



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH



A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Father Dave Urban, *Pastor*  
Very Reverend Father John Brancho, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Subdeacon Ryan Ferko  
Timothy Martin, Reader  
Subdeacon Ryan Ferko, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*  
Lawrence Martin, *Parish Council President*  
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## UPCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023 vol. IX

### FEAST OF PENTECOST, THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT; "RUSALJA"

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

#### A FAST FREE WEEK

MONDAY, JUNE 5

DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy with Gospel Procession

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

FEAST OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> FINDING OF THE HEAD OF ST JOHN  
6:30 pm Akathist to St John  
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SUNDAY, JUNE 11

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday of All Saints  
9:15 Reading of the Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2  
Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33,37-38,19:27-30  
Tone 8; Liturgical Color: **Green**  
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MONDAY, JUNE 12

APOSTLES' (PETER AND PAUL) FAST BEGINS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

6:30 pm Akathist to Saints Peter and Paul

SATURDAY, JUNE 17 ALL-SOULS (*Zadušna Subota*)

9:30am Divine Liturgy & Panachida (*5<sup>th</sup> of 5*)  
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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)

## BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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

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

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\*\*\* **Congratulations** to Bernadette Latuch and Stephen John Zerby who were united together in the Mystery of Holy Matrimony yesterday. Through the prayers of Saints Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs, May God grant you many years!

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\* **Third Hour** – Prior to recent Liturgies, we have been chanting the Paschal Canon. After Ascension (on Thursday), we will return to chanting (or reading) the Third Hour. If you would like to be in the rotation for this or have any questions, please see Fr. Dave.

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\*\*\* **Annual Church Picnic** – "The Cabin" in North Park is booked for **Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>** for our summer picnic. If you are in town, come on over!

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\***Mystery of Confession** – Father is available to hear Confessions after every service or by appointment.

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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/)

## "THE VOICE" Our Parish Monthly Newsletter

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

### A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

**Glory to Jesus Christ!** (*responded with: Glory forever!*) Slava Isusu Christu! (*Slava na viki!*)

We are happy that you have joined us today! It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning and we wish God's Blessings to all who visit with us today and hope you stop again soon! Please see Fr. Dave if you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy.

\*\* **Christian Leadership Award** – Congratulations to Sammy Mainolfi who recently received the Christian Leadership Award from St. Gregory School. At his school, each child was asked to vote for a boy and girl that best fit the description of a Christian leader. They were asked to consider these qualities in the persons they vote for: "someone who shows an effort to live their life in a way Jesus wants us to showing selflessness; being humble, kind, caring; and trying their best to live an extraordinary Christian life." Sam was voted by his classmates to most exhibit these qualities! Sam, Keep up the good inspiring work! Many Years!

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\* **Congratulations to our 2023 graduates:** **Luke Tongel** (from Montour High School) and **Andrew Mirilovich** (from the Smeal College of Business at Penn State University). Many Years!

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\* **Roof Special Meeting** – The following motion was made by Carol, seconded by Tim, and unanimously passed at our 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.

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\*\*\* **Farmer's Market** – The Township of Hampton hosts a weekly Farmer's Market each year in the Community Park at 3101 McCully Rd., Hampton, PA 15101 on Wednesdays from 3 - 7 pm beginning the first week of June and ends in mid October. *The Farmers Market is in search of local, acoustic musicians to perform at our family friendly market. If interested, please contact Bill Ryder at 412-486-0400.*

\*\*\* **East Pittsburgh** – Our sister parish of St John the Baptist in East Pittsburgh will have a new full-time priest starting tomorrow! Fr. Robert Teklinski is being transferred from the Pocono area to Pittsburgh. We welcome Fr. Bob and Pañi Peggy to da 'burgh! Many Years!

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\*\*\* **2023 Hampton Community Day Celebration** will be held on **Monday, July 3**. Festivities begin at 1:00 pm. This year's attractions will once again be held on the soccer fields at 3101 McCully Rd., Hampton, PA 15101. Some of the fun you have to look forward to is the return of the inflatable attractions and food vendors. The outdoor pool will also be open from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm (Community Day Pool Fees \$5 / \$8). This year's band schedule is:  
1:30 - 2:30 - Pine Creek Community Band  
3:30 - 5:30 - No Bad JuJu  
7:30 - 9:30 - Brass Metropolis (Chicago Tribute Band)  
The day will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display! Additional information is available at [www.hampton-pa.org](http://www.hampton-pa.org)



### SENIOR ACRY NEWS

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\*\*\* **Congratulations** to Subdeacon Ryan Ferko and Christopher Carlisle, Reader, who had much success at this year's annual National Bowling Tournament! Great job and Many Years to you both!

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\*\* **Sr. ACRY Reorganization** – Who wants to be in the ACRY? A reorganization meeting needs to be scheduled. In the meantime, please pay dues to Kathy Schrmack.

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

**Christmas in July Craft Market** - St. Nicholas (903 Ann Street, Homestead, PA 15120) will host a vendor and craft event on **Saturday, July 22** from 10 am to 2 pm. Café Nikoli will be open along with a bake sale, 50/50, and basket raffles.

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\*\*\* **Saint Constantine School** – please join us next **Friday, June 9**, as we welcome our Pittsburgh head of school Jesse Cone, his wife, Kelly, and their boys to Pittsburgh. All are welcome - whether you've been following along or are hearing about TSCS Pittsburgh for the first time please join us for food, fellowship, and a lot of fun! Come rain or shine to the beautiful Riverside Event Center at the Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church in Oakmont. Festivities will begin at 5:30

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\*\*\* **Family Camp at Camp Nazareth** – Cabins may still be 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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\*\*\* **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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\*\*\* **2023 Altar Boy Retreat** - Registration is open for this Annual Diocesan event to be held from **Sun., June 25<sup>th</sup> to Wed., June 28<sup>th</sup>**. The deadline for registration (to guarantee a shirt) is **June 7**. Please contact Fr. Dave for more information.

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\*\*\* **Is your child registered yet?** The 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](http://www.campnazareth.org).

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\*\*\* **Science and Nature Week** at Camp Nazareth will be from **August 6-12**. More information is online at: [campnazareth.org](http://campnazareth.org).

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**Pittsburgh Deanery Picnic** will return this year on **Sunday, September 17** at The Veterans Shelter in Schenley Park. Mark your calendars and save the date!

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**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/acroddioecese](http://www.facebook.com/acroddioecese)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
YouTube: [youtube.com/acroddioecese](https://youtube.com/acroddioecese)

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**STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET**

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

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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.

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\* **Ride Share** – We have received a couple requests from people who are interested in getting a ride to the church. Please contact Fr. Dave or Larry if you would be willing to pick someone up on your way.

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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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\* **Eternal Lamp** – We have graciously received a gently used Eternal Lamp from a diocesan parish that has closed. It is in good shape, but could use a bit of a cleaning. If you would like to give it a shot – please let Fr. Dave know.

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**COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARD(S)**

Please sign up in the multi-purpose room or by contacting Fr. Dave

June 11: Marianne Kubis  
June 18 (Father's Day): Tim Martin  
June 25: \_\_\_\_\_

\* **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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**OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD**

Stewardship Offerings: \$ 34  
Candle Stewardship: \$ 68  
Envelope Stewardship: \$ 158  
Community Outreach: \$ 5

**Total Collections: \$ 285**

**Capital Improvement Fund: \$ 1100**

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

**Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials** were offered last week by Nelson Family; Tim Martin; Fred and Juliana Anton; Mary Jane Hudak; Carol and Tom Lorenzi; Cindy Pavilonis

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The **Eternal Lamp** was offered last week by Cindy Pavilonis in memory of +Michael Huron. May His Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamyat!

**May Financial Report:**

**General Stewardship = \$ 3202.72**

*(includes \$ 714.72 from online stewardship)*

**\*Expenses = \$ 5613.74**

**Net Deficit = \$ 2411.02**

**Capital Improvement Fund = \$ 1275**

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 35

*\*details listed on the church hall bulletin board*

**Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Report:**

*(September through last month)*

**General Stewardship = \$ 56,200**

**\*Expenses = \$ 58,001**

**Net Deficit = \$ 1801**

*\*details listed on the church hall bulletin board*

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 29

\* **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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**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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**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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**THIRD HOUR READER**

June 11: \_\_\_\_\_  
June 18: \_\_\_\_\_  
June 25: \_\_\_\_\_

## MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH

**Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Ellwood City** is our Community Outreach this month. Along with a monetary donation that we will collect throughout the month, this is last year's list that they requested assistance with:

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

Fr. Dave will update this list if changes are requested

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## JUNE SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**SATURDAY, JUNE 3 ALL-SOULS** (*Zadušna Subota*)

9:30am Divine Liturgy & Panachida (4<sup>th</sup> of 5)

**SUNDAY, JUNE 4 FEAST OF PENTECOST, THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT; "RUSALJA"**

9:15 – Icon procession and Litiya Prayers

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost following Liturgy

*A FAST FREE WEEK*

**MONDAY, JUNE 5**

DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

9:30 am Divine Liturgy with Gospel Procession

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7**

FEAST OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> FINDING OF THE HEAD OF ST JOHN

6:30 pm Akathist to St John

**SUNDAY, JUNE 11**

Sunday of All Saints

9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

**MONDAY, JUNE 12**

APOSTLES' (PETER AND PAUL) FAST BEGINS

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14**

6:30 pm Akathist to Saints Peter and Paul

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17 ALL-SOULS** (*Zadušna Subota*)

9:30am Divine Liturgy & Panachida (5<sup>th</sup> of 5)

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18**

Sunday of Regional Saints (*American and Rusyn*)

*FATHER'S DAY*

9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Youth Sunday

Panachida for departed Fathers and Godfathers

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21**

6:30 pm Akathist to Saints Peter and Paul

**SUNDAY, JUNE 25**

9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

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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)

## SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Epistle: Acts 2: 1– 11*

**The Coming of the Holy Spirit**

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

**5** Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. **6** And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. **7** And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" **8** And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? **9** Parthians and Medes and E'lamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, **11** Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

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*Gospel: John 7: 37– 52; 8: 12*

**Rivers of Living Water**

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

**Division among the People**

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

**The Unbelief of Those in Authority**

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

**Jesus the Light of the World**

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

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## LIVES OF THE SAINTS

**THE HOLY MARTYR JOHN-VLADIMIR**

*Commemorated on June 4 / May 22*

The Holy Martyr John-Vladimir, a Serbian prince, was born in the X Century. From his childhood he was raised in piety, and at maturity he wisely governed his holdings Illyria and Dalmatia, preserving in purity the holy faith. The noble prince was married to Kosara, a daughter of the Bulgarian tsar Samuel. Summoned under pretense of talks with the Bulgarian tsar John-Vladislav, he was treacherously murdered by him on 22 May 1015, at the entrance to a church. The pious spouse of the holy prince, Kosara, withdrew into a women's monastery that she built, and where also she died, to the very end of her life not quitting the church. The relics of the holy prince are situated near Elbosan.

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## LIVING THE ORTHODOX FAITH

### O Heavenly King (*Carju Nebesnyj*)

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

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### PENTECOST (GREEN) SUNDAY

*from various sources*

Fifty days after the Resurrection, on the Jewish feast of Pentecost, while the disciples and many other followers of Jesus Christ were gathered together to pray, the Holy Spirit descended upon them in the form of "cloven tongues of fire," with the sound of a mighty rushing wind, and they began to speak in languages that they did not know. There were many visitors from the Jewish diaspora to Jerusalem at that time for the Jewish observance of the feast, and they were astonished to hear these untaught fisherman speaking praises to God in their alien tongues. This account is detailed in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2.

The number fifty (Pente-), as in the fiftieth day after Pascha, stands for eternal and heavenly fulfillment, seven times seven, plus one. The Orthodox Church sees Pentecost as the final fulfillment of the mission of Jesus Christ and the first beginning of the messianic age of the Kingdom of God, mystically present in his Church. It is traditionally called the beginning of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

Besides celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit, the feast also celebrates the full revelation of the divine Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Hymns of the Church celebrate the sign of the final act of God's self-disclosure to the world of His creation. So, the Icon of the Holy Trinity is usually set out for veneration along with the Festal Icon of Pentecost.

To Orthodox Christians, the feast of Pentecost is not just a celebration of an event in history. It is also a celebration of their membership in the Church. They have lived Pentecost and received "the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit" in the sacrament of chrismation. In the Eastern Orthodox Church, Pentecost is one of the

Orthodox Great Feasts and is considered to be the highest ranking Great Feast of the Lord, second in rank only to Easter/Resurrection Sunday/Passover.

Celebration of the Feast begins with All-night Vigil on the eve of the feast day. The Divine Liturgy on the day is celebrated with special hymns replacing the standard Antiphons. The hymns O Heavenly King and We have seen the True Light are sung for the first time since Easter, calling the Holy Spirit to "come and abide in us," and proclaiming that "we have received the heavenly Spirit."

An extraordinary service called the **Kneeling Prayers**, is observed on the night of Pentecost. At Vespers on Pentecost evening, three long poetical prayers are added, the composition of Saint Basil the Great, during which everyone makes a full prostration, touching their foreheads to the floor (prostrations in church having been forbidden from the day of Pascha (Easter) up to this point). Uniquely, these prayers include a petition for all of those in hell, that they may be granted relief and even ultimate release from their confinement, if God deems this possible. In parishes which do not celebrate evening Vespers,, the Kneeling Prayers are often chanted immediately after the Divine Liturgy. The feast of Pentecost lasts three days. The first day is known as "Trinity Sunday". The second day is known as "Spirit Monday" (or "Monday of the Holy Spirit"); at the end of the Divine Liturgy on this day, we take a procession around the church, while reading Four Gospel readings in honor of the Holy Spirit. Third day, Tuesday, is called the "Third Day of the Trinity." The Afterfeast of Pentecost lasts for one week, during which fasting is not permitted, even on Wednesday and Friday.

In many Orthodox traditions, especially the various Slavic traditions, the liturgical color used at Pentecost is green, and the clergy and faithful carry flowers and green branches in their hands during the services. Orthodox churches are often decorated with flowers and the green leaves of summer to show that God's divine breath comes to renew all creation on this feast day. The celebration is intentionally similar to the Jewish holiday of Shavuot (Pentecost), which celebrates the giving of the Mosaic Law.

The Feast of Pentecost is also closely connected with ancient, even pre-Christian celebrations for the dead.

According to folk traditions derived from ancient Rome, the souls of the dead mingle with the living for 50 days from Easter to Pentecost. So, Easter week is also associated with funerary customs. In some places the relatives of the departed used to visit them in the cemetery on Easter Monday leaving offerings on their graves (red eggs, bagels, or bread and cheese). In other places, the pagan celebrations were Christianized by setting a specific day – the Tuesday after Thomas Sunday – for remembrances of the dead. It is also for this reason that the original All-Souls Saturday was instituted in order to pray for the dead. This original All-Souls Saturday is fixed for the Saturday before Pentecost, the final day of the Paschal Season (the other All-Souls Saturdays before and during Lent were added later).

A series of customs also known as Russoulia (Romania) or Rusalia (Lemko, Carpatho-Russia, Galicia) are known across the Orthodox Balkan countries and in Russia. Scholars link the name of the custom with the Rosalia or Rosaria, a spring festival of ancient Romans, which was later on developed to a funeral feast during which they put flower wreaths (usually roses, which were closely associated with the dead and with death) over the graves of their deceased loved ones. The name Rosalia therefore derives from this Christianized festival of the dead, not from Rus' or Rusyn. It is a celebration of new life in the Spirit, and new, eternal life for all!

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### FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

#### **Pentecost** (*also called Trinity Day or Descent of the Holy Spirit*)

The Orthodox Church sees Pentecost as the final fulfillment of the mission of Jesus Christ and the first beginning of the messianic age of the Kingdom of God, mystically present in His Church. It is traditionally called the beginning of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

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#### **The Third Discovery Of The Venerable Head Of The Holy Prophet, Fore-Runner And Baptist Of The Lord John**

Commemorated on June 7 / May 25

The Third Discovery of the Venerable Head of the Holy Prophet, Fore-Runner and Baptist of the Lord John occurred in about the year 850 (the account about the First and Second Discoveries is located under 24 February). During the time of unrest at Constantinople connected with the exile of Sainted John Chrysostom (Comm. 13 November), the head of Saint John the Fore-Runner was found in the city of Emesia. It was transferred from there during the time of Saracen raids (about 820-820) to Komana and there – during a period of iconoclast persecution, it was hidden in the ground. When the veneration of icons was restored, Patriarch Ignatios (847-857) during the time of prayer at night was shown in a vision the place, where the head of Saint John the Fore-Runner was concealed. The hierarch communicated this to the emperor, who dispatched a delegation to Komana, and there the head was found a third time at the place decreed by the patriarch in about the year 850. Afterwards the head was again transferred to Constantinople, and here on 25 May it was placed in a church at the court. Part of the head is located at Athos. In memory of the Third Discovery of the Head of the Baptist of the Lord John, the celebration is on 25 May.



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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

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

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

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**A Prayer For The Sick:**

O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant *name(s)*. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver *him/her/them* from sickness and bitter pain. Heal *him/her/them* so that *he/she/they* may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.

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**For the Health of...** Jolin, Marianne, 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 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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**June Namedays:**

Tristan Bowser - St. Dunstan (6/1)

Dustin Brozell – St. Dunstan (6/1)

Eleanor Sanger – St. Helen (6/3)

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

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**June Birthdays:**

June Sefscik (6/1), Penelope Maruscak (6/5), Pañi Eleni Stagon (6/5), Lindsay (Winkler) Sikora (6/6), Maverick Torchia (6/6), Justin Winkler (6/7), Gina Fall (6/8), Christina (Brancho) Chow (6/12), Makaela Kirish (6/12), Fr. Nicholas Mihaly (6/13), Kylee Winkler (6/14), Rebecca Zak (6/15), Julia Lanick (6/16), Aaron Zak (6/16), Katherine Chow (6/20), Donna (Lanick) Staub (6/20), Pañi Melissa Chendorain (6/20), Mary Jane Hudak (6/23), Margaret Spirnak (6/24), Pañi Marianna Bannon (6/25), Nicole Maruscak (6/27), Ryan Dzadony (6/28), *Father’s niece*, Aislinn Verbanick (6/28), Fr.

Paul Abernathy (6/29), Colton Gavulich (6/29), John Radick (6/29), Elizabeth Radomsky (6/29), Fr Miles Zdinak (6/29) *...May God allow them to grow in peace and love all the days of their lives and may He grant them many and blessed years!*

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

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

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**June Anniversaries:**

Adam & Jean Zak (6/2/12)

Stephen & Jennifer Brancho (6/6/09)

*Father’s Parents, Dave & Andrea Urban (6/16/68)*

Danielle & Shane Yakemawiz (6/26/12)

*...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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**For the souls of the newly departed...**

Floyd Wensel, Jr. (5/1) *...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God’s Memory!*

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\* This is to be used for the special intentions of our brothers and sisters in Christ and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (*in the case of answered prayers*) to our Parish List. The words of the Gospel are true: **it is good to pray for one another.** Let this be a place where we lay out our concerns and beg the help of our brothers & sisters in Christ. *This prayer list is NOT limited to only Orthodox Christians.*

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**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...)*

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**ONLINE BULLETIN BONUSES**

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**SPIRITUAL VITAMINS**

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*Spiritual Vitamin:*

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

+St. Nektarios of Pentapolis

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

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

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