

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Healing Two Blind Men

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES: 7/11/2026 – 7/19/2026

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 Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec, Jr. to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the Parish Family. Must meet with Father Miron before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Father Miron. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the prescription of the liturgical book of the Byzantine rite.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Father Miron is always available for confessions 1 hour before each Divine Liturgy, 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: Parishioners who are hospitalized are visited when Father Miron is notified. It is especially important that a family member contact Father Miron whenever a loved one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Father Miron before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of Saints Peter and Paul Parish. Registration is done only through the Pastor. Only those who are registered are considered members of the Parish. Registered parishioners are those who have received contribution envelopes, and assume the responsibility of rendering stewardship of time, talent and treasure to SS. Peter and Paul Parish. Worship at this parish is always expected. 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: Lisa Mosko is in the Parish office from 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Father Miron is available on other days and times by appointment.

Fr. Miron is always available for confessions 1 hour before each Divine Liturgy.

Saturday (Sun. Vigil)	11 July 4:30 PM 5:00 PM	Reciting of Rosary +Mollie Holod – husband, David
Sunday	12 July 9:35 AM 10:00 AM	<i>SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyrs Proclus and Hilarion. Our Venerable Father Michael of Malein.</i> Service of Third Hour +Raymond Lickwar – Lickwar family
Monday	13 July	<i>Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel. Our Venerable Father Stephen of the Monastery of St. Sabbas. Our Holy Father Julian, Bishop of Kenoman.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	14 July	<i>The Holy Apostle Aquila.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday	15 July 6:30 PM	<i>The Holy Martyrs Cyricus and Julitta. The Holy Great Prince Vladimir, Equal to the Apostles, who was baptized Basil.</i> +David Nycum & Kyra Nycum – Judy & Larry Geer
Thursday	16 July	<i>The Holy Martyrs Athenogenes, Bishop of Sebaste and His Ten Disciples.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Friday	17 July 9:00 AM	<i>The Holy Great Martyr Marina. The Blessed Confessor Paul Gojdič, Bishop of Prešov.</i> +Janet Yocum – Nikki Carballo
Saturday (Vigil Liturgy)	18 July 5:00 PM	<i>The Holy Martyr Hyacinth of Amastris. The Holy Martyr Emilian.</i> Health & Welfare of Judith Bailey – husband, Eugene
Sunday	19 July 10:00 AM	<i>EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. MEMORY OF THE FATHERS AT THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS. Our Venerable Mother Macrina, Sister of St. Basil the Great. Our Venerable Father Dios.</i> +James Basista, Jr. – Cathy Krupsa Eddy



Attentive to the Word

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matthew 9: 27 – 35

Tone 6 Pages 152 – 153



A Pastor in a certain church one Sunday morning posed a unique challenge to his congregation. He brought in a plank of wood about four inches wide and long enough to cross from front to back over the distance of seven or eight pews. He asked for a volunteer to walk its length. A young man stood up, was helped onto the narrow plank, and successfully traversed it. Then, with some rigging, the Pastor hoisted the plank about six feet from the ceiling with no other support than the ropes holding it on each end. This time, no one volunteered to walk the plank.

Why the reluctance? The plank is the same. The muscles are the same. The mind is the same. The distance across is the same. The will is the same. It is the lack of safe support which is the big difference. When the plank was close to the floor, there was no hesitation because the young man had safety. When he had to walk on his own higher up, however, without support, he became anxious and hesitant with uncertainty.

Life itself is often like those two sets of circumstances. When we have something solid under our feet, we walk the narrow way without concern. It is when there is nothing underneath that we become panicky. When our minds have nothing to feed upon except our own states of mind, we lose our balance. But when we know we are supported by a solid foundation of divine truth outside ourselves, we gather confidence and courage.

This was the challenging question our Lord asked of the two blind men in today's gospel (Matt. 9:27-35), "Do you believe?" They answered without hesitation, "Yes, Lord." And He replied, "Let it be done to you according to your faith."

Faith is the support we have when our lives become insecure, anxious, and we feel threatened by circumstances which blind our way. Faith comes to us, as it did to the two blind men, when we have to ask ourselves, "Do I believe God can do this for me?"

Faith in the plan of God for our lives allows us to take that narrow path which may seem unsure because the way is made secure not by our own resources but by the power of God.

Rev. John T. Sekellick



MEDITATION:

Are there any blind-spots in your life that keep you from recognizing God's power and mercy? Faith opens the way for us to see the power of God's kingdom and to experience his healing presence in our lives.

The word *mercy* literally means "*sorrowful at heart*". But mercy is something more than compassion, or heartfelt sorrow at another's misfortune. Compassion empathizes with the sufferer. But mercy goes further; it removes suffering. A merciful person shares in another's misfortune and suffering as if it were his own.

In Jesus we see the fullness of God's mercy and the power of his kingdom – power to save from death and destruction, to forgive sins and lift the burden of guilt, and to heal infirmities and release the oppressed. Jesus never refused to bring God's mercy to those who earnestly sought it.

How can we seek and obtain God's mercy? God gives mercy to the lowly in heart – to those who recognize their need for God and for his forgiveness and healing power. Faith is a gift freely given by God to help us know God personally, to understand his truth, and to live in the power of his love. For faith to be effective, it must be linked with trust and obedience – an active submission to God and a willingness to do whatever he commands.

When two blind men approached Jesus, he questioned their earnestness in order to test and strengthen them in faith and trust in his power. Their faith grew as they responded to his word with confident hope. He restored their sight – both physically and spiritually to the reality of his kingdom. Jesus wants us to live in the confident expectation that he will fulfill his promises to us and bring us into the fullness of his kingdom – a kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17). Do you know the peace and joy of God's kingdom?

Lord, help me to draw near to you with confidence and trust in your saving power and mercy. Free me from doubt and unbelief that I may approach you confidently and pray boldly with expectant faith. Let your kingdom come and may your will be done in me.



- **Sun., July 12** Last Day to submit Milestone Wedding Anniversaries.
- **Mon., July 20** **Feast of Elijah The Great Prophet.** Divine Liturgy 6:30 PM.
Blessing of Vehicles after Liturgy.
- **Tues. – Thurs., July 21 – 23** Fr. Miron & family will be on vacation.
- **Fri., July 24** Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM.
- **Mon., July 27** Church Cleaning Party 9 AM – Noon. Come lend a helping hand.
- **Wed., July 29** Divine Liturgy 6:30 PM.
- **Fri., July 31** Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM.



A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

PLEASE NOTE – Sunday, July 12th – Last day to notify the office:

Metropolitan William and the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will honor all those couples celebrating their milestone wedding anniversary of **10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or additional years that are multiples of five** during this year of 2026. *Please inform the Parish Office by July 12th if you are celebrating one of these milestone anniversaries so that your names can be submitted to the Chancery.* The Archieparchial celebration will take place at St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA on **Sunday, September 20, 2026 at 3:00 PM.** Certificates are sent to all couples, whether they are able to attend or not.

Please call the church office or drop your name and current phone number in the collection basket and we will call you. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request.



GCU BYZANTINE FAMILY DAY

**KENNYWOOD PARK
4800 KENNYWOOD BLVD.
WEST MIFFLIN, PA**

**THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2026
11 AM – 9 PM**

**\$28 – AGES 4+; FREE – AGES 3 AND UNDER
RIDE ALL DAY TICKET
(GOOD 7/23 ONLY)**

**ORDER & PAY AT GCUusa.com
UNDER EVENTS SECTION
OR CALL 724-683-3927**



stspeterpaulbyz.com



Happy Birthday to Parishioners with Birthdays this week:

July 16 – Debbie Canan

July 18 – Ellen Day & Barbara Dufalla

Missed your birthday? Please let us know!



MANY THANKS!

A huge Thank You goes out to all the gentlemen who helped move the cupboards in the Social Hall! The task went smoothly and better than anticipated.

God Bless each of you!

THE GIFT OF A SMILE

It costs nothing, but creates much.

It enriches those who receive without
impoverishing those who give.

It happens in a flash, and the memory of
it sometimes lasts forever.

None are so rich they can get along without it,
and none so poor but are richer for its benefits.
It creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill
in a business, and is the countersign of friends.
It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged,
sunshine to the sad, and nature's best antidote
for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or
stolen, for it is something that is no earthly
good to anyone until it is given away.

And if in the course of the day some of your
friends should be too tired to give you a
smile, why don't you give them one of yours?
For nobody needs a smile so much as those who
Have none left to give!

Anonymous



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of July 4:

5:00 PM: 33; 10:00 AM: 76

Feast of Saints Peter and Paul: 75

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: . . . \$2,376.00

stspeterpaulbyz.com



SAINTS PETER & PAUL
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Parish

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Metropolitan William Skurla
Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh

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Father's Cell Phone: **216-538-0418**
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New Parish Webpage: stspeterpaulbyz.com
Email: sppbyzchurch@gmail.com
Infant of Prague Manor: 330-372-4700



Glory to Jesus Christ!
Slava Isusu Christu!

Glory Forever!
Slava na viki!

They Saw Because They Believed

At that point, two blind men follow the Lord as He was passing by. But if they could not see, how could the blind men know of the Lord's departure as well as His name? Moreover, they called him "Son of David" and asked to be made well. In the two blind men, the entire earlier pre-figuration is complete. The ruler's daughter seems to be from these people, namely, the Pharisees and John's disciples, who already made common cause in testing the Lord.

To these unknowing persons the law gave evidence as to the one from whom they sought a cure. It indicated to them that their Savior in the flesh was of the line of David. It also introduced light to the minds of those who

were blind from past sins. They could not see Christ but were told about Him.

The Lord showed them that faith should not be expected as a result of health but health should be expected because of faith. The blind men saw because they believed; they did not believe because they saw. From this we understand that what is requested must be predicated on faith and that faith must not be exercised because of what has been obtained. If they should believe, He offers them sight. And He charges the believers to be silent, for it was exclusively the task of the Apostles to preach.

St. Hilary of Poitiers