

**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 14 - MOTHER’S DAY**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha  
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman  
Panachida for departed mothers and May memorials

**SUNDAY, MAY 21**

6<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Pascha  
Sunday of the Man Born Blind  
Youth Sunday  
9:20 am Paschal Canon; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Epistle: Acts 16:16-34; Gospel: John 9:1-38  
Liturgical Color: **White**  
Church School

**TEMPORARILY GOING FORWARD SERVICES**  
**WILL BE EITHER BE IN THE HALL OR OUTSIDE**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24**

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers

**THURSDAY, MAY 25**

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD  
9:30am Festal Divine Liturgy  
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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](http://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/](http://www.acrod.org/directories/cathedral//live/)

**BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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**\*\*\* Downstairs** – After next week, we will temporarily be downstairs in the hall (*or outside*) for all services until modifications are completed in the nave.

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**\*\*\* Roof Special Meeting** – The following motion was made by Carol, seconded by Tim, and unanimously passed at last week’s special meeting:

**MOTION:** To allow the Parish Council to make the final decision on the roof contractor after review from the construction committee’s recommendation on updated bids from the three roof contractors.

The roofing companies are being contacted and this project will be pursued ASAP.

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**PASCHAL GREETING:**

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

**Christ is risen!**

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

**VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE**

Diocesan Website: [www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org)  
Camp Nazareth: [www.campnazareth.org](http://www.campnazareth.org)  
FB: [www.facebook.com/acroddioocese](http://www.facebook.com/acroddioocese)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](http://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
YouTube: [youtube.com/acroddioocese](http://youtube.com/acroddioocese)



**CHRIST IS RISEN!**

*Christ is Risen From The Dead, Trampling Down Death By Death And To Those In The Tomb Bestowing Life!*

**INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

**\* 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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**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.

**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.

**\* 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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**\* 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.

**OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD**

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Stewardship Offerings:           | \$ 460        |
| Candle Stewardship:              | \$ 104        |
| Envelope Stewardship:            | \$ 110        |
| <b>Total Collections:</b>        | <b>\$ 674</b> |
| <b>Capital Improvement Fund:</b> | <b>\$ 15</b>  |


**Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials** were offered last week by Nelson Family; Mary Jane Hudak; Lawrence Martin; Tim Martin; Kathy Schrmack; Carol and Tom Lorenzi; Cindy Pavilonis  
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The **Eternal Lamp** was offered last week by Cindy Pavilonis for the health of her cousin, Danny. Many Years!  
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The **Christ Cross** was offered last week for the health of the Lorenzi family. Many Years!  
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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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 **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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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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**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.  
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**SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Epistle: Acts 11: 19– 26, 29– 30*

**The Church in Antioch**  
<sup>19</sup>Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none except Jews. <sup>20</sup>But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup>And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup>News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. <sup>23</sup>When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; <sup>24</sup>for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. <sup>25</sup>So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; <sup>26</sup>and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians.

<sup>29</sup>And the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea; <sup>30</sup>and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.  
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*Gospel: John 4:5-42*

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a city of Samaritania, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob’s well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with

his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

<sup>7</sup>There came a woman of Samaritania to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” <sup>8</sup>For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaritania?” For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?” <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, “Every one who drinks of this water will thirst again, <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.”

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly.” <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things.” <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but none said, “What do you wish?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” <sup>28</sup>So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people, <sup>29</sup>“Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” <sup>30</sup>They went out of the city and were coming to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples besought him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.” <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, “I have food to eat of which you do not know.” <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, “Has any one brought him food?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. <sup>36</sup>He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”  
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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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**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

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

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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 PROPHET JEREMIAH

Commemorated on May 1

The Holy Prophet Jeremiah, one of the four great Old Testament prophets, was son of the priest Helkiah from the city of Anathoth near Jerusalem, and he lived 600 years before the Birth of Christ, under the Israelite king Josiah and four of his successors. He was called to prophetic service in his 15th year of life, when the Lord revealed to him, that even before his birth the Lord had assigned him to be a prophet. Jeremiah refused, pointing to his own youthfulness and lack of skill at speaking, but the Lord promised to be always with him and to watch over him. He touched the mouth of the chosen one and said: "Lo I do put Mine words into thy mouth, I do entrust unto thee from this day the fate of nations and kingdoms. By thine prophetic word wilt they fall and rise up" (Jer. 1: 9-10). And from that time Jeremiah prophesied for twenty-three years, denouncing the Jews for abandoning the True God and worshipping idols, predicting for them woes and devastating wars. He stood by the gates of the city, and at the entrance to the Temple, everywhere where the people gathered, and he exhorted them with imprecations and often with tears. But the people answered him with mockery and abuse, and they even tried to kill him.

Depicting the slavery to the king of Babylon impending for the Jews, Jeremiah at the command of God put on his own neck at first a wooden, and then an iron yoke, and thus he went about among the people. Enraged at the dire predictions of the prophet, the Jewish elders threw the Prophet Jeremiah into an imprisoning pit, filled with horrid slimy creatures, where he all but died. Through the intercession of the God-fearing royal-official Habdemelek, the prophet was pulled out of the pit but he did not cease with the prophecies, and for this he was carted off to prison. Under the Jewish king Zedekiah his prophesy was fulfilled: Nebuchadnezzar came, made slaughter of the nation, carried off a remnant into captivity, and Jerusalem was pillaged and destroyed. Nebuchadnezzar released the prophet from prison and permitted him to live where he wanted. The prophet remained at the ruins of Jerusalem and bewailed the

misfortune of his fatherland. According to tradition, the Prophet Jeremiah took the Ark of the Covenant with the Law Tablets and hid it in one of the caves of Mount Nabath (Nebo), such that the Jews were no more able to find it (2 Mac. 2). Afterwards a new Ark of the Covenant was fashioned, but it lacked in the glory of the first.

Among the Jews remaining in their fatherland there soon arose internecine clashes: the viceroy of Nebuchadnezzar, Hodoliah, was murdered, and the Jews, fearing the wrath of Babylon, decided to flee into Egypt. The Prophet Jeremiah disagreed with their intention, predicting that the punishment which they feared, would befall them in Egypt. But the Jews would not hearken to the prophet, and taking him by force with them, they went into Egypt and settled in the city of Tathnis. And there the prophet lived for four years and was respected by the Egyptians, since with his prayer he killed crocodiles and other nasty creatures infesting these parts. But when he began to prophesy, that the king of Babylon would invade the land of Egypt and annihilate the Jews settled in it, the Jews then murdered the Prophet Jeremiah. In that very same year the prophesy of the saint was fulfilled. There exists a tradition, that 250 years later Alexander the Great of Macedonia transported the relics of the holy Prophet Jeremiah to Alexandria.

The Prophet Jeremiah wrote his Book of "Prophecies" ("Jeremiah"), and also the Book of "Lamentations", – about the Desolation of Jerusalem and the Exile. The times in which he lived and prophesied are spoken of in the 4th (2nd) Book of Kings (Ch. 23-25) and in the 2nd Book of Chronicles (36: 12) and in 2 Maccabees (Ch. 2).

In the Gospel of Matthew it points out, that the betrayal of Judas was foretold by the Prophet Jeremiah: "And they took thirty pieces of silver, the price of Him on Whom the sons of Israel had set a price, and they gave them over for the potter's field, as did say the Lord unto me" (Mt. 27: 9-10).

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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

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

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### 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:       | Khristus tusax aglagikux! | Agangu-lakan aglagikux! |
| Albanian:    | Krishti U Ngjall!         | Vertet U Ngjall!        |
| Alutuq:      | Khristus tusaq unguixtuq! | Pijii-nuq unguixtuq!    |
| Amharic:     | Kristos tenestwal!        | Bergit tenestwal!       |
| Anglo-Saxon: | Crist aras!               | Crist sodhlice aras!    |
| Arabic:      | El Messieh kahm!          | Hakken kahm!            |
| Armenian:    | Kristos haryav ee         | Orhniaal eh             |

| Language        | Greeting                     | Response                       |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Athabaskan:     | merelotz!                    | harootyunuh kristosee!         |
| Bulgarian:      | Xristosi banuytashtch'ey!    | Gheli banuytashtch'ey!         |
| Byelorussian:   | Hristos voskrese!            | Vo istina voskrese!            |
| Chinese:        | Khrystos uvaskros!           | Saprawdy uvaskros!             |
| Coptic:         | Helisituosi fuhuole!         | Queshi fuhuole!                |
| Czech:          | Pchistos aftooun!            | Alethos aftooun!               |
| Danish:         | Vstal z mrtvých Kristus!     | Vpravdě vstal z mrtvých!       |
| Dutch:          | Kristus er opstanden!        | Ja, sandelig opstanden!        |
| English:        | Christus is opgestaan!       | Ja, hij is waarlijk opgestaan! |
| Eritrean-Tigre: | Christ is risen!             | Indeed He is risen!            |
| Esperanto:      | Christos tensiou!            | Bahake tensiou!                |
| Estonian:       | Kristo levigis!              | Vere levigis!                  |
| Ethiopian:      | Kristus on üles tõusnud!     | Ta on tõesti üles tõusnud!     |
| Finnish:        | Christos t'ensah em' muhtan! | Exai' ab-her eokala!           |
| French:         | Kristus nousi kuolleista!    | Totisesti nousi!               |
| Gaelic:         | Le Christ est réssuscité!    | En verite il est réssuscité!   |
| Georgian:       | Taw creest ereen!            | Taw shay ereen guhdyne!        |
| German:         | Kriste aghsdga!              | Cheshmaritad aghsdga!          |
| Greek:          | Christus ist auferstanden!   | Wahrlich Er ist auferstanden!  |
| Hawaiian:       | Christos anesti!             | Alithos anesti!                |
| Hebrew:         | Ua ala hou 'o Kristo!        | Ua ala 'I 'o no 'oia!          |
| Hungarian:      | Ha Masheeha houh quam!       | Be emet quam!                  |
| Ibo ( Nigeria): | Kristus feltamadt!           | Valoban feltamadt!             |
|                 | Jesu Kristi                  | Ezia o' biliwo!                |

| Language            | Greeting                       | Response                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Indian (Malayalam): | ebiliwo!                       | Theerchayayum uyirthezhunnettu!   |
| Indonesian:         | Christu Kristus telah bangkit! | Benar dia telah bangkit!          |
| Italian:            | Cristo e' risorto!             | Veramente e' risorto!             |
| Japanese:           | Harisutos Fukkatsu!            | Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!                |
| Javanese:           | Kristus sampun wungu!          | Tuhu sampun 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 înviat!                |
| Russian:            | Khristos voskrese!             | Voistinu voskrese!                |
| Sanskrit:           | Kristo'pastitaha!              | Satvam upastitaha!                |
| Serbian:            | Hristos vaskrse!               | Vaistunu vaskrse!                 |
| Slovak:             | Christos vstal z mrtvych!      | Vpravde vstal z mrtvych!          |
| 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 kuᵗ wudigút!           | X'éiga kuᵗ wudigút!               |
| Turkish:            | Hristos diril - di!            | Hakikaten diril - di!             |
| Ugandan:            | Kristo ajukkide!               | Kweli ajukkide!                   |
| Ukrainian:          | Khristos voskres!              | Voistinu voskres!                 |

| Language | Greeting               | Response            |
|----------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 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 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> positions are vacant)

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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%   | 12%   | 10%   | 9%    | 8%    | 7%    | 6%    | 5%    | 4%   | 3%   | 2%   | 1%  |
| \$200  | \$30           | \$24  | \$20  | \$18  | \$16  | \$14  | \$12  | \$10  | \$8   | \$6  | \$4  | \$2  | \$1 |
| \$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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## 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

Youth Sunday

9:20 am Paschal Canon

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Church School

TEMPORARILY GOING FORWARD SERVICES

WILL BE EITHER IN THE HALL OR OUTSIDE

### 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 40<sup>th</sup> 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 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. 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.*

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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.