

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.

PICK-UP FOR NUTROLLS

If you placed an order, the rolls will be ready for pick-up on Saturday, 21 November 2015, from 3 PM to 6:30 PM. The rolls are \$10.00. If you are paying by check, please make payable to: *St. Benedict's Auxiliary.* Thank you for your support.

ST. NICHOLAS FEAST DAY

On Sunday, December 6th, after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy, the parishioners are invited to a dinner in the Social Hall. The dinner will be provided by the parish, but we ask for a donation of at least \$5.00 for each person attending. If you plan to attend the dinner, we ask that you sign your family name on the sign-up sheet, with the number attending, so that we might be better prepared with food and seating arrangements.) The sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board on the Belvedere Side entrance and in the Social Hall. We hope to see all of you there!

PHILIP'S FAST

The pre-Nativity fast is often called "Philip's Fast" because it begins on the day after the feast of St. Philip. The fast begins on November 15 and last until December 24 inclusive. The fast was introduced to prepare the Church for a worthy celebration of the great and holy day of the Birth of Christ.

When we fast, the first thing we begin to realize is how enslaved we have become to "pizza or cheeseburgers"(or anything else). We discover that we are not as spiritual as we like to think. We find ourselves more dependent on Burger King than on the King of all! The purpose of fasting is to heighten our awareness of the Lord's presence. Fasting is counterproductive to spiritual growth unless it is coupled with prayer and almsgiving. Fasting, praying and reading a spiritual book, and devoting time to a charitable concern will help us to grow spiritually and become more aware of God's presence in our daily lives. Let's make this Philip's Fast a real preparation for the Feast of the Nativity.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of 8 November:

5:00 PM: 77; 11:00 AM: 111

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$3,038.50



- **Sun. Nov. 15 E.C.F. RELIGION CLASSES HAVE BEGUN FOR OUR CHILDREN. 9:30 AM TO 10:45 AM.** Please try to have your children on time for classes. Thank you for your cooperation.
- **Sun. Nov. 15** Bible Study at 4 PM in the Social Hall – Session 8
- **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. Oblates are open to both men and women. Meetings are held at the Monastery at Infant of Prague Manor once a month, on a Sunday afternoon. Come and see if this group might help you to develop a deeper relationship with your God.
- **Nov. 15** Philip’s Fast Begins in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity.
- **Mon. Nov.16** Important Meeting of St. Benedict’s Auxiliary – 7 PM in the Social Hall.
- **Nov 21 & 22** Nutroll Sale in the Social Hall, after both Divine Liturgies. (if there are any leftover rolls).
- **Mon. Nov. 23** Church Cleaning Party – 9 AM to Noon. We can use your help!



COME ONE, COME ALL!!!

A RECEPTION IS BEING HELD AFTER EACH DIVINE LITURGY THIS WEEKEND, TO FORMALLY MEET AND GREET FATHER SIMEON AND RALPH. We pledge our help and support to Father Simeon as he leads us a little closer to our God. Take a few minutes, and help Father to learn who we are as individuals and as a parish family. We hope to see all of you there!

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The 64th annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be celebrated on **Tuesday, 24 November 2015** at 7:30 PM at Central Christian Church. Please join other members of our Parish Family along with members from Central Christian Church, St. Paul Lutheran Church and Beth Israel Synagogue as we give thanks to God for all the blessings He has bestowed upon us. A social with refreshments will follow the service.

15 NOVEMBER 2015

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Sunday, | 15 November | <i>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas and Habib.</i> |
| (Vigil Liturgy) | 5:00 PM | +Jeffrey Hoso – Hoso Family |
| (SM) | 8:30 AM | Prayer Intention of Rosary Society |
| (PP) | 11:00 AM | +Rev. Andrew Chura – John & Kathy Shinosky |
| Monday, | 16 November | <i>Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew</i> No Divine Liturgy |
| Tuesday, | 17 November | <i>Holy Father Gregory the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Neocaesarea. Passing of Blessed Martyr Josaphat Kocylvoskyj, Bishop of Peremyshal (1947).</i> |
| (Chapel) | 8:30 AM | +William Zeaken – Valerie & David Rowbotham |
| Wednesday, | 18 November | <i>Holy Martyrs Plato and Roman.</i> |
| (Chapel) | 8:30 AM | + Lillian Klein – Helen Klein |
| Thursday, | 19 November | <i>Holy Prophet Obadiah. Holy Martyr Barlaam.</i> |
| (Chapel) | 8:30 AM | No Divine Liturgy |
| Friday, | 20 November | <i>Prefestive Day of the Entrance of the Theotokos. Venerable father Gregory the Decapolite. Holy Father Proclus, Archbishop of Constantinople. Blessed Mother Josaphata Hordashevska.</i> |
| (PP) (Vigil) | 6:00 PM | +Victor Byers – Michael & Rexie Chamer |
| Saturday | 21 November | <i>FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE..</i> |
| (PP) | 5:00 PM | +Tom Vislosky – Harry & Elaine Vislosky & family |
| Sunday, | 22 November | <i>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Postfestive Day of the Entrance. Holy Apostle Pheomon and His Companions. Holy Martyrs Cecilia, Valerian, Tiburtius, and Maximus.</i> |
| (SM) | 8:30 AM | +Margaret Kostrub – M/M Jay Lilly |
| (PP) | 11:00 AM | +Anna Bernard – Ronald & Patty Zombar |



Attentive to the Word

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 10:25-37

Tone 8 Pages 161 - 163

THE MARK OF A 2015 GOOD SAMARITAN



A special obligation binds us to make ourselves the neighbor of absolutely every person, and of actively helping him when he comes across our path, whether he be an old person abandoned by all, a foreign laborer unjustly looked upon, a refugee, a child born of an unlawful union and wrongly suffering from a sin he did not commit, or a hungry person who disturbs our conscience by recalling the voice of the Lord: "As long as you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for me."

Furthermore, whatever is opposed to life itself, such as any type of murder, genocide, abortion, euthanasia, or willful self-destruction, whatever violates the integrity of the human person, such as mutilation, torments inflicted on body or mind, attempts to coerce the will itself; whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children, as well as disgraceful working conditions, where men are treated as mere tools for profit, rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things and others of their like are infamies indeed. They poison human society, but they do more harm to those who practice them than to those who suffer from the injury. Moreover, they are a supreme dishonor to the Creator....

Since all men possess a rational soul and are created in God's likeness, since they have the same nature and origin, have been redeemed by Christ, and enjoy the same divine calling and destiny, the basic equality of all must receive increasingly greater recognition.

True, all men are not alike from the point of view of varying physical power and the diversity of intellectual and moral resources. Nevertheless, with respect to the fundamental rights of the person, every type of discrimination, whether social or cultural,

whether based on sex, race, color, social condition, language, or religion, is to be overcome and eradicated as contrary to God's intent. How do you measure up?

Documents of Vatican II, *The Church Today* [Guild]



PRESENTATION OF MARY IN THE TEMPLE

The feast of the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple praises and glorifies God for His plan of salvation. God prepares for Himself a holy dwelling place. The Byzantine Church never tires of praising the Mother of God for her role in our salvation. She is called the "Heavenly Tabernacle" in the Kontakion of the Feast, and the "Living Tabernacle of God" in the Hirmos. She is given these titles because in her womb the Word of God has taken flesh and dwelt among us. Her body is the living tabernacle of the

Incarnate Word and, through her, God has taken on our human nature and elevated us to become 'sharers of the divine nature' (2 Peter 1: 4). God, Who is beyond our reach and beyond our grasp, comes to dwell among us. This is God's plan, and in the Virgin Mary, this plan of salvation was achieved. In the Icon of the Entrance of the Mother of God, Mary is shown as a young girl being escorted to the Temple by her parents, Joachim and Anna. She is also accompanied by the holy virgins carrying candles. In all the icons of the Presentation, the High Priest greets the holy family at the entrance of the Temple. The presentation into the temple is the main event, so the figures of the holy family and the High Priest are predominant. The Church honors the Virgin Mary as the God-bearer, (in Greek: Theotokos) the one who, in God's plan of salvation, would give birth to God the Word. In the upper corner of some icons the Virgin Mary is seen already seated in the Temple, and being cared for by the Angels. Thus, Mary, the young girl, is not only presented but also participates in the very task of her temple life. Through the Icon, we celebrate and share this mystery in the life of the Virgin.

TROPARION - *Today is the prelude of the benevolence of God and the herald of the salvation of man, for the Virgin plainly appears in the temple of God and foretells Christ to all. Let us also with full voice cry out to her: "Hail, Fulfillment of the Creator's Plan."*

(God With Us Icon Study)