

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

CONFESSIONS: SS. Peter & Paul: Sunday One half hour prior to Divine Liturgy and Daily prior to Divine Liturgy

St. Mary's: Saturday 3:00 PM

SICK CALLS: As scheduled, or anytime in case of an emergency. If anyone is homebound or hospitalized, please call the rectory (544-2074)

Bulletins are sponsored by
Mahal-Ritzel Funeral Home
 Minersville, PA 544-5111
Mark J. Mahal – Funeral Director

What St. Anna Teaches Us about Faith

Think about the purity, holiness, and magnificence of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She was the only human being ever to be sinless and constantly in a state of grace. Because Mary was such a beautiful symbol of grace, her mother, St. Anna, must have also been a devout woman of God.

Anna and her husband Joachim were an extremely pious couple, but they were unable to conceive a child. This burden weighed heavily on Joachim's shoulders, so he spent much time fasting and in devout prayer pleading for God to bless him and Anna with a child.

According to tradition, Anna also became distraught. She went into her garden and prayed for God to bless her with a child, promising that the child would be dedicated to the service of the Lord. As Anna wept in prayer, an angel appeared and said to her, "The Lord has looked upon thy tears; thou shalt conceive and give birth and the fruit of thy womb shall be blessed by all

the world." Then the angel appeared to Joachim as well, and the couple rejoiced as they conceived a child, whom they named Mary.

St. Anna understood that all children are a blessing from God and that God alone has the power to decide when the life of a person will begin and end. When God blesses us, it can be easy to merely accept the gift and move forward with our daily lives. But St. Anna did more than receive the gift of a child. She went a step further and trusted in the plan of God by promising her child to God's service.

As we work to build a culture of life, we can easily become discouraged. But like St. Anna, we must put our faith and trust in God and His ultimate plan for our happiness. We can turn to God and pray for children, pray for an end to abortion, and pray for the gift of adoption. With God's help, nothing is impossible.

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST FEAST OF THE MATERNITY OF THE HOLY ANNA



Icon of Saint Anna and the Mother of God

29th Sunday after Pentecost
Tone 4

Welcome to the parish communities of SS. Peter and Paul and St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Churches of Minersville and Saint Clare, 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.

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December 8– December 14, AD2024

Vigil of Sunday

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+ Joseph R. Gretskey req. by Cheryl Mason & Don Gretskey *
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Health and Blessing of the Parishioners*
Monday	9:00 a.m.	No Divine Liturgy Today*
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	No Divine Liturgy Today *
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	No Divine Liturgy Today*
	6:00 p.m.	Pre-Nativity Moleben*
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	+ Peter Dembinsky, Sr. req. by Mary Dembinsky *
Friday	9:00 a.m.	+ Michael Sinko req. by Don & Thelma Kunnigham *
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+ Raymond Lavenberg req. by Joseph & Cheryl Gera *

*St. Mary
*SS Peter & Paul

Epistle Readers: 12/1 – Paulette Murphy; 12/6 – Ellen Sinkovich; 12/8 – Beverly Kostishak; 12/15 – Jennifer Keer; 12/22 – Marie Wanchick; 12/25 – Dolores Kramer; 12/26 – Gail Burgess; 12/27 – Laura Mitchell; 12/29 – Anna Keer; 1/1 – Marie Wanchick.

Breakfast with Father: Sunday December 8. Cantor Training.

Candles Request: The candles in front of the Icons of the Mother of God and Christ the Teacher and on the Sacramental Table are burning for the **Kitchen Staff.**

Pastoral Notes:

We are one week closer to the Holy Day of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. Prepare for its celebration by prayer, fasting and alms giving. Offer non-perishables to the Minersville Food Pantry, or make a monetary donation. On Friday, December 13 the Food Bank will distribute food for the needy families in our Community of Minersville. Help is needed starting at 1:00 p.m.

29th Sunday After Pentecost

Ver. 14. *To the priests.* Jesus sends them to the priests, to convince the latter of the reality of the cures which he wrought, and oblige them by that to acknowledge him for their Messias; 2ndly, that the lepers might enjoy the fruit of their cure, by returning to the society of their fellow men, after they had been declared clean, and satisfied all the demands of the law; for there were many ceremonies previous to be gone through. (Calmet) --- And lastly, to shew that in the new law, such as are defiled with the leprosy of sin, should apply to the priests. Hence, says St. Augustine, let no one despise God's ordinance, saying that it is sufficient to confess to God alone. (Lib. de visit. infirm.)

Ver. 19. *Thy faith hath made thee whole.* Were not the others also made whole? They were cleansed indeed from their leprosy, but it no where appears that they were justified in their souls like this Samaritan, of whom it said, thy faith hath made thee whole; whereas it was said of the others, that they were made clean, viz. of their leprosy in their body, though not justified in their soul: this the Samaritan alone seems to have obtained. (Maldonatus)