

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

The Rich Man vs. Lazarus

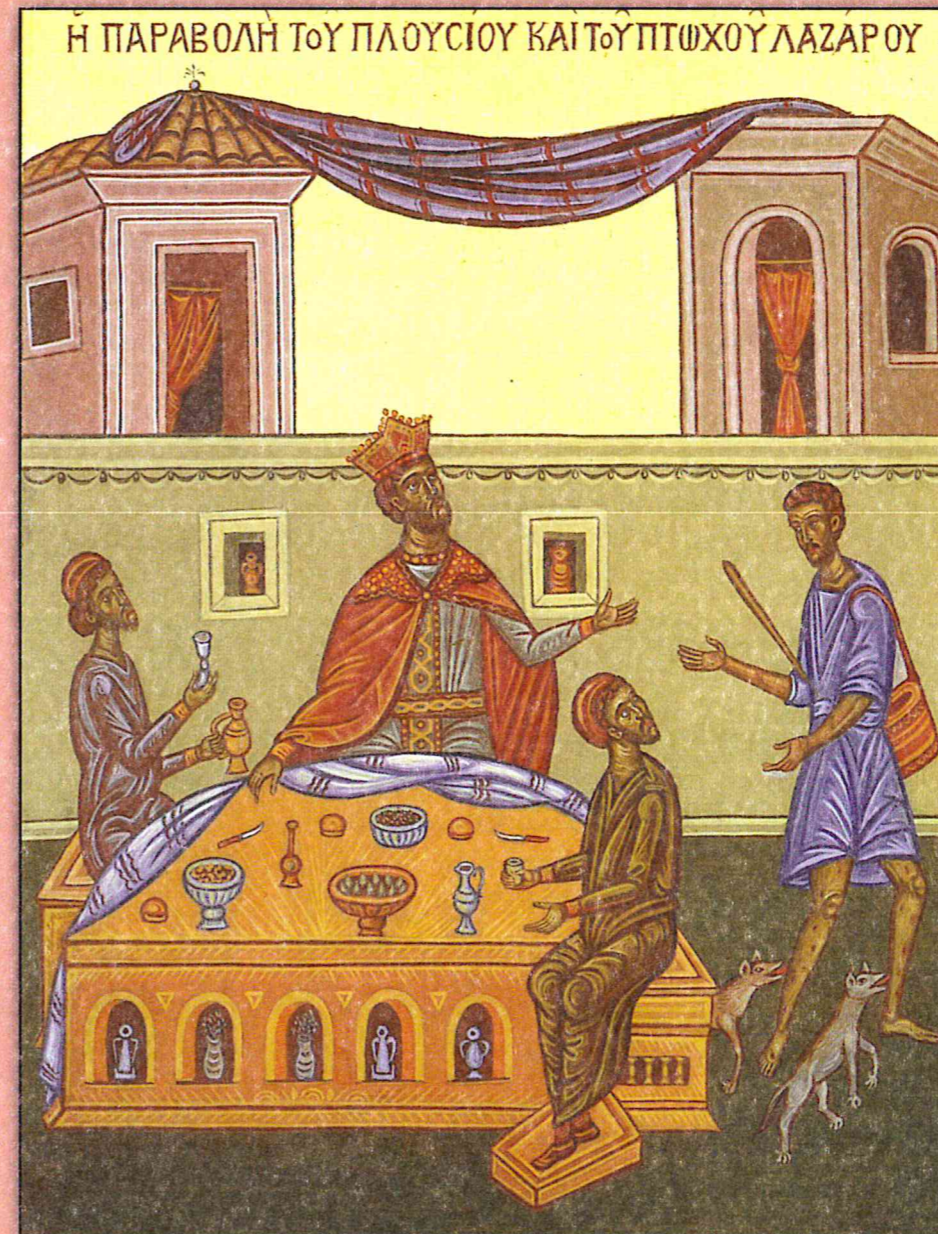
Lazarus, the beggar, is called by his name because he was a saint, but the man who is rich and proud is not deemed worthy of a name. ... The meaning of Lazarus' name is boethoumenos, one who has been helped; he is not a helper, but one who has been helped. He was a poor man and, in his poverty, the Lord came to his assistance. "Who lay at his gate, covered with sores." The rich man, in purple splendor, is not accused of being avaricious, nor of carrying off the property of another, nor of committing adultery, nor, in fact, of any wrongdoing; the evil alone of which he is guilty is pride. Most wretched of men, you see a member of your own body lying there outside at your gate, and have you no compassion? If the precepts of God mean nothing to you, at least take pity on your own plight, and be in fear lest you become such as he. Why do you save what is superfluous to your pleasures? Give in alms to your own

member what you waste. I am not telling you to throwaway your wealth. What you throw out, the crumbs from your table, offer as alms.

"Who lay at his gate." He was lying at the gate in order to draw attention to the cruelty paid to his body and to prevent the rich man from saying, "I did not notice him; he was in a corner; I could not see him; no one announced him to me." He lay at the gate; you saw him every time you went out and every time you came in. When your throngs of servants and clients were attending you, he lay there full of ulcers. If your eyes disdained to look upon putrid flesh, did not your ears, at least, hear his plea? "Who lay at his gate, covered with sores." He did not have just one sore, his whole body was sores, so that the magnitude of his suffering might arouse your utmost compassion.

St. Jerome

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)

22nd Sunday after Pentecost
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.

October 20 – October 26, AD2024

Vigil of Sunday

- Saturday 4:00 p.m. + Charles Kostura, Sr req. by Rose Morgan *
- 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. +Nicholas Babilya req. by The Byzantine Male Chorus*
- Wednesday 9:00 a.m. +Charles Kostura, Sr req. by MM Joseph Petulich *
- Thursday 9:00 a.m. +George Sinko req. by Rosie Gelches *
- Friday 9:00 a.m. +Irene Tkahyk req. by MM Harrison Mitchell & Family *
- Saturday 4:00 p.m. +Florence Gretskey req. by Cheryl Mason*

*St. Mary
*SS Peter & Paul

Epistle Readers: 10/6 – Dolores Kramer; 10/13 – Jennifer Keer; 10/20 – Gail Burgess; 10/27 – Marie Wanchick; 11/3 – Ellen Sinkovich.

Breakfast with Father: Today, Sunday, October 20, 2024 following the Divine Liturgy.

Candles Request: The candles on the Sacramental Table (Tetrapod) are burning in memory of **Jaime Zelinsky** offered by Colleen & Jack Zelinsky

22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
By St. John Chrysostom

It is worthwhile inquiring why the rich man saw Lazarus in Abraham's arms, and not in the company of some other righteous person. The reason is that Abraham was hospitable, and so the sight of Lazarus with Abraham was meant to reproach the rich man for his own inhospitality. Abraham used to pursue even passers-by and drag them into his home, whereas the rich man disregarded someone lying in his own doorway. Although he had within his grasp so great a treasure, such an opportunity to win salvation, he ignored the poor man day after day. He could have helped him but he failed to do so. The patriarch was not like that but just the opposite. He would sit in his doorway and catch all who passed by. And just as a fisherman casting a net into the sea hauls up fish, yes, but also quite often gold and pearls, so Abraham whilst catching people in his net finished by catching angels, though strangely enough without knowing it.

Even Paul marvels at this and gives the advice: Remember to welcome strangers into your homes, for some by so doing have entertained angels without knowing it. And he did well to say without knowing it, for if Abraham had welcomed his guests with such kindness because he knew who they were he would have done nothing remarkable. He is praiseworthy only because, without knowing who the passers-by were and taking them to be simply human wayfarers, he yet invited them in with so much good will.

And this is true of you also. If you show much eagerness in welcoming some famous and distinguished person you do nothing remarkable; often the high rank of a guest compels even a reluctant host to show every sign of courtesy. But we do something truly great and admirable when we give a most courteous welcome to all, even the outcasts of society or people of humble condition. Hence Christ himself praised those who so acted, declaring: Whatever you did for one of these very poor people you did to me. He also said: It is not your Father's will that one of these little ones should perish. Indeed, throughout the gospel Christ speaks a great deal about the little people and those of the humblest condition.

And so Abraham also, knowing this, did not ask who travelers were or where they came from, as we do today, but simply welcomed them all. Anyone wishing to show kindness should not inquire into other people's lives, but has only to alleviate their poverty and supply their needs, as Christ commanded when he said: Imitate your Father in heaven, who makes his sun rise on good and bad alike, and sends rain on the just and the unjust.

(Homily on Lazarus 2,5)

Don't Sell It!

While your glance flits to it, it is gone
Proverbs 23: 5.

Esau was almost home when the smell hit him. His stomach growled, his mouth watered, and his steps quickened. His day of fruitless hunting left him depressed and weak with hunger and longing. Now he could think of just one thing: lentil soup!

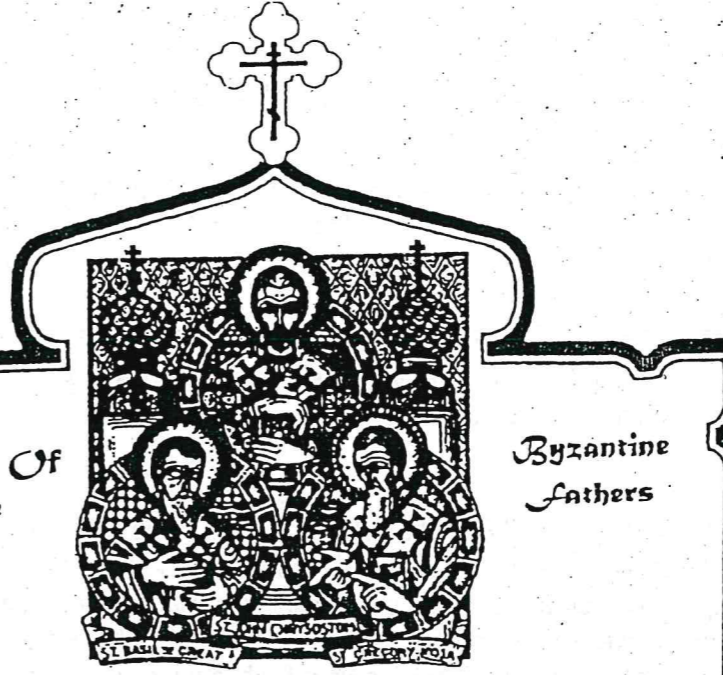
He belligerently burst into the tent, "Jacob, give me some of your lentil soup. I smelled it a mile away. I am starving!" Jacob continued to stir the slowly boiling soup a moment before answering. He throws out a condition because he knows the soup smell is compelling, even seductive to a hungry soul. "Under one condition. Sell me your birthright, and I will give you a bowl of my soup."

Esau scowls at his business-minded brother. Of course, everything has a price as we so often hear. But when you are starving, surely no price is too much to pay for something so good to satisfy the soul. So, "Just give me the soup. First things first. What good is the birthright once I have died of hunger?"

"Swear to me first," Jacob demands. So Esau swears away his birthright and devours his lusted- after porridge. To all future generations he becomes a symbol of making a really bad deal. The book of Genesis says he despised his birthright of primogeniture. The book of Hebrews calls him a profane or godless person. He traded his future, his blessing from God and from his father, for nothing more than a simple bowl of common soup. How like those who submit to the temptation of the devil and give up discipleship in Christ? How related to those who want to please friends and give up friendship with Christ! How similar to the soul who desires unending life in a temporary world compared to eternal life in the never-ending kingdom?

Are you tempted to sell your birthright? Have you considered trading a pure mind for a little carnal pleasure? Would you trade your integrity for a thousand dollars? Which would you rather have: a Christian church or all the "things" you have dreamed of? Would it be a good deal to trade your reputation and the reputation of the Church of Christ for a little earthly fun? Why not cheat on your husband since what he does not know will never hurt him? Share with our wife you are having an "innocent" relationship with a woman who is attracted to you so you wont experience too much guilt and everything will be out in the open!

Purchase virtue and buy the truth; sell it not! Consider well the value of your baptismal birthright and the comparative value of a mere pot of soup! Do not make yourself an eternal fool by trading a birthright of salvation for a mixture of vegetables in boiled water, regardless how compelling their smell or taste! Recognize the worst thief of all is the one who will rob you of truth.



*Wisdom Of
The*

*Byzantine
Fathers*

Speak when your words are more desirable than silence, but love silence when it is better than words
St. Gregory Nazianzen.

Even if your soul should suffer somewhat from an offense, keep the sorrow within yourself. For it is said, "Within me my heart is troubled" Psalms 142: 4; that is the passion has not come out, but has been humbled like a wave that has broken up on the shore. Calm your raging heart. Let your passions be ashamed at the presence of reason in you, as playful children are ashamed before a man commanding respect St. Basil the Great.

I shall indicate to you the most direct and simple method to acquire the habit of silence...Reflect as often as you can on the pernicious results of indiscriminate babbling and the salutary results of wise silence. When you come to taste the good fruit of silence you will no longer need lessons about it St. Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain.

Sell It!

Who, when he found one pearl of great price, went out and sold all that he had and bought it
Matthew 13: 46.

It is worth it. If you have found that pearl, you must have it. It is worth more than anything else you own. Everything else will lose its value. This is timeless. Everything else will stay on earth when you die. All else will remain behind. This you can take with you. What is this pearl?

It is the salvation of your soul. When the rich young ruler asked Jesus how to get to heaven, the Lord's answer was direct and simple. Sell everything! Keep nothing for yourself. Jesus knew that even one thing we keep for ourselves will block our relationship with our heavenly Father. God demands the highest seat in our lives. If your automobile is your idol, sell it! If your house is your idol, sell it! If you worship your reputation, sell it! If indulging your flesh is your idol, sell the indulgence! If you overlook the sinfulness of your children, sell that emphasis! Do not permit earthly trifles to hinder you from getting the things that really count. Do not spend on nonsense what you can invest in eternity!

Sometimes when we sell out to God, He gives us some "things" back. He may provide a house for you to live in, but not to live for. He may offer you a car to drive, but not to adore. Even if He only lets you live in a hut, what is that if you will spend eternity in a glorious mansion? If He permits you to walk on mud streets now, does it really matter when He has promised gold streets in heaven? If He assures us of a glorified body in eternity as we finally rise from the dead, why should we be so overly concerned about flowering up and doctoring the original character of his creation in our flesh? If we are not investing in the never-ending value of our soul, why should we waste time pasting the false values of the temporary world on our souls, putting physical decorations on a spiritual entity?

The rewards of selling out for God are manifold. The reward for eternal investment is found in paradise. Any who seriously follow the Saviour know the inherent riches and pitfalls promised. In this life nothing is permanent except the spiritual. What is physical is temporary and does not last. It must be traded in for spiritual values that obtain. The Son of God has promised, "...in this time, houses and brethren and sisters and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come, eternal life" Mark 10: 30.

He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.

ARIUS, THE NON-BELIEVER SAYS:

I like the man who knows all kinds of sports statistics, but cannot spell Bible!



Happy is the man that finds wisdom.

Proverbs 3:13

Wisdom

THE PRICE OF WISDOM IS ABOVE RUBIES.

JOB 28:18