

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

Parish Office: (570) 544-2074
Website: www.sspeterandpaulminersville.com
Email: tvrgin@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

Physicians Who Work for Free

On November 1st, we celebrate the feast of two remarkable brothers who lived during the early years of the Christian Church. Cosmas and Damian were born of wealthy parents in Asia Minor who gave their sons the best education in the Roman Empire. They were interested in medicine and became physicians at an early age. During this same time, the two brothers also became Christians. Their unique combination of medicine and prayer attracted the attention of many. Through their commitment to Christ they endeavored to become healers not only of the body, but of the soul as well. Consequently, their fame spread and they soon developed a reputation as being miracle-workers who could heal with an herb as well as with a prayer.

About this same time, the brothers made a most unique pledge: they pledged not to take

any money for their services. They healed thousands of people from diseases of body and soul and never accepted anything for their efforts. Their reputation spread even more rapidly as they became known as "unmercenaries" - someone who does not expect payment of any kind in return for services rendered.

In a sense, each of us can become unmercenaries in the same spirit as were Saints Cosmas and Damian. Each of us can freely give something of ourselves without expecting anything in return. Perhaps we can give our time to a person in need without expecting an equal favor in return. Perhaps we can freely give advice without being offended if it is not followed. Or, perhaps we can give the gift of forgiveness without receiving an apology in return.

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TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Saints Cosmas and Damian -- November 1st

**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.

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October 29– November 4, 2023

Vigil of Sunday (at St. Mary)

- Saturday 4:00 p.m. + **Steve Pereborski** req. by Joseph Katchur
- Sunday 9:00 a.m. **Health and Blessings of the Parishioners** (livestreamed)
- Monday 9:00 a.m. **No Divine Liturgy Today**
- Tuesday 9:00 a.m. **H&B Deborah Ballenger** req. by Marie Wanchick
- Wednesday 9:00 a.m. **H&B Christopher and Susan Cremo** req. by Paul Joseph Cremo
- Thursday 9:00 a.m. +**Stephen Fedeles** req. by Mrs. Catherine Sinkavage & Pat
- Friday 9:00 a.m. +**Mary Nagg** req. by MM John Kostura

Vigil of Sunday (at SS. Peter & Paul)

- Saturday 4:00 p.m. **Health & Blessings of the Parishioners** (livestreamed)

Epistle Readers: 11/1 – Jennifer Keer; 11/12 – Beverly Kostishak; 11/19 – Ellen Sinkovich; 11/21 – Marie Wanchick; 11/26 – Anna Keer; 12/3 – Judy Kostura.

Candle Offering: The Candles on the Sacramental Table are for the intention of **Jaime Lynn Zelinsky** (left) and **Michael and Irene Pavelko** (right) offered by Cilleen & Jack Zelinsky

Breakfast with Father:

Sunday, November 12, 2023 following the Divine Liturgy. All are welcome to attend.

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Eastern Christian Formation Class: Class today following Divine Liturgy.

The Annual Turkey Dinner Kindly refer to the poster

Kindly Note:

On the first weekend of November, i.e., 4/5 only one Divine Liturgy will be celebrated for both SS. Peter and Paul and St. Mary parishes. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on November 4 at 4:00 p.m. at SS. Peter and Paul Church.

In case of an emergency during my absence (Nov. 5-10) kindly call Fr. Jim Carroll, OFM at 570-773-2631.

THE DEMONIAK LIVES LIKE A SWINE, SO SWINE RECEIVE HIS DEVILS. AMBROSE: People are the authors of their own tribulation. If someone did not live like a swine, the devil would never have received power over him. If he did receive power, it would be power not to destroy but to test him. After the Lord's coming, the devil could already not corrupt the good, so perhaps he now does not seek the destruction of all people but only of the fickle. A mugger does not lie in wait for armed men but for the defenseless. He who understands that the strong will despise him or the powerful destroy him troubles only the weak with wrongs. Someone says, "Why does God permit this to the devil?" I say, "So that good people may be tested and the wicked punished, for this is the punishment of sin." This is also according to the law, because the Lord sends fever, trembling, evil spirits, blindness, and all scourges according to the punishment of sinners. EXPOSITION OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 6.48-49.16

Battling Giants

If God is for us, who can be against us?
Romans 8: 31.

As David, the young shepherd was getting ready to battle the Philistine giant, Goliath, King Saul asked him about his ability to meet the challenge. Eagerly, David explained how God helped him defeat other adversaries in his life. "The Lord delivered me out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear, and so he will deliver me out of the hands of this Philistine" 1 Samuel 17: 37. That vivid memory, obviously engraved indelibly on his heart and soul, gave David the strength, even perseverance and confidence to advance in anticipated victory over the insipid and bold pagan.

Just like David, every man inevitably faces "giants" in daily living. They may come upon us suddenly and appear monstrous. The current giant in our lives may be the great grief that accompanies the death of a beloved spouse. At times the grief seems larger than life, particularly when we permit our emotions to run about uncontrolled and misdirected as we sense a bit of victim in ourselves.

It is then that memory can become a powerful tool. As we recall tenderly how the grace of the Holy Spirit has assisted in helping to overcome other crises in daily living, we learn to find hope, comfort and confidence to deal with the new challenge. There is absolutely no challenge our God cannot help us conquer.

As we pray we ought to reference times past when insightful victory was granted us in our encounters with the problems of life and even the temptations of satan. We become aware God can continue to place us in victorious circumstances that his name is glorified. With heavenly endowed grace, we too can face and defeat any giant. We are grateful to our heavenly Father that the promise of the Holy Spirit to help us always continues to succeed. As we have been rescued in the past, we continue to trust the same grace will be present in the future.

Identification Marks

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path
Psalms 119: 105.

A pious believer relates this story of his own personally received revelation to the truth of this verse from King David. His guide dog Elko and he were walking a familiar route but something confused them and they got lost.

He stopped momentarily to lift the confusion of his mind and prayed to our heavenly Father to show him some familiar landmark that could set their path straight. Not long afterward he heard a sound that was recognizable, coming from a source of light along the route they were traveling. He began counting steps, hoping to discover a landmark. Then dog and master found it: a blended curb he knew to be just across from the sidewalk needed to get home. Focusing his attention on the curb and the sidewalk, he started on the way home without any further difficulty. When they both walked that same route a few days later, they had no trouble at all.

It was precisely then that he came to understand the insights provided by the Psalmist. There are more times than not when our familiar paths can become confusing; what we think we know, we are suddenly not sure of. But God's revelation to us in Scripture give us familiar landmarks and reminders of the Father's way and his will for our lives. "Love your neighbor" Mark 12: 31; or "Do justly and...love mercy" Micah 6: 8.

Our daily prayer life should include the reading, meditation on, and study of God's revelation to us. It points us in the direction our God desires we should go. By applying the inspiration of God's Word in daily events, we can find our way out of any confusion life throws our way.

Lord, our God, make your word real in my life as I read, study and meditate on its application to my daily living, that I may steer clear of danger and grow in your grace. Amen.

Did You Know That ...

...we should no more permit ourselves to worry than to swear?

...prayer like the dew in summer makes no noise; it is often unseen, but produces immense results?

...if we are faithful to our duties of the present, God will provide for the future?

...self always wants to be crowned on the throne of our heart, but God says it must be crucified on the Cross of Christ?

...they never seek in vain who seek the Lord uprightly?

...prayer is the mightiest power man can wield?

...he who brings in the Holy Spirit and the Word of God as his resources has already won the victory?

...since God's goodness has been great to us, we should never forget what the Lord has done?

...without devoted and faithful women, our parish would be stag-nation?

Christ alone makes life a challenging opportunity and martyrdom sublime?

...a sour person is the crowning work of the devil?

...if we go on sowing, we may not a reaper immediately be, but will rejoice throughout eternity?

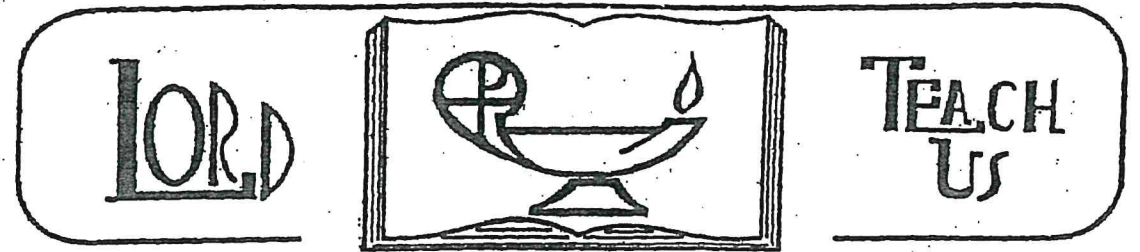
...with God, we can face the evil giants in our lives as successfully as David did Goliath?

...as Jesus proposes himself as our model, we are obliged to imitate him?

...we have a child's right to the special tenderness and solicitude of our heavenly Father?

...we must understand the perfection of God rests upon the purity of our love?

...we must daily ask if we are cooperating with the grace received from God each day?



Lust

Beloved, you are strangers and in exile; hence I urge you not to indulge your carnal desires. By their nature they wage war on the soul 1 Peter 2: 11.

As obedient sons, do not yield to the desires that once shaped you in your ignorance. Rather, become holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct, after the likeness of the holy One who called you; remember, Scripture says, 'Be holy, for I am holy' 1 Peter 1: 14 - 16.

So turn from youthful lusts and pursue integrity, faith, love and peace along with those who call on the Lord in purity of heart 2 Timothy 2: 22.

We ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, and far from true faith; we were the slaves of our passions and of pleasures of various kinds. We went our way in malice and envy, hateful ourselves and hating one another. But the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared; He saved us, not because of any righteous deeds we had done, but because of his mercy Titus 3: 3 -5

All of us were once of their company; we lived at the level of the flesh, following every whim and fancy, and so by nature deserved God's wrath like the rest. But God is rich in mercy; because of his great love for us he brought us to life with Christ when we were dead in sin. By this favor you were saved. Both with and in Christ Jesus he raised us up and gave us a place in the heavens, that in the ages to come he might display the great wealth of his favor, manifested by his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. I repeat, it is owing to his favor that salvation is yours through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is God's gift; neither is it a reward for anything you have accomplished, so let no one pride himself on it Ephesians 2: 3 - 8.