

Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church /Assumption B.V.M. Ukrainian Catholic Church

131 North Beech Street, Mount Carmel, Pa. 17851

Very Reverend Archpriest Michael Hutsko, Pastor

Rectory 570-339-0650 Church Hall 570- 339-4333

Web Site- sspeterandpaulmc.org - E-Mail: stspmc@ptd.net - Fax 570-339-2715

Prayer Line: Louise Cuff 339-3660 – Eleanor Stebila 339-2353 – Louise Troyan 339-1565

Please notify the rectory office if you or a loved one is hospitalized or admitted to a nursing home

Office Hours: Mon. Tues.- 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Wed., Thurs. 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

1ST Collection : Candles

2nd Collection: Regular Offering

Sunday of the Forefathers

December 17, 2017

Saturday – December 16, 2017

3:15 PM – Confessions

4:00 PM – +John & Helen Cheddar req. by Son,

+Joseph Cheddar

Sunday – December 17, 2017

8:30 AM - Confessions

9:15 AM – For the Parishioners

11:00 AM – Assumption BVM - +Boris Maksymuk
and +Mary Tracey req. by Family

Monday – December 18, 2017

8:00 AM – +Albert Olszewski req. by Wife, Sandra

Tuesday –December 19, 2017

No Divine Liturgy

Wednesday – December 20, 2017

No Divine Liturgy

Thursday – December 21, 2017

8:00 AM - +Joseph Cheddar req. by Niece, Donna
Jean Concavage

Friday – December 22, 2017

8:00 AM – +Anna Drozd req. by Ed & Michele
Teevan

Saturday – December 23, 2017

8:00 AM - +Joseph Amarose req. by Joanne
Stefanski

3:15 PM – Confessions

4:00 PM – For the Parishioners

Sunday – December 24, 2017

Sunday Before Christmas – Christmas Eve

8:30 AM - Confessions

9:15 AM – God’s Blessings for Irene Novak req. by
Pearl Hutsko

11:00 AM – Assumption BVM - +Boris Maksymuk
and +Mary Tracey req. by Family

Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

6:30 PM – Ss. Peter & Paul – Great Compline and
Traditional Caroling

7:00 PM – Christmas Liturgy for God’s Blessings on
our Parish

Welcome: We the people of Ss. Peter & Paul and Assumption Churches, are a catholic community that worships God, spreads the Good News of Christ, and serves those in need. Come into the house. Bring all you are, no need to check your failures at the door. There are no perfect people here. You are invited: come. Come in seeking, come in wondering, come in hurting. Come into this house of companionship and compassion. Come in. You are welcome here. Ss. Peter & Paul/Assumption Churches open their doors to you.

Bulletin Requests

Any requests for any information to be placed in the bulletin must be in writing and submitted to the church office by 12:00 Noon on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Vibrant Parish

A place to encounter the living Christ through the Word of God, the Holy Mysteries & Prayer, Serving One’s Neighbor, Leadership, Fostering & Serving Unity & Missionary Spirit.

Please Remember

To pray for vocations to the Holy Priesthood & Religious Life.

In Your Prayers

Please remember to pray for the sick & infirm of our Parishes.

Your Stewardship

We thank you for your financial support of our parish communities. Your weekly offerings are a visible sign of your love for our parish and your commitment to its mission.

Rosary Intention

For the week of December 17, 2017 – For the Sick and Infirm of our Parishes

Upcoming Events

Dec 17: St. Nicholas Visits at 2:00 PM
Dec 17: Holy Name Lottery Tree Drawing
Dec 17: Christmas dinner delivery to the Homebound
Dec 24: Christmas Eve
Dec 25: Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord
Dec 26: Feast of the Mother of God
Dec 27: Feast of St. Stephen – First Martyr
Dec 27: Soup and Sandwich

Ss. Peter & Paul Replenish Fund Donations as of December 10, 2017

Total To Date: \$75,159.54

Replenish Fund: None

Rebuilding Fund: None

Weekly Parish Financial Report

Ss. Peter & Paul Church

Sunday, December 10, 2017	\$1,613.00
Expenses:	\$3,079.28
Sunday, December 11, 2016	\$1,815.00

Assumption BVM Church

Sunday, December 10, 2017	\$ 619.00
Expenses:	\$1,669.69
Sunday, December 11, 2016	\$1,079.00

Ss. Peter & Paul Church Lector Schedule

Sat– December 16th	
Ellen Goretsky	4:00 PM
Sun – December 17th	
Justina Eisenhart	9:15 AM
Sat– December 23rd	
Ed Cuff	4:00 PM
Sun – December 24th	
Chris Bogner	9:15 AM

Assumption BVM Church Lector Schedule

Sun – December 17th	
Zachary Gee	11:00 AM
Sun – December 24th	
Kianna Rizzo	11:00 AM

Tweets from His Holiness Pope Francis

“We all possess God-given talents. No one can claim to be so poor that they have nothing to offer others.”

Sunday Social

Sunday Social is held at Ss. Peter & Paul immediately after 9:15 AM Divine Liturgy. All are welcome. Donations are accepted and appreciated.

Advent Season

During the time of “Christmas Fast” the Psalm of Typica/Beatitudes found on page 6 and page 10 respectively of the white Divine Liturgy booklet will be responded instead of the regular Sunday or Weekday Antiphons. This will last until the Sunday before Christmas.

Replenishment Fund Gifts

We are still accepting donations/gifts to our Parish Replenishment Fund established almost three years ago to restore monies that were used for the church renovations and repairs. Please consider making a special donation to this Fund. All donations remain here in our parish and are meant to secure the future financial health of our church. Your gift/donation will be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

Mystery (Sacrament) of Penance

Is available before each Divine Liturgy on Saturday, 3:15 PM to 4:00 PM and on Sunday in Ss. Peter & Paul Church 8:15 AM to 9:00 AM, and at Assumption BVM Church on Sunday before 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy in the confessionals.

Pyrohy Sale

Thank you to everyone who came out this past week to help with our pyrohy sale! Our next sale is Wednesday, January 17 and Thursday, January 18th. Work starts each day at 8 AM. **Orders for January must be received in the office by Noon on Thursday, January 11th.** Orders received after that time will be placed on a waiting list if we have extras. We are always in need of helping hands in all aspects of this project. Anyone interested in helping, please come to the church hall on the above dates and give us as much time of your time as you can. Many hands make the job easier for everyone!

Fasting Regulations

Christmas Eve is traditionally a day of strict abstinence from all meat and dairy products. This year, because Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, the fasting requirements are transferred to the previous Friday. As part of your spiritual preparations for the celebration of the Birth of Our Lord, you are encouraged to keep the Fast on Friday, Dec. 22nd.

Daily Divine Liturgy

A word of encouragement to all of you about participation in daily Divine Liturgy. What a beautiful way to start the day! Your desire to meet and receive the Lord on a daily basis allows Jesus to refresh and renew your life as only He can. Please consider making a commitment to attend one or more liturgies on weekday mornings.

Soup and Sandwich Ministry

Our parishes have embarked upon a new and exciting outreach to the community. We serve a humble lunch of a soup and sandwich every second and fourth Wednesday of the month between the hours of 11:30 AM and 1:00 PM. This lunch is open to everyone in our community: the needy, the elderly, and the lonely and is totally free of charge. Our next lunch will be served on **December 27th**. Special thanks to everyone who has made a donation in support of this project. We are grateful for your generosity. **Keep in mind a special third collection for “loose change” will be taken the last weekend of every month.** If you would like to help serve meals please notify the rectory office, Chris Bogner, Abbie Timmins or Toni Shedleski. Any and all help is appreciated.

Altar Rosary Society Collection for Babies

Ss. Peter & Paul Altar Rosary Society will be collecting baby supplies to be donated to the Pregnancy Care Center in Shamokin. Items needed include: clothing sizes newborn to 2T, blankets, diapers, baby wipes, bottles, formula, baby food, toys, etc. New items only, please. You may place your donations in the bassinet in the Church. Donations will be accepted until December 11, 2017. Collected items will be taken to the Pregnancy Care Center in time for Christmas.

Religious Education

Our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) is held Monday evenings from 6:00 PM to 7:15 PM in the church social hall. Again this year, we will have classes for all youth of our parishes, both Ss. Peter and Paul and Assumption BVM, from Pre-K through 8th grade. Parents, I wish to remind you of your serious obligation before the Lord to bring up your children in the faith. Please be sure they are registered for classes and attend faithfully each Monday evening throughout the school year. In order to complete the registration forms, we will need a copy of the student's baptismal certificate if they were not baptized in our parish. Registration forms are located in the vestibule of each parish. **Please note the following requirements for First Penance (First Communion):** *Child and parents must be registered and active members of Ss. Peter & Paul/Assumption BVM and * the child must have diligently completed 2 years of instruction. No exceptions will be made.

Holy Name Lottery Tree Raffle

The men of our Holy Name are conducting a raffle for a Lottery Ticket Tree. The winner will be drawn on Sunday, December 17th.

2018 Offering Envelopes

Church envelopes for 2018 are available in the vestibules of both churches. Every married couple or single person 18 years or over is to be registered and receive envelopes. To be considered a member of our parishes, Ss. Peter & Paul or Assumption BVM Churches, regular attendance and use of Church envelopes is required. If you are ill and/or aged let Fr. Michael know. The neglect of regular church attendance and regular use of church envelopes can lead to difficulties at the time of baptisms, weddings, funerals, etc. If you did not receive Church envelopes in for 2018 and would like to receive offering envelopes, please call the Church office at 339-0650 during regular office hours.

Prayers for Healing for Father Mark Fesniak

We ask that you please remember Father Mark Fesniak in your prayers. Father Mark is still coping with some serious medical issues. During this season, as we celebrate Thanksgiving and look forward to the joyous celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, you may wish to send Father Mark a get well card to let him know you are thinking of him. May Christ, the Supreme Physician of our bodies and souls, send His healing grace upon Father Mark and restore him to good health. Thank you for remembering Father Mark in your prayers. Cards may be dropped off at the office, placed in the collection basket or mailed to:

Father Mark Fesniak c/o Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, 131 North Beech Street, Mt. Carmel, Pa. 17851

St. Nicholas Visit

St. Nicholas will visit our parish on Sunday, December 17th at 2:00 PM. We have cordially invited all CCD students, our Altar Servers and parish volunteers to join us for a festive afternoon of caroling and family Christmas Spirit.

Spiritual Reading Lending Library

We have assembled a library based upon spiritual reading, reflection and meditation for the benefit of our parishioners and friends. It is located in the vestibule of the church. Everyone is invited to browse through and take a book home to read. Once you have finished the book, please return it so others can make use of it. As we strive to live good Christian lives, it is important we fill our minds and hearts with things that are “of the Lord”. Please take advantage of this opportunity to grow in faith and knowledge.

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

Troparion

Through faith, O Christ, You justified the Patriarchs, for through them You made a commitment to a church with gentiles. These Saints are glorified because from them descends the Virgin who gave You birth. Through their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Now and ever and forever. Amen.

Kontakion

You did not worship a man-made image, O thrice-blessed Youths, but were glorified in the test of fire, protected by a power beyond description. From the searing flames you cried out to God, saying “Hasten to help us, O Merciful Lord, for in Your greatness You can do whatever You will.”

Prokimenon

Blessed are You, and praiseworthy, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and glorious forever is Your name.
V. In all that You have done, Your justice is apparent.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Among His priests were Aaron and Moses; among those who invoked His name was Samuel.
V. They invoked the Lord and He answered.
Alleluia (3x)

Epistle: Col 3: 4-11

Gospel: Lk 14: 16-24

Christmas Offering

Please begin now putting aside a couple of dollars a week so that you can make an extra special offering to your church on Christmas Day. We ask each parishioner to consider making a Christmas donation of at least \$25.00. Gifts of \$50.00, \$75.00, \$100.00 or more would be greatly appreciated. When we stop to consider the great gift of Jesus himself, the Son of God, given to us at the First Christmas, it is easy for us to respond generously as we celebrate His birthday.

Christmas Dinner

Members of the Altar Rosary Society of Ss. Peter & Paul Church are preparing “A Traditional Christmas Dinner” for our parishioners who are home bound on Sunday, December 17, 2017. Dinners will be delivered by the Holy Name Society in the early afternoon hours. Thank you to both the Altar Rosary Society and the Holy Name Society for a great job that is done every year.

Divine Liturgy Intentions

Divine Liturgy Intention requests for Calendar Year 2018 are now being accepted. Weekend requests are limited to two per person, but weekday intentions are available. **Please Note: All Divine Liturgy requests are subject to change only by Father Michael.** Thank you for your consideration requesting Divine Liturgy Intentions. In addition, please remember that although there are usually three (3) Divine Liturgies on the weekend that **one Liturgy intention must be for All Parishioners.**



Icon of the Holy Forefathers

The second Sunday before the Nativity is set aside as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers in which the Church remembers all those who are of the ancestry of Christ. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, “In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).