

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](http://www.sspeterandpaulminersville.com)

Email: [tvrgjn@outlook.com](mailto: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

### *Healing a Stoopd Woman*

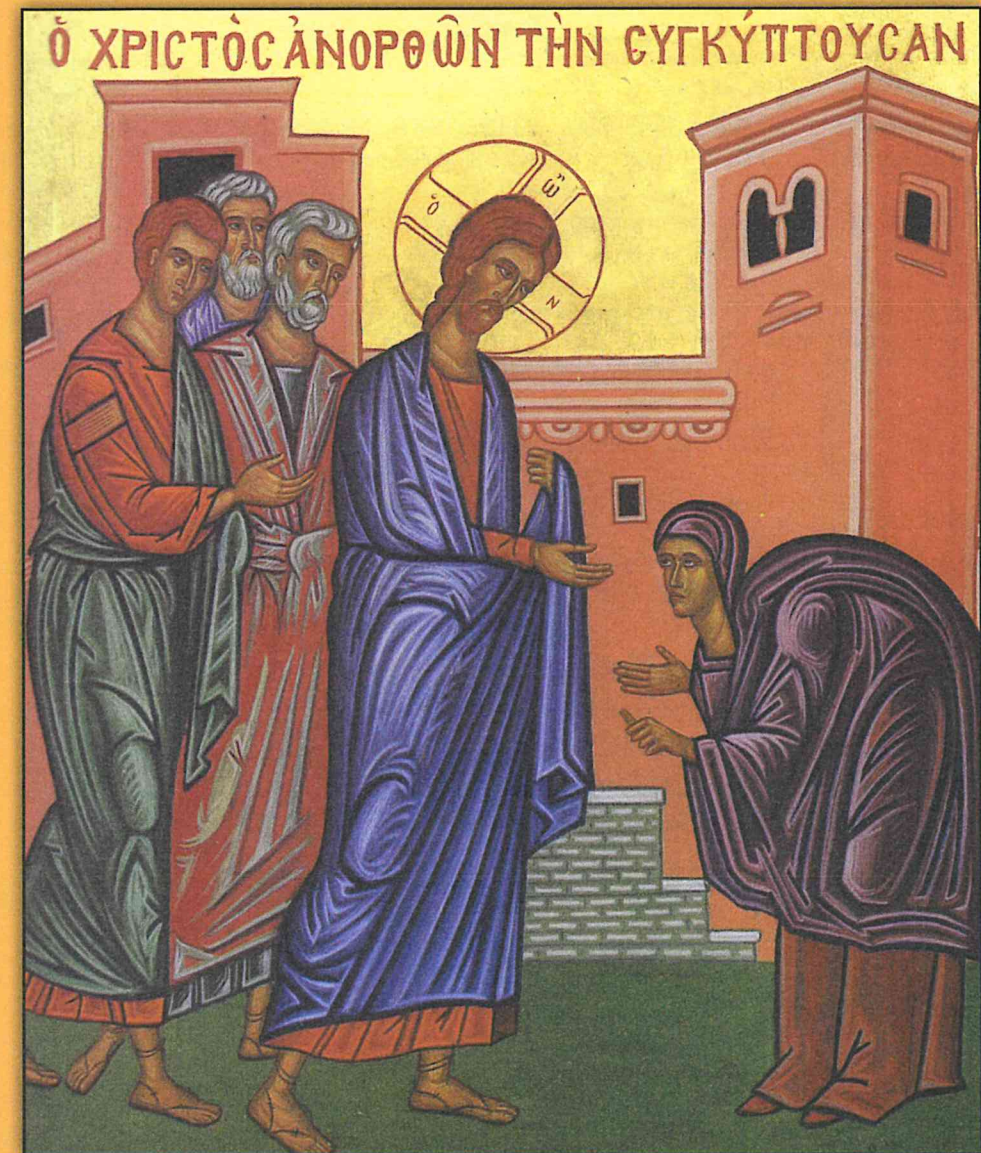
Luke 13:10-17 relates the story of Jesus' healing of a deformed woman who had endured a debilitating infirmity for eighteen years. What began as a slightly bent posture developed into a stoop so profound that she could no longer look up. Every year increased her suffering, and after all those years, her situation became extremely severe. In this, we see a parallel with sin. Its effects begin slowly and almost unnoticeably, but with the passing of time, its influence increasingly corrupts the sinner. The longer the sinner continues in his sin, the more his heart hardens.

While teaching in the synagogue, Jesus sees her in the audience and is immediately moved with compassion and grace to heal her (Luke

13:10-12). She does not appeal to Him for help, but He takes it upon Himself to help her, expressing His deep compassion. It is inherent in God's character to take special notice of the needy.

What He saw would certainly not have been attractive, but, unlike men, Christ does not aid just the beautiful but those who truly need His help. Sinners sometimes feel they are too repugnant to God to be saved (Psalm 44:24-26), but Christ's healing of this disfigured woman emphasizes that His ability to help is determined, not by the state of the needy person, but by the limitless power of God. Christ's blood is able to wash away even the greatest of sins!

## TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of the Healing of the Stoopd Woman (Luke 13:10-17)*

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
**Tone 2**

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.

**November 24– November 30, AD2024**

Vigil of Sunday

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+ Andrew & +Margaret Gerchak req. by Estate *
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*
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	No Divine Liturgy Today*
Friday	9:00 a.m.	No Divine Liturgy Today*
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Joseph R. Gretskey req. by Cheryl Mason & Don Gretskey *

\*St. Mary  
\*SS Peter & Paul

**Epistle Readers:** 11/24 – Judy Kostura; 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 Health & Blessing of The Kitchen Staff.**

**Pastoral Notes:** Kindly mark your calendar: Church cleaning on Friday, November 29 at 9 a.m.

No Liturgy for the week of November 25 – 29. In case of emergency call Father Jim Carroll at 570-773-2631.

Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving. If you are travelling to relatives or friends, drive safely and get back in one piece.

**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

**13:10-17 Healing a Woman**

Notice that verse 12 tells us that she didn't ask, it was He who saw her. Oftentimes, the Lord will set you free from an affliction or situation when you didn't even think to ask Him for deliverance!

But the synagogue official was so hardened in his heart, that he tells the people, "You want to be healed, fine, but do it on some other day of the week!" Isn't that amazing? This wise man, so educated in the Jewish law, had forsaken all moral and common sense in regards to his fellow man. This is what happens when men reject and harden their hearts toward God - they become foolish in their wisdom. The psalmist wrote that...

Ps. 14:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

And Paul, writing to the Corinthians, said,

1Cor. 1:18-20 For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will set aside." Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? Man has become so wise in his own eyes that he has been made a fool. This synagogue official had been made foolish by his great wisdom - "Come get healed some other day - but not on Saturday." Ridiculous!

**11. spirit of infirmity**--Compare [Luke 13:17](#), "whom *Satan* hath bound." From this it is probable, though not certain, that her protracted infirmity was the effect of some milder form of *possession*; yet she was "a daughter of Abraham," in the same gracious sense, no doubt, as Zaccheus, after his conversion, was "a son of Abraham" ([Luke 19:9](#)).

## NEVER GIVE UP

*Jesus told his disciples...that they should always pray and never give up*  
Luke 18: 1.

“Never give up,” you’ve heard people say. Maybe people have repeated this advice to you. But how can one keep doing what must be done over and over again, when it seems as if there are not going to be any positive beneficial results?

The story our Lord told about the persistent widow impresses us with the usefulness of incessant prayer. And He makes his point by means of contrast. The widow needed justice and had no claim whatsoever on the judge. Widows in that society did not have any rights; they were left to their own devices. And the judge was not one whit interested in her problem. Justice was not important to him. But he gave in finally because he wearied of her incessant demands.

It is so different when one of God’s chosen ones keeps calling in prayer night and day. The widow in the eyes of the surrounding society was a nobody, but one of God’s chosen ones is Somebody, that is with a capital S, all capitals; capital everything: SOMEBODY!

And each chosen one prays to God sincerely as described in Scripture, “As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him” Psalms 103: 11.

A man tells a story of his friend who was a devoted man of God who prayed incessantly himself for the intentions of others. For years he prayed for the salvation of a dear friend, but that friend was never brought to Christ...until the day the man who prayed so finally died. That friend attended his patron’s funeral with a testimony to God’s grace in his heart. There is a touching story of a priest who prayed for his wayward son’s conversion for years, but who died before it happened. Today that son is also a priest praising our God.

It is hard to keep praying when everything seems hopeless. But our God knows more about prayer than we do which is why He insists, “Keep on praying.” So we continue, we do not hesitate, certainly do not stop. We expect an answer in God’s time, at the most propitious moment when it does the most good for the glory of God!

## A Date To Keep

*It is appointed for men to die once, and after then comes judgment* Hebrews 9: 27.

Old people are not the only ones to die. Death comes to all people whether they are children, young adults, teenagers, middle aged or aged. Death is not the exclusive realm of the old. When young death is usually viewed as something in the distant future, but newspaper obituary notices readily witness how false this perception is. Primarily auto accidents and drug overdoses claim the lives of younger people And it is sad because life for them is just beginning and the real future hardly started.

It seems that when we are over 65 we live with the full realization that death is just behind the door and may enter the room of our life at any moment. It is true that it is appointed for man to die, but how strangely we keep projecting the date into the future. We attempt blocking out thinking about death. We make all kinds of preparations for daily living. And how energetically we plan our vacations! But who prepares for the inevitable date on which we must leave earthly life? Regardless how busy we are, we will keep that final appointment. All the other nonsense that was important until then will lose its meaning and be placed in its eternal wastebasket.

Not only is there an appointed date but “after that comes judgment” Thank God, however, that just as it is appointed that we die, “Christ has been offered once to bear the sins of many.” In Christ, death in this life is not the final date to keep, before He offers us eternal life.

Just as important events are appropriately prepared for in this life, prepare for this one which opens up the curtain of eternity. Reaffirm faith in Christ today because trusting in Christ for eternal salvation makes all the difference if it produces a lifestyle congruent with the teaching of the Lord.

Ask the Lord to prepare you for passing from the present into realistic being for eternity. Repent of your sins in the sacramental Mystery and live that way daily. Be prepared for unexpected death!



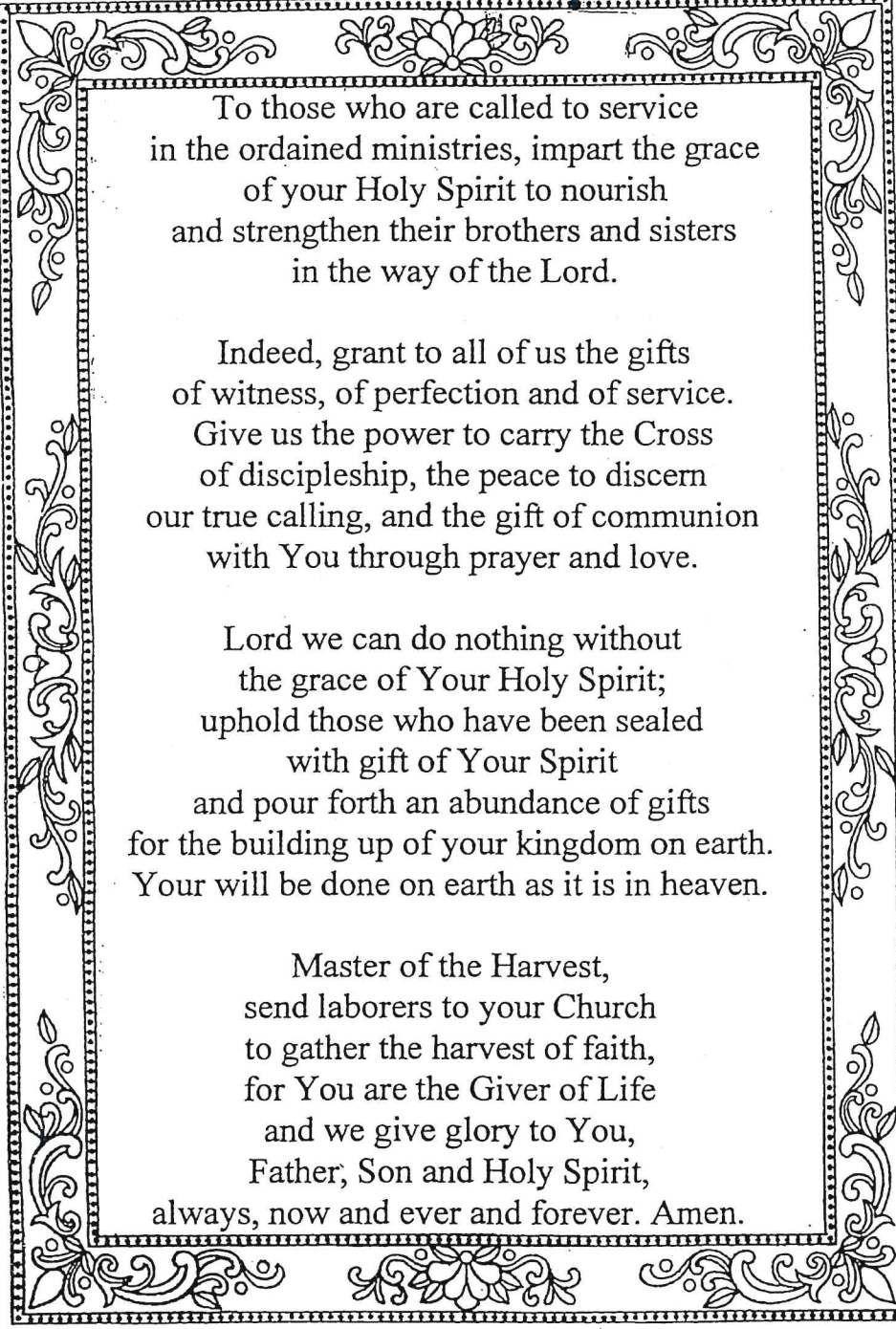
**Prayer**  
FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Our God,  
In your great love You have called us  
from nothingness into being.

Through Jesus Christ your Son,  
Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life,  
You called us to walk on the road  
of perfection, and to consecrate ourselves  
to You and to the service of all people,  
whom you have created for life and glory.

To those who are called to a life of faith  
in the midst of the world,  
grant the grace of witness to the Gospel.

To those who are called to the life  
of Christian perfection,  
give the gift of contemplation,  
understanding of the will of God  
and zeal for righteousness and charity.



To those who are called to service  
in the ordained ministries, impart the grace  
of your Holy Spirit to nourish  
and strengthen their brothers and sisters  
in the way of the Lord.

Indeed, grant to all of us the gifts  
of witness, of perfection and of service.  
Give us the power to carry the Cross  
of discipleship, the peace to discern  
our true calling, and the gift of communion  
with You through prayer and love.

Lord we can do nothing without  
the grace of Your Holy Spirit;  
uphold those who have been sealed  
with gift of Your Spirit  
and pour forth an abundance of gifts  
for the building up of your kingdom on earth.  
Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Master of the Harvest,  
send laborers to your Church  
to gather the harvest of faith,  
for You are the Giver of Life  
and we give glory to You,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
always, now and ever and forever. Amen.