

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / PETER & PAUL, PRIME APOSTLES 6/29/25

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✧ Helen Law (req. by Kavcsak Family)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✧ Jim and ✧ Linda Reinhart (req. by Larry & Paula Reinhart)

11:00 AM (E) For the Parish Family

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 7/6/25

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) For the Parish Family

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✧ Paul and ✧ Ethel Pangratz (req. by Paul Pangratz Family)

11:00 AM (E) ✧ Ron Riel (req. by Helen Krajnik)

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:
06/22/25 \$1814.00

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION

God with Us Eastern Catholic Formation is the official catechetical apostolate of the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States. The website address is: www.godwithusonline.org This website now makes available radio podcasts, online lectures, a monthly newsletter, books and other education materials which serve to promote a better understanding of Eastern Catholics and their expression of the Catholic faith in the United States. The resource material on this website is constantly updated or changed to better meet the needs of its users.

FEAST OF STS. PETER AND PAUL – Today, June 29 – Family picnic dinner

Following the 11 AM Divine Liturgy today in Erie, all are invited to gather in the social center for a picnic dinner provided by the parish.

2025 ERIE COUNTY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY – Sunday August 3

Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex for the noon lunch and order forms for both free and purchased ride tickets. Deadline to order tickets is July 20. All are invited to attend the lunch, no need to be a “rider.” Bring a dish to share. Meat, tableware, coffee, and iced tea will be provided. Contact Abby Adams (not the park office) at 814-790-3203 with questions.

Prayer to Sts. Peter and Paul

O Holy Apostles Peter & Paul, we gratefully accept you as our special patrons and advocates. St. Peter, prince of the apostles, you are the rock upon which Jesus built His church. St. Paul, you are the preacher of truth to the whole world. Pray that we will enjoy a lively faith, a firm hope and burning love. Help us, as you helped the early communities of faith, to be united in love, fervent in good works, and living expressions of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Intercede for us, that we might have patience in adversity and humility in prosperity. Inspire us to be attentive in prayer, pure of heart, and diligent in fulfilling our Christian duties. Show us, by your example, to accept the will of God and to persevere by the grace of God until our hour of death. Sustained by your prayers, may we be worthy to share eternal life with you in God’s heavenly kingdom. Amen

FEAST OF STS. PETER AND PAUL – June 29

The holy apostles are blessed because of the way they respond to divine revelation. Simon confesses Jesus to be the Christ, the Son of the living God in response to a revelation from the heavenly Father. Saul falls to the ground on the road to Damascus where the Son of God reveals himself to him, saying: “I am Jesus” (Acts 9:5). Simon becomes Peter and Saul becomes Paul, and the Church becomes strong.

This is an age when people readily discount the divinity of Christ and the teachings of the Church, demeaning Jesus to the inadequate status of brother, friend, or role model. However, the holy apostles Peter and Paul proclaimed to their deaths that Jesus Christ is Lord. They knew too well the high price of relativism and compromise. How much Peter suffered as a result of his denial of Jesus by the fire at the beginning of Christ’s Passion! Even more, Saul’s original rejection of Jesus Christ took the form of persecution and outright murder. Thus, we celebrate the holy apostles in order to repent of all the ways that we deny and disgrace Jesus Christ by our self-absorbed neglect of others.

No Cutting in Line

Orin Smith, President and CEO of Starbucks, the internationally famous coffee magnate, was interviewed on a business program in 2024.

During the interview, Smith was asked why people stand in long lines waiting for his product. He replied that even he stands in those same lines, waiting for it, because it is a quality product. The interviewer asked why he does not just cut in line or go behind the counter to get himself a coffee. After all, he is the CEO of the company. He replied that the wanted to have the same experience as the others waiting in the line, and as such, would never think of cutting in line.

Isn’t that what Jesus did for us? He could have skipped over the pains and sufferings and death that come with being human. After all, He did not have to give us eternal life. We had sinned, and as such, deserve death. However, because he loves us so very much, He chose to live with us, walk with us, and teach us about the Kingdom, and even suffer and die that we might have eternal life with Him in Heaven. He did not “cut in line,” but took every morsel of the human experience – the bad with the good.

POSITIVE PRESSURE

Pressure in the proper measure is a good thing. Under pressure, for example, a lump of coal becomes a diamond, and a hunk of clay becomes a piece of porcelain. Similarly, we need to feel a certain amount of pressure in order to reach our full potential. So, at the first sign of pressure, don’t panic. Stop, take a breath, and consider how to respond to the pressure so that your best self emerges in any situation.

If it gets to be too much for you, back away for a bit. The resting periods in any great project are just as important as the times of productivity. Let the Lord work with you to bring about the beautiful masterpiece he wants to make of your life.

JESUS PRAYER – Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner