

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

Do We See Jesus?

If you wish to honor the Eucharistic Victim, offer your own soul for which the Victim was immolated. Make your own soul all of gold. If your soul remains viler than lead or clay, what good does it do to have a golden chalice? Do you wish to honor the Body of Christ? Then do not disdain Him when you see Him in rags.

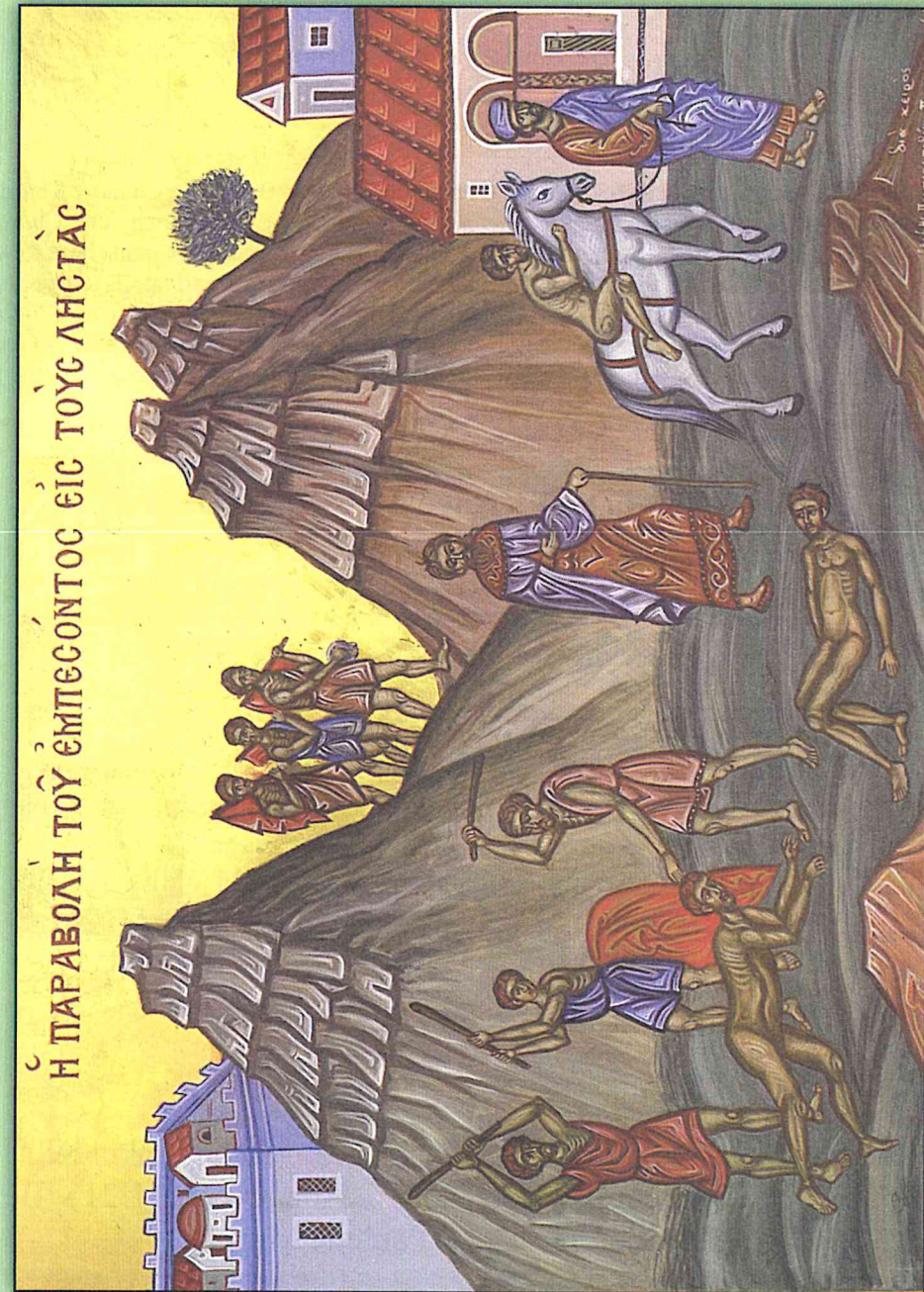
After having honored Him in church with silken vestments, do not leave Him to die of cold outside for lack of clothing. For it is the same Jesus Who says, "This is my Body" and Who says "I was hungry but you would not feed me. Whenever you refused to help one of these least important ones, you refused to help me."

The Body of Christ in the Eucharist demands pure souls, not costly garments. But in the poor He demands all our care. Let us act wisely; let us honor Christ as He Himself wishes to be honored; the most acceptable honor to one whom we would honor is the honor which He desired, not that we ourselves imagine.

Peter thought he was honoring his Master by not letting the Lord wash his feet; and yet it was just the opposite. Give Him the honor which He Himself has asked for, by giving your money to the poor. Once again, what God wants is not golden chalices, but golden souls.

Saint John Chrysostom

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

25th Sunday after Pentecost
Tone 8

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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November 10 – November 16, AD2024

Vigil of Sunday

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| Saturday | 4:00 p.m. | + Charles Sinko req. by MM Peter Bane * |
| 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. | +Charles Sinko req. by MM Joseph Todak* |
| Wednesday | 9:00 a.m. | +Irene Pavelko req. by MM James Leonard & Family.* |
| Thursday | 9:00 a.m. | +Andrew &+Margaret Gershack req. by Estate* |
| Friday | 9:00 a.m. | +Joseph Andrachick req. by MM William Cox & Family* |
| Saturday | 4:00 p.m. | +Anna Benzulak req. by Martha Babilya * |

*St. Mary
*SS Peter & Paul

Epistle Readers: 10/27 – Marie Wanchick; 11/3 – Ellen Sinkovich; 11/8 – Laura Mitchell; 11/10 – Jennifer Keer; 11/17- Anna Keer; 11/21 – Beverly Kostishak; 11/24 – Judy Kostura; 12/1 – Paulette Murphy.

Breakfast with Father: November 17 after Divine Liturgy.

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 **Peace and Healing in our Country.**

Today we welcome into God's Holy Church, **Eli Charles Eichenberg** the child of Garrett and Leah (Leshko) Eichenberg through the Holy Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation and Holy Eucharist. We offer our congratulations to the proud parents and grandparents.

Men: Have you ever considered becoming a member of the **Knights of Columbus?** It is a fine organization that helps the poor, unmarried mothers and other Christian works of charity.

THE INNKEEPER IS A STEWARD OF THE MYSTERIES. AMBROSE: Blessed is that innkeeper who can care for another's wounds. Blessed is he to whom Jesus says, "Whatever you shall spend over and above, I will repay you." A good steward is one who also spends over and above. Paul is a good steward, whose sermons and epistles overflow with the knowledge that he received. He followed the moderate command of the Lord with almost immoderate effort of mind and body, so that he raised many from deep sorrow by the stewardship of spiritual exhortation. He was a good keeper of his inn, in which the ass knows his master's crib and the flocks of lambs are enclosed. He feared that the way would be easy for ravaging wolves howling outside the corrals to attack the sheepfolds. EXPOSITION OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 7.82.

10:36-37 The One Who Showed Mercy

CHRIST DESIRES TO BE OUR NEIGHBOR. AUGUSTINE: God our Lord wished to be called our neighbor. The Lord Jesus Christ meant that he was the one who gave help to the man lying half-dead on the road, beaten and left by the robbers. The prophet said in prayer, "As a neighbor and as one's own brother, so did I please." Since the divine nature is far superior and above our human nature, the command by which we are to love God is distinct from our love of our neighbor. He shows mercy to us because of his own goodness, while we show mercy to one another because of God's goodness. He has compassion on us so that we may enjoy him completely, while we have compassion on another that we may completely enjoy him. CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION.

LOVE FOR CHRIST AS NEIGHBOR. AMBROSE: Since no one is closer than he who tended to our wounds, let us love him as our Lord, and let us love him as our neighbor. Nothing is so close as the head to the members. Let us also love him who is the follower of Christ, let us love him who in unity of body has compassion on another's need. EXPOSITION OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 7.84.

A Short Course To Holiness

The six most important words: *"I admit I made a mistake.*
The five most important words: *"You did a good job!"*
The four most important words: *"What is your opinion?"*
The three most important words: *"If you please."*
The two most important words: *"Thank you."*
The one most important word: *"We."*

We Do It Better

The fact that in our blessed Church worship of God is more profound, more beautiful and far more meaningful than in other confessions around us, reminds us of the truth found in the following story:

The owner of a hair salon in a small town enjoyed the serenity of knowing that he was the only salon in town. He was responsible for cutting and styling the hair of just about every resident. His income allowed him to live comfortably and even send all of his six children to college.

Unfortunately for him, big business came to his town. Right across the street from his busy little hair salon sprang one of those new full-service salon franchises.

Immediately the media campaign began; ads in newspapers, magazines, and billboards announced, "EVERYTHING FOR \$6.00." Soon all of his customers and neighbors, began visiting the salon across the street, and the man's business sat empty.

Desperate, he hired an expensive consultant. "I'm finished," he cried. "It's impossible for me, little me, to compete with them." The consultant squinted his eyes at the salon across the street. "Not just yet, not just yet."

With that the consultant picked up the phone and dialed the town's only billboard advertising company. He began speaking to the manager and he could be heard saying, "Yes, on top of our salon...big letters...the message? Simply say: WE FIX \$6.00 HAIRCUTS."

In the depth and profound seriousness of our Byzantine Catholic theology we do fix erroneous and lightly held faith commitment to our Saviour. It is true you can come to our Church and be led by the Holy Spirit in the right direction. We can receive the forgiveness of our God for our sins. We can be strengthened in the way of holiness by the Eucharist confected at the Divine Liturgy. In our Church all sorts of spiritual problems can be corrected and redirected for the glory of God. Everyone should be made aware of this obvious advantage of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst. We should not keep it a secret!

God's Foolishness

Eastern spiritual writers and mystics always speak about the futility of man's contrived order and the power of God's "chaos." They very well know that no amount of self-sufficiency can help the individual believer live the mystery of faith without living in the presence of God. St. Paul expressed it best when he taught his followers: *"God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength"* 1 Corinthians 1:25. Of course, there is irony here emphasized and employed, which conveys a meaning that is opposite its literal understanding. There is no chaos in God. Even the Mother of God knew and understood this at the Annunciation of the Archangel Gabriel. For in uncertainty, in confusion, in the suddenness of the event, she responds with an unquestionable "yes," not totally realizing that she has given up control of her destiny and placed it in the confidence of our God and Creator. At her tender age, she is spiritually sophisticated enough to understand she is placing herself humbly in submission to the will of God.

King David, after all his myriad experiences, was able to faithfully proclaim, *"God is my refuge, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my place of safety"* Psalm 18. How easy in our world, full of turmoil, it is to forget that our God is infinitely larger than our universe with all its problems. Our God is always energizing us by the grace of the Holy Spirit, is always at work in the details of our lives. We do live and move and have our total being in God.

The human condition we live in is largely sinful and chaotic because we exclude the orderliness of the Holy Spirit from it. Sin, whether personal or collective, is being curved in on self. Sin does make life messy and difficult. Have you ever looked back on chaotic situations in life and marveled how near our Heavenly Father was in the midst of all the mess we created? Our God is a God of consolation, and the Spirit of peace is never nearer than when chaos seems to reign. He can be called upon; He can be enlisted, and He can be depended upon to lead us away from the sinfulness in our lives if we but repent and sincerely and seriously turn to Him.

Like the mystics and saints, we too can come to see the presence of God in all that we encounter, we see, hear, touch, smell and taste. We can sacramentalize the present moment and turn it around as a time for growth in our spiritual lives. The story of a holy priest has resounding effects: One such man, enjoying a sumptuous lunch of fresh vegetables and lunch meats remarked with a twinkle in his eyes: "Mystics have good appetites." And at a later time, when severe angina made it difficult for him to breathe, and even though he seemed agitated on the surface, at the very core of his being, he was attuned to our God and Creator, eager to submit himself to His will. Souls who strive after God, can touch Him in all the circumstances of their lives, in their most light hearted joys and certainly in the abject abandonment of their sins.

When a believer truly walks in the presence of God, amazing things begin to happen. If it is God Who leads us, then we are affected by the Spirit's inner prompting in those brief moments before we decide to act, in those moments when we are talking to ourselves, when we converse with the saints, in those

times we pray to the Lord, in those nudges that help us to see good and to do it. The more we allow God to lead us, to guide us, to take us gently by the hand, the more we listen, follow, and obey His will, the more accurately we will see with the eyes of our soul how He lovingly permits particular circumstances to befall us that we mature in faith.

The light of faith enables us to walk one step at a time as courageous followers of Christ. He leads, I listen, I follow, I obey. I then become more and more like Him each day.



THE EXTRAVAGANCE OF GOD

More sky than man can see,
More seas that he can sail,
More sun than he can bear to watch,
More stars than he can scale.

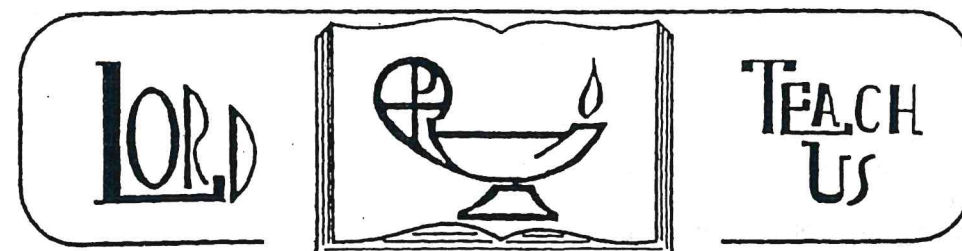
More breath than he can breathe,
More yield than he can sow,
More grace than he can comprehend,
More love than he can know.

RALPH W. SEAGER



"For those who bear God's Spirit are led to the Word, that is, to the Son, and the Son presents them to the Father." Irenaeus, *Dem*, app 7

It is the desire and the plan of God to bring all to salvation. As the priest prays in the Liturgy in the preface, "You did not cease doing everything until You led us to heaven and granted us Your future kingdom." God does not desire that anyone be lost. The prophet Jonah ran away because he did not want to proclaim that God desires the salvation of all humanity. After being in the great fish he made that proclamation. Our salvation is the work of the Trinity. All three persons of the Holy Trinity are involved in the process of salvation. They are One and always work as One. No One person of the Trinity can ever act independently of the other members. This is why we can say that there is only one God. We are monotheists and believe that there is only one God. We further believe that this one God is three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Father desires our salvation and so the Son was sent and the Son sent the Spirit. Salvation is our going to the Father. We do this because the Son leads us to the Father. This is possible because we have been given the gift of the Spirit.



Finding His Will

I will instruct you and show you the way you should walk; I will counsel you, keeping my eye on you Psalm 32:8.

We know, too, that the Son of God has come and has given us discernment to recognize the one who is true. And we are in the one who is true, for we are in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life 1 John 5:20.

Any man who chooses to do his will knows about this doctrine, namely, whether it comes from God or is simply spoken on my own John 7:17.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, on your own intelligence rely not; In all your ways be mindful of him, and he will make straight your paths Proverbs 3:5, 6.

For I will give you words and a wisdom which none of your adversaries can take exception to or contradict Luke 21:15.

When he comes, however, being the Spirit of truth, he will guide you in all truth. He will not speak on his own, but will speak only what he hears, and will announce to you the things to come John 16:13.

Evil men understand nothing of justice, but those who seek the Lord understand all Proverbs 28:5.

Many people shall come and say: 'Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob. That he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths.' For from Sion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem Isaiah 2:3.

Entrust your works to the Lord, and your plans will succeed Proverbs 16:3.