

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

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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. Saturday 1pm to 2pm

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 570-544-2074

Bulletins are sponsored by
Mahal-Ritzel Funeral Home
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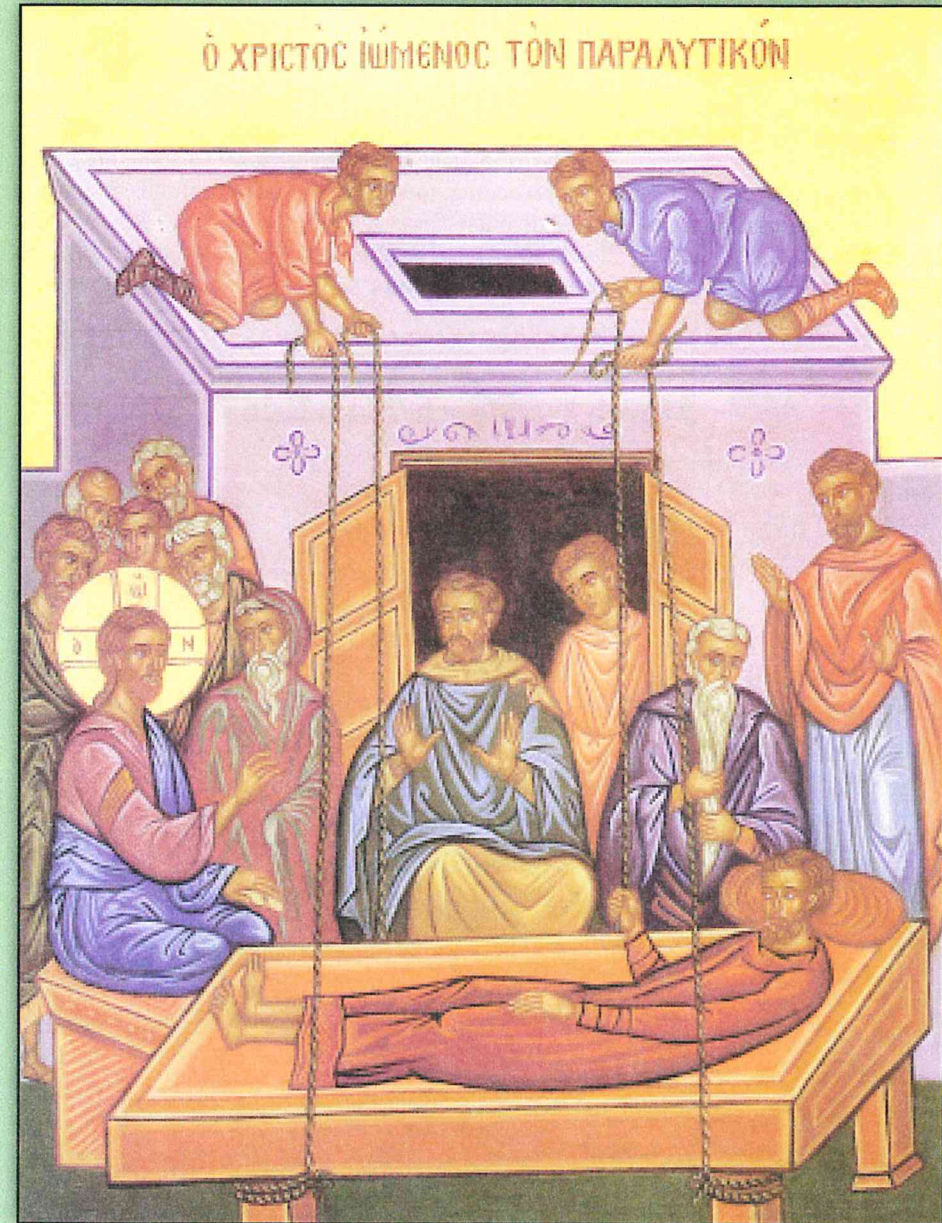
You are Forgiven and Healed

In Capernaum Jesus is surrounded by great numbers of people. As He preaches to the crowd, four friends of a paralyzed man lower him on his mat through the roof so that he can be close enough for Jesus to see him and cure him. Jesus responds to this act of faith, not by healing the man immediately, but by touching off the first of a series of controversial dialogues with the Scribes and Pharisees. When Jesus says, "Child, your sins are forgiven," He is as much as saying, "It is God whom you approach." In the Old Testament, only God is capable of forgiving sins; and it was expected that He would do so only at the end of time. It becomes clear why the Scribes murmur "he is blaspheming" and why Jesus brings it all out in the open. His claim to be able to forgive sins better reveals His identity as Son of God than do the miracles He performs.

Aware of the silent censure His forgiving word has caused in the crowd, Jesus proceeds to prove that "the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" by commanding the man to rise and walk in the sight of everyone. In concluding this miracle, Mark asks his readers to praise God for His presence in their midst as the forgiver-healer, just as the crowd did, even in the face of those who did not believe.

It is significant that Mark has chosen to present this miracle and teaching about Jesus' power to forgive sins so early in his Gospel drama. It shows that the need for the experience of God's forgiveness was as important to first-century Christians as it is today. Mark's readers praise God for saying clearly, and even today, "My sons, my daughters, I absolve you from your sins."

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST



Icon of Healing the Paralytic

2nd Sunday of the Great Fast
Tone 5

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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March 1 – March 7, AD2026

Vigil of Sunday		
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Second +All Souls*
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Health and Blessings of the Parishioners*
Monday	9:00 a.m.	No Service Today*
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	No Service Today*
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts*
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	6th Lenten Hour*
Friday	4:00 p.m.	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts*
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Third +All Souls
Saturday Vigil	4:00 p.m.	Third +All Souls*

*St. Mary
*SS Peter & Paul

Epistle Readers; 3/1 – Gail Burgess; 3/8 – Ellen Sinkovich; 3/15 – Dolores Kramer; 3/22 – Laura Mitchell; 3/29 – Jennifer Keer; 4/5 – Paulette Murphy;

Readers for the Presanctified Gifts: 4/4 - Gail Burgis (1st reading); Judy Kostura (2nd reading).

Bible Study with Father today, March 1, following the Divine Liturgy. A Lenten Meal will be provided following the Bible Study. Bible Study will continue throughout the Great Fast on Sunday. Young adults are especially encouraged to join us. We live in an especially turbulent time where violence is becoming more pronounced. Only knowledge of Jesus Christ can alleviate what ails us and our country. Our focus will be the Gospel of St. Matthew.

Candle Offering: The Sanctuary Lamp has been offered by Marie Wanchick for the year, 2026.

Father's Reflection: if we are to secure peace in the world, it must first begin within each person. Parents must teach their children they must respect their peers and not fight, bully or call them names. Each person, regardless of their situation in life, deserves respect and the recognition of the Image of God in their person.

Young and older adults must demonstrate peaceful coexistence within their relationships. We cannot and must not imitate the egregious misbehavior of those elected leaders who demonstrate lack of civility. Such behavior among leadership flows down to populous by imitation when viewed often enough.

“Humility, true humility sees all of our gifts and strengths as the gifts from God that they truly are. And true humility rejoices in the gifts and strengths of other people, even if that means they are better or stronger than we are.” (*Novena of Humility*)

When we gather in God's Temple to pray the Liturgy of St. Gregory the Great, the Presanctified Liturgy, let us make the effort to offer our prostrations for peace in Ukraine, Cuba and African Nations experiencing hostilities. The Fathers of the Church teach that frequent prostrations and offerings of sacrifices in our prayers are gratefully received by our Heavenly Father. It is only He Who can change hearts by His inspiration. He inspires; we act. Let our actions promote peace and justice.

THE IMPLICATION OF HIS ACT OF FORGIVING. NOVATIAN; If Christ forgives sins, Christ must be truly God because no one can forgive sins but God alone. THE TRINITY 13.
THE MINISTRY OF FORGIVENESS. AMBROSE; In their ministry of the forgiveness of sin, pastors do not exercise the right of some independent power. For not in their own name but in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit do they forgive sins. They ask, the Godhead forgives. The service is enabled by humans, but the gift comes from the Power on high, THE HOLY SPIRIT 3.18.137.

Pattern and Power

Be followers of me as I am of Christ 1 Corinthians 11: 1.

On one occasion when the great Paderewski came to London for a piano concert, another accomplished musician in that city went to hear him play. This man was so moved by what he heard that he did a very strange thing when he returned home. Standing by his piano, he called to his wife, "Bring me an ax! Today I heard great music for the first time. By compassion, what I can do amounts to nothing at all. I feel like chopping my piano to pieces."

Although he did not follow through on his threat, he realized that he could never be a Paderewski by simply following his example. To do so, he would need Paderewski's hands, yes, even the very sensitive soul of the great musician.

It is much the very same way in the Christian life. We know that we can never live up to the "performance" of the Lord Jesus Christ, our great example, and maybe we might even feel like giving up in despair. But after having received the grace of our Baptism and having it augmented by the grace of Chrismation, we recognize that in and through Christ we have what we need to keep growing toward spiritual maturity.

St. Paul encourages his followers to be strengthened by his example as he is by that of the Lord. Christ is the supreme and only pattern and the strength to imitate him is found in the words of St. Paul, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" Philippians 4: 13. Christ is our pattern and we are encouraged by the example of other believers who find encouragement in Christ as well. Not only is Christ our pattern, He is also the source of our power

What our God expects us to do, He also provides the grace to accomplish. He will find for us the enablement if we are willing to proceed at his inspiration.

WISDOM! BE ATTENTIVE

The stone was sealed by the Jews, soldiers guarded Your most pure body! And You, O Saviour, arose on the third day granting life to the world. The heavenly powers acclaimed You, O Giver of Life: Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your majesty. Glory to Your plan of salvation. You alone love mankind Troparion, Resurrection Tone One.

You, being God, arose in glory from the grave, raising the world with You. Mankind praises You as God; Death reigns no more. Adam sings with exultation, O Lord; Eve freed from bondage cries joyfully: O Christ, it is You Who gives Resurrection to all! Kontakion, Resurrection Tone One.

May Your kindness O Lord, be upon us who have put our hope in You! Prokimenon, Resurrection Tone One.

Let us sing a hymn of praise to the Lord; He freely was crucified. He suffered and was buried for us; He arose from the dead. Let us all say: O Christ, confirm Your Church in the Orthodox faith. Give us Your peace. You are gracious and You love mankind Vesper Hymn, Tone One.

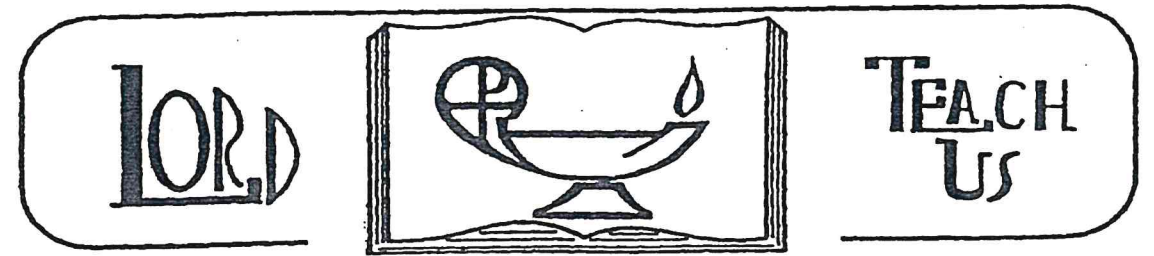
The prophecy of Isaiah has been fulfilled in you, o Virgin! You have given birth, and after birth you remained the same. The Lord born of you is God; He has renewed all creation. Do not reject the supplications we offer to you, O Mother of God. You have carried the compassionate Lord; have pity on those who come to You. Intercede for the salvation of our souls Vesper Hymn, Tone One.

Let creation rejoice; let the heavens be glad. Let all people cheerfully clap their hands. Christ our Saviour has nailed our sins to His Cross. He has crushed death by His death. He has granted life to us by raising Adam; he alone loves mankind Vesper Hymn, Tone One.

Let us sing a hymn of praise to the Word. He is co-eternal with His Father. He was born of the Virgin in a wondrous way. He freely accepted crucifixion and death for us. He arose in glory. Let us all say: Glory to You, O Lord, Life-giver and Saviour of our souls! Vesper Hymn, Tone One.

Did You Know That ...

- ...you ought always include your parents in your prayers?
- ...it is not only how you say something, but what you say?
- ...there should be no hesitancy in doing what is right?
- ...hanging on just one second longer than your competition makes you the winner?
- ...loving words quickly heal?
- ...people should be hired more for their judgment than their talents?
- ...you ought think twice before burdening a friend with your secret?
- ...possessions should not possess you?
- ...the word "discipline" means "to teach"?
- ...since they cannot be retrieved, words or time should not be used carelessly?
- ...a child's character is like good soup; both are home made?
- ...saying something positive as early as possible each day, determines what your day will be like?
- ...you ought seek respect rather than popularity?
- ...we should give others a second chance, but not a third?
- ...what you give affords more pleasure than what you get?
- ...following the Golden Rule is always the best approach?
- ...a grateful heart is almost always a happy one?
- ...it is best to worry about the choices you make before you make them, not afterwards?



Thought

He who guards his mouth preserves his life; and the one who opens wide his lips comes to ruin Proverbs 13: 3.

Stupid people express their anger openly, but sensible people are patient and hold it back Proverbs 29: 11.

Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God Matthew 5: 9.

Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves. Be therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves Matthew 10: 16.

Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt so that you may know how you ought to answer every one Colossians 4: 6.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer Psalms 19: 14.

Know this, my beloved brethren. Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger James 1: 19.

...so do not be afraid of anything; you are worth more than an entire flock of sparrows Matthew 10: 31.

Evening and morning and at noon will I pray and cry aloud and he shall hear my voice Psalms 55: 17.