Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Icon of the Healing of Jarius' Daughter (Luke 8:41-56)

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 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: Shirley Wade is in the Parish office from 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Father Miron is available on other days and times by appointment.

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES: 11/07/2026 – 11/15/2026

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

Saturday	7 Nov.	*The Holy Thirty-Three Martyrs at Melitene. Our Venerable Father Lazarus, the Wonder-Worker, who fasted in the hills of Galilee.*
(Sunday Vigil)	**4:30 PM**	**Reciting of Rosary**
	5:00 PM	**+Michael Stemock, Sr. and + Stella Stemock – Son Mark Stemock**
Sunday	8 Nov.	*Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost. Synasix of the Holy Archangel Michael and All Angelic Powers*
	9:30 AM	**Service of Third Hour**
	10:00 AM	**+James Johnson, Sr. – The Leon & Jim Johnson, Jr. Families**
Monday	9 Nov.	*Our Venerable Mother Matrona. The Venerable Theoctista of Lesbos.*
		No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	10 Nov.	*The Holy Apostles Erastus, Olympas and Rhodion and Their Companions*
		No Divine Liturgy
Wednesday	11 Nov.	*The Holy Martyrs Menas, Victor and Vincent. The Holy Martyr Stephanis. Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore the Studite. The Passing of the Blessed Martyr and Bishop Vincent Eugene Bossilkovin Bulgaria.*
	6:30 PM	**+ Betty Vazur – Ruth Grinata**
Thursday	12 Nov.	*Our Venerable Father John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria. Our Venerable Father Nilus. The Holy Martyr Josaphat, Archbishop of Polotsk.*
		No Divine Liturgy
Friday	13 Nov.	*Our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople.*
		No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	14 Nov.	*The Holy and Illustrious Apostle Phillip. Our Holy Father Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica.*
(Vigil Liturgy)	**5:00 PM**	**+Frances Bahrey – Michele Golias Family**
Sunday	15 Nov.	*Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost. The Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas and Habib.*
	10:00 AM	**+Janet Yocum - Family**

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Attentive to the Word

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.
SYNASIX OF THE HOLY ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELIC POWERS

Luke 8: 41 – 56

Tone 7 Pages 156 – 158 & 265 - 266

WHEN FAITH GOES THE DISTANCE



Through his recounting of these two interwoven miraculous healings from Jesus' ministry, Luke puts the exclamation point on just how powerful faith in the risen Christ can be in transforming our lives.

The woman "who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years" has reached the limits of her resources; though she had spent "all she had on physicians" her condition persists. When she touches "the fringe of Jesus' clothes," however, she is healed because of her faith. Even such a barely perceptible encounter with Jesus amid a crowd of people is sufficient.

In the second story, Jairus' daughter's illness has gone beyond all human limits. As Jesus makes his way to the synagogue leader's house, some people meet the party and say to Jairus, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the teacher any longer." Yet even death, the ultimate storm of human life, poses no problem for Jesus. "Do not fear," he says to Jairus, "only believe, and she will be saved." Jesus enters the room in which the dead girl lay, takes her by the hand and calls out, "Child, get up!" Immediately, "her spirit returned."

It is a particularly powerful temptation of our post-Enlightenment age that prompts us to dismiss such stories as pre-modern fables. Certainly, a more rational consideration of the miracles of Jesus can help us separate elements of superstition in the stories from the miraculous intervention of God at their core. We must never lose sight, however, of a basic truth: The power of the risen Christ in our lives is only limited by our refusal to believe in it. Where in my life am I being called to greater faith at this time?

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND ALL THE HOLY ANGELS

On the 8th of November each year, the Byzantine Church celebrates the Holy Archangel Michael and the other Powers of Heaven.

Most of us are familiar with this lovely and nostalgic carol: Angels We Have Heard on High. No Christmas pageant would be complete without angels, especially the cute little "baby angels." But in reality angels are very strong and powerful beings. We say they are "spirits," meaning that they have no material component. That means they are not simply "invisible," like air or electricity. They are like God in that they have no physical component at all, and can be everywhere at once! One theologian said simply that "an angel IS where it operates."

The Bible tells us that from time to time angels take on a visible form and interact with people. According to the Tradition, certain angels have special duties, they are forces directing or carrying out certain vital functions. The Bible speaks of Raphael, an archangel who is in charge of healing; of Gabriel, who is the chief messenger; of Michael, who is responsible for protecting the chosen people and defending God's domain. We also know of Uriel, the archangel responsible for death and conducting the departed into the realm of God.

How can we come to grips with this idea of "angels," which seems so foreign to our "modern" thinking (although we're always searching the skies for the coming of the aliens!)? Perhaps this idea might help.

Love is determined by the lover and the love-ee. A weak and neurotic individual cannot lavish love very well on anyone or anything, while a mature individual is capable of rich human relationships. So much for the lover, now what about the love-ee? The object of our affections is granted our love in proportion to its value to us. We love our spouse (I hope) more than our hound, and our children more than our car! So consider that God is a perfect lover! The objects, however, are of various and differing values. God loves himself so perfectly that He is Triune: a Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The love God bestows on various aspects of creation, however, gives rise to an angel. Since God has an individual love for each of us, a guardian angel is generated by his love for us.

How many angels are there? Probably beyond counting. And, frankly, that's just what the Bible says!

(Msgr. George Appleyard)

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **Sat. & Sun. Nov. 7 & 8** Coffee & Donuts after Liturgies.
- **Sun. Nov. 8** ECF Class
- **Tues. Nov. 10** Parish Guild Meeting 6 PM
- **Wed. Nov. 11** Divine Liturgy 6:30 PM
- **Sun. Nov. 15** ECF Class
- **Wed. Nov. 18** No Divine Liturgy
- **Wed. & Thurs. Nov. 18 & 19** Kolachi Baking
- **Fri. Nov. 20** Divine Liturgy 6:30 PM
- **Fri. Nov. 20** Kolachi Sales - Parishioners Only – 12 pm – 4 pm
- **Sat. & Sun. Nov. 21 & 22** Kolachi Sales

PRAYER:

The Union of my mind with God

Lord, have mercy on me and heal the deafness of my spirit, which does not hear the voice of Your silence.

Bless and forgive all those who have turned silence into rebuke and punishment, thus deafening my soul's hearing.

Grant that I may cling in faith to those who hear the tidings of Your coming!, and through their prayers may I also come to feel Your presence, so that I may love You with my whole being and serve You until the end of my days.

Amen.

Mother Siluana

Happy Birthday to Parishioners with Birthdays this week:

November 9 – Kurtis Dudt – 9 years old
November 10 – William Seese
Missed your birthday? Please let us know!

FALL KOLACHI BANKING 2026

We will be baking Wednesday & Thursday, November 18 & 19. No early pre-orders. Price remains at $15.00. per roll. Sales to parishioners will be Friday, November 20th from 12 noon to 4:00 PM. Additional sales will be AFTER liturgies Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22. As always, all help is welcome and appreciated. God Bless you for your time, work and sacrifice.

NEW BOOKS!

I am happy to let you know that our Church Library is slowly growing with more good quality books! The books are written by Fr. Charbel Abernethy. You can read his bio and descriptions of his books in the bulletin insert.

Books in our library:

The Monastic Heart and the Future of the Church:
Recovering the Inner Kingdom in an Age of Fragmentation;

The Name Above Every Name:
The Jesus Prayer and the Revelation of Christ in the Heart;

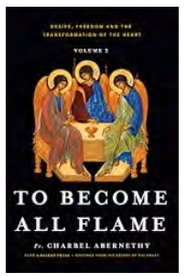
Desire and Wonder 1-3:
St. Isaac the Syrian and Living in the Embrace of Divine Eros
Volume 1 – 3;

To Become All Flame 1-3:
Desire, Freedom and the Transformation of the Heart Volumes 1- 3 (Volume #3 is not published yet).

Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of October 31, 2026:
5:00 PM: **34;** 10:00 AM: **80**
Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: $2,020.00

To Become All Flame:
Desire, Freedom and the Transformation of the Heart
Volumes 1- 3 (Volume #3 is not published yet)

"If you will, you can become all flame."



With these words, Abba Joseph revealed to Abba Lot the deepest mystery of the spiritual life: we are not called merely to become better, more disciplined, or more religious. We are called to be transformed.

To Become All Flame explores this ancient Christian vision of the human person through the wisdom of the Desert Fathers, St. Isaac the Syrian, and the great spiritual elders of the Church.

Prayer, repentance, asceticism, suffering, silence, desire, obedience, and love are not separate practices arranged along a path toward holiness. They are ways of remaining before the fire—the living presence of God—until grace gradually transforms the whole person.

The spiritual life begins with desire, but that desire must be purified. We come to God wanting consolation, certainty, healing, meaning, even holiness itself. Slowly, often through suffering and relinquishment, the heart discovers a simpler longing beneath them all:
I want God.

This is not a book about extraordinary mystical experiences or spiritual achievement. It is about the hidden transformation possible within ordinary human life: in prayer and weakness, in aging and loss, in caregiving and obedience, in the struggle with thoughts, in repentance after failure, and in the quiet surrender of ourselves to God.

Drawing deeply from the ascetical tradition of the Christian East, To Become All Flame invites the reader beyond a spirituality of self-improvement into the mystery of participation in divine life—the ancient Christian vision of theosis.

The fire is God.
We do not create it.
We consent to it.
And if we will, everything within us can become flame.

Fr. Charbel Abernethy
About the author



Fr. Charbel Abernethy is a priest, writer, and teacher whose work explores the spiritual tradition of the Christian East, with particular attention to the Desert Fathers, the Philokalia, St. Isaac the Syrian, and the great contemplative and hesychast tradition.

For more than four decades, the writings of the Fathers and modern spiritual elders have shaped his understanding of prayer, repentance, desire, suffering, and the transformation of the human heart in Christ. At the center of his writing is a conviction that has deepened throughout his life: Christianity is not primarily an idea to be understood, but a life to be entered—a movement into communion with God in which the whole person is gradually transfigured by divine love.

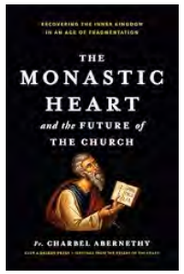
His books include The Monastic Heart and the Future of the Church, The Name Above Every Name, The Kingdom Within, and the three-volume Desire and Wonder: St. Isaac the Syrian and Living in the Embrace of Divine Eros.

His present life is increasingly given to prayer, writing, study, and the quiet responsibilities of caring for his elderly mother. Through his books and Philokalia Ministries, he seeks simply to invite others into the wisdom of the Fathers and the interior life of prayer: toward stillness, watchfulness, compunction, mercy, and the remembrance of the Name of Jesus.

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~ Books in our Library ~

The Monastic Heart and the Future of the Church:
Recovering the Inner Kingdom in an Age of Fragmentation



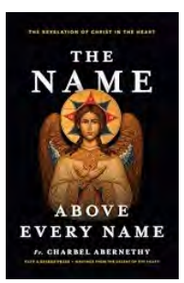
The monastic tradition has often been seen as a life apart from the world. In reality, it exists for the life of the world.

At the heart of the desert tradition lies a simple but demanding truth: the deepest battle is fought within the human heart, and the renewal of the Church begins there. Prayer, silence, humility, repentance, and love are not monastic ideals alone—they are the very life of the Gospel.

Drawing from the wisdom of the Desert Fathers and the modern spiritual elders, Fr. Charbel Abernethy reveals the monastic heart as the hidden inheritance of every Christian. In an age marked by noise, fragmentation, and spiritual exhaustion, this book offers a path back to the one thing necessary: communion with the living God.

The future of the Church will be shaped by those whose hearts have become a dwelling place for Christ.

The Name Above Every Name:
The Jesus Prayer and the Revelation of Christ in the Heart



The Jesus Prayer is not merely a method of prayer. It is an encounter with the living Christ.

In an age marked by distraction, anxiety, and fragmentation, countless Christians long for a deeper life of prayer but struggle to discover a path that reaches beyond techniques and into the heart itself. Drawing upon Scripture, the Desert Fathers, St. Isaac the Syrian, the Philokalic tradition, and the wisdom of modern spiritual elders, The Name Above Every Name reveals the Jesus Prayer as a way of profound interior transformation.

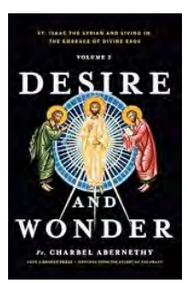
More than a history or practical guide, this book is an invitation to enter the mystery of Christ's own life. The invocation of His holy Name gradually gathers the scattered heart, illumines the conscience, uncovers the hidden movements of the soul, and awakens within us the Kingdom of God that Christ has planted in every baptized person.

Written with theological depth and pastoral warmth, Fr. Charbel Abernethy presents the Jesus Prayer not as a devotion reserved for monastics but as a gift for every Christian seeking communion with God amid the demands of ordinary life. Throughout these pages, ancient wisdom and contemporary experience come together to reveal a path that is at once timeless and urgently needed today.

This volume explores:
- The biblical foundations of praying in the Name of Jesus
- The wisdom of the Desert Fathers and Mothers on inner prayer
- The relationship between attention, the heart, and the presence of God
- The purification of the passions and the healing of the human person
- Silence, watchfulness, repentance, and the formation of conscience
- The Jesus Prayer as a path toward unceasing prayer and union with Christ

Whether you are discovering the Jesus Prayer for the first time or have practiced it for years, this book offers a deeply contemplative guide into the mystery of the Name that is above every name—the Name before which every knee bows and in which every human heart ultimately finds its rest.

Desire and Wonder:
St. Isaac the Syrian and Living in the Embrace of Divine Eros:
Volume 1 – 3



Drawing deeply from St. Isaac the Syrian and the wisdom of the Christian East, Desire and Wonder explores the mystery of divine eros: the desire for God awakened within the human heart and answered by the immeasurable tenderness of God Himself.

Across these three volumes, the spiritual life unfolds as a journey from fear into wonder, from striving into receptivity, from the fragmentation of the self into the simplicity of love. Through prayer, silence, repentance, suffering, and mercy, the soul gradually discovers that the God whom it seeks has already drawn near.

At the heart of Desire and Wonder lies a simple conviction: we desire God because God has first desired us.

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SAINTS PETER & PAUL
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Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! ✝ Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na viki!

Two Miracles Attest that Jesus is the Resurrection and Life

Christ foreknew His mystery, even before the foundations of the world. It was in the last ages of the world that He arose for the inhabitants of earth. Having borne the sin of the world, He abolished both it and death, which is its consequence and was brought upon us by its means. He plainly said, "I am the resurrection and the life," and "he who believes in me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death unto life." We will see this fulfilled in facts. The ruler of the synagogue of the Jews came near and, embracing the Savior's knees, begged Him to deliver his daughter from the bonds of death. Look, she already was brought down to this and was in extreme danger! The Savior consented and set out with him. He was even hurrying on to the house of the one who invited Him and was aware that what was being done would profit many of those who followed Him and would also be for His own glory. On the way, He saved the woman who was the victim of a severe and incurable malady. No one could stop her issue of blood that ruined the art of physicians. No sooner had she touched the hem in faith, than He immediately healed her. A miracle so glorious and revealed was, so to speak, the work merely of Christ's journey.

St. Cyril of Alexandria

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