

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

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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: Sts. Peter & Paul: Saturday 2:45-3:30 PM

St. Mary's: Saturday 1:00 – 1:30 PM

SICK CALLS: As scheduled, or anytime in case of an emergency. If anyone is homebound or hospitalized, please call the rectory (544-2074)

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Mark J. Mahal – Funeral Director

They Saw Because They Believed

At that point, two blind men follow the Lord as He was passing by. But if they could not see, how could the blind men know of the Lord's departure as well as His name? Moreover, they called him "Son of David" and asked to be made well. In the two blind men, the entire earlier pre-figuration is complete. The ruler's daughter seems to be from these people, namely, the Pharisees and John's disciples, who already made common cause in testing the Lord.

To these unknowing persons the law gave evidence as to the one from whom they sought a cure. It indicated to them that their Savior in the flesh was of the line of David. It also introduced light to the minds of those who

were blind from past sins. They could not see Christ but were told about Him.

The Lord showed them that faith should not be expected as a result of health but health should be expected because of faith. The blind men saw because they believed; they did not believe because they saw. From this we understand that what is requested must be predicated on faith and that faith must not be exercised because of what has been obtained. If they should believe, He offers them sight. And He charges the believers to be silent, for it was exclusively the task of the Apostles to preach.

St. Hilary of Poitiers

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Healing Two Blind Men

Volume 2022
Christ is among us!

Number 29
He is and will be!

7th Sunday after Pentecost
Tone 6

Welcome to the parish communities of SS. Peter and Paul and St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Churches of Minersville and Saint Clair, 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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July 24 – July 30, 2022

All Divine Services are livestreamed where noted

Saturday Vigil of Sunday (at SS Peter & Paul)

4:00 p. m. + **Nicholas Kostishak** req. by Sharon Laughlin

Sunday

8:00 a.m. + **John Holige** req. by +Pauline Rosko (at St. Mary)

10:00 a.m. **Health & Blessing of the Parishioners** (at SS. Peter & Paul)
livestreamed

Tuesday

8:00 a.m. + **Joseph R. Gretskey** req. by Eileen Hydock

Wednesday

8:00 a.m. + **Agnes Volisin** req. by James & Amy van Blarcume & Son

Thursday

8:00 a.m. **H&B Steve Samargis** req. by Family

Friday

8:00 a.m. + **Michael Cherrybon** req. by Jack & Gloria Moran

Saturday Vigil of Sunday (at SS Peter & Paul)

4:00 p.m. + **Jeanette Lohin** req. by Catherine Simodejka

Epistle Readers: 7/9 – Marie Wanchick; 7/10 – Beverly Kostishak; 7/16 – Dolores Kramer; 7/17 – Laura Mitchell; 7/20 – Marie Wanchick; 7/23 – Judy Kostura; 7/24 – Ellen Sinkovich; 7/30 – Dolores Kramer; 7/31 – Paulette Murphy; 8/6 – Ellen Sinkovich; 8/7 – Jannifer Keer; 8/13 – Beverly Kostishack; 8/14 – Anna Keer; 8/15 – Judy Kostura; 8/21 – Gail Burgess; 8/27 – Paulette Murphy; 8/28 – Laura Mitchell; 8/29 – Marie Wanchick.. (If you cannot be present for any time, kindly contact another reader to cover for you).

Candle Offering: Mother of God – Peace in the World.

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St. Mary Church News: The Old Fashioned Soup Sale realized sales of \$1,625 during the Annual Cruze event of Saint Clair. Thank you to all who participated. Application to the GCU Matching Funds program has been filed.

SS Peter & Paul News Update: The latest information available on the Kitchen Improvements is that we will be notified 24 hours prior to the start of the project which is after Seigfried's current project is completed. Business today does not operate like days of old. We must wait our turn on the docket.

9:28 Do You Believe?

WHEN THEY ENTERED HIS HOUSE. JEROME: As the Lord Jesus was passing on from the ruler's house and proceeding to his own (as we read above): "And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city," suddenly "two blind men cried out and said, 'Have pity on us, Son of David!'" They are not healed along the route, as they might expect, but only after he reached his house. They approach him and go inside. First, their faith is discussed that they may receive the light of true faith. Another sign is added to the first sign we mentioned about the ruler's daughter and the woman with a hemorrhage, so that what death and disability demonstrated in the one case, blindness demonstrated in the other. Both men were blind at the time the Lord was passing through this world on the way to his house. Unless they had exclaimed "Have pity on us. Son of David!" and in answer to Jesus' question "Do you believe that I can do this to you?" affirmed "Yes, Lord," they would not have received the pristine light. COMMENTARY ON MATTHEW I.9.27.

He made everything
Beautiful
in His time.
Ecclesiastes 3:11

Boundaries

I made the sandy shore the limit of the sea
Jeremiah 5: 22.

Not a year goes by without a natural disaster causing chaos somewhere in the world. Floods, hurricanes, and tsunamis destroy lives, homes and livelihoods.

No one would argue that the seas have a 'right' to violate their established boundaries and crash against the coastline. In fact, people agree that disaster occurs whenever the sea breaches the shoreline. Our heavenly Father himself has "...made the sandy shore the limit of the sea." So intelligent man is not surprised when the establishments he erects on the boundaries of the sea are threatened by nature itself from time to time.

Our heavenly Father also established boundaries for human behavior. Yet, a day does not go by without countless violations of his commands, resulting in disastrous physical and spiritual consequences. Amazingly, we often argue that we have the 'right' to violate God's boundaries.

In the day of the prophet Jeremiah, God's people stepped out of bounds, using deceit to become rich and refusing to defend the needy. "For there are among my people criminals; like fowlers they set traps but it is men they catch. Their houses are as full of treachery as a bird-cage is of birds; therefore they grow powerful and rich, fat and sleek. They go their wicked way, justice they do not defend by advancing the claim of the fatherless or judging

Blue Monday

Rejoice in the Lord always. I say it again, Rejoice! Philippians 4: 4.

Are Mondays sometimes blue to you? People who have to face another week sometimes complain about starting anew. They think Monday is depressing and trying, especially because it means returning to work after a weekend and beginning a whole seven more days of boring routine if they are not employed. The color of the day, no doubt, depends on the way a person spent his or her weekend.

For some, Monday is blue and foreboding because they have spent the weekend which belongs to God, without God, without joining God's people in festive worship, praise and celebration. They chose instead to pursue their own more important activity and have ended up on the outside looking in. Weekends without worship inevitably lead to dismal Mondays, even Tuesdays and Wednesdays ad infinitum.

But if you heard the gospel of joy chanted on Sunday, how can Monday ever be blue for you? Surely the joy of having sins forgiven, fellowship with our heavenly Father restored, and life with him forever affects the color of a person's whole life. Assuredly, choosing to be in the presence of time-wasting, time-disappearing activity instead of in the presence of the eternal God at the Divine Liturgy will leave a person of conscience somewhat gloomy and depressed by comparison. Do we not rejoice in knowing that even through so many wrongs around us are so strong, our God is Ruler yet?

The gospel of St. Luke is a good remedy for the blues. His is a gospel of joy; it begins with four great hymns of praise. And it contains a chapter of joy: a shepherd rejoicing over finding a lost sheep; a woman being glad when she finds a long lost coin; a father planning a joyous feast because a sinful son returns home. Together these parables tell us there is joy in heaven when a sinner repents. At the end of this gospel, too, we see the disciples' joy in knowing the risen and ascended Saviour, Jesus Christ.

If your Monday is blue it is because you violate God's intention for you. Self-imposed absence from God's presence costs dearly. Conform to his expectancy and you too will have a bright week celebrating his victory in your life.

When it comes to your **lease**,
how much **risk** are you
willing to **take?**

One mistake—
a missed date, a
forgotten clause,
can cost you.

Experienced
tenant
representation
matters.

We are not permanent residents here. We are all tenants in our homes. Our soul is housed in our bodies. While we are concerned much about physical health, what about the soul? Is it okay to have a robust body, but a deformed soul? Because we look physically attractive and well-dressed, does that mean our spiritual life is like-wise appealing? Is the thread that binds your soul to salvation dangerously cut? Are you hanging by a single thread? Neglect of the soul will not make it go away; it will simply send it away, along with the body, directly to the pit of HELL! At our parish we are experienced in refocusing souls and bodies on Christ and salvation. Be here each Sunday and holyday, invigorated by the sacramental Mysteries to keep body and soul intact, as created in God's image.

the cause of the poor. Shall I not punish these things says the Lord; on a nation such as this shall I not take vengeance? A shocking horrible thing has happened in the land; the prophets prophesy falsely and the priests teach as they wish. Yet my people will have it so; what will you do when the end comes" Jeremiah 5: 26 – 31?

The result was disaster. Our heavenly Father said, "...your sins have turned back blessings from you" Jeremiah 5: 25. Even if spiritual leaders default, people should insist they return to God's solid principles, but unfortunately, people enjoy the vicissitudes of their leaders because they think they are thereby also not bound by the expectations of our God, reasoning if leaders do not uphold the revelation of God to us, neither are the common folks bound and can do as they best judge.

Within creation there is inherent order because our God made it so. Violating it has inherent consequences. Our God in his kindness simply and lovingly communicated to us the order of things as they are so that we can avoid dire consequences and live safely and uprightly. We are wise to know and to stay within his prescribed boundaries.

So we ask the Lord to keep us on the narrow road and pathway where no corruption, woe, nor evil can destroy, where the right hand of God defeats the worldly fray and leads us to eternal joy.

When we disregard the rule of God, it unquestionably leads to greater disorder and disaster!



John 1:3

ANSWERED PRAYERS

RECORDED IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

<i>By Whom Offered</i>	<i>Subject or Nature of Petition</i>	<i>The Record</i>
ABRAM.....	Being childless, asks an heir.....	Gen. xv. 1-6
LOT.....	Permission to escape to Zoar.....	Gen. xix. 18-22
ELIEZER.....	For success on his errand.....	Gen. xxiv.
ISAAC.....	For children.....	Gen. xxv. 21, 24-26
JACOB.....	Implores deliverance from his brother.....	Gen. xxxii. 9, xxxiii. 4
ISRAEL.....	Wrestles with GOD all night for His blessing.....	Gen. xxxii. 24-30
The Israelites.....	For deliverance from bondage.....	Ex. ii. 23-25
MOSES.....	That he may see the Promised Land.....	Deut. iii. 25; xxxiv. 1-4
The Israelites.....	Power to overcome the king of Canaan.....	Judg. iv. 3, 23
GIDEON.....	For signs of success.....	Judg. vi. 36-40
SAMSON.....	For water to quench his thirst.....	Judg. xv. 18, 19
SAMSON.....	For strength to obtain vengeance on the Philistines.....	Judge. xvi. 28-30
HANNAH.....	For a son.....	1 Sam. i. 10-28
DAVID.....	Returns thanks and prays for continued favor.....	2 Sam. vii
SOLOMON.....	For an understanding heart (wisdom).....	1 Kings iii. 6-14
ELISHA.....	For deliverance from a Syrian force.....	2 Kings vi. 17-23
JEHOAHAZ.....	For deliverance from the Syrians.....	2 Kings xiii. 4, 5
HEZEKIAH.....	Protection against Sennacherib.....	2 Kings xix. 15, etc.
HEZEKIAH.....	For recovery from dangerous illness.....	2 Kings xx
JABEZ.....	For the Divine blessing.....	1 Chron. iv. 10, etc.
The Reubenites.....	For victory in an approaching battle.....	1 Chron. v. 13-22
Abijah's Army.....	For victory over Jeroboam.....	2 Chron. xiii. 14-18
ASA.....	For aid against the Ethiopians.....	2 Chron. xiv. 11-15
JEHOSHAPHAT.....	For victory over the Syrians.....	2 Chron. xviii. 31
JEHOSHAPHAT.....	For protection against his enemies.....	2 Chron. xx. 6-27
MANASSEH.....	For deliverance from the Assyrians.....	2 Chron. xxxiii. 12, 13
NEHEMIAH.....	For protection from Sanballat and Tobiah.....	Neh. iv
AGUR.....	For moderation in his desires.....	Prov. xix
JONAH.....	For deliverance from the whale.....	Jonah ii
ZACHARIAS.....	For a son.....	Luke i. 13
The Publican.....	For mercy, forgiveness and justification.....	Luke xviii. 9-14
The Crucified Thief.....	To be remembered by Jesus.....	Luke xxiii. 42, 43
The Apostles.....	On choosing an Apostle.....	Acts. i. 15-26
The Church.....	For protection under persecution.....	Acts. iv. 23-31
CORNELIUS.....	For Divine favor and enlightenment.....	Acts x. 1-4, etc.

<i>Intercessory</i>		
ABRAHAM.....	For Ishmael.....	Gen. xvii. 18-20
ABRAHAM.....	For Sodom and Gomorrah.....	Gen. xviii. 20-32
ABRAHAM.....	For Abimelech and his family.....	Gen. xx. 17
MOSES.....	For Pharaoh (four times).....	Ex. viii. 12, 13, 30, 31; ix. 33; x. 18, 19
MOSES.....	For the children of Israel (five times).....	Exod. xxxii. 11-14, 31-34; xxxiii. 15-17; Num. xi. 2; xiv. 13-20; xxi. 7, 8. (See Ps. cxl. 23)
MOSES.....	For Miriam.....	Num. xii. 11-14
SAMUEL.....	For the Israelites.....	1 Sam. vii. 5-12
SOLOMON.....	For God's favor on the Temple and on the people.....	1 Kings viii.-ix. 3
A Prophet.....	For the cure of the king's hand.....	1 Kings xiii. 6
ELIJAH.....	For restoration of life to widow's son.....	1 Kings xvii. 20-23
ELIJAH.....	That God would triumph over Baal.....	1 Kings xviii. 36-38
ELISHA.....	For restoration of life to the Shunammite's son.....	2 Kings iv. 33-35
HEZEKIAH.....	For those who had eaten the Passover un sanctified.....	2 Chron. xxx. 18-20
The Levites.....	For the people.....	2 Chron. xxx. 27
EZRA.....	Confession in behalf of the people.....	Ezra ix.
NEHEMIAH.....	For the remnant in captivity.....	Neh. i.
JEREMIAH.....	For relief of the people in the great famine (answered unfavorably).....	Jer. xiv
JEREMIAH.....	For the remnant of Judah.....	Jer. xlii
DANIEL.....	For the restoration of Jerusalem.....	Dan. ix. 20-23
HABAKKUK.....	For revival of God's work (a noble model of prayer).....	Hab. iii
ST. PETER.....	For restoration of life to Dorcas.....	Acts ix. 40
The Church.....	For St. Peter's deliverance from prison.....	Acts xii. 5-12
ST. PAUL.....	For the father of Publius.....	Acts xxviii. 8.

You Are Invited To Pray!



Did You Know That ...

...only those things are beautiful which are inspired by God and written by reason?

...a sequel is an admission that you have been reduced to imitating yourself?

...the cheerful loser is the real winner?

...the eternal quest of the individual human being is to shatter his isolated loneliness?

...the magic of first love is our ignorance that it can never end?

...you will never know how to worship until you learn how to love?

...language has created the word "loneliness" to express the horror and pain of being alone and the word "solitude" to express the glory of being alone with God?

...the only abnormality is the incapacity to love?

...loyalty means nothing unless it has at its heart the absolute principle of self-sacrifice?

...chance favors the prepared and ready mind?

...when wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; when character is lost, all is lost?

...lose an hour in the morning and you will search all day looking for it?

...shallow men believe in luck; strong men believe in cause and effect?

...the fool who depends on the rabbit's foot quickly forgets it did not work for the rabbit?

...loyalty to a petrified opinion never yet broke a chain or freed a human soul?

...if there is anything better than to be loved it is to love?

...love is the union of a want and a profound sentiment?



God Is Kind

I am the Lord, exercising loving kindness, judgment and righteousness on earth. For in these I delight, says the Lord Jeremiah 9: 24.

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from you. Nor shall my covenant of peace be removed, says the Lord, who has mercy on you Isaiah 54: 10.

God raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the age to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus Ephesians 2: 6, 7.

In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you, says the Lord your Redeemer Isaiah 54: 8.

Or did you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Romans 2: 4.

He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God Proverbs 14: 31.

Love your enemy and do good; lend without expecting repayment. Then will your reward be great. You will rightly be called sons of the Most High, since he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked Luke 6: 35.

Be kind to one another, compassionate, and mutually forgiving, just as God has forgiven you in Christ Ephesians 4: 32.