Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost



Icon of Cosmas and Damien-- November 1st

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: 10/31/2026 – 11/08/2026

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

Saturday	31 Oct.	*The Holy Apostles Stachys, Amplius and their Companions. The Holy Martyr Epimachus. The Blessed Martyr Theodore Romzha, Bishop of Mukachevo.*
(Sunday Vigil)	**4:30 PM**	**Reciting of Rosary**
	5:00 PM	**+ Richard Perhacs (40th day)**
Sunday	1 Nov.	*TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Unmercenary Wonder-Workers Cosmas and Damian.*
	9:30 AM	**Service of Third Hour**
	10:00 AM	**+ Virginia Pipa (40th day) – Elaine Vislosky & Betty Blake**
Monday	2 Nov.	*The Holy Martyrs Akindynos, Pegasius, Aphthonius, Elpidiphor and Anempodistus.* **No Divine Liturgy**
Tuesday	3 Nov.	*The Holy Martyrs Acepsimas, the Bishop; Joseph, the Priest; and Aeithalas, the Deacon. Foundation of the Church of the Holy Great Martyr George in Lydia, where his relics are kept.* **No Divine Liturgy**
Wednesday	4 Nov.	*Our Venerable Father Joannicus the Great. The Holy Martyr Nicander, Bishop of Myra. The Priest Hermas.*
	6:30PM	**+ Sr. Ambrose Chuchvara – Benedictine Sisters**
Thursday	5 Nov.	*The Holy Martyrs Galaction and Episteme. The Passing of the Blessed Martyr Gregory Lakota, Auxiliary Bishop of Peremyshl (1950).* **No Divine Liturgy**
Friday	6 Nov.	*Our Father Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople.* **No 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.*
(Vigil Liturgy)	**5:00 PM**	**+ Michael Stemock, Sr. and +Stella Stemock – Son Mark Stemock**
Sunday	8 Nov.	*Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Penecost. Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Michael and All Angelic Powers.*
	10:00 AM	**+ James Johnson, Sr. – The Leon & Jim Johnson, Jr. Families**

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Attentive to the Word
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Luke 8: 26 - 39
Tone 6 Pages 152 - 153

Today's Demons



Ours is an age that is filled with demons. There is more possession going on in the first decade of this 21st century than has gone on in centuries. And the problem is that we don't want to mention it because demons are part of the mythical past. We in our scientific world do not believe in demons. That is because demons are powers that take away our control and leave us at the mercy of powers outside ourselves.

It may come as a surprise but one of the key things we need to deal with is demons in our world. We speak of them all the time.

Drug addiction is a demon. Addicts are always speaking of being possessed by the need for their chemical demons. Heroin, cocaine, crack, meth, call them what you will, but they are still "Legion" in the battle for human souls.

Power is a demon. It not only affects individuals, people who must have power to prove their worth, be the power guns or political influence or the power of terror, but it also affects nations. Nations seek to control and maintain without a sense for the need of justice and mercy. When that power rises to a crescendo, we see the results in a Hitler or the Klan, or other groups that thrive on hatred and fear. There are the skeletons of many burned-out churches in our land that testify to the demons of power.

Illness is a demon. With all our scientific expertise, you would think that we would be able to put away this demon, but we haven't. In all likelihood, that was the demon of the story we started with this morning. Mental illness is still just as powerful and divisive as ever. It comes as a curse, and we treat its victims as pariahs to be shunned and isolated. The word cancer can make us squirm with discomfort and fear. We run away rather than offering our support and care. Coronavirus is just as demonic as any other worldly creature. It ravages individuals while others seek to pretend it will go away if one ignores it long enough.

Greed is a demon, threatening to make us slaves of want. Avarice has always been one of the deadly sins, but today the desire to have and to hold is something that many in our society prize and encourage. Things are often more important than people, more important than faith.

As the scripture passage reminds us, the demons are *legion*. They enslave the individual, destroy the valuable, and release the very worst in us. The only way we can hope to cope with them is to come face to face with one who can drive the demons out and make us willing to sit at his feet, clothed and in our right minds.

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?

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SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **Sun. Nov. 1** ECF Class
- **Wed. Nov. 4** St. Vincent de Paul Meals Program 9 AM to 2 PM.
- **Sat. & Sun. Nov. 7 & 8** Coffee & Donuts after Liturgies.
- **Sun. Nov. 8** ECF Class
- **Tues. Nov. 10** Parish Guild Meeting 6 PM
- **Sun. Nov. 15** ECF Class
- **Wed. & Thurs. Nov. 18 & 19** Kolachi Baking
- **Fri. Nov. 20** Kolachi Sales - Parishioners Only – 12 pm – 4 pm
- **Sat. & Sun. Nov. 21 & 22** Kolachi Sales

~LAST DAY~
2026 GCU HOLIDAY MATCHING FUND PROGRAM

Beginning October 1st through October 31st, our Parish will be participating in this program. The GCU will match donations up to $500.00. St. Vincent de Paul, where we volunteer, is approved for this program. In addition, the Parish Guild will match all donations up to $1,000.00.

Donation envelopes will be at the entrance ways and can be returned in the collection baskets. If donating by check, please make check payable to:

Ss. Peter and Paul Church
Memo: St. V. de Paul GCU Matching Fund.

Thank you in advance for your donations to St. Vincent de Paul, who helps feed so many in need in our community. God Bless You for your generosity!

COUNSEL FROM THE ELDER

"Our life depends on the kind of thoughts we nurture. If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek, and kind, then that is what our life is like. If our attention is turned to the circumstances in which we live, we are drawn into a whirlpool of thoughts and can have neither peace nor tranquility."

Elder Thaddeus

Happy Birthday to Parishioners with Birthdays this week:

November 1 – Dorothy Dellimuti, November 6 – Gertrude Vasco, and November 7 – Saundra Sarsany

Missed your birthday? Please let us know!

ETERNAL MEMORY

Grant, O Lord, eternal rest to the soul of Your servant, **+Steve Soroka,** who has recently fallen asleep in the Lord. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

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.

THANK YOU!



It was wonderful to see so many Saints in our church last week! Thank you to all of our children for dressing up as saints! Also, many thanks to all of the parishioners who participated in the event! You made it wonderful!

For those who participated in the Saints and Snack event, you may have tried to guess Tim Byers's riddle that he had set up at his truck. Tim had a two stuffed bulls and Jesus sitting on his truck's bed. Two folks were very close at guessing… but the riddle is still not solved. Can you guess what the riddle means?

Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of October 24, 2026:
5:00 PM: **46;** 10:00 AM: **85**
Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: $1,951.80

SAINTS PETER & PAUL

Slava Isusu Christu!

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Slava na viki!

Glory Forever!



Saints Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church

180 Belvedere Avenue, NE | Warren, OH 44483

DIVINE LITURGY | SATURDAY: 5:00PM | SUNDAY: 10:00AM | FEAST DAY OF WEEK: 6:30PM

Metropolitan William Skurla
METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP OF PITTSBURGH

Served by: **Father Miron Kerul' Kmec, Jr.**

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PARISH EMAIL: **sppbyzchurch@gmail.com**
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Beyond Medical Knowledge

Even without anyone to instruct us we are quite able, on the basis of what we see, live and feel, to understand how our body is formed. Its own nature teaches us. It may be useful, nonetheless, to consult experts to have a clearer idea. The science of anatomy has allowed us to know the positions of the individual parts of the human body. Other sciences help us to grasp their uses.

In a detailed study we must examine the organs as having three kinds of function: life, enjoyment and conservation.

The organs without which it is impossible to have life are three: the brain, the heart, the liver.

Then there are the gifts that nature gives to the human being to make life pleasant: the senses. The lack, which is not infrequent, of one or other of them does not result in death, but without being able to use them life is less enjoyable.

Finally, we should recall those organs which have no purpose in themselves but are useful to conserve life, for example, the stomach and the lungs.

The true and perfect life, however, is that of the soul. In the soul is found the beauty of the likeness of God, who created humanity with the words: "Let us make human beings in our own image, after our own likeness."

St. Gregory of Nyssa

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