Saints Peter & Paul
Byzantine Catholic Church
107 South Fourth Street
Minersville, PA 17954

St. Mary's (Dormition of the Mother of God)
Byzantine Catholic Church
131 South Morris Street
Saint Clair, PA 17970

Saints Peter & Paul Rectory: (570) 544-2074
Website: www.sspeterandpaulminersville.com
Email: tvrgjn@outlook.com
Served by: Very Reverend Gregory J. Noga, Pastor
SS. Peter & Paul Cantor: Mr. Paul Konkus St. Mary Cantor: Dr. Peter Yasenchak

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CONFESSIONS: Sts. Peter & Paul: Saturday 2:45-3:30 PM
St. Mary's: Saturday 1:00 – 1:30 PM
SICK CALLS: As scheduled, or anytime in case of an emergency. If anyone is homebound or hospitalized, **please call the rectory (544-2074)**

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Mahal-Ritzel Funeral Home
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Saint Mary of Egypt

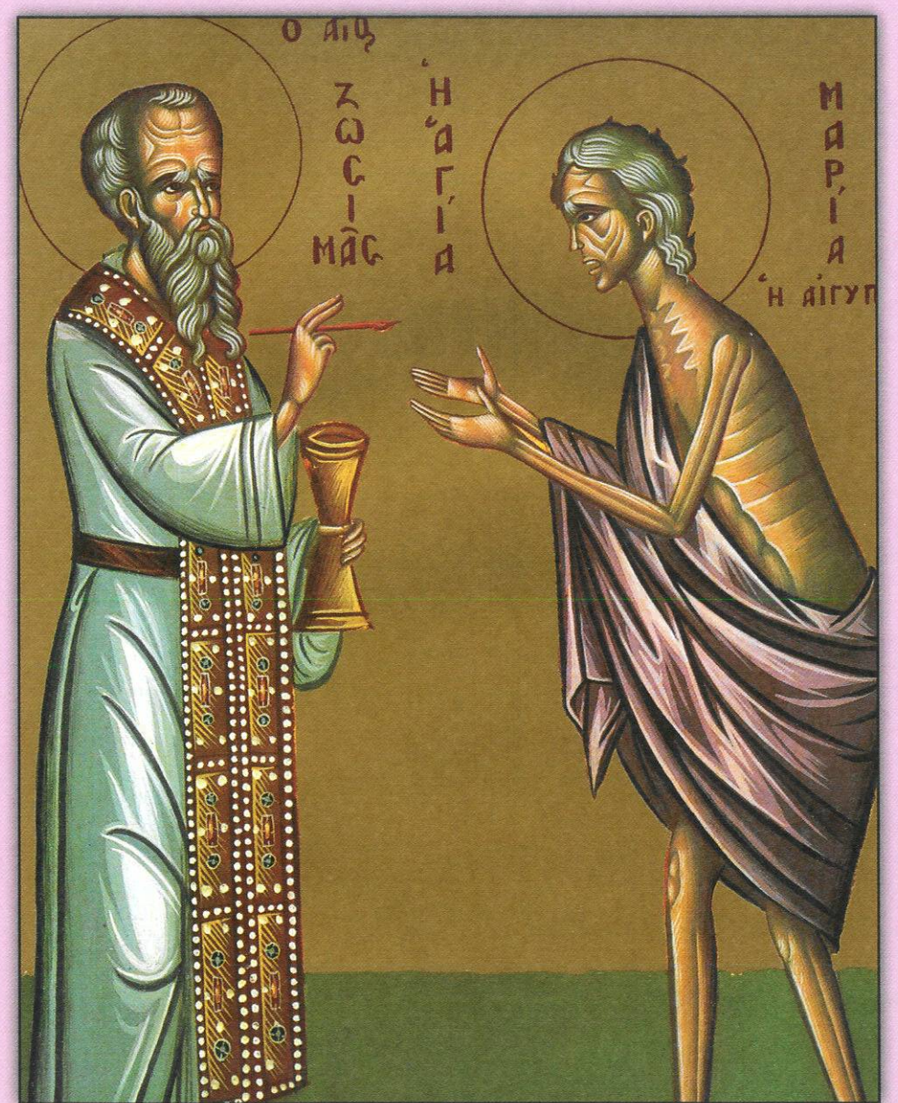
On a pilgrimage through the desert, a priest-monk named Father Zozimos encountered a most fascinating and inspiring woman whom we know today as Saint Mary of Egypt. Saint Mary, Zozimos recalled, seemed to be "walking upon air." Upon approaching this woman, she asked for his blessing and told him of her life.

Saint Mary was born in Egypt in the sixth century and by the age of twelve had already dedicated her life to the pursuit of debauchery and excess. By her own admission, she spent the next seventeen years of her life attempting to satisfy every carnal appetite in any way possible. This intention led her to seek passage on a boat bound for Jerusalem where, out of curiosity, she followed the crowds to the threshold of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. As she attempted to follow the crowd into the Church, she was stopped at the doorway by an invisible force. At this moment, her sinfulness was revealed to her and she made a promise to the Mother of God that if she was permitted to enter the Church she would dedicate the rest of her life to God.

After her dramatic conversion she withdrew to the desert where she spent the remaining years of her life in self-denial and repentance. Towards the end of her life she met the priest-monk Zozimos, whom she petitioned to visit her on regular occasions in order that she might be nourished with Holy Communion before she died.

May the example of Saint Mary draw attention to our own need for repentance so that we, too, nourished by Holy Communion, may rededicate our lives to the service of God.

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast
Sunday of Mary of Egypt



Icon of Saint Mary and Father Zozimos

Volume 2022 Number 13

Christ is among us! He is and will be!

5th Sunday of the Great Fast
St. Mary of Egypt
Tone 4

Welcome to the parish communities of SS. Peter and Paul and St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Churches of Minersville and Saint Clair, Pennsylvania. We greet and welcome you to our Church. Our Church is a holy place. Our Church is where we get together in Jesus' Name. it is holy because we come here to worship, to be nourished in faith through Sacred Scripture and preaching, to open our hearts and minds to celebrate the mystery of salvation in Jesus Christ and to dedicate ourselves to a life of holiness and service to the Lord and others. The church building itself reflects this faith and calls us to enter into communion with God. We invite you to share our faith in Jesus Christ, to experience our worship and to live a life dedicated to the service of God and one another in Jesus' Name.

April 3 – April 9, 2022
All Divine Services are livestreamed where noted

Saturday Vigil of Sunday (at SS Peter & Paul)
4:00 p. m. **+ Ronald Samilko** req. by Ron & Dolores Kramer

Sunday
8:00 a.m. **+Helen V. Platko** req. by sister, Bertha Petrishko (at St. Mary)
10:00 a.m. **Health and Blessing of the Parishioners** (at SS. Peter & Paul) Livestreamed
Tuesday
8:00 a.m. No Service Today
Wednesday
6:00 p.m. **Liturgy of the pre-Sanctified Gifts**
Thursday
8:00 a.m. **1st Lenten Canonical Hour**
Friday
12:00 p.m. **Pre- Sanctified Liturgy** (at St. Mary)

Saturday Lazarus Saturday (at SS Peter & Paul)
9:00 a.m. **+Sean Brandon Killian** req. by Joanne, Gary & Nicole Killian
Saturday Vigil of Sunday (at SS Peter & Paul)
4:00 p.m. **+Michael Kovich** req. by Marie Wanchick

Epistle Readers: 4/2 – Gail Burgess; 4/3 – Dolores Kramer 4/9 AM Marie Wanchick; PM – Laura Mitchell; 4/10 – Ellen Sinkovich; 4/11 – Ellen Sinkovich/Dolores Kramer; 4/12 – Marie Wanchick/Judy Kostura; 4/13 – Laura Mitchell/Gail Burgess; 4/14 – Jennifer Keer/Anna Keer;4/15 – Gail Burgess/Judy Kostura; 4/17 – Ellen Sinkovich. (If you cannot be present for any time, kindly contact another reader to cover for you).

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Today, Sunday, April 3, following the Divine Liturgy, we will have an open meeting regarding the Synod on Synodality as requested by His Holiness, Pope Francis.

It is an exercise of listening to you, the parishioners, young and mature alike, as to what you think the Church can do to help you in your spiritual lives to come closer to Christ. Is He the center of your life, or not, and if not, why not? What excites you about Jesus, His Church? How can you make attendance a priority?
These are just proposed questions to enable you to articulate what you may be feeling or thinking. Come join us. Refreshments will be served.

A Reflection for the Great Fast
***Therefore, hear the word of the Lord* (Isaiah 28:14**

Can we trust the Lord to help us? Can we learn to be dependent upon Him and not seek the help anywhere else? To have an unwavering trust in God may be one of the hardest tests of our Faith. The people of Israel feared an invasion. The Lord God promised them a victory over their enemies. But could they trust the Lord? No, they made an alliance with an ungodly, but powerful nation to protect them.

The Prophet Isaiah admonishes them severely for making such a choice and not having greater unshakeable confidence in God. He then points out to them and us the "…precious cornerstone and sure foundation." (Isaiah 28:16) which is none other than a prophecy concerning our Lord Jesus Christ.

The world around us may be shaking, the future maybe unsteady and unsure, but in Christ we have a steady place where we can stand. Our hope does not lie in new programs, new techniques or promises of men. It lies rather in Christ that precious cornerstone, Who is able to meet all our needs. "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress and my deliverer. My God, my strength, in Whom I will trust." (Psalm 18:21

How to Build Confidence on the Baseball Field

If you can dream it, you can do it.
—Walt Disney, the Good Dad of Mickey Mouse

You know your child plays baseball well. You've hit flies to him and watched him make quiet, competent plays. But when he's standing on the field during a game, his talents abandon him like passengers from a sinking ship. And sink he does, as he staggers under an easy pop fly or lets a one-hopper get past him. Plainly, your kid's lost his confidence.

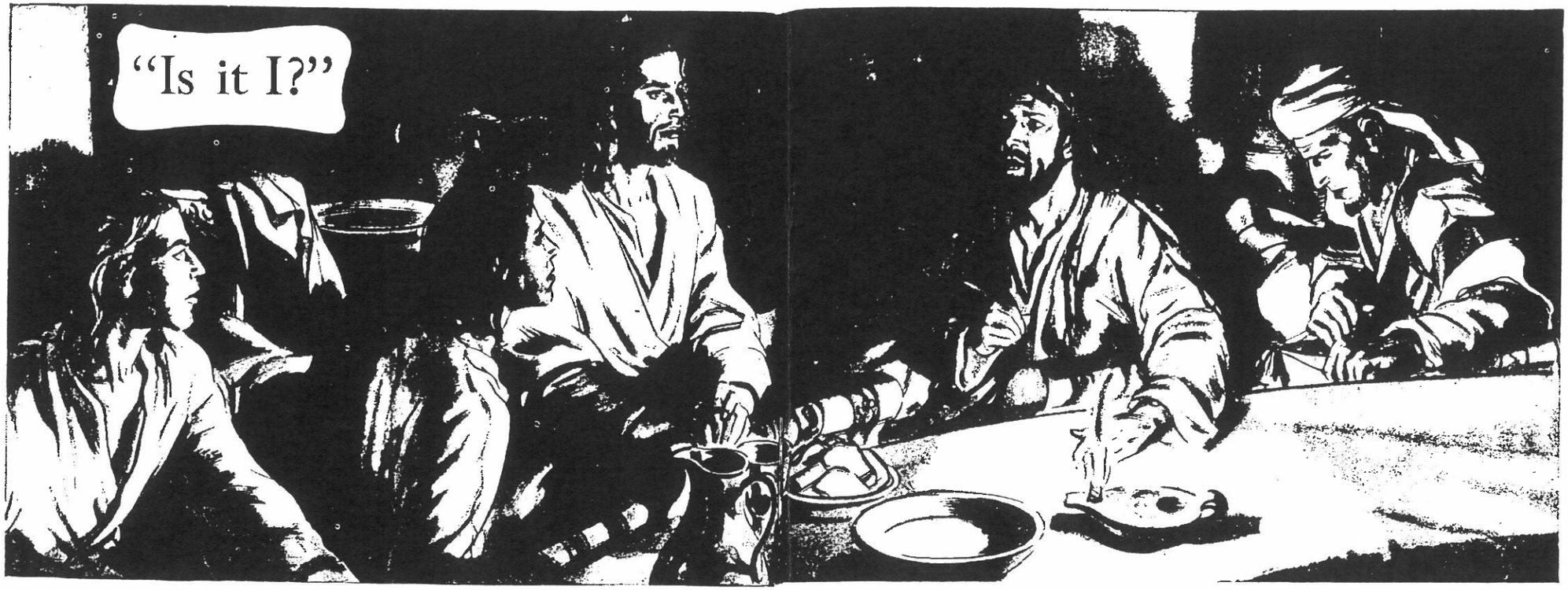
Just as plainly, you can help him find it again. The next time he's on the field, just have him silently repeat seven short words: "I hope the ball comes to me."

Then tell him to vividly visualize what he'll do when the ball does come to him. Let's imagine there are runners on first and third. An easy fly ball comes his way. He catches it. But now does he throw it to first, or try to nail the runner at home? What if it's a long fly he has to catch on the run? Does he still throw home? Or does he fake a throw home and try to nail the runner at second? Or, suppose it's a clean base hit? If the batter is loafing on his way to first, could your kid make a surprise throw and get him out? When major league players pull off this last coup, the park goes suddenly silent. Amazing! The runner's out! A few minutes later, the crowd's still agog with disbelief. That fielder threw out a runner on a solid base hit!

As your kid stands on his field of dreams, rehearsing all the possibilities, an interesting thing happens; instead of worrying about how he'll perform and fretting he might screw up, he becomes so deeply focused on the game he no longer even thinks about failing. He's too busy mentally preparing himself for success.

So if that guy on first thinks he can easily take second on the next fly hit to your kid, he's in for a rude surprise. And when your kid's grown, he'll know that the journey to excellence always begins with a vision. If asked by a supervisor to prepare a report, he won't groan, "Oh, my God! A report?" He'll already have imagined what he'd do if that report came to him.

Lazarus Saturday



1. After Jesus had sat down again, He said: "Do you realize what I have done? You call Me Master and Lord—and I have washed your feet! In this I have given you an example that you should do as I have done to you. The servant is not greater than his Lord."

There was silence for a moment. The disciples began to feel very ashamed. Then He spoke words which cut to their hearts: "One of you will betray Me!" They looked at one another, wondering of whom He spoke, and each of them said to himself: "Is it I? Is it I?"

2. Peter, unable to bear the suspense, signalled to John, the disciple whom Jesus loved: "Ask Him who it is." John leaned his head back.

3. He whispered: "Lord, who is it?" "One to whom I give the sop," answered Jesus. Then He gave them each in turn a piece of bread dipped in the dish of herbs.

4. Still none of them knew; but John afterwards remembered that He gave first to Judas Iscariot. "What you are going to do. do quickly," Jesus said to Judas.

5. They thought Jesus was telling Judas, who looked after their money, to go and buy the food they needed. Judas went out immediately; and it was night.