

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: 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)

Bulletins are sponsored by

Mahal-Ritzel Funeral Home

Minersville, PA 544-5111

Mark J. Mahal – Funeral Director

Many Calls for the Chosen

The first call that shaped St. Andrew's life was the very timing and place of his birth. The second call that shaped Andrew's life came through John the Baptist. Andrew must have been an alert young man longing for the coming of the Messiah when he first heard the preaching of John. Andrew's third call came from Jesus himself. The fourth call that shaped Andrew's life was to follow Jesus, to be his disciple, a student in daily contact with Jesus, walking and talking with him, listening and learning from the Master, as from a Rabbi. The fifth call that changed Andrew's life was his selection by Jesus as one of the twelve apostles, to give witness, to preach, to bring others to Christ. Andrew, the student, was chosen to become a teacher sent by Christ. His sixth call came through pious Greeks at the Passover in Jerusalem. They wanted to see Jesus, to be introduced to him. The boy from Bethsaida began using his language skills, his un-

derstanding of Greek and Roman culture, to bring Gentiles to Jesus. St. Gregory Nazianzen, St. Jerome, and St. Paulinus tell us that after Pentecost Andrew became an apostle to people in the land of Greece, the bordering lands, and as tradition tells us, ultimately to Byzantium. The final call in Andrew's life was to martyrdom by crucifixion on an X shaped cross at Patras in Achaia.

Saint Andrew's vocation, and ours as well, wasn't given all at once, but gradually. Seven calls from the Lord built one upon the other throughout the course of his life. Andrew's response to each call gave new shape to his life and prepared him for the next gift of God. This courageous young man, by purity of heart and docile obedience to God's will became in St. Bede's words, "The Introducer to Christ." He introduced his brother to Jesus, and the Greeks and Scythians.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Saint Andrew -- November 30th

**26th 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 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.

.....

**November 28– December 4, 2021
All Divine Services are livestreamed where noted**

Saturday Vigil Divine Liturgy (at SS Peter & Paul)
4:00 p.m. + **Joseph Lohin** req. by Elaine Lohin Kunze

Sunday
8:00 a.m. +**Veronica Steranko** req. by Joan Subulak (at St. Mary)
10:00 am **Health and Blessing of the Parishioners** (at SS. Peter & Paul)
Livestreamed

Monday
8:00 a.m. **No Divine Liturgy**

Tuesday
8:00 a.m. **No Divine Liturgy**

Wednesday
8:00 a.m. +**Veronica Sekellick** req. by Anna Copelen

Thursday
8:00 a.m. +**Jeanette Lohin** req. by the Paul Lohin Family

Friday
8:00 a.m. +**Joseph Andrachick** req. by GCU Lodge #731

Saturday Vigil Divine Liturgy (at SS. Peter & Paul)
4:00 p.m. +**Joseph Lohin** req. by Elaine Lohin Kunze

Epistle Readers: 11/27 – Angela Frank; 11/28 – Marie Wanchick; 12/4 – Dolores Kramer; 12/5 – Jennifer Keer; 12/6 – Ellen Sinkovich; 12/8 – Marie Wanchick; 12/11 – Gail Burgess; 12/12 – Angela Frank; 12/18 – Madeline Dinich; 12/19 – Anna Keer.

Candles in from of the Icons and on the Sacramental Table are offered for

Lest We Forget

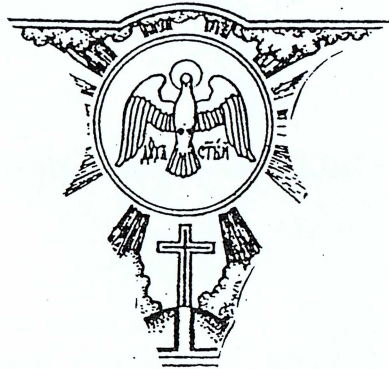
On both sides of the tabernacle on the Holy Table in the Holy Place are two circular fns surrounding the processional cross. Depicted on them are cherubs which surround the heavenly throne. Just as in the Old Testament Holy of Holies, so about our altar table are these same images placed purposely, at the direction of our God to remind us we are participants in heavenly worship. The glory of our God is enthroned mystically within the tabernacle in a golden vessel which contains the gifts of Body and Blood of the Saviour Who is as surely present among us as He is enthroned in heaven at the right of the Eternal Father. We are eager to worship our God as the Church prescribes because we are citizens of eternity, our common destiny. They remind us we are not alone, or simply with other believers, that we worship with the angelic powers and the saints.

On **December 12th** we will have our annual **Saint Nicholas Breakfast/Brunch** following the Sunday Divine Liturgy. In order to help us prepare, we kindly ask that you provide us with your intention to attend by filling out the reservation below. We thank you kindly. Deadline for reservations is **December 5.**

I/We intend to attend the **St. Nicholas Breakfast/Brunch:**

Name

Number attending



*Our fight is not against people on earth
but against the rulers and authorities and the
powers of this world's darkness, against the
spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly world.*

EPHESIANS 6:12

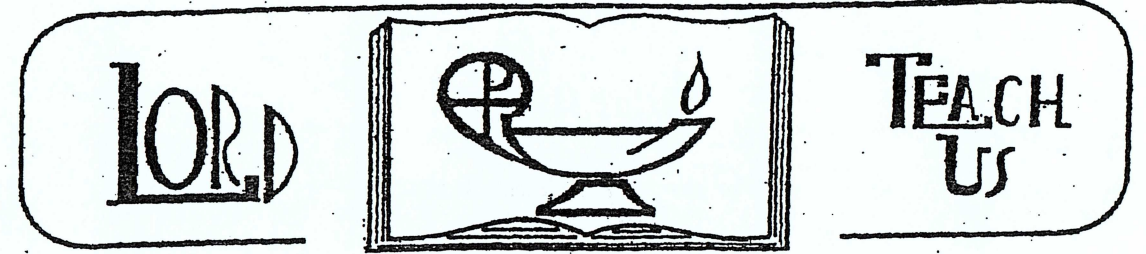
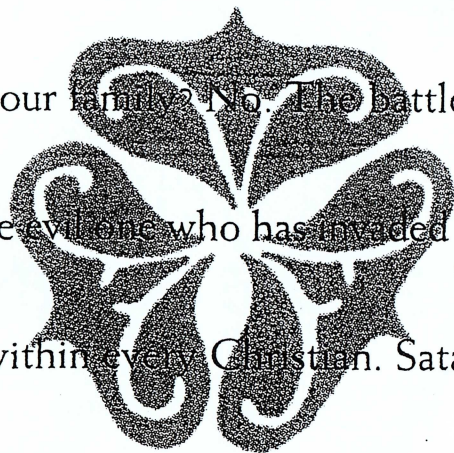
Where's our battleground in life? Is our battle against our neighbor?

Is our battle against our family? No. The battle is with the invisible

forces of darkness, the evil one who has invaded the earth, whose goal

is to win the battle within every Christian. Satan failed in his desire

to control God, and it's only with God's help that we can defeat him.



God's Correction

Whom the Lord loves he corrects; even as a father corrects the son in whom he delights
Proverbs 3: 12.

*Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects; therefore do not despise the correction of
the Almighty; for he inflicts and he binds up, he wounds and his hands heal* Job 5: 17,
18.

*Blessed is the man whom you instruct, O Lord, whom you teach by your law, giving him
rest from adversity until the pit be dug for the wicked* Psalm 94: 12, 13.

*But when we are judged, we are corrected by the Lord, that we should not be condemned
with the world* 1 Corinthians 11: 32.

*We do not lose heart because our inner being is renewed each day even though our body is
being destroyed at the same time. The present burden of our trial is light enough, and
earns for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison. We do not fix our gaze on
what is seen but on what is unseen. What is seen is transitory; what is unseen lasts forever*
2 Corinthians 4: 16 - 18.

*My sons, do not disdain the discipline of the Lord, nor lose heart when he reproves you.
For whom the Lord loves he disciplines. Endure your trials as the discipline of God who
deals with you as sons. For what son is there whom the father does not discipline. If you
do not know the discipline of sons, you are not sons, but bastards. If we respected our
earthly fathers who corrected us, should we not all the more submit to the Father of spirits
and live? They disciplined us as seemed right to them, to prepare us for the short span of
mortal life; but God does so for our true profit, that we may share his holiness. At the time
it is administered, all discipline seems a cause for grief and not for joy, but later it brings
forth the fruit of peace and justice to those who are trained in its school. So strengthen
your drooping hands and your weak knees. Make straight the paths you walk on, that your
halting limbs may not be dislocated but healed* Hebrews 12: 5 - 13.

We are His Joy

For the Lord delights in you
Isaiah 62: 4.

We love God not merely to convince ourselves that we are good people, or to get a warm glow of peace, or to fit into an approving group, or to get rid of anxiety, but to throw all that to the wind and anxiety or not, even though we realize the utter depth of our inadequacy, to understand that all this simply does not matter in the eyes of our God, for as we are, with our misfortune and desperate needs, we are his joy and He delights to be loved by us with perfect confidence in him because He first loves us.

It is not that we have to sweat and groan to placate an austere Father God in our own imagination, but rather to come to a firm conviction, with liberation and joy, that He is any of the negative shadowed elements at all. That in fact, He is none of our gruesomely imagined idols, none of our figments, nothing that we can imagine, good, bad or indifferent anyway. He is simply Love itself and it is to share and spread that love that He created us.

When we come to realize we can love him simply and purely in order to respond to his first shown love and please him from an overflowing heart, we become as it were, his crown, his delight and life itself is changed, elevated and transformed in this light which is disinterested love.

That we would invest so much of ourselves, that we are willing to make that transformation in becoming God-like is the highest glorification of the Blessed Trinity we can aspire after. The love our Creator has for us leads us into transcendence of our own human nature, arriving at the pinnacle of perfection by his grace. The source of our inspiration is the object We end in the way we started.

We are sensitive enough in soul that we do not want to offend the God who so greatly loves us. We allow ourselves nothing that even remotely offends. So eager are we to please him who inbreathed life to us that we become wholly positive in our response to his enduring and long-suffering love. O Lord, teach us to fear you in love so that we may love you without fear.

The Bishop Of Hippo

A prolific and widely read author, his search for salvation and witness to the Gospels finally brought Augustine in the West to Christ. He avoided Christ for so many years because he wanted to pursue his own agenda. Many are familiar with his best known work, *Confessions*, a prayerful reflection on his life in which he understands his own sinfulness and praises the Lord's grace and abiding mercy. In *City of God*, Augustine describes the tension between two cities: the earthly city that springs from love of self and indifference to God, and the heavenly city which is born from love of God and indifference to self. He teaches us in this life it is never too late to enter into a relationship with our Creator God.

Nonetheless, one cannot discover the love of God too soon. Augustine discovered God's love relatively late in life. Yet, recounting his conversion in *Confessions*, he proclaims, "...late have I loved you, O Beauty so ancient and so new!...I tasted of you and now I hunger and thirst for you. You touched me and I am aflame for your peace..."

May we learn from his example and ask for heavenly grace so that our witness is strong as we share the Good News with others.

BE THEREFORE
WISE AS SERPENTS,
AND
HARMLESS AS DOVES.

Matthew 10:16