



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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September 1, 2019

Volume V

11th Sunday after Pentecost / within the Feast of the Dormition Martyr Andrew Stratelates of Cilicia (3rd c.)

9:15 - Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy Tone 2 Liturgical Color: **Blue**

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12; Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35

Blessing of Flowers and Herbs / ~12 Noon - Akathist to the "Inexhaustible Cup" Icon and Panachida

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, September 3 – * 9:30 am * Moleben to St. Nectarios with holy anointing
The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.



Monday	Prophet Samuel (6th c. B.C.)	2 Corinthians 5:10-15	Mark 1:9-15
Tuesday	Apostle Thaddeus of the Seventy (44)	2 Corinthians 5:15-21	Mark 1:16-22
* Wednesday	Martyr Gorazd of Prague and Bohemia (1942)	2 Corinthians 6:11-16	Mark 1:23-28
Thursday	Martyr Lupus (306)	2 Corinthians 7:1-10	Mark 1:29-35
* Friday	Hieromartyr Maxim Sandovič of Gorlice (1914)	2 Corinthians 7:10-16	Mark 2:18-22
Saturday	St. Menas, patriarch of Constantinople (6th c.)	1 Corinthians 1:26-29	Matthew 20:29-34

* Dormition (Theotokos) Fast - Let us Imitate Christ and the Saints and Fast as they did!

September 8 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost / Martyrs Adrian & Natalia of Nicomedia (4th c.)

9:15 - Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy Tone 3 Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Gospel: Matthew 19:16-26

Additional Collection for our Capital Improvement Fund

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Glory Be To Jesus Christ! (responded with: 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 Father 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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This Bulletin Is Offered:
for Good Health
for brother
Tim Martin, Reader,
on his birthday!
Many Years!

PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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Moleben to Saint Nectarios –
On Tuesday MORNING, September 3rd
at 9:30 am, we will have a Moleben
(Prayer Service) to St. Nectarios (the
Patron Saint of those with cancer). This
beautiful prayer service is not only for the sick,
but it is for all of us to pray for each other!

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Our 27th Annual Garage Sale will be this
Friday/Saturday, September 6th/7th from
9a to 3p. MORE HELP IS NEEDED.
Please sign up in the church hall if you are able to
assist on these days.

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Additional Church School Teachers Needed –
Would you be interested in assisting with our
Church School Program? We are looking to have
multiple classes: Pre-K – 2nd grade; 3rd – 7th; and
8th – 12th. Please contact Father Dave if you can
be a steward of your talents.

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SJB Parish Annual Meeting will be on Sunday,
September 15th following the Divine Liturgy.
New Proposals for the Annual Meeting need to
be submitted to Matt Peifer or Larry Martin.
All proposals are much appreciated! This is the
2nd Official Notice

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Thank You! For many years, Eleanor Sanger
has filled the role of Head Curator for our parish.
Per her request, she is stepping down after a
number of dedicated years of service and
stewardship to St. Johns! Thank you! and May
God grant you many years!

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Head Curator position has now been appointed
to Theresa Sharpless. Thank you for offering
your talents in this role. May God grant you many
years!

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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Cindy Pavilionis; Viola Peifer; Shuster Family; Kathy Schrmack; Olga Radick; Mirilovich Family; Joanne Nelson; Patty Watson; Melanie Paieski

"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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Do you have a clean coat or two that you have not worn since before our last coat drive but it is still in good condition? We are collecting clean coats and jackets to donate to FOCUS Pittsburgh (who provide Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding, and Shelter to those who are in need). We will collect the clean coats on the coat rack in the hall for only a couple more weeks.

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Remembering the Feast of the Beheading – Saint John was a holy prophet and an innocent man (see Mark 6:14-30). His beheading was a preview of the crucifixion of Our Lord; the Innocent Lamb Who is greater than all the prophets. **A Strict Fast from meat and dairy** is observed on this day, **September 11th**, in commemoration of the murder of the man Jesus called, "the greatest man born of woman." Also, in commemoration of the way that St. John was martyred, pious Orthodox will not eat from a plate but only from a bowl, will not use knives to eat with, and will not eat foods that are round or come as a 'head' (cabbage, lettuce, etc.).

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2nd Annual Deanery Family Picnic will be held on **Sunday, September 29th** in Schenley Park at the Veterans Pavilion (a bigger facility than last year) from Noon (after church) to Dusk (no Steeler Game that day). A food sign-up sheet is in the hall for pot-luck items that will be brought to the picnic. Plan to come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with our brothers and sisters from our sister Deanery Parishes. Get together with old friends and family! Make new friends! Come enjoy God's creation in one of the best parks in Pittsburgh!

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

Upcoming Orthodox Food Festivals:

- **August 28-September 1** – Holy Trinity (985 Providence Blvd., Pittsburgh) *Greek*
- **September 6-7** – Saints Peter and Paul (220 Mansfield Blvd., Carnegie) *Ukrainian*
- **September 7-8** – St Andrew (56 Glenn Way, McKees Rocks) *Romanian*

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Craft Beer Tasting – IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities) will host a Craft beer Tasting fundraiser on **Tuesday, September 12th** at 6pm at Rusty Gold Brewery Company (Canonsburg). Tickets are \$10 and include 4 beer samples. Registration is due by September 5th. Please contact Kevin Reck at 724-344-5610 / kevinsreck@gmail.com with any questions.

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Icon of the Tender Heart - Visit of the Kardiotisa, "The Tender Heart" myrrh-flowing, miraculous icon of the Theotokos from Taylor, PA

Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 275
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 142
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 463
Community Outreach:	\$ 47
Total Collections:	\$ 927
Relocation Fund:	\$ 100

Give Generously: "For they gave according to their means... and beyond their means, of their own free will." 2 Cor 8:3

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Coffee Social Steward Schedule

- September 8: **Open / Potluck**
- September 15: **Annual Meeting Potluck**
- September 22: **Open / Potluck**

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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Reader of the Third Hour:

- September 8: Available to you
 - September 15: Available to you
 - September 22: Available to you
- This should begin by 9:15 and can be read or chanted. Please contact Fr Dave if you are interested in participating in this wonderful stewardship prayer opportunity!*

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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

- ✘ **Wednesday, September 11** – Strict Fast – 9:30 Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist and Panachida
- ✘ **Saturday, September 14** – Ecclesiastical (Church) New Year
- ✘ **Sunday, September 15** – YOUTH Sunday - Parish Annual Meeting following Liturgy
- ✘ **Saturday, September 21** – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

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will be on **Friday, September 13th** and **Saturday, September 14th** at Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church (220 Mansfield Blvd. Carnegie). Vespers Friday at 7p and Divine Liturgy Saturday at 9a. If you are considering going, please sign the sheet in the church hall so they can accommodate about how many will be coming. If you have any questions, please contact Fr John at frjohn.charest@aol.com or 847-910-7120.

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Church Slavonic Class - The 2019/20 academic year at Christ the Saviour Seminary will begin on **September 9th**. Fr. John Brancho, instructor for the Church Slavonic course (both in fall & spring), is inviting parishioners to join the seminarians. Classes are Fridays 9a-12p. There is **no** tuition charge. The first class is **Friday, September 13th**. Any questions may be directed to Fr. John (814-539-5043 / frbrancho@aol.com)

“Joy Fest” – Holy Cross Church is excited to revive the tradition of "JOY Fest" on **Saturday, September 21**: a one-day gathering for all children ages 7-12. Special guest musician will be Kh. Gigi Shadid from Houston, TX. The schedule is on the flyer in the church hall. Gigi is a trained educator and will also be leading a presentation and discussion with Sunday School teachers on Friday evening, **September 20**. Both events are open to all. Contact Emmanuel "Manoli" Maginas with questions, or to RSVP for either event at emmanuelmaginas@gmail.com



26th Annual Walk For Missions – will be **Sunday, October 13th**. More details coming soon...

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The Diocesan Council SOBOR will take place in Johnstown on **October 13-16**. For any of our faithful interested in attending any of the meals during the Sobor, especially the Grand Banquet on Tuesday 15th, please contact Fr Dave as soon as possible. Ticket prices vary and deadline for reservations is **September 8**. Please contact Fr. Dave for information on this and for placing ads in the commemorative journal.

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

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

“Of all the afflictions that burden the human race, there is not one, whether spiritual or bodily, that cannot be healed by the Holy Scriptures.” +Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

²If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

³This is my defense to those who would examine me. ⁴Do we not have the right to our food and drink? ⁵Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? ⁶Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? ⁷Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk?

⁸Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? ⁹For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain.” Is it for oxen that God is concerned? ¹⁰Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. ¹¹If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? ¹²If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more?

Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

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Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; ²⁵and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; ³³and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

LIVING ORTHODOXY

Death, The Beginning of Glory

by *Sergey Khudiev*

Why does the Church celebrate the Dormition (i.e., literally death) of the Mother of God? Why are the days of memory of the saints the days of their death? Why do we celebrate death like this?

Christian attitude to death is the attitude to a defeated enemy. On the one hand, death is what sin introduced into the world; God did not create death. Death is contrary to our true nature. In the words of a church hymn, “I weep and lament



when I think of death, and see lying in the graves, our beauty created in the image of God, disfigured and without glory, having no shape or form.” (8th hymn of St. John Damascus in the Funeral Service)

However, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ endured death on the Cross and defeated it. **Today, it is the gateway to eternal and blessed life for faithful Christians.** Apostle Paul says, “For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved,

victor. The emperor knew, how the army loved Saint Andrew, and fearing a mutiny, he gave orders to free the martyrs, and secretly he ordered that each under some pretext be executed separately.

Having been set free, Saint Andrew together with his fellow soldiers went on to the city of Tarsus. There the local bishop Peter and bishop Nonos of Beroeia baptised them. Then the soldiers proceeded on to the vicinity of Taxanata. Antiochus wrote a letter to the governor of the Cilicia region Seleukos, that under the excuse of deserting their military standards he should overtake the company of Saint Andrew and kill them. Seleukos came upon the martyrs in the passes of Mount Tauros, where they were evidently soon to suffer. Saint Andrew, calling the soldiers his brothers and children, urged them not to fear death. He prayed for all who would honour their memory, and besought the Lord to send a curative spring on the place where their blood would be shed. At the time of this prayer

the steadfast martyrs were beheaded with swords (+ c. 302). During this time a spring of water issued forth from the ground. Bishops Peter and Nonos, with their clergy secretly following the company of Saint Andrew, buried their bodies. One of the clergy, suffering for a long time from an evil spirit, drank from the spring of water and at once he was healed. Reports about this spread amongst the local people and they started to come to the spring, and through the prayers of Saint Andrew and the 2593 Martyrs suffering with him, they received gracious help from God.

"How honored and magnified is mankind through the Holy Virgin Mother of God, for it has been made worthy of renewal and sonship by God; She herself was made worthy by her immeasurable humility and exceedingly great purity and holiness to be the Mother of the God-man!" ~ 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(s)**. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver **him/her/them** from sickness and bitter pain. Heal **him/her/them** so that **he/she/they** may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.

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For the Health of... James, Emilia, Olga, Jake, Anna Mae, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Lino, Louis, June, Helen, Doug, Joanne, Anthony, Eleanor ...*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... Metropolitan Gregory, Alisha, Aaron, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Ameer, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our seminarians:* Daniel and Dylan *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Matthew, Lawrence, Timothy, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Donald, Jane, Margaret, Eleanor, Steven, Kenneth, Jillian, John, Wendy, John, Melanie, Michael, John, John, Todd *and for those who labor towards our Community Outreach, Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) ...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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Patronal Feast Days (Name's Day):
(Please contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)

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Birthday Prayers for... Samuel Mainolfi (9/1), Timothy Martin (9/2), Ruth Herbert (9/2), Ashley Wertz (9/2), Danielle Yakemawiz (9/5), Fr. Bob Teklinski (9/6), Pañi Deborah Zak (9/7) ...*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! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!*

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For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Dustin, Stephen, Peter, Daniel ...*through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Andrew & Davina, Ashley & Derek ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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Anniversary Prayers for... Melanie & Michael Shuster (9/5), Marianne & Steven Kubis (9/6/14) ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadozsky, Devin Meegan, and Trevor Meegan ...*through the prayers of St. George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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For the souls of the newly departed... +Douglas Painter (8/22), +Harry Coe (8/26) ...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. Eternal be their Memory!*



DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:



A PRAYER FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Heavenly Father, please be with these students as they go where they do not know.
As they seek to grow in knowledge, we ask that they grow in faith.
As they start to conquer the world, we hope that they conquer their fears.
As they strive to find their place, we pray that they find You.
Please go where we cannot, protect when we cannot,
give strength that we cannot, and bring them safely home.
Amen.