

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Tone 5

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.

February 13 – February 19, 2022

All Divine Services are livestreamed where noted

Saturday Vigil of Sunday (at SS Peter & Paul)

4:00 p. m. + **William Halcovage, Jr.** req. by MM William Walsh

Sunday

8:00 a.m. + **George Konkus** req. by MM James Garroway & Family (at St. Mary)

10:00 a.m. **Health and Blessing of the Parishioners** (at SS. Peter & Paul)
Livestreamed

Tuesday

8:00 a.m. + **John Kovich** req. by Marie Wanchick

Wednesday

8:00 a.m. **Special Intention** req. by Marie Wanchick

Thursday

8:00 a.m. + **Gloria Kovack** req. by Marie Wanchick

Friday

12 Noon + **Jeanette Lohin** req. by Larry & Lorraine Palko

Saturday

9:00 a.m. 1st + **All Souls Liturgy**

4:00 p.m. Vigil of Sunday (at SS Peter & Paul)

+ **Joseph Lohin** req. by Elaine Lohin Kunze

Epistle Readers: 2/2 – Laura Mitchell; 2/5 – Gail Burgess; 2/6 – Ellen Sinkovich; 2/12 – Marie Wanchick; 2/13 – Jennifer Keer; 2/19 – Laura Mitchell; 2/20 – Anna Keer; 2/26 – Gail Burgess; 2/27 – Marie Wanchick; 3/5 – Laura Mitchell.

Candles in front of the Mother of God; Christ the Teacher and Sacramental Table (Tetrapod) offered by Cheryl Mason offered for the Souls of the Dearly Departed Members of our Parish

The Prodigal Son

RUNNING, THE FATHER INITIATES THE RECONCILIATION. AMBROSE: Christ chooses those who stand. Rise and run to the church. Here is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. He who hears you pondering in the secret places of the mind runs to you. When you are still far away, he sees you and runs to you. He sees in your heart. He runs, perhaps someone may hinder, and he embraces you. His foreknowledge is in the running, his mercy in the embrace and the disposition of fatherly love. He falls on your neck to raise one prostrate and burdened with sins and bring back one turned aside to the earthly toward heaven. Christ falls on your neck to free your neck from the yoke of slavery and hang his sweet yoke upon your shoulders. 32 EXPOSITION OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 7.229-30.

THE FATHER WELCOMES THE PRODIGAL TO THE DIVINE FEAST AS A SON. ATHANASIUS: Then he shall get up, come to his father, and confess to him, "I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me like one of your hired servants." When he confesses like chat, he will be considered worthy of more than that for which he prayed. His father neither takes him in like a hired servant nor treats him like a stranger. Oh no, he kisses him as a son. He accepts him as a dead man come back to life again. He counts him worthy of the divine feast and gives him the precious garment he once wore, Now there is singing and joy in the father's home. What happened is the result of the Father's grace and loving kindness. Not only does he bring his son back from death, but also through the Spirit he clearly shows his grace. To replace corruption, he clothes him with an in-corruptible robe. To satisfy hunger, he kills the fattened calf. The Father provides shoes for his feet so that he will not travel far away again. Most wonderful of all, he puts a divine signet ring upon his hand. By all these things, he begets him anew in the image of the glory of Christ. FESTAL LETTER 7.

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: tyrgin@outlook.com

Served by: Very Reverend Gregory J. Noga, Pastor
 SS. Peter & Paul Cantor: Mr. Paul Konkus St. Mary Cantor: Dr. Peter Yasenchak

CONFESSIONS: Sis. 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)

Bulletins are sponsored by

Mahal-Ritzel Funeral Home

Minersville, PA 544-5111

Mark J. Mahal – Funeral Director

Who Art in Heaven

These words I think have a very deep meaning. They remind us of the homeland we have abandoned, of the citizenship we have lost. In the parable of the young man who left his father's house, went off the rails and was reduced to living with pigs, the Word of God shows us human wretchedness. That young man did not find his one-time happiness again until he had realized his moral degradation, had looked into his own heart and had pronounced the words of confession. These words almost agree with the Lord's Prayer, because the prodigal son says: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you." [Luke 15:21] He would not confess himself to be a sinner against heaven

if he were not convinced that the homeland he had left at the time of his going astray were not in actual fact heaven.

By this confession of his he makes himself worthy once again to stand in the presence of his father who runs towards him, embraces him, and kisses him. The conclusion is this. To return to heaven there is only one route and that is to admit one's sinfulness and seek to avoid it. To make the decision to avoid it is already to be perfecting one's likeness to God.

*St. Gregory of Nyssa
 On the Lord's Prayer*

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON



Icon of the Prodigal Son

Saints Peter & Paul
Byzantine Catholic Church
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Minersville, PA 17954

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Website: www.sspeterandpaulminersville.com

Email: tyrigin@outlook.com

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