

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS! Christ is risen! (*responded with: Indeed He is risen!*) Christos voskrese! (*Voistinu voskrese!*) We are happy that you have joined us today! It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning. 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, MAY 7, 2023

4th Sunday of Pascha; Sunday of the Paralytic
Special Meeting to vote on our new roof

TUESDAY, MAY 9

~~CANCELED: 6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers~~

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST

~~CANCELED: 9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy~~

SUNDAY, MAY 14 - MOTHER’S DAY

9:20 am Paschal Canon; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Acts 9:32-42; Gospel: John 5:1-15
Liturgical Color: **White**

Panachida for departed mothers and May memorials
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There is no kneeling in prayer for 50 days (until Pentecost) and replace the prayer “O Heavenly King” with “Christ is risen” as we anticipate the Holy Spirit
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***Mystery of Confession** – Father is available to hear Confessions after every service or by appointment.
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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/directories/cathedral/live/

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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* **Upstairs** – We will temporarily be upstairs in the nave of the church probably until **Mother’s Day, May 14** (and when the contractor is ready to start on lowering the sanctuary floor).
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* **Calling All Graduates** – Please notify Fr. Dave of your graduation information by **May 15**.

High School Students: *your High School, any academic and/or athletic awards, and where you will attend in the Fall with your intended major in college (or undecided at this time).* Trade School, College, Graduate and Post-Graduate Students: *where you went, your field of study, and degree you will earn.*
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* **“The “Rusyns” who founded a “Russian” Church** – On **Tuesday, May 9**, as part of the “Light From The Church On The Hill Lecture Series”, St. John the Baptist (601 Boone Ave., Canonsburg, PA) will offer Vespers at 6pm and a Presentation led by John Righetti (National President of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society) at 7pm. For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board or contact Fr. Dave.
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* **Family Camp at Camp Nazareth** – Cabins are still available for this year’s Family Camp from **Friday, June 9 to Sunday, June 11** (prior to Family Day). For more information, please contact Fr. Dave.
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PASCHAL GREETING:

(use instead of ‘hello’, before ‘good morning’, etc.)

Christ is risen!

(responded with: **Indeed He is risen!**)



CHRIST IS RISEN!
Christ is Risen From The Dead, Trampling Down Death By Death And To Those In The Tombs Bestowing Life!

INDEED HE IS RISEN!

* **Family Day at Camp Nazareth** will be on **Sunday, June 11**. Divine Liturgy will be at 10am. There will be great food, music entertainment, swimming, craft activities, games, and more! The pricing for lunch is as follows: Adults: \$10; Children 5-13: \$6; Children Under 5: Free; Family Price: \$30 (Includes 2 Parents & All Children Under Age 13)
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* **Pittsburgh Deanery Week at Camp Nazareth** is **July 23-29**. Registration for all campers, ages 8-18 begins soon. Information is available on the Camp’s Website: www.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/acroddioocese
Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews
YouTube: youtube.com/acroddioocese

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPETS

PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

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* **Curators Needed** – *What does a curator do?* A curator is in the vestibule to collect people’s donations and to log them to make sure they are used as intended (that is, a Community Outreach offering vs. a Capital Improvement Fund donation). As our curator list is down to 6 people, please consider observing what happens one morning to see if you would be interested in being a part of this ministry of the church. Please see Larry with any questions.
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* **Electrician** – If anyone is an electrician or has a good connection with someone who is, please let Larry or Fr. Dave know. Thank you!
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* **Cleaning Committee Volunteers** – *How shall we keep the church clean?* The idea is being bounced around that families would take turns cleaning the vestibule, bathrooms, classrooms, hall, and kitchen 0 maybe on a monthly basis? What are your thoughts? Please share your ideas with Larry or Fr. Dave.
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* **Coffee Social Hosts Needed** – We are going to return to having a sign up sheet for hosting the coffee social. This is a ministry of the church so we can join in fellowship following the Divine Banquet! The idea is to have a family (or pair up with another one to) bring in some food to share, set up the coffee when you get there, and clean up afterwards. (*The church will supply the coffee, cups, plates, plasticware, and napkins.*) If you have questions about this, please see a Parish Council Member or Fr. Dave.
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** **Security System** – Do you use a SimpliSafe Security system at home? If so – Fr. Dave has a few questions... please contact him.
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** **Road Sign** – Adding a “monument sign” along Duncan Avenue is being explored. The cost is still being determined.
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** **Grants** – Are you familiar with writing grants or researching them to see what is available? If so, please contact Mary Jane, Larry, or Fr. Dave.
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* **Garbage and Recycling** – Did you ever notice that we do not have a dumpster at the church? Being non-residential without pick up in Allison Park, all of our garbage and recycling heads to stewards’ houses. If you would be willing to stick around at the end of coffee social and take a bag, please let Larry know.
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* **Grass Cutting** – Spring is in the air and it is becoming grass cutting season. If you would like to be in the rotation for this, please let Fr. Dave know. You can sign up for a week on the calendar in the Parish Council Office.

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Paschal Notes – For 40 days from Pascha (Easter) until Ascension, we greet each other by saying, “Christ is risen!” and respond with “Indeed, He is risen!”. Some translations use “Truly, He is risen!”. We can also adjust our before and after meal prayers. The prayer to the Holy Spirit, “O Heavenly King”, is **not said** at home or in church during this season until the Feast of the Decent of the Holy Spirit: Pentecost. Instead we say or sing the Paschal Tropar, “Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down...” (three times) until the Feast of Ascension.

During the 50 days from Pascha to Pentecost, we **do not kneel or make prostrations** in church in keeping with the joyful and festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost that Sunday evening.

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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 440
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 62
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 160
Community Outreach:	\$ 95
Total Collections:	\$ 757
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 9,500

April Financial Report:

General Stewardship = \$ 9848.54
(includes \$ 694.72 from online stewardship)
***Expenses = \$ 8748.56**
Net Income = \$ 1100.98
Capital Improvement Fund = \$ 16,471.81
 Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 44
**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*

Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Report:

(September through last month)
General Stewardship = \$ 52997
***Expenses = \$ 52,387**
Net Income = \$ 610

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*
 Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 27

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Nelson Family; Lawrence Martin; Tim Martin; Carol and Tom Lorenzi; Rich and Renee Mirilovich; Cindy Pavilonis

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**** Capital Improvement Savings Fund** – As per the decision made at a recent Parish Council Meeting, any donations that are made earmarked for the “relocation fund” will be placed in the “Capital Improvement Savings Fund”.

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**** Stained Glass Windows** – The removal of the stained glass windows from the North Side has been completed. The cost of this was over \$14,000. If you wish to make a special donation to this, please indicate your intention to the curator.

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Giving at the Church – The “flow of traffic” is a little different in Allison Park, but the ways to give your stewardship treasures has not changed. One can:

- ✘ hand their offering to the curator who sits at the desk in the vestibule (to the right after you enter from the parking lot),
- ✘ there are multiple baskets around the church for you to drop your offering in, or
- ✘ when lighting your candles, put your donation in the box in the candle stand.

We will continue to not “pass the basket” which interrupts our focus on our prayers.



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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Paschal Greeting in Spanish:
 ¡Cristo ha resucitado!
(¡En verdad ha resucitado!)

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. *Remember, sponsoring a bulletin in memory of someone does not replace having a Panachida (short Memorial Service) for them.*

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SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 9:32–42

The Healing of Aeneas

³² Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda. ³³ There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed. ³⁴ And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.” And immediately he rose. ³⁵ And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

Peter in Lydda and Joppa

³⁶ Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹ So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which Dorcas made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, rise.” And she opened her

eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive. ⁴² And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

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Gospel: John 5:1–15

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

⁵ After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed. ⁵ One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” ⁷ The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me.” ⁸ Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your pallet, and walk.” ⁹ And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked.

Now that day was the sabbath. ¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who was cured, “It is the sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet.” ¹¹ But he answered them, “The man who healed me said to me, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk.’” ¹² They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk?’” ¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. ¹⁴ Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you.” ¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

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PRAYER CORNER

For the Health of... Sophia, Melissa, Kellie, Carlene, David, Donna, George, Beverly, Kelly, Marie, Barbara, Brian, 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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May Namedays:

Robert Fall - St Robert, Abbot of Blois (5/8)
Mark Tongel - St. Mark the Evangelist (5/8)
Renee Mirilovich - Great-martyr Irene (5/18)
Christopher Bowser - Martyr Christopher (5/22)
Christopher Kubis - Martyr Christopher (5/22)
...*May God grant them many and blessed years!*

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May Birthdays:

Anna Dzadony (5/3), Fr Matthew Stagon (5/4),
Donald Bodnar (5/6), Apryle Horbal (5/6), Fr Thomas
Soroka (5/6), Ethan Gogal (5/7), Ella Kovats (5/9), Dr
Phillip Labas (5/10), Jillian Gaydos (5/14), Robert
Mozes (5/16), Pañi Alexandra Urban (5/16), Natasha
Kretchek (5/19), Patrick Wertz (5/19), Linda
Gavulich (5/20), Kenneth Parks (5/22), Elias Mainolfi
(5/24), Sean Watson (5/26), Alexander Hanchulak
(5/27), Fr Jonathan Tobias (5/27), Michael Horbal
(5/29), Melanie Shuster (5/30) ...*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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May Anniversaries:

Father's Godparents, Dick & Andrea Babbie (5/7)
Father's Best Man, Joe & Sarah Lavra (5/7)
Father's sister, Melissa & Christopher Ditmore (5/17)
Fr Dave's Ordination to the Priesthood (5/17)
Ashley & Derrick (Derek) Andrekovich (5/19)
Ernest & Claudia (Herbert) Pido (5/19)
Fr Dave & Pañi Alexandra (5/25)
Jim & Katherine Schrmack (5/26)
Anthony & Donna Horbal (5/27)
...*through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas*

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For the souls of the newly departed...

Floyd Wensel, Jr. (5/1), Archon +Robert "Dal"
Cosgrove (4/14) ...*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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**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING
DOWN DEATH BY DEATH AND UPON THOSE IN
THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE!**

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**THE ANGEL EXCLAIMED TO HER, "FULL OF
GRACE, REJOICE O PURE VIRGIN. AGAIN I SAY
REJOICE, YOUR SON IS RISEN FROM HIS THREE
DAYS IN THE TOMB, AND HE HAS RAISED ALL
THE DEAD. LET ALL PEOPLE REJOICE!"**

**O SHINE, O SHINE, O NEW JERUSALEM: FOR THE
GLORY OF THE LORD IS RISEN UPON YOU. O
ZION, SING WITH JOY AND REJOICE. AND YOU,
PURE MOTHER OF GOD, REJOICE IN THE
RESURRECTION OF YOUR SON.**

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Paschal Greeting in Church Slavonic:
Christos voskrese! (*Voistinu voskrese!*)
If greeted in a language you are unfamiliar with,
translate, respond in English, then learn the response

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Paschal Greeting in Greek:
Khristós anésti! (*Alithós anésti!*)

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Paschal Greeting in Swahili:
Kristo amefufukka! (*Kweli amefufukka!*)

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Paschal Greeting in Arabic:
El Messieh kahm! (*Hakken kahm!*)

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE HOLY MARTYR AVRAMII (ABRAHAM)
THE BULGAR, VLADIMIR WONDERWORKER
Commemorated on the 4th Sunday of Pascha and
April 1

The Holy Martyr Avramii (Abraham) the Bulgar,
Vladimir Wonderworker, lived during the XIII
Century, and was descended from the Kamska
Bulgars and brought up in Mahometanism. He was
good and kindly towards the destitute, and when the
Lord enlightened him with the Light of reason, he

accepted Christianity. In the city of Bolgara, on the
lower stretches of the Volga, Saint Avramii began to
preach to his fellow countrymen about the True God.
They seized hold of him and tried to force him to
renounce Christ, but the saint remained firm in his
confession. They tortured the martyr fiercely and for a
long while, but he endured everything with an
unshakable patience. On the day of 1 April 1229 they
quartered the holy Martyr Avramii, and then cut off
his venerable head. Russian Christians living in the
city buried the remains of the saint in the Christian
cemetery. On 6 March 1230, the relics of Saint
Avramii were transferred by the Vladimir Great-
prince Saint Georgii Vsevolodovich (Comm. 4
February) to the Uspenie (Dormition) cathedral of the
Knyaginín (Princess) monastery. And from that time
began celebration of his memory.

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Paschal Greeting in Romanian:
Hristos a înviat! (*Adevărat a înviat!*)

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Paschal Greeting in Italian:
Cristo è risorto! (*È veramente risorto!*)

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ONLINE BULLETIN BONUSES

Paschal Greetings from Around the World

The **Paschal greeting** is a custom among Orthodox
Christians, consisting of a greeting and response.
Instead of "hello" or its equivalent, one is to greet
another person with "Christ is Risen!". The response
is "Truly, He is risen!" (or "Indeed, He is risen!").
This greeting is used during liturgical services and
informally at other times, starting with the [feast](#) of
[Pascha](#) and lasting until [Ascension](#) – the period
known as the *Paschal season* or *Paschaltide*.
In practice, this greeting is typically used only with
people that one already knows are Orthodox. In some
cultures (for example in Russia), it was also
customary to exchange a triple kiss after the greeting.
Orthodox Christians often compile lists of the
greeting in various languages, as it is used around the
world, and these are sometimes recited in church or in
other formal settings as an act of Orthodox unity
across languages and cultures.

Language	Greeting	Response
Aleut:	Khristus anahgrecum!	Alhecum anahgrecum!
Aleut:	Khristusax agla- gikux!	Agangu-lakan agla- gikux!
Albanian:	Krishti U Ngjall!	Vertet U Ngjall!
Alutuq:	Khristusax ung- uixtuq!	Pijii-nuq ung- uixtuq!
Amharic:	Kristos tenestwal!	Bergit tenestwal!
Anglo-Saxon:	Crist aras!	Crist sodhlice aras!
Arabic:	El Messieh kahm!	Hakken kahm!
Armenian:	Kristos haryav ee merelotz!	Orhniah eh harootyunuh kristosee!
Athabaskan:	Xristosi banuytashtch'ey!	Gheli banuytashtch'ey!
Bulgarian:	Hristos voskrese!	Vo istina voskrese!
Byelorussian:	Khrystos uvaskros!	Saprawdy uvaskros!
Chinese:	Helisituosi fuhuole!	Queshi fuhuole!
Coptic:	Pchistos aftooun!	Alethos aftooun!

Language	Greeting	Response
Czech:	Vstal z mrtvých Kristus!	Vpravdě vstal z mrtvých!
Danish:	Kristus er opstanden!	Ja, sandelig opstanden!
Dutch:	Christus is opgestaan!	Ja, hij is waarlijk opgestaan!
English:	Christ is risen!	Indeed He is risen!
Eritrean-Tigre:	Christos tensiou!	Bahake tensiou!
Esperanto:	Kristo levigis!	Vere levigis!
Estonian:	Kristus on üles tõusnud!	Ta on tõesti üles tõusnud!
Ethiopian:	Christos t'ensah em' muhtan!	Exai' ab-her eokala!
Finnish:	Kristus nousi kuolleista!	Totisesti nousi!
French:	Le Christ est réssuscité!	En verite il est réssuscité!
Gaelic:	Taw creest ereen!	Taw shay ereen guhdyne!
Georgian:	Kriste aghsdga!	Cheshmaritad aghsdga!
German:	Christus ist auferstanden!	Wahrlich Er ist auferstanden!
Greek:	Christos anesti!	Alithos anesti!
Hawaiian:	Ua ala hou 'o Kristo!	Ua ala 'I 'o no 'oia!
Hebrew:	Ha Masheeha houh quam!	Be emet quam!
Hungarian:	Krisztus feltamad!	Valoban feltamad!
Ibo (Nigeria):	Jesu Kristi ebiliwo!	Ezia o' biliwo!
Indian (Malayalam):	Christu uyirthezhunnettu!	Theerchayayum uyirthezhunnettu!
Indonesian:	Kristus telah bangkit!	Benar dia telah bangkit!
Italian:	Cristo e' risorto!	Veramente e' risorto!
Japanese:	Harisutos Fukkatsu!	Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!
Javanese:	Kristus sampun	Tuhu sampun

Language	Greeting	Response
	wungu!	wungu!
Korean:	Kristo gesso!	Buhar ha sho nay!
Latin:	Christus resurrexit!	Vere resurrexit!
Latvian:	Kristus ir augsham sales!	Teyasham ir augsham sales vinsch!
Lugandan:	Kristo ajukkide!	Amajim ajukkide!
Norwegian:	Christus er oppstanden!	Sandelig han er oppstanden!
Polish:	Khristus zmartyckwstal!	Zaprawde zmartyckwstal!
Portuguese:	Cristo ressuscitou!	Em verdade ressuscitou!
Romanian:	Hristos a inviat!	Adevărat a învitat!
Russian:	Khristos voskrese!	Voistinu voskrese!
Sanskrit:	Kristo'pastitaha!	Satvam upastitaha!
Serbian:	Hristos vaskrse!	Vaistunu vaskrse!
Slovak:	Christos vstal z mŕtvych!	Vpravde vstal z mŕtvych!
Spanish:	Cristo ha resucitado!	En verdad ha resucitado!
Swahili:	Kristo amefufukka!	Kweli amefufukka!
Swedish:	Kristus är uppstånden!	Han är sannerligen uppstånden!
Syriac:	M'shee ho dkom!	Ha koo qam!
Tlingit:	Krisdos kuḡ wudigút!	X'éiga kuḡ wudigút!
Turkish:	Hristos diril - di!	Hakikaten diril - di!
Ugandan:	Kristo ajukkide!	Kweli ajukkide!
Ukrainian:	Khristos voskres!	Voistinu voskres!
Welsh:	Atgyfododd Crist!	Atgyfododd yn wir!
Yupik:	Xris-tusaq Ung-uixtuq!	Iluumun Ung-uixtuq!
Zulu:	UKristu uvukile!	Ngempela uvukile!

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2022-23 SJB PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Lawrence Martin
 Vice-President: Subdeacon Ryan Ferko
 Treasurer: Timothy Martin, Reader
 Financial Secretary: Rich Mirilovich
 Recording Secretary: Elizabeth Radomsky
 Chief Auditor: Robert Fall
 Auditors: Gina Fall, Mary Jane Hudak, Kathy Schmack, (the 4th and 5th positions are vacant)

Stewardship of Treasure Guide

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

Weekly Income	Beyond a Tithe	15%	12%	10%	Tithe	9%	8%	7%	Middle Range Giving	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	Lower Range Giving
\$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 VITAMINS

MAY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FRIDAY, MAY 5
 6:30 pm Akathist to the Inexhaustible Cup
SUNDAY, MAY 7
 9:20 am Paschal Canon

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
 Church School
TUESDAY, MAY 9
 CANCELED: 6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10
 FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST
 CANCELED: 9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy
SUNDAY, MAY 14
 MOTHER'S DAY
 9:20 am Paschal Canon
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
SUNDAY, MAY 21

TEMPORARILY GOING FORWARD
SERVICES WILL BE EITHER IN THE HALL OR OUTSIDE
 Youth Sunday
 9:20 am Paschal Canon
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
 Church School
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24
 6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers
THURSDAY, MAY 25
 FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
 9:30am Festal Divine Liturgy
FRIDAY THROUGH MONDAY, MAY 26-29
 ACRY Bowling Tournament in Phoenixville
SUNDAY, MAY 28
 9:15 am Third Hour
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

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FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

Saint George the Great-Martyr & Trophy-bearer
Commemorated on May 6 / April 23, and the translation of his relics on November 16/3
 The holy, glorious and right-victorious Great-martyr and Trophy-bearer George was a Christian Roman soldier killed under Diocletian at the beginning of the 4th century. Though he was born in Cappadocia, his mother was from Palestine, and thus he is a particular favorite of many Palestinian Christians. He is also the patron saint of Moscow, Georgia, and England, amongst other places.
 St. George is often depicted with a dragon or some other serpentine creature under his feet. This comes from a legend whose details may vary according to

local tradition. The tale begins with a dragon making its nest at the spring (or lake) that provided a town (either near Beirut or Silena, Libya, often) with water. Consequently, the citizens had to temporarily remove the dragon from its nest in order to collect water. To do so, they offered the dragon a daily human sacrifice.

The victim of the day was chosen by drawing lots. Eventually, the "winner" of this lottery happened to be the local princess. The local monarch is occasionally depicted begging for her life with no result. She is offered to the dragon, but at this point a traveling George arrives. He faces the dragon, and, after invoking the name of the Holy Trinity, slays it and saves the princess. The grateful citizens then abandon their ancestral paganism and convert to Christianity.

The story may or may not be taken entirely literally. For example, the battle between George and the dragon may represent the battle between Christianity and Satan or between St. Michael, the archangel, and Lucifer. Dragon-slaying does appear to be a common religious theme; it may be the case that George has served as a Christianized version of older Indo-European deities and their folklore.

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Mid-feast of Pentecost

Wednesday of the Fourth Week after Pascha

The 25th day of Pascha, is called the feast of Mid-Pentecost, at which Christ, "in the middle of the feast" teaches men of his saving mission and offers to all "the waters of immortality", from the Gospel of St. John (7:14). Again the faithful are reminded of the Master's presence and his saving promise: "If anyone is thirsty let him come to me and drink" (John 7:37). The icon of the feast depicts the young Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem speaking with the Elders (Luke 2:46-47), the first biblical example of Jesus as teacher (rabbi). In traditional Orthodox icons of this subject, the figure of Jesus is depicted larger than those of the Elders, showing his superior spiritual status.

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Saints Cyril and Methodius

Commemorated on May 24/11

Our fathers among the saints Cyril and Methodius were brothers who brought Orthodoxy to the Slavic

peoples of central Europe in the 9th century. In preparation for their mission to the Slavs they devised the Glagolitic alphabet to translate the Holy Scriptures and other Christian writings into what is now called Old Church Slavonic. Glagolitic later developed into the Cyrillic alphabet, which is now used in a number of Slavic languages. The two brothers have been recognized as saints, equals to the apostles, for their missionary work. Many details of their lives have been obscured by the legends that have arisen about them.

The work of the brothers in translating the Holy Scriptures, the services, and other Christian literature into Slavonic has been the greatest example of Orthodox missionaries bringing Christianity to the peoples of the world. While events only a few decades after the death of Methodius seemed to destroy their work in Moravia, their work became the foundation of Slavic civilization in eastern and southeastern Europe and provided the language footings for the missionary efforts in the coming centuries. It is for this continuation of the practice of the Holy Apostles of speaking of Christianity in the languages of all the nations that Ss Cyril and Methodius are remembered as equal to the apostles. It is to this heritage that the revived Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands (Moravia) look as their origins.

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The Ascension of our Lord: The Meaning and the Fullness of Christ's Resurrection

Commemorated 40 days after Pascha

"I ascend unto My Father, and your Father, and to my God, and Your God" (John 20:17). On the 40th day after the glorious Resurrection of Christ—Ascension Thursday. The Risen Lord is also the Ascended Lord and, therefore, in the words of Father Georges Florovsky, "in the Ascension resides the meaning and the fullness of Christ's Resurrection." Though the visible presence of the Risen Lord ended forty days after His Resurrection, that did not mean that His actual presence was withdrawn. For Christ solemnly taught His disciples – and us through them – "Behold, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Matthew 28:20). The risen, ascended and glorified Lord is the Head of His

body, the Church. The Lord remains present in the Mysteries/Sacraments of the Church. This reinforces our need to participate in the sacramental life of the Church, especially the Eucharist, through which we receive the deified flesh and blood of the Son of God, "unto life everlasting."

Christ ascended to be seated at "the right hand of the Father" in glory, thus lifting up the humanity He assumed in the Incarnation into the very inner life of God. For all eternity, Christ is God and man. The deified humanity of the Lord is the sign of our future destiny "in Christ." For this reason, the Apostle Paul could write "your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3). In his homily on the Ascension, Saint Gregory Palamas (+1359) draws out some of the implications of this further:

"In the same way as He came down, without changing place but condescending to us, so He returns once more, without moving as God, but enthroning on high our human nature which He had assumed. It was truly right that the first begotten human nature from the dead (Revelations 1:5) should be presented to God, as first fruits from the first crop offered for the whole race of men. On account of our sins He was led to death, and for us He rose and ascended, preparing our own resurrection and ascension for unending eternity. For all the heirs of everlasting life follow as far as possible the pattern of His saving work on earth. Those who live according to Christ imitate what He did in the flesh. Just as He died physically, so in time everyone dies, but we shall also rise again in the flesh as He did, glorified and immortal, not now but in due course, when we shall also ascend, as Paul says, for 'we shall be caught up,' he says, 'in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord' (1 Thess. 4:17)" The words of the "two men ... in white robes," (clearly angels) who stood by the disciples as they gazed at Christ being "lifted up," and recorded by Saint Luke in Acts 1:11, point toward something very clear and essential for us to grasp as members of the Church that exists within the historical time of the world: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." The disciples will remain in the

world, and must fulfill their vocation as the chosen apostles who will proclaim the Word of God to the world of the crucified and risen Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth. They cannot spend their time gazing into heaven awaiting the return of the Lord. That hour has not been revealed: "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority" (Acts 1:7). The "work" of the Church is the task set before them, and they must do this until their very last breath. They will carry out this work once they receive the power of the Holy Spirit – the "promise of my Father"—as Christ said to them (Luke 24:49). Whatever our vocation may be, we too witness to Christ and the work of the Church as we await the fullness of God's Kingdom according to the times or seasons of the Father.

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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 in the church. 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 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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May Namedays:

Robert Fall - St Robert, Abbot of Blois (5/8)
Mark Tongel - St. Mark the Evangelist (5/8)
Renee Mirilovich - Great-martyr Irene (5/18)
Christopher Bowser - Martyr Christopher (5/22)
Christopher Kubis - Martyr Christopher (5/22)
...May God grant them many and blessed years!

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May Birthdays:

Anna Dzadony (5/3), Fr Matthew Stagon (5/4), Donald Bodnar (5/6), Apryle Horbal (5/6), Fr Thomas Soroka (5/6), Ethan Gogal (5/7), Ella Kovats (5/9), Dr Phillip Labas (5/10), Jillian Gaydos (5/14), Robert Mozes (5/16), Pañi Alexandra Urban (5/16), Natasha Kretchek (5/19), Patrick Wertz (5/19), Linda Gavulich (5/20), Kenneth Parks (5/22), Elias Mainolfi (5/24), Sean Watson (5/26), Alexander Hanchulak (5/27), Fr Jonathan Tobias (5/27), Michael Horbal (5/29), Melanie Shuster (5/30) *...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 *...through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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May Anniversaries:

Father’s Godparents, Dick & Andrea Babbie (5/7)
Father’s Best Man, Joe & Sarah Lavra (5/7)
Father’s sister, Melissa & Christopher Ditmore (5/17)
Fr Dave’s Ordination to the Priesthood (5/17)

Ashley & Derrick (Derek) Andrekovich (5/19)
Ernest & Claudia (Herbert) Pido (5/19)
Fr Dave & Pañi Alexandra (5/25)
Jim & Katherine Schrmack (5/26)
Anthony & Donna Horbal (5/27)
...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For Pregnant Mothers... Nicole (*due in June*) Hailey (*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. Dzadovsky *...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.*

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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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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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The Jesus Prayer

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

(Repeat until your heart is calm...)

An Orthodox Prayer for Mental Health

O Master, Lord my God, in Whose hands is my destiny: Help me according to Your mercy, and leave me not to perish in my transgressions, nor allow me to follow them who place desires of the flesh over those of the spirit. I am Your creation; disdain not the work of Your hands. Turn not away; be compassionate and humiliate me not, neither scorn me, O Lord, as I am weak. I have fled unto You as my Protector and God. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You. Save me for Your mercy's sake, for I have cleaved unto You from my youth; let me who seeks You not be put to shame by being rejected by You for my unclean actions, unseemly thoughts, and unprofitable remembrances. Drive away from me every filthy thing and excess of evil. For You alone are holy, alone mighty, and alone immortal, in all things having unexcelled might, which, through You, is given to all that strive against the devil and the might of his armies. For unto You is due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.