



Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church



A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Father Dave Urban, Pastor
Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus
Timothy Martin, Reader
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors
Matthew Peifer, Church Council President
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July 8, 2018

Volume IV

6th Sunday after Pentecost / Virgin-martyr Febronia of Nisibis (304)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 5

Liturgical Color: **Green**

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14; Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

YOUTH Sermon / Additional collection for our Capital Improvement Fund / Panachida for Helen Roskwitalski (1-year anniversary) / NOON to 5:00(ish) - CHURCH PICNIC

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thursday, July 12 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul
(the Feast after the completion of the Apostles' Fast)

The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

* Monday	Venerable David of Thessalonica (540)	1 Corinthians 5:9-6:11	Matthew 13:54-58
* Tuesday	St. Joanna the Myrrh-bearer (1st c.)	1 Corinthians 6:20-7:12	Matthew 14:1-13
* Wednesday	Venerables Sergius and Herman (14th c.)	1 Corinthians 7:12-24	Matthew 14:35-15:11
Thursday	The Holy, Glorious and All-praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul (67)	1 Corinthians 7:24-35	Matthew 15:12-21
** Friday	Synaxis of the Holy, Glorious and All-praised 12 Apostles	1 Corinthians 7:35-8:7	Matthew 15:29-31
Saturday	Wonderworking Unmercenaries Cosmas & Damian	Romans 12:1-3	Matthew 10:37-11:1

* The Apostles' (Peter & Paul) Fast - Let us imitate Christ and the Saints and fast as they did.

Sunday, July 15 – 7th Sunday after Pentecost / St. Photius, metropolitan of Kiev (1431)

9:30 am – Deacon's Service with Communion Tone 6

Liturgical Color: **Green**

Epistle: Romans 15:1-7; Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35

YOUTH Sunday

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Glory Be To Jesus Christ! (Glory Be Forever!)
Slava Isusu Christu! (Slava Na Viki!)

We are happy that you have joined us today! Please join us downstairs for coffee and a bite to eat. It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning and we wish God's Blessings to all who visit with us today and hope you stop in again soon!

If you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy, please see Fr. Dave and he will gladly answer any of your questions to the best of his ability. He looks forward to meeting you!

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Wednesday, July 18 – 7:00pm Moleben to St. Nectarios with holy anointing

Sunday, July 22 – Panachida following Liturgy for the 25th anniversary of the passing of +Jack Peifer

Tuesday, July 24 – Akathist to the Great-martyr Euphemia

Sunday, July 29 – Additional Collection for our Community Outreach

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PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions for this section to Father by Wednesday.)

Thank You! to everyone who brought in items for the Transfiguration Monastery last month! Your generosity of used greeting cards to cleaning supplies is so greatly appreciated!

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Glass Block – At the end of May, there was an attempted break in at the church through the stain glass window by the Men's Room steps. They were unsuccessful in entering or doing any other damage. The Church Council decided to switch to glass block for this window and the one by the ladies room. (The cost was less than \$1,000 and was taking from our Capital Improvement Fund.) Any additional donations to cover this cost would be much appreciated!

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Coat Drive – Do you have a clean coat or two that you have not worn since before the last coat drive? (...but it still looks good and you don't want to get rid of it?) We are now collecting clean coats and jackets, in good condition, to donate to FOCUS Pittsburgh this August. We will collect the clean coats on the coat rack in the hall.

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Our annual garage sale will be **August 24-25**. Tax-deductible clean donations are now being accepted. Let us collect what is 'extra' for us, as it may be needed by someone else! This stewardship community outreach is here to help others!



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Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials were offered last week by Mary Jane Hudak, Barbara Kirish, Joanne Nelson, Cindy Pavilonis, Viola Peifer, Olga Radick, Eleanor Sanger, Melanie Shuster, and Patty Watson.

"I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." - John 8:12

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Science and Nature Camp @ Camp Nazareth - will take place **Sunday, August 6th** thru **Saturday, August 12th**.

Camp participants will learn all about Astronomy, Biology, Earth Science, Geology, Meteorology and SO MUCH MORE! Presentations and activities will be given and led by the Carnegie Science Center, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, the Jennings Environmental Center, as well as local high school teachers and college professors.

Participants will have the opportunity to use telescopes, microscopes, and water quality management technology as well as explore the trails, waterfalls, streams and geography of the Camp. Special emphasis will be placed on appreciating the beauty of nature and the wonder of the fields of science they will study.

The Science and Nature Camp is a resident (sleepaway) Camp for ages 8-18. It will take place on the 289 beautiful acres of Camp Nazareth (339 Pew Road, Mercer, PA).

Visit www.campnazareth.org to register. Email campnazareth@acrod.org or call 724-662-4840 for more information.

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Parish Stewardship Opportunities...

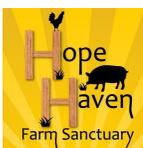
As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. (Lk. 6:31)

- Pray for our parish and it's future
- Sponsor a Coffee Social
- Donate towards Bibles for Babies
- Bring in items for our garage sale
- Donate towards our coat drive

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ST JOHN'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting donations for **Hope Haven Farm Sanctuary**. Located in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, Hope Haven is the home to pot-bellied pigs, alpaca, goats, llama, a mini-horse, peacocks, turkey, hens, roosters, guineas, ducks, and an emu! They do not accept unwanted pet animals but work with local humane agents and animal shelters to rescue farm animals from abusive and neglectful situations.

They run solely on donations from the public. They offer educational farm tours by appointment from May to October. They are always in need of donations (see their wish list on the bulletin board in the hall), financial gifts, help with fundraising, and promotion. *Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month!*

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH

Christmas in July! Vendor & Craft Show – St. Nicholas Church (903 Ann St., Homestead, PA 15120) will have over 20 of your favorite vendors and crafters on **Saturday, July 21st** from 10am–2pm as well as a Russian Auction, Raffles, and Cafe Nikolai for your eating pleasure!

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Kennywood – Visit Kennywood for there Heritage days with our Orthodox neighbors:
SERBIAN Day – **Saturday, July 21th** – Contact Natalie Wuchenich (412-458-5227) for discount tickets
GREEK Day – **Tuesday, July 24th** – contact Presentation of Christ Church at 412-824-9188 or at lkoutsavlis@ypapanti.net. Credit Cards now accepted for phone orders. Ticket Prices: Regular Day Pass - \$26.00, Seniors 55+ - \$16.00, Seniors 70+ - \$12.00 (Children 3 & under are free).



Our Stewardship Gift To God

Stewardship/Dues: \$ 405
Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box: \$ 123
Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special: \$ 617

Total Collections: \$ 1145

Collection for the Saints: "On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper." 1 Cor 16:2

June Financial Report:

Donation Income = \$ 5880.27

***Expenses = \$ 4697.24**

Net Income = \$ 1183.03

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 43

Coffee Social Steward Schedule

July 15: **Kathy Schrmack**

July 22: **OPEN / "Pot Luck"**

July 29: **OPEN / "Pot Luck"**

The Divine Liturgy concludes at the final blessing, but the liturgy continues downstairs as we gather in love and fellowship with our parish family and visiting neighbors. (Everyone is also encouraged to help clean up after.) Thank you to all those who support and keep this critical ministry alive in our parish!

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People at Work – Ruth E. Hendricks, a local photographer, has put together a photo display of *People at Work (Primarily Pittsburghers)* and Father Dave was honored to be asked to be one of them! Here are the details: Panza Gallery (115 Sedgwick St., Millvale, PA 15209) – **July 7-28** – W, Th, F 10-5; Sat. 10-3 – for more information, contact Ruth at rutheh@gmail.com / 412-901-6128 / rutheh.com

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Visit Our Diocese On-Line

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org
Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org
FB: www.facebook.com/acroddiocese
Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews
You Tube: youtube.com/acroddiocese



Ukrainian Food Festival (or *Ukie Fest* as it is affectionately known by locals) will offer the opportunity to eat, drink, dance and be merry in the McKees Rocks Bottoms. **July 25–28** at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church (116 Ellen St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136), the event will include all your favorite Ukrainian dishes. Doors open daily at 5pm (Wed. 7pm Parade, 8:30p-10p Bobby Thompson and the Groove; Thu 8p-10p Justen Fabus; Fri 8p-10p The Jaggerz; Sat 8p-10p The Marcells) Visit www.ukiefestrocks.org for more information or call 412-331-2362.

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Upcoming Orthodox Food Festivals:

- **July 17-21** – Holy Trinity (2930 Beaver Rd., Ambridge) *Greek*
- **July 25-28** – St. Mary (116 Ellen St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136) *Ukrainian*



Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the church hall for times and more information or visit <http://www.holytrinitypgh.org/pittsburgh-greek-festivals-guide>

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“Saints Alive” **Vacation Church School** at Holy Cross (123 Gilkeson Rd., Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228) Mon.-Fri., **July 30-Aug. 3** from 9am~12 Noon (*8:30am for Monday) For all children age 3 through entering 6th grade (older students, parents, and interested adults are welcome to volunteer!) Nominal registration fee: \$20 if received by 6/30; \$30 by 7/15; \$40 after 7/15. Registration forms found at: holycrosspgh.org/ministries/vacation/

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Vacation Church School at Presentation of Christ (1672 Electric Ave., East Pittsburgh, PA) Monday-Friday, **August 6-9** from 9am to 12 Noon. All children ages 5-12 are welcome. We ask a \$5 per child donation. Registration information can be obtained by contacting the office (412-824-9188 / LKoutsavlis@ypapanti.net)

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SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: *Romans 12:6-14*

Gospel: *Matthew 9:1-8*

⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Marks of the True Christian

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Jesus Heals a Paralytic

⁹ And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city. ² And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.” ³ And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” ⁴ But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵ For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? ⁶ But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he then said to the paralytic—“Rise, take up your bed and go home.” ⁷ And he rose and went home. ⁸ When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

12 Practical Ways to Live Out the Faith at Home

By Sarah Wright: an Orthodox Christian, a wife, a mother of three, a teacher, and blog writer

In the Orthodox Church, we often refer to the home as “The Little Church.” The idea is that the home should reflect the Church as a place where the faith is taught and lived. The home is where children learn about Christ and how to follow Him, where love and forgiveness and repentance are practiced.

That can seem like a pretty tall order when you’re just trying to remember to take your laundry out of the washing machine before it begins to mildew. (Or, maybe that’s just me....)

However, there are many simple, practical, and small ways that we can begin to make our homes a little church.

1. Pray the Morning Prayers as a Family

Mornings can be a crazy time—people running around to get ready, lunches to prepare, buses to

catch. However, starting our day off before the throne of God in prayer shows our children that faith is the ultimate priority in our family. Even if you just gather in your icon and pray the Lord’s Prayer together, starting the day in prayer sets the tone for the rest of the day. If you have more time, you can find the complete morning prayers in your prayer book (we like this one in our house).

Related Article: [Making Time for Morning Prayers](#)

2. Create an Icon Corner

Setting aside a designated place to pray in your home has been an important part of Orthodox tradition from the very beginning. Therefore, Orthodox families have icon corners in their houses with various icons, prayer books, candles and incense, holy water, and more. Filling our homes with icons of Christ and his saints gives us constant reminders of the need for prayer, of the reality of our faith.

Related Article: [How to Create an Icon Corner](#)

(To Be Continued With...)

- 3. Read Orthodox Children's Books Together
- 4. Read (or Listen To) the Daily Readings as a Family
- 5. Pray the Evening Prayers
- 6. Ask Forgiveness of Each Other
- 7. Make Name Days a Big Deal

- 8. Sing the Hymns of the Church
- 9. Fast Together
- 10. Find Ways to Give to Others
- 11. Pray Before and After Meals
- 12. Attend Liturgies as a Family

Full Article with links can be found at: <http://www.orthodoxmotherhood.com/12-practical-ways-live-faith-home/>

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Source: www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar © 1996-2001 by translator Fr. S. Janos

The Virgin-Martyr Febronia

Commemorated on July 7 / June 25

The Virgin-Martyr Febronia suffered during the reign of Diocletian (284-305). She was raised at a monastery in the city of Sivapolis (Assyria region). The head of the women's monastery was the hegumenia Brienna, the aunt of Saint Febronia, and being concerned about the salvation of Saint Febronia, she assigned her a stricter form of life than the other nuns. According to their monastic ustav-rule, on Fridays the sisters left aside their other duties and spent the whole day at prayer and the reading of Holy Scripture, and usually the hegumenia appointed the reading to Saint Febronia.

News about her pious life spread throughout the city. The illustrious young widow Hieria, a pagan, began to visit her, and under the influence of her guidance and prayer she accepted holy Baptism, bringing then to the Christian faith her parents and kinsfolk.

Diocletian dispatched to Assyria for the destruction of Christians a detachment of soldiers under the command of Lysimachus, Selenus and Primus. Selenus, the uncle of Lysimachus, was noted for his fierce attitude against Christians, but Lysimachus was of a different frame of mind from him, since his mother had sought to inspire love for the Christian faith in her son, and she had died a Christian. And Lysimachus had discussed with his kinsman Primus how far possible it would be to deliver Christians from the hands of the torturer. When the detachment of soldiers approached the convent, its inhabitants hid.



There remained only the hegumenia Brienna, her helper Thomaida and Saint Febronia, who at the time was seriously ill. It sorrowed the hegumenia terribly, that her niece would fall into the hands of the torturers, possibly to defile her, and she prayed fervently that the Lord would preserve her and strengthen her in the confession of Christ the Saviour. Selenus gave orders to bring him all the nuns of the convent. Primus with the detachment of soldiers found no one, except the two old women and Saint Febronia. He regretted that they had not hidden, and he suggested to the nuns to be gone. But the nuns decided not to quit the place of their labours and they entrusted themselves to the will of the Lord. ...

The Nun Thomaida, who afterwards recorded in detail the martyr's act of Saint Febronia, and also her student Hieria. She came forth out of the crowd and in the hearing of all reproached Selenus for his boundless cruelty. He gave orders to arrest her, but learning that Hieria was of illustrious standing whom he could not readily subject to torture, he stopped her, saying: "By thy speech thou hast brought on Febronia yet greater torment". Finally, they beheaded the holy Martyress Febronia. ...

Every year, on the day of the martyress death of Saint Febronia there was celebrated at the convent a solemn feast. During the time of the all-night vigil the monastic sisters always saw Saint Febronia, who occupied her usual place in church. From the relics of Saint Febronia occurred numerous miracles and healings. The Life of Saint Febronia was recorded by the Nun Thomaida, an eye-witness to her deeds.

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SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Father can meet M-F 9:30a-4p or by appointment.

Online Community: Please email Fr. Dave to receive the weekly bulletin via email.

Phone Tree – Please call Fr. Dave to be added.

Emergency Sick Calls – Please notify Fr Dave when you or a family member are going into the hospital or having a procedure so he can pray with you and you may receive the Anointing to be fully prepared.

Mystery of Confession – Opportunities are available after every service, most Saturdays during fasting periods from 11am to 1pm, OR by appointment.

Holy Communion/Eucharist – The reception of the Holy Eucharist is encouraged by all Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves, with fasting from midnight on, regular Confession, and forgiveness for all people. Those who are not Orthodox may receive a blessing from the chalice.

Lapsed Members – You are always welcome home

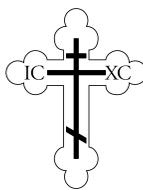
and we want you back! Generally speaking, sincere participation in the Mysteries of Confession, Communion, and regular attendance at the divine services are all that is required to begin parish life anew! See Fr. Dave for specific details.

Baptisms – Please consult Father for details.

Adult Chrismation – New parishioners are always welcome! In the case of adults seeking entrance into the Church, a period of prescribed catechism will be established with Fr. Dave before administration of the Mysteries. An Orthodox Christian sponsor is also required.

Marriages – Are not performed during fasting periods and certain Feast Days. Please consult Father ASAP for details (before arrangements are made for the hall).

Church Funerals – are provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual and financial obligations; otherwise burial is from the funeral home. The Church does not permit cremation.



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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

"A believer is not one who thinks that God can do everything, but one who believes that he will obtain all things. Faith paves the way for what seems impossible." +St. John Climacus

MONDAY

"An unfulfilled promise is just like a good tree without fruit." +St. Ambrose of Optina

TUESDAY

"By its nature, the cross is the strongest and deepest degree of love." - Metropolitan Saba (Esber)

WEDNESDAY



"A young person ought to keep company with other spiritually mature young people in order to be helped and move within a spiritual atmosphere. Let's not make things more difficult than they are." +St. Paisios of Mount Athos

THURSDAY: FEAST OF SAINT PETER AND SAINT PAUL

O leaders of the Apostles and teachers of the world, Peter and Paul, pray to the Lord of all to grant peace to the world and abundant mercy to our souls. – Tropar for the Feast

FRIDAY

"Hell can't be made attractive, so the devil makes attractive the road that leads there." +St. Basil the Great

SATURDAY

"Those who reject fasting take away from themselves and from others the arms against their flesh, with its manifold passions, and against the Devil, both of which are especially powerful against us through our intemperance" +St. John of Kronstadt

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PRAYER CORNER

*Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions and Other Needs **



A Prayer For The Sick: O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant *name*. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver *him/her* from sickness and bitter pain. Heal *him/her* so that *he/she* may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.

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For the Health of... Julie, Jane, Mildred, Anna Mae, Andrew, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Barbara, Matthew, Patricia, Lino, David, Melissa, Louis, Marjorie, Jonathan, Donna, Doug, Danielle, June, Helen, Mary Jane, Alimamy, Willy, Mary ...*through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer.*

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For the Special Intentions of... Bishop Gregory, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, John S., Ameer, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Ashley, John, and Noella, *our seminarians:* Michael and Daniel, *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Matthew, John, Timothy, Patricia, Theresa, Lawrence, Donald, Jane, Cynthia, Katherine, Eleanor, Kenneth, Gina, Robert, Jillian, Wendy, Olga, John, Melanie, Michael, John, Richard, John, Margaret, Sarah, Patricia, *and for those working towards our Community Outreach, The Monastery of the Transfiguration ...through the prayers of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker; St. John the Baptist; the Archangels Michael & Gabriel; and the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.*

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Birthday Prayers for... Allyssa Yakemawiz (7/7), Charles Deluca (7/8), Jessica Winkler (7/8), *Father's Godfather,* Richard Babbie (7/9), *Pañi's Grandmother,* Maria Alexa (7/11), Jean Zak (7/12), Fr John Gido (7/12) ...*May God allow them to grow in peace and love all the days of their lives and may He grant them many and blessed years!*

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Anniversary Prayers for... ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Nicole & Jeffrey ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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For Expectant Mothers... Lindsay, Mary Ann, Elyse, and Lauren ...*through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Ashley and Patrick ...*through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... ...*through the prayers of St George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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For the souls of the newly departed... ...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. Eternal Memory!*

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* This is to be used for the special intentions of our brothers and sisters and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you would wish to make additions or subtractions (in the case of answered prayers) to our Parish List. The words of the Gospel are true: **it is good to pray for one another.** Let this be a place where we lay out our concerns and beg the help of our brothers & sisters in Christ. This prayer list is NOT limited to Orthodox Christians.

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS OF THE WEEK:

A Prayer from the Akathist Hymn to Saint Peter and Saint Paul:

How indebted we are, Saint Peter and Saint Paul, that you have pastored the Holy Church for all nations after the teachings of Jesus Christ. How miraculous your labors for the sake of our instruction, and how harmoniously your footsteps merge with the sufferings of Christ for the sake of our faith. Cease not, O holy Apostles, to intercede for us and to raise us up from avarice and idolatry that we may be of one heart and mind. Lead us daily to the Gospel that we may always live in Christ and in fellowship with all the disciples, prophets, and righteous men and women. We pray, let nothing separate us from the love of God. Amen.