



ST. 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*
Subdeacon Ryan Ferko
Timothy Martin, *Reader*
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*
Lawrence Martin, *Parish Council President*
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UPCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY, JUNE 12 – FEAST OF PENTECOST, THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT; “RUSALJA”

9:15 – Icon procession and Litiya Prayers
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost following Liturgy

A FAST FREE WEEK

PENTECOST MONDAY, JUNE 13

9:30 am Divine Liturgy with Gospel Procession in honor of the Holy Spirit

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SUNDAY, JUNE 19

1st Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday of All Saints
Father’s Day
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2
Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33,37-38,19:27-30
Tone 8; Liturgical Color: **Green**
Panachida for departed Fathers and Godfathers

MONDAY, JUNE 20

APOSTLES’ (PETER AND PAUL) FAST BEGINS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

7:00 pm Akathist to Saints Peter and Paul

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Calendar - Future Services are updated online at:
www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar
(Please see Fr. Dave if you want a printed copy)

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Live-Broadcast – If you are unable to attend church services, please pray along with our Cathedral online:

www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/

RELOCATION UPDATE

The motion passed on, Sunday, May 15, 2022 for our parish to relocate to: 2201 Duncan Ave., Allison Park, PA 15101. The ¾ acre lot has a church (*no steps to enter the church proper*), a hall, and parking lot (*with 30 spots*) on it – no new structures need built.

We Are Heading To The North Hills!

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Negotiations – The asking price for the property is \$400,000. An initial offer of \$375,000 was made for it. A counter offer of \$390,000 was received. We will continue negotiations after financing is finalized.

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Financing – We have been approved by Wesbanco for a \$105,000 loan. Since May 15, we have received two \$50,000 donations (Glory to God!). Your stewardship is so much appreciated! But this still puts a short as we pursue the property. Getting a loan from the diocese is being revisited.

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**** What will we be taking to the North Hills from the North Side?** Items that we are looking to take, but not limited to, include: the first tier of the Iconostasis, the two side tables in the Sanctuary, the Gospel Stand, the tetrapod, candle stands, the four banners, the tomb, and God-willing, the bell. (*By the way, our current Altar (Holy Table) will not be going to the North Hills. When a church is “deconsecrated”, the Altar is not re-used. A carpenter has already been approached for construction of a new Altar.*)

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As updates are available, they will be shared here. Please contact Larry or Fr. Dave with any questions

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“Late Edition” of “THE VOICE” Our Parish Monthly Newsletter

John the Baptist said, “I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ (Jn 1:23)

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Glory to Jesus Christ! (*responded with: Glory forever!*) Slava Isusu Christu! (*Slava na viki!*)
We are happy that you have joined us today! 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 again soon! Please see Fr. Dave if you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy.

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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This Week we return to adding “O Heavenly King” to our prayers and kneeling in prayer. This is also a Fast Free Week.

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***** Summer Maintenance Morning CANCELED** - After further discussion it was decided to not meet on Saturday, June 25 as a community to conquer a few projects. IF you have some stewardship time that you could help around the church through the week, please contact Larry or Fr. Dave.

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**** Healthy Snacks** – The “grab-n-go” snack options for our coffee social are getting low. Please consider bringing in a box of something for us to share.

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***** Garden Blessing** – The time of year has come for getting your garden blessed. (*The format of the blessing is similar to our annual home blessing.*) Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested.

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**** Annual Church Picnic** – “The Cabin” in North Park is booked for **Sunday, July 31st** for our summer picnic. If you are in town, come on over!

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***** 2022 Garage Sale** – We will be having a garage sale this fall on the North Side. **We need to get the tables set up.** Please begin bringing your donations in to the hall and start placing them on the tables. (*Proceeds from the Garage Sale will go to offset some of the costs of our 90th Anniversary Luncheon in October.*)

This Bulletin Is Sponsored for the health of the Sestili Family. Many Years!

**** 90th Anniversary Update** – Planning continues for our upcoming celebration on **October 9, 2022**. The luncheon will be held at Pittsburgh’s Grand Hall at the Priory on the North Side. If you have suggestions for favors, a program book, or photo slide show, etc., please contact Gina Fall or Larry Martin.

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***** Curator Stewards** – Do you know what happens when you are a curator? As we look for more curators to be stewards of their time and help “at the door”, consider coming early one Sunday just to see what goes on. Please contact Larry Martin for more info.

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*** Vandalism** - Our parish sign on California Avenue was vandalized a couple weeks ago. Before anything else is done to it, we moved it up on the fence at the top of the mulched area.

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ACRY NEWS

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Pill Bottle Collection – Our ACRY continues it’s outreach to “Matthew 25: Ministries” who accepts donations of **CLEAN AND EMPTY** plastic medicine pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies to countries in need. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THE LABEL IS REMOVED AND IT IS NOT STICKY.** Our pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment. *Contact Theresa Sharpless or Fr. Dave for more information.*

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Speaking With Your Priest - Please know you can call me anytime if there is something troubling you. It is not a sign of weakness to share something that may be heavy on your heart or mind. As a priest and Father to our parish, I am here for you. Please call if you need someone to listen or to pray with you. Every heart has a cross and you do not need to carry it alone. Please also call if you have an idea for the growth of our parish. I am praying for you and am grateful for your prayers. With love in the risen Lord, Fr. Dave

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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 200
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 141
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 360
Parish House Offering:	\$ 200

Total Collections: \$ 901
Relocation Fund: \$ 85

In faith that God provides: “And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, ‘He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.’” – 2 Cor. 9:8-9

May Financial Report:

General Stewardship = \$ 4383.31

(includes \$ 185.31 from online stewardship)

***Expenses = \$ 8780.92**

Net Deficit = \$ 4397.61

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: **28**

Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Report:

(September through last month)

General Stewardship = \$ 60,137

***Expenses = \$ 62,422**

Net Deficit = \$ 2,285

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: **31**

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Nelson Family; Melanie Shuster; Lawrence Martin; Eleanor Sanger; Cindy Pavidonis

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*“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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On-Line Giving is available from our parish website to donate to the: *General Stewardship Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and/or Relocation Fund.* The best option is to come to church and give your offering to God in His Temple (2nd best is to mail it in to Tim Martin, 2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143). If you miss coming to church for a week, online giving allows you another option to “catch up” on your weekly stewardship. You can also set up a recurring donation online. For our parish to continue it’s ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, your generosity and stewardship is needed.

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Bulletin Sponsor – If you wish to sponsor a bulletin In Honor of (nameday, birthday, anniversary, etc.) or In Memory of someone, please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule or by contacting Fr. Dave (email, text, or call). An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.

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**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE
'BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE**

***** A Virtual Orthodoxy on Tap:** “*Iconography from the UK*” with Fr. Jonathan Bannon will be on **June 20 at 7pm.** Fr. Jonathan recently traveled to midland England to study with Aidan Hart, who is considered to be one of the greatest living iconographers of our time. Fr Jonathan has offered to share some of his experiences to those across the diocese through Zoom! Please join us on June 20th at 7pm for a 30-minute presentation followed by some fellowship! Feel free to enjoy food or drink of any kind, and everyone across the Orthodox world is welcome to join. If there are any questions feel free to email ACRY President, Paul Zdinak, at paulzdinak@gmail.com. We hope to see you there, no registration needed!

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***** 2022 Altar Boy Retreat and Young Women’s Encounter** - Registration is open for these Annual Diocesan events to be held from **Sunday, June 26th to Wednesday, June 29th.** Please contact Fr. Dave for more information.

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**** 100th Anniversary** - Mark your calendars for St. John the Baptist in Ambridge’s 100th Anniversary celebration on **July 10, 2022.** If you, or anyone you know, are interested in placing an ad in the 100th Anniversary program book or attending the July 10 banquet, please contact John Righetti as soon as possible (email: rusynone@gmail.com or call / text: 412-518-7149). **Deadline for ads if June 15**

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***** 34 days till camp – are your kids registered? Pittsburgh Deanery Week at Camp Nazareth is July 17-23.** Registration for all campers, ages 8-18, is online at: campnazareth.org.

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***** Science and Nature Week** at Camp Nazareth is moved back to the end of summer from **Aug. 14-20.** More information is online at: campnazareth.org.

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VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org
Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org
FB: www.facebook.com/acroddioecese
Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews
YouTube: youtube.com/acroddioecese

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SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 2: 1– 11

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. **2** And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **3** And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. **6** And at this

sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. **7** And they were amazed and wondered, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? **8** And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? **9** Par’thians and Medes and E’lamites and residents of Mesopota’mia, Judea and Cappado’cia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phryg’ia and Pamphyl’ia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyre’ne, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, **11** Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

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Gospel: John 7: 37– 52; 8: 12

Rivers of Living Water

37 On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, “If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. **38** He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” **39** Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Division among the People

40 When they heard these words, some of the people said, “This is really the prophet.” **41** Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee? **42** Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” **43** So there was a division among the people over him. **44** Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

The Unbelief of Those in Authority

45 The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring him?” **46** The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!” **47** The Pharisees answered them, “Are you led astray, you also? **48** Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? **49** But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed.” **50** Nicode’mus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, **51** “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” **52** They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee.”

Jesus the Light of the World

¹²Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

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MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Ellwood City is our Community Outreach this month. Along with a monetary donation that we will collect throughout the month, they can use the following items:

- ✓ LED Light bulbs
- ✓ AA and AAA Batteries
- ✓ Match Books
- ✓ Zip lock bags
- ✓ Bottles of Water
- ✓ Canned fuzzy water
- ✓ Tuna in water
- ✓ Toilet paper
- ✓ Facial Tissues
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Napkins
- ✓ Tall white kitchen trash bags
- ✓ Black trash bags
- ✓ White plastic knives
- ✓ White plastic spoons
- ✓ 10 or 12 oz. paper cups for cold drinks
- ✓ Chlorox bathroom cleaner
- ✓ 409 type cleaner
- ✓ Chlorox bleach cleaner
- ✓ Simple green (gallon size)
- ✓ Windex
- ✓ Dawn dish soap
- ✓ Salted mixed nuts
- ✓ Raisins
- ✓ Coffee mate non dairy creamer powder (small sizes)
- ✓ HE Laundry detergent
- ✓ Fabric softener
- ✓ Canola oil
- ✓ Honey
- ✓ Cooking spray

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STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

Thoughts on Stewardship by Dan Hromyak:
"Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."
 - John 14:27

Our limited human understanding cannot begin to understand the immense power of God. Instead of trusting in God, we often think we can control every outcome. Do you want to make God laugh? Tell Him your plans. The next time worry, anxiety or fear creeps in, thank God for all He has given you and trust that He has a better plan for you. Make God your first choice and not your last resort.

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"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." - Revelations 22:13

This is a reminder of how we should live our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - putting God first in all that we do. Not only when I am at Liturgy and parish activities, but when I am in the world, at work or at school. Living gratefully and generously is an intentional lifestyle. Every decision you make either moves you closer to God or farther away. Choose wisely!

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Stewardship of Treasure Guide

Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?

Weekly Income	Beyond a Tithe 15%	Tithe 12%	Upper Range Giving 10%	9%	8%	7%	Middle Range Giving 6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
\$200	\$30	\$24	\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4	\$2
\$300	\$45	\$36	\$30	\$27	\$24	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6	\$3
\$400	\$60	\$48	\$40	\$36	\$32	\$28	\$24	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$75	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$5
\$600	\$90	\$72	\$60	\$54	\$48	\$42	\$36	\$30	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6
\$700	\$105	\$84	\$70	\$63	\$56	\$49	\$42	\$35	\$28	\$21	\$14	\$7
\$800	\$120	\$96	\$80	\$72	\$64	\$56	\$48	\$40	\$32	\$24	\$16	\$8
\$900	\$135	\$108	\$90	\$81	\$72	\$63	\$54	\$45	\$36	\$27	\$18	\$9
\$1,000	\$150	\$120	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$10
\$1,100	\$165	\$132	\$110	\$99	\$88	\$77	\$66	\$55	\$44	\$33	\$22	\$11
\$2,000	\$300	\$240	\$200	\$180	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$40	\$20
\$3,000	\$450	\$360	\$300	\$270	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$150	\$120	\$90	\$60	\$30

1. Find where YOU are on the chart (your weekly income/giving).
 2. Move one block to the left to determine what GROW ONE% would be.

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

On the Meaning of Pentecost
 by Father Alexander Schmemmann

In the Church’s annual liturgical cycle, Pentecost is “the last and great day.” It is the celebration by the Church of the coming of the Holy Spirit as the end—

the achievement and fulfillment—of the entire history of salvation. For the same reason, however, it is also the celebration of the beginning: it is the “birthday” of the Church as the presence among us of the Holy Spirit, of the new life in Christ, of grace, knowledge, adoption to God and holiness.

This double meaning and double joy is revealed to us, first of all, in the very name of the feast. Pentecost in Greek means fifty, and in the sacred biblical symbolism of numbers, the number fifty symbolizes both the fullness of time and that which is beyond time: the Kingdom of God itself. It symbolizes the fullness of time by its first component: 49, which is the fullness of seven (7 x 7): the number of time. And, it symbolizes that which is beyond time by its second component: 49 + 1, this one being the new day, the “day without evening” of God’s eternal Kingdom. With the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ’s disciples, the time of salvation, the Divine work of redemption has been completed, the fullness revealed, all gifts bestowed: it belongs to us now to “appropriate” these gifts, to be that which we have become in Christ: participants and citizens of His Kingdom.

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FEAST DAY FEATURE

On the Holy Pentecost by +St. John Maximovich of Shanghai and San Francisco

“The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit share one nature, one essence, one substance. That is why the Three Faces are the Trinity, one-in-substance. Humans also have one nature, one substance.

But while God is the Indivisible Trinity, divisions occur in mankind constantly... The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit have common thought, common will, common actions. What the Father desires, the Son also desires, and the Holy Spirit also desires. Whatever the Son loves, so do the Father and the Holy Spirit also love. Whatever is pleasing to the Holy Spirit, is pleasing to the Father and Son. Their actions are also common among them, all act in conjunction and in accord.

This is not so with man. We are in constant disagreement; we have differing desires. Even a small child expresses his own wishes, willfulness, disobedience to his loving parents. As he grows older,

he separates from their more, and so often in our day becomes completely alienated from them. People simply don’t share identical opinions, on the contrary, there are perpetual divisions in all things, quarrels and conflicts between individuals, wars between nations.

Adam and Eve, before their Fall, were in full accord and of common spirit with one another at all times. Having sinned, alienation was immediately sensed. Justifying himself before God, Adam blamed Eve. Their sin divided them and continues to divide all of mankind. Emancipated from sin, we approach God, and, filled with His grace, we sense our unity with the rest of mankind. Such unity is very imperfect and lacking, since in each person some portion of sin remains. The closer we approach God, the closer we approach each other, just as the closer rays of light are to each other, the closer they are to the Sun. In the coming Kingdom of God there will be unity, mutual love and concord. The Holy Trinity remains eternally unchanging, all-perfect, united in essence and indivisible.

The One, Indivisible Trinity ever remains the Trinity. The Father always remains the Father, the Son remains the Son, the Holy Spirit remains the Holy Spirit. Besides Their personal Properties, They all share all in common and in unity. That is why the Holy Trinity is One God.

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE MONK ISAAC

Commemorated on June 12 / May 30

The Monk Isaac lived during the IV Century, accepted monastic vows and pursued asceticism in the wilderness. During the years of the reign of the emperor Valentus (364-378) – a zealous adherent of the Arian heresy, they began to persecute the Orthodox, closing and destroying churches. Having learned of the persecution, the Monk Isaac quit the wilderness and arrived in Constantinople, so as to console and encourage the Orthodox. At this time barbarian Goths, dwelling along the River Danube/Dunaj, were making war against the empire. They seized Thrace and advanced towards Constantinople. When the emperor Valentus was leaving the capital with his soldiers, the Monk Isaac – turning himself towards the emperor, loudly cried out: "Emperor, unlock the churches of the Orthodox, and

then the Lord wilt aid thee!". But the emperor, disdaining the words of the monk, confidently continued on his way. Three times did the monk repeat his request and prophecy. The angry emperor gave orders to hurl the Monk Isaac into a deep ravine, grown over with prickly thorns. By day the ravine was a swamp, and to emerge from it was impossible. But the monk with the help of God remained alive, and he emerged, overtook the emperor and said: "Thou wanted to destroy me, but the holy Angels did save me from peril. Hear me, open up the churches to the Orthodox and thou shalt defeat the enemy. If however thou dost not heed me, then thou shalt not return alive, but shalt perish in fire". The emperor was astonished at the boldness of the monk and ordered his attendants Saturninus and Victor to take the monk and hold him in prison until his return.

The prophecy of the saint soon happened. The Goths defeated and began to chase down the Greek army. The emperor together with his Arian generals took refuge in a barn with straw, and the attackers set it afire. After receiving news about the perishing of the emperor, they set free the Monk Isaac and began to honour him as a prophet of God. Onto the throne was then chosen the holy Emperor Theodosius the Great (379-395), who on the advice of Saturninus and Victor summoned the elder to himself, meeting him with great respect, beseeching prayers to the saints and fulfilling all his instructions: he banished the Arians from Constantinople and restored the churches to the Orthodox. The Monk Isaac wanted to return into the wilderness, but Saturninus and Victor besought him not to leave the city, but rather to protect it with his prayers. In the outskirts of Constantinople they built for the saint an hut, where monks gathered to him. Thus arose a monastery, the hegumen and spiritual guide of which was the Monk Isaac. He nourished also the laypeople, and helped many of the poor and suffering. Having reached extreme old age, the Monk Isaac made co-hegumen together with him the Monk Dalmatos (the account about him is located under 3 August), by whose name the monastery was called. The Monk Isaac died in the year 383, and his memory is celebrated also on 22 March.

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PRAYER CORNER



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

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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... Steven, Helen, Suzanne, Joseph, Kelly, Michelle, Paul, Kathleen, John, Joanne, Barbara, Brian, Kristina, Sean, Julia, Susan, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, and Roberta *...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... His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. David S., Fr. Myron, Dcn. Michael L., Laura & family, Carlene, Georgia, Eleanora, Mark, Michaleana, Dorell, Donald, Susan, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Ameer, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our diocesan seminarians:* Nicholas, Dylan, Thomas, Samuel, Timothy, Nicholas, Aydin, Subdeacon Seamus, Nicholas, *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Lawrence, Matthew, Timothy, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Jane, Mary Jane, Katherine, Kenneth, John, Wendy, Margaret, John, Patricia, John, Todd *and for those who labor towards our Community Outreaches ...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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June Namedays:

Tristan Bowser - St. Dunstan (6/1)

Dustin Brozell – St. Dunstan (6/1)

Eleanor Sanger – St. Helen (6/3)

...May God grant them many and blessed years!

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June Birthdays:

Anthony Jesko (Sr) (6/1), June Sefscik (6/1),

Penelope Maruscak (6/5), Pañi Eleni Stagon (6/5),

Lindsay (Winkler) Sikora (6/6), Maverick Torchia (6/6),

Justin Winkler (6/7), Gina Fall (6/8), Christina (Brancho) Chow (6/12), Makaela Kirish (6/12), Fr.

Nicholas Mihaly (6/13), Kylee Winkler (6/14),

Rebecca Zak (6/15), Julia Lanick (6/16/27), Aaron

Zak (6/16), Anthony Horbal (6/17), Katherine Chow (6/20),

Donna (Lanick) Staub (6/20), Pañi Melissa

Chendorain (6/20), Mary Jane Hudak (6/23),

Margaret Spirnak (6/24), Pañi Marianna Bannon (6/25),

Nicole (Mushinsky) Maruscak (6/27), Ryan Dzacony (6/28),

Father's niece, Aislinn Verbanick (6/28), Fr. Paul Abernathy (6/29),

John Radick (6/29), Elizabeth Radomsky (6/29), Fr Miles Zdinak (6/29)

...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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For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Tyler, Susan, Marilynn, John *...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Justin & Erica, Francis & Alexandra, Nicole & Dustin *...through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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June Anniversaries:

Dustin & Caitlin Brozell (6/1), Adam & Jean Zak (6/2),

Stephen & Jennifer Brancho (6/6), *Father's Parents*, Dave & Andrea Urban (6/16), Danielle &

Shane Yakemawiz (6/26)

...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For Pregnant Mothers... Marilynn (*due in June*), Sammy (*June*), Caitlin (*September*), Mallory (*September*) *...through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St. Irene*

Chrysovalantou.

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

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For the souls of the newly departed... +Cecil Lewis (6/9), +Evelyn Perloff (6/1), +David Dutko (5/21), +Shirley Lorenzi (5/4) *...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God's Memory.*

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* This is to be used for the special intentions of our brothers and sisters in Christ and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you 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 only Orthodox Christians.*

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

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Return to Kneeling in Prayer – At the Vespers service Sunday evening on Pentecost, the kneeling prayers are recited. (*We started them this morning after the Divine Liturgy.*) The Orthodox community now returns to kneeling in prayer (*except on Sundays*) and reciting *O Heavenly King.*

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O Heavenly King (Carju Nebesnyj)

O heavenly King, the Comforter; the Spirit of Truth, Who are in all places and fill all things; Treasury of blessings and Giver of life, come and dwell within us and cleanse us from every blemish and save our souls, O blessed One.
Amen.

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Spiritual Vitamin:

“Our All-Merciful God wants our happiness in this life and the next. This is why he founded his holy Church: to cleanse us from sin, to sanctify us, to reconcile us to him and to give us the blessings of heaven.”

+St. Nektarios of Pentapolis

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A Prayer for Peace

Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of all people on the earth. Guide, I pray, all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice, prejudice, exploitation, conflict and war. Help us to put away mistrust, bitterness and hatred. Teach us to cease the storing and using of implements of war. Lead us to find peace, respect and freedom.

Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of peace against ignorance, poverty, disease and oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony and friendship as brothers and sisters created in Your image, to Your honor and praise. Amen.

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The Jesus Prayer

(Inhale) O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God,
(Exhale) have mercy on me, a sinner!

(Repeat until your heart is calm...)

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A prayer for our Neighborhoods

by Archbishop Demetrios of America

I pray to you, God, for the families of my neighborhood. Visit them. Throw their troubles out of them and bring hope. Make the daily cares that devour the heart disappear. Present solutions to life’s problems. Settle the disturbed relationships among members of different families whom I know or do not know. O Lord, remind the people of our area that You exist, that You are a strong and loving Protector. Keep away, Lord, anything that causes the disappearance of peace from souls, and the escape of sleep from our eyes. Stay a little while more tonight in our neighborhood. Spread peace along with the night. Let the harshness of the day and its struggles not spread over the night. Amen.

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A Prayer for our Diocesan Clergy

O Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of Your sheep, light the fire of ardent love in the hearts of all Your priests, that they may ever and in all things seek only Your glory. Remember especially, Lord, our Bishop *(name)*, and our spiritual father *(name)*, and all our diocesan clergy, who are laboring in Your vineyard for the salvation of all those whom You have entrusted to them. Make their lives as holy as the word they preach. Keep them from being discouraged. Hear their prayers for our salvation. Give them wisdom and courage to proclaim Your truth. Make them priests after Your own heart. For You are a merciful God Who loves us and to You we give glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life-giving- Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

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SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Father is available to meet Monday thru Friday from 8:30am to 3:00pm or by appointment.

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

Parish 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. He will pray with you and you will receive the Mystery of Holy Anointing (Unction) 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 for 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.

Parishioners in “good standing” are those Orthodox Christians who, as members of Saint John’s Orthodox Church, strive to live according to the teachings of the Orthodox Church; participate in the life of the parish through regular attendance of services, regular reception of Holy Communion and periodic Holy Confession (*and receive these Mysteries no less than once a year*); if married, having been married in the Orthodox Church; and share their stewardship of their time, talents, and treasures which includes financially supporting the parish.

Baptisms – Two God-parents are required, at least one of whom must be Orthodox by faith (and the other a practicing Christian). In the case of infants, the newly-baptized must have one name that is Christian in origin. Parents/grandparents/guardians must also promise to bring the child up in an Orthodox Christian way of life. Please consult Fr. Dave for more 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 only solemnized on Saturdays or Sundays. They are not performed during fasting

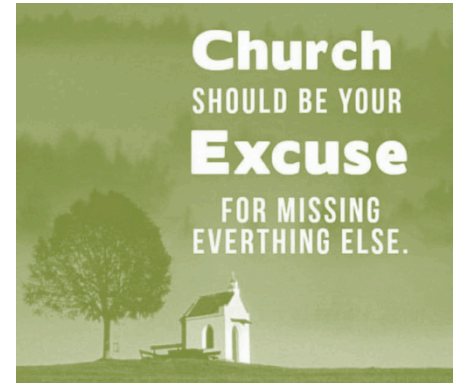
periods and certain Feast Days. Please consult Fr. Dave ASAP for more details (*before* arrangements are made for the hall). It is critical that marriages are blessed in our church.

Church Funerals – are provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual responsibilities and their stewardship. Otherwise, burial is from the funeral home. The Church does not permit cremation.

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“The cremation of bodies is not a Christian act. It is a custom of modern times. The body of a Christian has been sanctified with the Grace of the Holy Spirit, and as such may not be burned. God did not create our bodies for burning.” - Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

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Icon of the Feast

The icon of the Feast of Pentecost is known as "The Descent of the Holy Spirit". It is an icon of bold colors of red and gold signifying that this is a great event. The movement of the icon is from the top to the bottom. At the top of the icon is a semicircle with rays coming from it. The rays are pointing toward the Apostles, and the tongues of fire are seen descending upon each one of them signifying the descent of the Holy Spirit.

The building in the background of the icon represents the upper room where the Disciples of Christ gathered after the Ascension. The Apostles are shown seated in a semicircle which shows the unity of the Church. Included in the group of the Apostles is Saint Paul, who, though not present with the others on the day of Pentecost, became an Apostle of the Church and the greatest missionary. Also included are the four Evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, holding

books of the Gospel, while the other Apostles are holding scrolls that represent the teaching authority given to them by Christ.

In the center of the icon below the Apostles, a royal figure is seen against a dark background. This is a symbolic figure, Cosmos, representing the people of the world living in darkness and sin, and involved in pagan worship. However, the figure carries in his hands a cloth containing scrolls which represent the teaching of the Apostles. The tradition of the Church holds that the Apostles carried the message of the Gospel to all parts of the world.

In the icon of Pentecost we see the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, sent down upon the Apostles who will teach the nations and baptize them in the name of the Holy Trinity. Here we see that the Church is brought together and sustained in unity through the presence and work of the Holy Spirit, that the Spirit guides the Church in the missionary endeavor throughout the world, and that the Spirit nurtures the Body of Christ, the Church, in truth and love.

Orthodox Christian Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost

This great Feast of the Church is celebrated with the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom on the Sunday that is the fiftieth day after the celebration of Pascha. On the day of the Feast a Vespers service is conducted that evening which includes the kneeling prayers.

These prayers mark the beginning of the practice of kneeling during the Liturgy at the time when the holy gifts of bread and wine are consecrated as the body and blood of Christ. The practice of kneeling has been suspended during the Paschal season.

On the Monday following the Feast, the Divine Liturgy is conducted in commemoration of the All-holy and Life-creating and All-powerful Spirit, Who is God, and One of the Trinity, and of one honor and one essence and one glory with the Father and the Son (From the Synaxarion of the Feast).

www.saintnicholasgi.org/news/latest/2022-news/pentecost