

# St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

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Pastor

Father Tom Wells, MA, MDiv.

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Confessions 8:15 AM to 9:00 AM Sundays or Upon Request

On the web: [www.stjohnchrysostom.com](http://www.stjohnchrysostom.com), on Facebook and Instagram

Live Streaming: [www.youtube.com/c/StJohnChrysostomByzantineCatholicHouston](http://www.youtube.com/c/StJohnChrysostomByzantineCatholicHouston)



## Altar Flowers

The flowers for the altar for today's Divine Liturgy are donated by SimplyBeautifulFlorist.com, 14520 Memorial Dr.

Call 281 558-0333 or email [Sbflowers101@gmail.com](mailto:Sbflowers101@gmail.com)

## What Have We Left Behind?

Most successful people would probably tell you that what separates great people from ordinary people is that great people are willing to risk making decisions, whether right or wrong, and then acting on those decisions. Great people are people who have made great choices, often very risky choices, but in the long run their choices have usually been right. Biblical history is peopled with folks who were confronted by decisions they had to make.

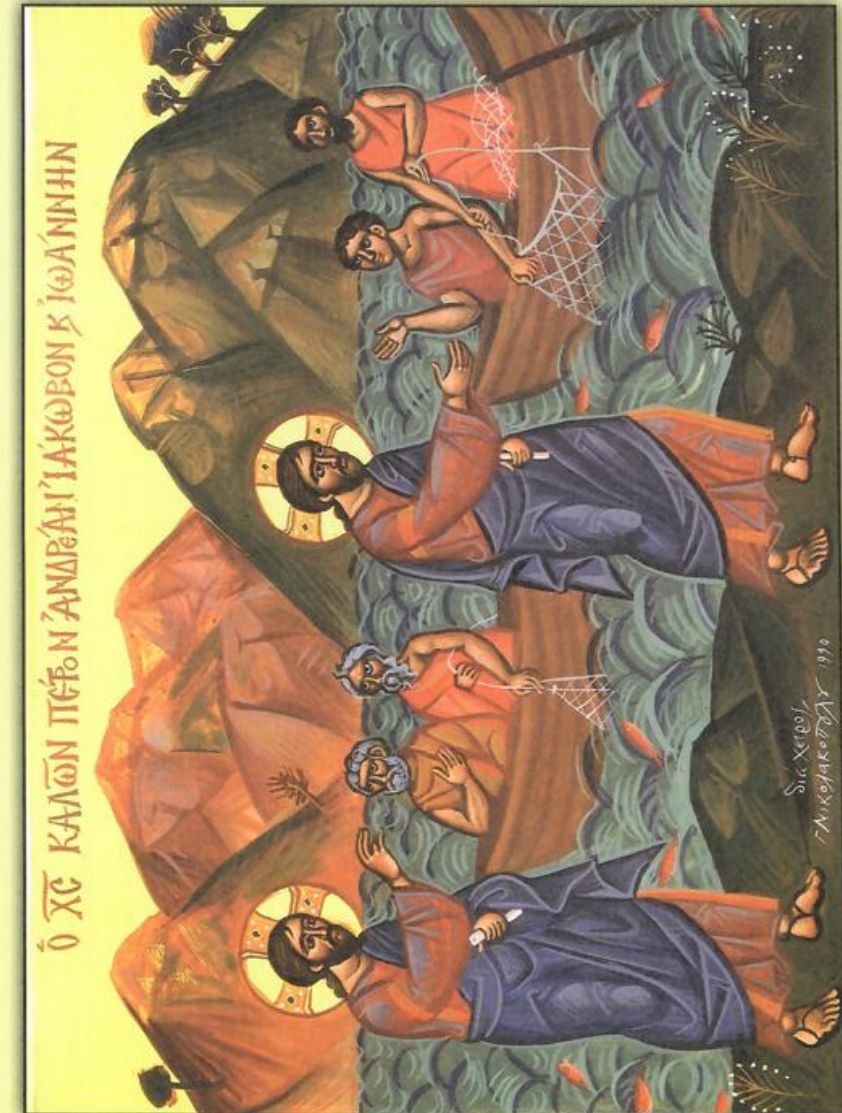
Just imagine the decision required of those fishermen on the shores of Lake Galilee. Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John were fishermen, true, but they were businessmen. Perhaps even prosperous businessmen. Fish was a staple in the diet, and fishermen could often make a very good living. The brothers Peter and Andrew were

probably business partners with the brothers James and John and most likely had a good business going. So when Jesus said to the two sets of brothers, "Follow me," He was not calling them to leave a sport, or a hobby; he was asking them to leave their careers, their livelihoods, and their families! They had everything to lose.

What have we left behind to follow Him? Unless there's some pain, some discomfort, some sacrifice, then most probably we haven't left anything. Perhaps we're still fumbling about in our boats, tossing our nets over the side, and business goes on as usual.

Yet, if we do that, the Great Fisherman might leave us and move on to someone else, and the choice might go by forever.

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Call of the First Apostles

## Bulletin for June 22<sup>nd</sup> & June 29<sup>th</sup> 2025

Sunday, June 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	Rom 2:10-16; Mt 4:18-23; Tone 1	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM +Mary Lazarek By the Kowalik Family
Sunday, June 29 <sup>th</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost Peter and Paul Prime Apostles	Rom 5:1-10 & 2 Cor 11:21-12:9; Mt 6:22-34 & Mt 16:13-19; Tone 2	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM +Larry Buller By Shirley Buller & in Thanksgiving for Marriage
Sunday, July 6 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	Rom 6:18-23; Mt 8:5-13; Tone 3	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM Thanksgiving for Marriage of Sabin and Chantel Velasques
Sunday, July 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils	Rom 10:1-10; Mt 8:28-9:1 or: Heb 13:7-16; Jn 17:1- 13; Tone 4	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM Anniversaries of Pat & Ted Bojczuk and Greg & Joan Chapman
Sunday, July 20 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost- Elijah-Great Prophet	Rom 12:6-14 & James 5:10-20; Mt 9:1-8 & Lk 4:22-30; Tone 5	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM Thanksgiving for Marriage of Langston & Hope Wesson
Sunday, July 27 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	Rom 15:1-7; Mt 9:27-35; Tone 6	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM
Sunday, August 3 <sup>rd</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	1 Cor 1:10-18; Mt 14:14- 22; Tone 7	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM

(S) Streamed. (O) Obligation. (H) Third Hour at 9:30 AM (M) Matins 9:00 AM

### Pray for our Sick & Homebound

Barbara Veres, Bill Torma, Elizabeth Van Den Heuvel, Leslie Bohannon, Kathryn Kowalik, Marianne Oprisko, Malak Bakkal, Sr. Sandy Atha, Ted & Pat Bojczuk, Margaret Hays, Winnie Pizzitola, Michael & Brenda Rosko

### New to St. John?

Please go to [www.stjohnchrysostom.com](http://www.stjohnchrysostom.com) & click Register.  
We will keep you informed of events in the life of the parish.

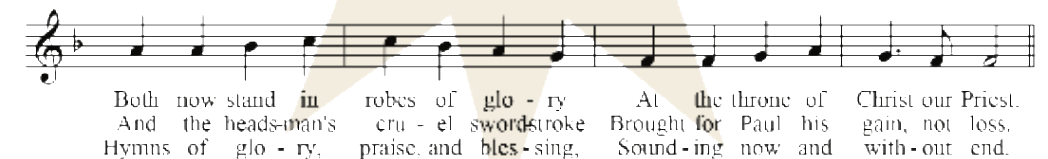
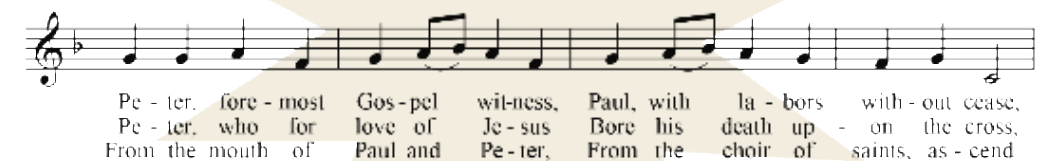
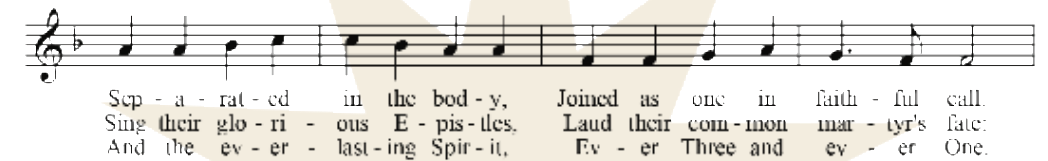
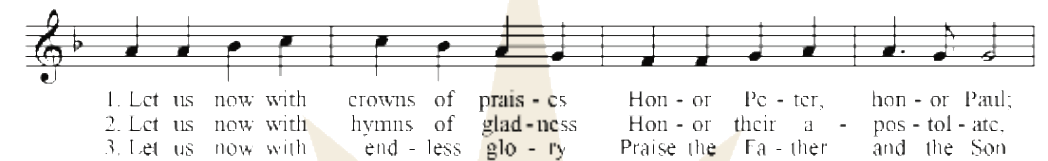
### Welcome to our Guests and Visitors!

A warm welcome to our guests and visitors. Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the social hall after Divine Liturgy today.



### Hymn

melody: Joyful, joyful, we adore thee



<https://mcl.archpitt.org/>

<https://www.byzimom.com/byzikids-magazine-extras>



## St. John Chrysostom on Saints Peter and Paul

“For what is greater than Peter? And what is equal to Paul? These men surpassed, in deed and in word, all creation, both in the heavens and on the earth. For even though they were bound up in the mire of the body, they were nevertheless found to be better even than the angels. What, then, can we say to those who were teachers of both the higher and the lower creation? I can find no word worthy to glorify those who are the glory of our race, who traversed every land and sea, pulling up the roots of sins and sowing the seeds of piety in the hearts of indomitable men.

Peter was the leader of the apostles, and Paul was the teacher of all the world and the co-communicant of the hosts on high. Peter was the bridle of the stubborn Jews, and Paul was the admonition of the gentiles. And behold the transcendent wisdom of the Master! For he chose Peter from out of the fishermen, but Paul from out of the tentmakers. And he did this for a reason: for it brought low the glory of the Jews. For this reason, the Lord entrusted them to this particular fisherman, saying, *Go out into the sea and cast your hook, and take up the first fish that comes up, and open its mouth, and you will find a stater* (Mt 17:27). By “the sea” he means the immovable will of the lawless Jews. By the “hook” he means the subtle word of doctrine. By the “fish” he means the Law. By the opening of its mouth, he means the interpretation of the Law. And by finding a stater therein he means the drawing forth of the Law’s spiritual meaning.

But to Paul, as a tentmaker, he entrusted the gentiles, that he might, through the Law and Grace, clothe the naked with the red garment dyed in the blood and body of the Lord. For this reason the Lord cries out to him, saying, *Go forth, for I will send you far off, unto the nations* (Acts 22:21) ...

Paul and Peter, who illumine the Church day after day. They are the treasures of the Lord, the shelter of all the world, the receptacles of the Spirit, the keys that unlock the mysteries of the Holy Trinity, and the exegetes of the dispensation of the divine Word!”

*The above is a quote taken from St. John Chrysostom’s Sermon on Saints Peter and Paul. The rest of the sermon can be found here: <https://www.pappaspatristicinstitute.com/post/on-the-holy-apostles-peter-and-paul-by-st-john-chrysostom>*

## What I viewed on FORMED: Everyday Heroes by Pani Mary

Produced by the Knights of Columbus, the documentary shares the lives of several Knights and how they are providing help to those around them. Whether it is aiding wounded soldiers returning to civilian life, or assisting in the Special Olympics, or leaving a professional career of soccer to follow a call to the priesthood, all the stories share how one discerns to follow Christ in their particular circumstances.

## Archeparchial Celebration of Marriage

*Sunday Sept 7th, 2024 at 3:00 PM, St. Elias Church in Munhall, PA.*

The archbishop wishes to recognize wedding anniversaries of 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, etc., during 2025. A special certificate is sent to couples, even if they are unable to attend the event. If your marriage anniversary this year falls on one of the milestone years, then, please fill out the form in the narthex and place it in the Sunday collection. Deadline is August 15<sup>th</sup>.

## → Need Volunteers to Host Sunday Social June 29<sup>th</sup> ←

We need volunteers to host the next Sunday Social on June 29<sup>th</sup>. The normal volunteers are all away that Sunday. **Without volunteers, there can be no Sunday Social on the 29<sup>th</sup>.** The tasks are making coffee, setting out the bagels and various other items like water, cream cheese, cheese squares and then cleaning up afterwards. Please see Pani Mary about volunteering.

## Sunday Collection

June 8<sup>th</sup>: \$2,008; June 15<sup>th</sup>: \$1,314

*Thank you for your generosity!*

# A Moment with the Catechism

## The Holy Mysteries of Christian Life

### Our Baptism is “*The Blessing of the Jordan*”

413 In the Rite of Baptism, the Church prays that “the grace of salvation and the blessing of the Jordan” descend upon the water. We pray that in this Baptism, that which was revealed at the river Jordan will be realized now. There, the Father, through the Holy Spirit, declared Jesus to be his beloved Son. That which was manifested in Christ—being the Son of God—becomes the reality of all who are baptized.

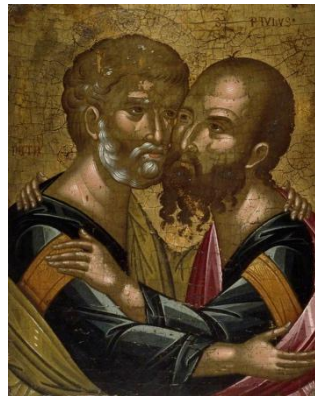
*Upon you also, if you possess sincere piety, the Holy Spirit will descend, and from above will be heard over you the voice of the Father, saying not “This is my Son” but “This has now become my son.” For to Christ alone belongs the “is” ... To you belongs “has now become,” since you do not possess the sonship by nature, but receive it by adoption. He is Son eternally, but you receive that grace by advancement. (Cyril of Jerusalem, The Catechetical Lectures, 3, 14: PG 33, 444-445.)*

414 Baptism is the first Mystery that a person needs to receive in order to enter the Church, the ark of salvation. It is the means by which one becomes a member of the Church, the Body of Christ. “Whence is it that we are Christians? Through our faith would be the universal answer. And in what way are we saved? Plainly because we were regenerated through the grace given in our baptism.” Baptism unlocks the access to the other Holy Mysteries and sacred rites in the Church through which the Lord sanctifies, vivifies, and leads his Church as a whole and each believer in particular. This is why the baptized already become “heirs of the kingdom” and receive the “blessedness of the saints.”

### Prayers and Devotions

*Kontakion XIII from the Akathist to Saints Peter and Paul*

O most glorious and laudable disciples of Christ, Peter and Paul, first-enthroned and equally enthroned holy Apostles, who have enlightened all the universe with the holy Faith and will come with Christ to judge the whole world! Your proper dignity is not on earth, but is the glory and praise rendered in heaven. Accepting now our unworthy entreaty, by your worthy supplications preserve us from all misfortunes, and beseech Christ, the just Judge, to be merciful to us at the last judgment, that, saved by your mediation, we may chant to God our Savior: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (Three times).



## Evangelization Corner

*Evangelization* /ĭ-văn’jə-līz- ā’shən”/:  
The proclamation of Christ and his Gospel (Greek: *evangelion*) by word and the testimony of life, in fulfillment of Christ’s command.

*“We must sacrifice everything for everything: our ambitions, indeed our entire selves, for the cause of the Faith.”*

**Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati**

## Storm Damage – Update

- Lightning Arresting System on Dome – **IN PROGRESS (90%)**
- Minor repairs to school/rectory roof - **COMPLETE**
- Rectory skylights replacement (leaks) - Pending

Thank you to all who have contributed to cover what is not covered by insurance. If you would like to contribute to the repairs, you may do so online (<https://stjohnchrysostom.com/donate>) by selecting, “**Special Collections**”. You may also put your repair donation in the collection. Mark your check, “**For Repairs**”.

## Quote of the Week – *The Meaning of Love*

“The meaning and worth of love, as a feeling, is that it really forces us, with all our being, to acknowledge for ANOTHER the same absolute central significance which, because of the power of our egoism, we are conscious of only in our own selves. Love is important not as one of our feelings, but as the transfer of all our interest in life from ourselves to another, as the shifting of the very center of our personal life. This is characteristic of every kind of love, but predominantly of sexual love; it is distinguished from other kinds of love by greater intensity, by a more engrossing character, and by the possibility of a more complete overall reciprocity. Only this love can lead to the real and indissoluble union of two lives into one; only of it do the words of Holy Writ say: ‘They shall be one flesh,’ i.e., shall become one real being.”

**- *The Meaning of Love* by Vladimir Solovyov (1894)**

*Bulletin Questions, Comments, Suggestions:* [Bulletin@stjohnchrysostom.com](mailto:Bulletin@stjohnchrysostom.com)