbarrows...they're not good unless pushed. Some are like canoes...they need to be paddled. Some are like kites...if you don't keep a string on them, they fly away. Some are like kittens...contented when they are petted. Some are like footballs...you can't tell which way they'll bounce next. Some are like balloons...full of air and ready to blow. Some are like trailers...they have to be pulled. Some are like neon lights...they keep going on and off.

***BUT,** some are like a good watch...open faced, pure gold, quietly busy, and full of good works. Some work hard to develop their talents...acting as if they are accountable for their abilities, and that doing less than their share and their best would be letting someone down. Some talk about the use of their time and talents...believing that stewardship relates to every area of their life. -----*

WHAT KIND OF CHRISTIAN ARE YOU?

1 NOVEMBER 2015

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday,	1 November	<i>TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Holy Unmercenary Wonder-workers Cosmas and Damian.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+John Balogh – wife, Barbara & Slyk Family
(SM)	8:30 AM	+ Jason Lazor – Micheline Hayda
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Betty Sasala – Mark & Debbie Gregoire
Monday,	2 November	<i>Holy Martyrs Akindynos, Pegasus, Aphthonius, Elpidiphor and Anempodistos.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday,	3 November	<i>Holy Martyrs Aceptsimas, the Bishop; Joseph, the Priest; and Aeithalas, the Deacon, Foundation of the Church of the Great Martyr George in Lydia, where the relics are kept.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Rebecca English – Byers Family
Wednesday,	4 November	<i>Venerable Father Joannicus the Great. Holy Martyr Nicander, Bishop of Myra. The Priest Hermas.</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+John & +Josephine Wargo – Daughter, Elizabeth & Family
Thursday,	5 November	<i>Holy Martyr Galaction and Episteme. Passing of Blessed Martyr Gregory Lakota, Auxiliary Bishop of Peremyshl (1950).</i>
(Chapel)	8:30 AM	+Sister Ambrose Chuchvara – Benedictine Sisters
Friday,	6 November	<i>Our Father Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople.</i>
		No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	7 November	<i>Holy Thirty-three Martyrs of Melitene. Venerable Father Lazarus, the Wonder-worker, who fasted in the hills of Galilee.</i>
(PP)	5:00 PM	+George Syrko – Don & Dee Lambert
Sunday,	8 November	<i>TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND ALL THE HOLY ANGELS.</i>
(SM)	8:30 AM	Int. of St. Michael's Parish Family – Happy Feastday!
(PP)	11:00 AM	+Michael & +Mary Lickwar – Lickwar Family



Attentive to the Word

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 8:26-39

Tone 6 Pages 152 - 153

The lesson from St. Luke tells us today of an incident that is typical of Christ the Good Shepherd. Jesus had been teaching and helping in the city of Capernaum, which was a sort of headquarters for Him. Throngs of people kept coming to Him for help. Suddenly, He decided to go to the other shore of the Sea of Galilee. What was pulling the Lord to the other shore of the lake? There was a "lost sheep" there, and the Good Shepherd was going to find him.

Jesus found him in the country of the Gadarenes, a demon-possessed man who lived in caves and tombs off the shore. We might call him a "wild man" in our day, naked and uncontrollable. The Good Shepherd had come to save this lost sheep. The Lord healed the man, and in the process of driving out the evil spirits, a herd of swine perished into the sea. The man was "wild" no more, but sat quietly, now clothed, at the feet of Christ.

When the people saw the great change that had come over the sick man, and when they learned of the loss of swine that was involved with his healing, they came to Christ and asked Him to leave. They were afraid. As Jesus got into the boat to go back to His land, the healed man came and asked to go along with Him. But Jesus told him to go to his own home and to tell others what wonderful things God had done for him.

May we learn from this Gospel what a truly Good Shepherd the Lord was. He met the people's needs as He found them. The Lord is still our Good Shepherd! Seated at the right hand of the Father, He still feels and knows human heartache and intercedes for our help and comfort.

We notice the ingratitude of the Gadarene people in asking Christ to leave their land, all because they had lost their property. They had put "gold" before God and wanted no part of Christ and His teaching because the herd of swine had perished into the sea at the time of the healing miracle. When Jesus disturbed their great love, they wanted no part of Him.

This is a common human attitude. We get set in our loves, our ways and our sins. And we don't want anyone or anything to disturb us. People will pray, will give, will belong, will work, so long as the Church doesn't disturb them. Yet it is the function of the Church to change us, to give us the "abundant life" of Christ. How careful we must be, lest we, in so many ingenious ways, tell the Lord to leave us alone in our set ways.

Remember what Christ told the healed man after his request to go with the Lord to Galilee? Jesus told him he should not come with Him. "Return to your own house," Jesus said, "and tell the great things that God has done for you." The man obeyed and did as the Lord had requested.

How much Christian work is left undone right in our own backyards! Our own families, our own neighborhoods, our own communities, need to feel the impact and influence of Christ. We talk to our children and to others about everything under the sun -from A to Z--except Christ the Son of God. Somehow our lips are sealed and we find it so difficult to speak of that Name, which is above every other Name, the Name of Him Who is the Alpha and Omega the Beginning and the End, the Light of the World, the Resurrection and the Life.

The healed man, once possessed with evil spirits, was now possessed with Christ. He spoke to others of his wonderful encounter with the Lord. What a tremendous change had resulted from his meeting with Christ there on the shores of the sea. Others, who knew him well, were amazed at the change for good that had come over him.

Now, every Sunday we meet Christ here in the Divine Liturgy. We believe He is here. We believe Him when He said: "Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them." We believe we unite ourselves with Him in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist. "God is with us," becomes a reality for us in the Church. Can others later tell that we have been with the Lord?

It is said that Mohammedans can tell when one of their number has been to a mosque; they can tell by the scent of incense which is carried forth. Can others tell when we have been in the Lord's Presence, not by the scent of incense, but by the joy and beauty of our lives – our thoughts, words and actions? This, after all, is Christianity on the practical, meaningful level. May we come to know Christ as our Good Shepherd, and may we realize that we are His flock, whom He loves and cares for, each and every one.