

Saints Peter & Paul St. Mary's (Dormition of the Mother of God)
 Byzantine Catholic Church Byzantine Catholic Church
 107 South Fourth Street 131 South Morris Street
 Minersville, PA 17954 Saint Clair, PA 17970

Parish Office: (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: Saturday 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. 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

Let Us Venerate Today the Baptism of Christ ... Wash Yourselves and Be Clean

I cannot restrain my joy; my heart is deeply moved and filled with delight. Forgetting my weakness, I long to undertake the mission of the great John the Baptist; though I am not the Forerunner, I have indeed come from the desert!

Christ receives the sacrament of enlightenment, or rather He enlightens us with His brilliance. He is baptized; let us go down into the water with Him so that we may also come up with Him. John is baptizing, and Jesus comes to him. Christ certainly sanctifies the man who now baptizes Him, but His purpose is chiefly to bury the old Adam in the waters and, above all, to sanctify the waters of the Jordan by His baptism in them so that just as He was spirit and flesh, those who would later be baptized might be sanctified by the power of the Spirit and by water.

John refuses; Jesus insists. "It is you that should be baptizing me!" says John. The torch addresses the Sun, the voice speaks to the Word. Jesus comes out of the water, drawing the world with Him, as it were, and raising it up when it had hitherto been sunk in the abyss. He sees the heavens not being rent, but opening of their own accord.

The first Adam had of old closed heaven to himself and us, just as he had seen the earthly paradise being closed to him, with a fiery sword barring access. The Holy Spirit bears witness. Here all is in perfect harmony, for the testimony comes from heaven, just as He to whom the Spirit bears witness has come from heaven.

St. Gregory the Theologian

SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD,
 GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST



Icon of Theophany -- January 6th

Volume 2024
Christ is among us!

Number 2
He is and will be!

Sunday after Theophany
Tone 7

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.

January 7, AD2024

Vigil of Sunday at St. Mary

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + **Earl Kostura** req. by MM Metro Cremo
Sunday 9:00 a.m. **Health and Blessing of the Parishioners**
(livestreamed)

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Monday 9:00 a.m. No Divine Liturgy Today
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. No Divine Liturgy Today
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. +**George Sinko** req. by MM Joseph Petulich
Thursday 9:00 a.m. +**Earl Kostura** req. by Mrs. Metro Cremo
Friday 9:00 a.m. +**Nicholas Babilya** req. by MM Joseph Senawaitis (sp)

Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m. +**Charles Kostura, Sr.** req. by Michael Kostura, Jr.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. Health & Blessing of the Parishioners (at SS Peter & Paul)

Epistle Readers:; 1/1 – Jennifer Keer; 1/6 – Dolores Kramer; 1/7 – Judy Kostura; 1/14 – Jennifer Keer; 1/21 – Beverly Kostishak; 1/28 – Gail Burgess; 2/4 – Marie Wanchick.

Candle Offering:

Breakfast with Father

Sunday, January 14, 2024 following the Divine Liturgy. ECF Class will participate in place of the regular class time. All are welcome to attend.

Thank You! I extend my sincere, cordial and prayerful thanks to all who decorated the Holy Temples of God for the Holy Days of the Nativity and Theophany of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Your efforts helped glorify God and make the holy season brighter. May Almighty God extend His powerful right hand in blessing upon each of you.

And of equal importance are the Cantors without whom the Divine Praises could not be carried out so beautifully. I am especially grateful to the men who assist me at the Throne of God whose help allows me to concentrate on the prayers of the Divine Liturgies.

Dates to Remember:

February 12 the **Great Fast** begins, a day of **Strict Fast**, i.e., no meat, eggs or dairy products may be consumed on that day and on March 29 Great and Good Friday.

March 31 the **Resurrection of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Theophany or Epiphany:

January 6 is the celebration of Theophany which is the manifestation or revelation of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When the Logos the Word of God was born of the ever-Virgin Mary He became man for our sake and lived hidden from view until He was about to begin His ministry at which time His divine nature was attested to by the Father and the Holy Spirit. This Epiphany showed Him to be the long-awaited Messiah. Through our church celebrations, we too, proclaim to the world that Jesus is God and truly following Him leads to eternal life.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory to God forever!