

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

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Mark J. Mahal – Funeral Director

Listening to the Word of God

In the icon of the Parable of the Sower on the front cover of the bulletin we see Jesus sowing seeds of Divine Wisdom – His words – to four groups of people. Only one group, however, is listening attentively. The other three hear but do not listen. Rather, they are preoccupied with the “anxieties, riches and pleasures of this life.” (Luke 8:14)

Which group are we in? We hear the Word of God spoken and preached in church each week, but do the cares and concerns of life and living cause us to quickly forget the lessons and examples taught by Jesus?

If we fail to integrate the teachings of Christ into our daily life, are we very different than the members of those three groups who heard but did not act on the Word of God? Consider the simple lesson from the following illustration:

Young Johnny reached for the ringing phone one Saturday evening, and his father told him, “If it’s that guy from work calling, tell him I’m not home!” Later that evening, the family went out for dinner. Johnny’s mother noticed that the waitress had undercharged them. “That’s bad for them but good for us!” laughed mom. On the way home, dad explained to Johnny that the new radar detector he recently had installed on his car was to “beat the police” and avoid speeding tickets. Later that night, as Johnny finished his Sunday school lesson, he reflected on what a good Saturday it had been. It was much better than last Saturday when his parents grounded him for cheating on his math test.

What lessons do we teach by the examples we set?

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL



Icon of the Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:5-15)

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of the Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Tone 4

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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October 17 – October 23, 2021

All Divine Services are livestreamed where noted

- Saturday

4:00 p.m.

Vigil Divine Liturgy (at SS Peter & Paul)

+ Margaret Kostishak req. by The Family
- Sunday

8:00 a.m.

+Veronica Sekellick req. by Bertha Petrishko (at St. Mary)
- 10:00 am

Health and Blessing of the Parishioners (at SS. Peter & Paul)

Livestreamed
- Tuesday

8:00 a.m.

+Jeanette Lohin req. by Beverly Kostishak
- Wednesday

8:00 a.m.

+Charles Sinko req. by MM Michael Stetz
- Thursday

8:00 a.m.

+Irene Pavelko req. by MM John Kiselica
- Friday

8:00 a.m.

+Charles Today req. by George Chaposky
- Saturday

4:00 p.m.

Vigil Divine Liturgy (at SS. Peter & Paul)

+Elizabeth Andrusisian req. by Catherine Bulino

Epistle Readers: 10/16 – Angela Frank; 10/17 – Jennifer Keer; 10/23 – Beverly Kostishak; 10/24 – Ellen Sinkovich; 10/30 – Dolores Kramer.

The Mystery of Forgiveness (Confession) is available from 2:00 until 3:00 p.m. each Friday, again on Saturday at 1:00 p.m at St. Mary and 3:00 p.m. at SS Peter & Paul

Candles in front of Jesus Christ, the Mother of God, and on the sacramental table (tetrapod) are offered this week in memory of +John & +Mildred Noga.

St Mary Church News: Kindly note the change in date of the soup sale so as not to conflict with other group sales. We want to be good neighbors and assist them in their fund-raising events.

The **Soup Sale** will be held on Saturday, November 6 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Further details will be provided soon.

If you would like to be an announcer of the Apostolic Reading (Epistle) during the Divine Liturgy, kindly let Father Gregory or Doc Pete know your intention. A schedule will then be printed in the bulletin as is done for SS. Peter & Paul Church.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. (Psalm 118:24)

Each day of the year of our lives is truly a gift from our Creator. How sad that we often forget this reality. We become enmeshed in the problems of every day life and instead of rejoicing and giving thanks for the gifts God bestows on us, we rush, rush, rush; there is hardly time to think of God, much less praise Him. We have to refocus our attention as children of God. And yet, this is God’s Day, the only one like it, uniquely given us to enjoy and seek our salvation within it confines. It is just as easy to stop and praise. Let the toast be your burnt offering, breakfast without milk an exerciser in self-denial and the argument an occasion to practice brotherly love and concern. It does not really take extra time, just a change in attitude. This is the day the Lord has made. Be glad and rejoice. Enjoy this new gift from your heavenly Father.

Lord, help me recognize this day and this year, even this very moment as special gifts from above. Amen.

ARIUS, THE NON-BELIEVER SAYS:

I enjoy the creativeness of some believers in offering excuses for not praying and worshipping as they should.



A spoken word and a thrown stone cannot be recalled.

YOUR HEAVENLY

and you are far more

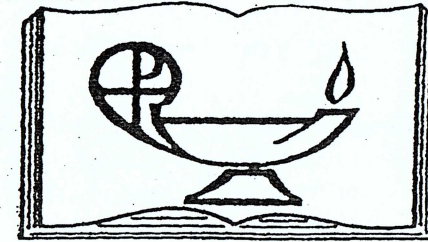
FATHER FEEDS

valuable to HIM

THEM



LORD



TEACH
US

Fellowship With God

Sing Jerusalem and rejoice, for I have come to dwell among you, says the Lord Zechariah 2: 10.

Anyone who welcomes a little child like this in my name is welcoming me, and anyone who welcomes me is welcoming my Father who sent me Mark 9: 37.

Jesus replied, Because I will only reveal myself to those who love me and obey me. The Father will love them too, and we will come to them and live with them John 14: 23.

My prayer for all of them is that they will be of one heart and mind, just as you and I are, Father, that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be one in us, I in them and you in me, all being perfected into one, so that the world will know you sent me and will understand that you love them as much as you love me John 17: 22.

And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For you are God's temple, the home of the living God, and God has said of you, I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people 2 Corinthians 6: 16.

I close my letter with these last words: be happy. grow in Christ. Pay attention to what I have said. Live in harmony and peace. And may the God of love and peace be with you 2 Corinthians 13: 11.

Again I say, we are telling you about what we ourselves have actually seen and heard, so that you may share the fellowship and the joys we have with the Father and with Jesus Christ, his Son. God is light and in him is no darkness at all. So if we say we are his friends, but go on living in spiritual darkness and sin, we are lying. But if we are living in the light of God's presence, just as Christ does, then we have wonderful fellowship and joy with each other, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from every sin 1 John 1: 3 - 7.

Do You Have Hope?

You turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven

1 Thessalonians 1: 9, 10.

Some years ago, a millionaire Eugene Lang was asked to speak to a class of sixth-graders from East Harlem, New York. What could he say to inspire or impress these students, most of whom would drop out of school? Scrapping his notes, he decided to speak to them from his heart. "Stay in school," he admonished, "and I will help pay the college tuitions for every one of you."

That was a turning point. For the first time in their lives, these students had hope. One said, "I had something to look forward to, something waiting for me. It was a golden feeling." Nearly 90 per cent of that class went on to graduate from high school.

People without hope are people without a future. But when hope is restored, life is restored. This is especially true of those who are devoted to Christ and his values and his truth. It is only He who can provide us with a sure basis for hope. He has promised to return to earth and take us to our eternal home. "I am indeed going to prepare a place for you, that where I am you may also be" John 14: 3; "Then we shall be with the Lord unceasingly" 1 Thessalonians 4: 17. Until then, there is help through the power of the Holy Spirit, "Our preaching of the gospel proved not a mere matter of words for you but one of power; it was carried on in the Holy Spirit and out of complete conviction" 1 Thessalonians 1: 5. The believer experiences a new kind of life now and anticipates its fulfillment when Jesus returns.

Is that the hope which lives in your heart and soul? If not, admit you are far away from the purpose of Christ coming among us. Not only change your thinking, but redeem your faith. Trust the promises of our Lord and He will give you a hope that makes life worth living! If Christ lives in your heart, you have a living hope.

A strong defense to guard the soul
is ours from heaven above;
God fills our hearts with steadfast hope
and imparts faith and love.

Healing

I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security
Jeremiah 33: 6.

Out of a small town in the northern region of Israel, our Lord came preaching a message of hope and healing. The common folks accepted and welcomed him with open arms. And why wouldn't they? Traveling from town to city to village, Jesus touched their broken lives – one fractured person after another – restoring sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, speech to the mute, and strength to the lame. He cured all types of diseases, illnesses, fever, palsy, leprosy, and hemorrhaging as well as dropsy. He mended withered limbs, straightened out bent backs and even attached the severed ear of an enemy. Multitudes followed him, amazed at his power to heal, drawn as well to the compelling tenderness they experienced in his presence.

Yet Jesus addressed more than merely physical illness. Just as Isaiah had prophesied, He released those who had been taken captive by evil. He set men and women and children and foreigners free from demons, mental illness and despair. Those plagued with evil spirits found him always approachable, but the minions of darkness fled in terror at the sound of his voice.

Most profound was the diligence with which Jesus tended to the hearts of those whom He touched. Speaking a message of forgiveness, mercy and infused grace, He set aright those who were tortured and oppressed by guilt. Prostitutes, thieves, liars alike found help in the presence of Jesus, healing in response to his word and hope in his saving grace.

Whatever the infirmity, Jesus healed, moment by moment, touch by most tender touch, until at last his healing ministry of service became an actual threat to the powerful religious regime of his day. Incensed over his unconventional intimacy with the Almighty Creator, his untraditional approach to the sacred Law, and his unwillingness to conform to the accepted status quo, the religious ruling council of his day determined that He must die before their influence and empire came to naught.

In his final and most profound act of healing, Jesus willingly submitted to death by execution in order to finally heal the breach between God and man.

It is our continuing hope that glorifying God through the intercession of the holy healer, St. Nectarios will effectively touch our hearts, drawing us ever nearer to the one who still holds the cure to all of man's infirmity, heart, soul and mind.