

“THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER” *Our Parish Weekly Bulletin*
O Holy John, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptizer of the Lord, pray to God for us!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

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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.

UPCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 (*40 days after Nativity*)

FEAST OF THE MEETING OF OUR LORD
 9:30am Festal Divine Liturgy
 Blessing of Candles

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 - ALL-SOULS (*1ST OF 5*)

9:30am Divine Liturgy & Panachida (*Zadušna Subota*)
 11:00am Wertz-Andrekevich Wedding
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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
 Tone 3; Liturgical Color: **Gold**
 Blessing of Candles
 Pre-Lenten Breakfast and honoring Eleanor Sanger’s 90th birthday

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

9:30am Moleben to the Theotokos with anointing
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Mystery of Confession – Father is available to hear Confessions after every service

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

Live-Broadcast – If you are unable to attend church services, please pray along with our Cathedral online:
www.acrod.org/directories/cathedral/live/

RELOCATION UPDATE

*** The Allison Park Church has extended our **contract** for two weeks
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* **Parish House Condemned** - Extension of citation from the City of Pittsburgh Inspector was denied. A second citation was received. (After a third citation the church could start to be fined.) Citations will keep coming until permits are requested for the repairs of the parish house.
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*** **Reports** - We are still waiting for the reports from the insurance adjustor and bid from the restoration company for the repairs of the parish house. Once reports and estimates are received, the Allison Park Church will review them and negotiations could be finalized quickly.
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May God continue to guide our journey to
 2201 Duncan Avenue, Allison Park, PA 15101
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*As updates are available, they will be shared here.
 Please contact Larry or Fr. Dave with any questions*

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)
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** **Great Lent 2023** - Our Journey To Pascha has begun! We are in the series of Sundays known as the Triodion. These weeks are meant to prepare us for Great Lent (*to prepare us for Holy Week to prepare us for Pascha*). Please reach out to Fr. Dave if you have questions about this important fasting period that is around the corner.
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Normal Fast Week
FEBRUARY 12th



The Prodigal Son Returns!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, “Today I will be humble.”
 Use up/freeze meats this week.

Meatfare
FEBRUARY 19th
 FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY



The Last Judgement

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2
 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Pray facing East this week.
 Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him!
 Use up/freeze dairy this week.

** **Pre-Lenten Breakfast** will be on **February 19**. Please sign up in the hall so we have a rough idea of a count for food and seating. We will also be honoring Eleanor Sanger’s 90th Birthday on this day!
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** **Bowling Outing** – Before we begin Great Lent, let’s get together and bowl on **Sunday, February 26**. Plans are being finalized for a fun afternoon bowling session. **Please contact Gina or Fr. Dave if you would be interested in bowling.**
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** **All-Soul Saturday (Zadušna Subota)** Liturgies and Panachidas for 2023 will be on Saturdays, **February 18, March 4 (DATE CHANGE), 18, 25, and June 3**. On these days, we especially pray for the departed loved ones of our families. If you are not working on a Saturday, come to church, pray with us, and light two candles for your living and departed loved ones. **Please inform Fr Dave if there are any additions to be made to your Commemoration Diptychs (Hramoty).** Offering Envelopes and cards are available in the vestibule.
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*** **Food Drive** – For the month of February we will be collecting unexpired food and donations in order to make a delivery to **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry on Pittsburgh’s South Side**. Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month! The list of food items they are looking for is available in the church hall or at: stmaryorthodoxchurch.net/stecyrlfoodpantry.html
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3rd Banns of Marriage are Announced for Ashley Wertz and Derek Andrekevich who will be united together in the Mystery of Holy Matrimony at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church on Saturday, February 18, 2023. If anyone has canonical reason why this Mystery should not be administered, please relay the objection to Father.
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** **Blessing of Candles** – As is customary, candle will be blessed following the Feast Day Divine Liturgy on **February 15 as well as on February 19** the Sunday after the Feast of the Meeting of Our Lord, the 40th day after Nativity (Christmas) that remembers the presentation of the infant Jesus into the Temple. It is recorded in the Gospel of Luke (2:22-39) that on this day the elder Simeon recognized the infant Jesus as “a light for revelation to the Gentiles”. Thus we highlight the use of candles as they remind us that Christ is the true Light of the World. There will be candles available for a donation and all are encouraged to bring in candles from home to be blessed after these two Liturgies. Please place your candle(s) on the table near the iconostasis. Let’s light up the world with our blessed candles!
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** **Presanctified Liturgies** – Our Wednesday services will be at 6:00pm at the church along with Fridays at 9:30am.
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** **Lenten Mission** – We will be hosting our deanery mission on **Sunday, March 26**.
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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 20
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 64
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 689
Total Collections:	\$ 773
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 50
Relocation Fund:	\$ 100

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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Nelson Family; Stephen Brancho; Cindy Pavidonis; Eleanor Sanger; Kathy Schrmack; Melanie Shuster; Patty Watson

**** On Lighting Candles in the Church** – In lighting our two candles, the first thing we should do is make an offering for them. Everything that we have is from God and the first step is to give back to Him for all of His many blessings. The next step is to venerate the icons that guard the candles and lift our prayers to God on high. Next, we light a candle, remembering all of our loved ones who are sick (or who we just want to pray for) and then a candle for our loved ones who have passed into the next life. We beseech God to have mercy on their souls. Lastly, as we light the candles, we quietly say “Lord have mercy,” repenting for our own sinfulness while at the same time “re-igniting” our own flame and recommitting our whole life to God. Thus we begin again to live as light, helping others see the Way in a world of darkness. The importance of lighting our own candles is that you are able to say a prayer for your loved ones. “We light candles for the forgiveness of sins of **both** those who light the candles and of those for whom the candles are lit.” (*holy father Nicodemus of Mount Athos*) “Let light shine out of darkness, [and] Who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.” (1 Cor. 4:6)

VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE
 Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org
 Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org
 FB: www.facebook.com/acroddioocese
 Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews
 YouTube: youtube.com/acroddioocese

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Glorify God in Body and Spirit
 12“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be enslaved by anything. 13“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”--and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. 15Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! 16Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The

two shall become one flesh.” 17But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. 19Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; 20you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

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Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

The Parable of the Prodigal and His Brother

11And he said, “There was a man who had two sons; 12and the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.’ And he divided his living between them. 13Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. 14And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. 15So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. 17But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! 18I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.’” 20And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. 21And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; 23and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; 24for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to make merry. 25“Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. 27And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.’ 28But he was angry and

refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, 29but he answered his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. 30But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!’ 31And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

The Priestmartyr Hyppolitus, And The Martyrs Censorinus, Sabinus, Chryisia The Virgin And 20 Other Martyrs

Commemorated on February 12 / January 30

The PriestMartyr Hyppolitus, and the Martyrs Censorinus, Sabinus, Chryisia the Virgin and 20 Other Martyrs suffered during the III Century.

Saint Censorinus was an high-ranking dignitary during the reign of the Roman emperor Claudius II (268-270). Through a denunciation, he was arrested and locked up in prison for his faith in Christ. There by the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ he raised up a dead person, – as a result of which 20 soldiers, prison guards, were converted to Christ. They were beheaded together with Saint Censorinus. Then there was brought for interrogation the maiden Chryisia, who bravely confessed herself a Christian and was subjected to torture. After horrible torments she was drowned in the sea.

Saint Sabinus they struck at with an heavy hammer, and then they hung the body on a tree and burnt it. In his torments he gave up his holy soul to the Lord. With Saint Chryisia suffered the Martyrs: Filiclus, Maximus, Herculinus, Venerius, Stiracinus, Minus, Commodus, Hermes, Maurus, Eusebius, Rusticus, Monagreus, Amandinus, Olympius, Cyprus, Theodore, Tribunus, Maximus the Presbyter, Archelaus the Deacon and Cyrenus the Bishop.

Saint Hyppolitus, Bishop of Ostia, – a Roman sea-port at the mouth of the Tiber River, in learning about the suffering of the martyrs, despite his advanced years, showed up at the trial and denounced the torturers for their inhumanity, calling them blood-thirsty. The enraged judge gave the holy bishop over to torture. After long torments they tied him hand and foot and threw him into the sea.

All these Roman martyrs suffered in the year 269. The relics of the PriestMartyr Hyppolitus were put at Rom into a church of the holy Martyrs Lawrence and Pop Damasus. The holy PriestMartyr Hyppolitus was a student of Saint Ireneus, Bishop of Lugdunum (Lyons in France), and he likewise is reknown as a Christian theologian who had written many a composition against the heretics. Sain Hyppolitus compiled a Paschal Canon, a note composition "About Christ", and a "Discourse concernin; the Anti-Christ". Saint Hyppolitus wrote likewise many an exegesis of Holy Scripture, on the Biblical Books Genesis, Exodus, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, the Song o Songs, and on the Gospels of Matthew, Luke and Johr and on the Prophets Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Zechariah, or the Psalms of David and on the Apocalypse. Part of hi works are preserved only in fragments. In full an preserved his discourses, devoted to the Theophany an the Prophet Daniel. His discourses evidence his masterfu style of ancient churchly preaching.

PRAYER CORNER

For the Health of... Karen, Octavian, Anna Mae, David, Donna, Gregory, Joshua, George, Beverly, Kelly, Marie, Barbara, Brian, Kristina, Sean, Julia, Susan, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, and Michael
...through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer.

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For the souls of the newly departed...

Louis Jones (1/29), Gus Miller (1/15)
...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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A Prayer When Lighting A Candle
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever. Amen.
 Set our hearts on fire with love for You, O Christ our God, so that in its flame we may love You with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul, and with all our strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, so that by keeping Your commandments we may glorify You, the giver of all good gifts. Amen.

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**A Prayer before consuming
Antidoron and (or) Holy Water**

O Lord my God, may Your holy gift and Your holy water be for the enlightenment of my mind, for the increase of my spiritual and bodily strengths, for the health of my soul and body, for the taming of my passions and weaknesses, through Your boundless mercy, through the prayers of Your Most-holy Mother and of all Your Saints. Amen.

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS

Tropar of the Bishops - Tone 1

Let us all come together to honor with hymn and song the three great luminaries of the Holy Trinity, * the Sun enlightening the universe with the beams of their divine doctrine, * flowing with honey-like rivers of wisdom, * refreshing deserts with streams of God-knowledge: * Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John the famous speaker, the Golden-mouthed. * Let us sing in hymns our love for their teachings, * for they are constantly interceding for us before the Holy Trinity.

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Kondak of the Bishops - Tone 2

Now and ever and forever. Amen.
O Lord, You have received your priestly and divinely inspired preachers, * the crown of your teachers, * into the enjoyment of your goodness and repose. * You accepted their labors and death above any other sacrifice, * for only You can glorify your saints.

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 - TRIODION BEGINS

9:30 Divine Liturgy (and Church School)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

9:30am Akathist to St. Xenia of St. Petersburg

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS: ST. BASIL THE GREAT, ST. GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, AND ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM.

9:30 Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 (40 days after Nativity)

FEAST OF THE MEETING OF OUR LORD

9:30am Festal Divine Liturgy

Blessing of Candles

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 - ALL-SOULS (1ST OF 5)

9:30am Divine Liturgy & Panachida (*Zadušna Subota*)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

9:30 Divine Liturgy, Youth Sunday, Blessing of Candles, and Church School

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 (DATE CHANGE)

9:30 Moleben to the Theotokos

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

9:30 Divine Liturgy
Forgiveness Sunday Prayers

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 #GreatFast

THE GREAT FAST BEGINS
9:30am Canon of Repentance of St. Andrew

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 #GreatFast

9:30am Canon of Repentance of St. Andrew

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

Food Drive – This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting unexpired food and donations in order to make a delivery to **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry** (at Holy Assumption of St. Mary Orthodox Church, 105 S. 19th St., Pgh, PA 15203). Volunteers are needed on Thursdays from 5:15 to 6:45 to assist in the distribution of these goods. (If interested, please contact Fr Patrick first at 412-431-6428) Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month! Here is a list of food items that they are looking for:

- ✓ Ready to eat canned fruit or vegetables
- ✓ Peanut Butter
- ✓ Jelly
- ✓ Canned Soups
- ✓ Canned Chili
- ✓ Macaroni & Cheese
- ✓ Spaghetti Sauce
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Noodle/Rice Mixes
- ✓ Small Package of Rice or Noodles
- ✓ Canned Stews
- ✓ Canned or Pouches of Tuna, Salmon or Chicken
- ✓ Boxed Meals ready to be prepared
- ✓ Baked Beans
- ✓ Canned and Boxed 100% Juice
- ✓ Crackers
- ✓ Tuna Helper Box
- ✓ Instant Cereal
- ✓ Boxed Cereal
- ✓ Canned Pastas (Chef Boyardee, Ravioli, etc.)
- ✓ Canned Meats

stmaryorthodoxchurch.net/stcyrilfoodpantry.html

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FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

"Three Holy Hierarchs" – the Assemblage (Sobor Synaxis) of the Holy Ecumenical Teachers of the Church and Santed-Hierarchs: Basil the Great Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostomos
Commemorated on Feb. 12 / Jan. 30

"Three Saints" – the Assemblage (Sobor, Synaxis) of the Holy Ecumenical Teachers of the Church and Santed-Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostomos: A Constantinople for a long time there raged dispute about which one of the three santed-hierarchs should be accorded the primacy of honour. One faction of the people preferred St Basil (Comm. Jan. 14/1), other stood forth for St Gregory the Theologian (Comm Feb. 7 / Jan. 25), while a third revered St John Chrysostomos (Comm. Nov 26/13).

From this arose among church factions amongs Christians: some called themselves Basilians, others - Gregorians, and the third – Johannites.

In accord with the will of God, in the year 1084 the three santed-hierarchs appeared to the Euchantine Metropolitan John, and in declaring that they were equal before God, they gave orders that the dispute should stop and that a day in common celebration of their memory should be established.

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On the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord

Commemorated on February 15/2

On the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord, the Church commemorates an important event in the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ (Lk 2: 22-40). On the 40th day after birth the God-Infant was taken to the Jerusalem Temple – the centre of religious life of the God-chosen nation. By the Law of Moses (Lev 12) : woman, having given birth to a child of the male gender, was forbidden for 40 days to enter into the Temple of God. After this interval the mother came to the Temple with the child, so as to offer to the Lord thanksgiving and a purification sacrifice. The MostHoly Virgin, the Mother of God, did not have need for purification, since without defilement she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity but in profound humility she submitted to the precept of the Law.

At this time there lived at Jerusalem the righteous elder Simeon (the account about him is located under the day of his commemoration – 3 February). It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he should behold Christ the Saviour. By inspiration from above, the pious elder went to the Temple at that very moment when the MostHoly Mother of God and Righteous Joseph had brought there the Infant Jesus, so as to fulfill the ritual ceremony of the Law. The God-Bearer Simeon took the God-Infant in his arms, and having given thanks to God, he uttered a prophecy about the Saviour of the world: "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart, O Lord, with peace according to Thy word, wherefore hath mine eyes beheld Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to the enlightening of gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Lk 2: 29-32). Righteous Simeon said to the MostHoly Virgin: "Behold, This One is set for the fall and rising up of many in Israel and for the sign spoken against, and for Thee Thyself a sword shalt pierce the soul, so that the thoughts of many hearts might be revealed" (Lk 2: 35).

At the Temple also the 84 year old widow Anna the Prophetess, daughter of Phanuel (Comm. 3 February), "who did not leave the temple, serving God both day and night in fasting and prayer. And she also at that time, having drawn near, glorified the Lord and spake about Him (the God-Infant) to all awaiting deliverance at Jerusalem" (Lk 2: 37-38).

Before the Birth of Christ, all righteous men and women lived by faith in the Future Messiah the Saviour of the world, and they awaited His coming. The final righteous ones of the closing Old Testament – Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna – were deemed worthy to meet at the Temple the Bearer of the New Testament, in the Person of Whom both Divinity and humanity do meet.

The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord is among the most ancient feasts of the Christian Church. It is known, that on the day of this solemnity were proclaimed sermons by Sainted Bishops Methodios of Pataria (+ 312), Cyril of Jerusalem (+ 360), Gregory the Theologian (+ 389), Amphylokios of Iconium (+ 394), Gregory of Nyssa (+ 400), and John Chrysostom (+ 407). But in spite of its early origin,

this feast was not so solemnly celebrated until the VI Century. During the reign of Justinian in the year 528, a catastrophe befell Antioch – an earthquake, in which many people perished. And upon this misfortune there followed others. In the year 544 there appeared a pestilential plague, daily carrying off several thousand people. During these days of widespread travail, it was revealed to a certain pious christian that the celebration of the Meeting of the Lord should be done more solemnly.

When at the day of the Meeting of the Lord the all-night vigil was finally made with church procession, the disasters at Byzantium ceased. In thanksgiving to God, the Church established in 544 that the Meeting of the Lord should be done more solemnly.

Church melodists adorned this feast with many a church work of song: in the VII Century – Sainted Andrew ArchBishop of Crete; in the VIII Century – Sainted Cosma Bishop of Maium, Monk John Damascene, Sainted Germanos Patriarch of Constantinople; and in the IX Century – Sainted Joseph the Studite, ArchBishop of Thessalonika.

With the event of the Meeting of the Lord is associated the icon of the MostHoly Mother of God named: "the Softening of Evil Hearts" or "Simeon's Prophecy", which it is necessary to distinguish from the icon "Seven Arrows".

The icon "Simeon's Prophecy" symbolises the fulfillment of the prophecy of the righteous elder Simeon: "for Thee Thyself a sword shalt pierce the soul" (Lk 2: 35).

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STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

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%	Middle Range Giving 7%	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.

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.

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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...)

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/guardian 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 in the church. They are not performed during fasting periods and certain Feast Days. Please consult Fr. Dave ASAP for more details (*before* arrangement are made for the hall). It is critical that marriages are blessed in the 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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PRAYER CORNER #2

*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 Special Intentions of... His All Holiness

Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. David S., Fr. Myron, Dcn. Dean, 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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February Namedays:

Timothy Martin, Reader – Apostle Timothy of the 70 (2/4)

Dolores Bowser - Virgin-martyr Dorothea (2/19)
Father's Godson, Zachariah Kalaluhu – Prophet Zachariah (2/21)

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

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February Birthdays:

Anthony Winkler (2/1), Fr. Marc Wisnosky (2/1), Fr. Edward Pehanich (2/4), *Pañi's mother*, Alexandrina Liana Popescu (2/6), Charles Kretchek (2/8), Richard Gedid (2/9), Harmonie Torchia (2/11), Pañi Buczak (2/11), Fr. James Gleason (2/12), Matthew Peifer (2/13), *Father's niece*, Samantha Ditmore (2/14), Pañi Christyn Dranginis (2/14), W. Dylan Mushinsky (2/17), James Hanchulak (2/17), John Petrovich (2/18), Eleanor Sanger (2/19/33), Carly Anton (2/21), Barbara Kirish (2/22), Theresa Sharpless (2/22), *Father's nephew*, Brian Verbanick, Jr (2/22), Fr Stephen Krivonak (2/23), Fr William Bennett (2/28), His-All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew I (2/29/40)

...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

...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.

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

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February Anniversaries:

Cynthia & Jeffrey Morrison (2/5)
...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For Pregnant Mothers... Erica (*due in April*), Lindsay, Nicole (*June*) *...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. Dzadoovsky *...through the prayers of St. George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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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.*

DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

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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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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