#### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Father Dave Urban, Pastor +++ 2201 Duncan Avenue, Allison Park, Pa 15101 www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.com +++ 412-748-0148 (Talk or Text) +++ OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com

#### 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. 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, JUNE 11, 2023**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Sunday of All Saints 10 am FAMILY DAY AT CAMP NAZARETH

MONDAY, JUNE 12 #APOSTLESFAST

APOSTLES' (PETER AND PAUL) FAST BEGINS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14 #APOSTLESFAST

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)

11 am – 1 pm Confessions Heard

#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 18** #APOSTLESFAST

Sunday of Regional Saints (American and Rusyn) FATHER'S DAY

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

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16; Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23

Tone 1; Liturgical Color: Green

Panachida for departed Fathers and Godfathers

TUESDAY, JUNE 20 DATE CHANGE #APOSTLESFAST 6:30 pm Akathist to Saints Peter and Paul

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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/

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

#### BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday) +++ +++ +++

\*\*\* The Holy Apostles' Fast (Peter and Paul Fast) begins tomorrow. This is one of the four fasting seasons of the Christian year, along with Great Lent (the Great Fast), Nativity Fast (Advent), & the Dormition Fast. This one culminates with our celebration of Saints Peter & Paul on July 12th. Take the time to grow spiritually by fasting from something over the next few weeks. Please talk with Fr. Dave with your questions about this fasting period.

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\*\*\* Holy Mystery of Confession - A common practice in Orthodoxy is to go to Confession during each of the fasting periods. Fr Dave is available for Confession after every service, Saturday from 11-1, or contact him for an appointment for another time.

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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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\*\*\* Ordination - On Sunday, July 2, Tom Slosky will be ordained to the Diaconate at St. Michael's in Rankin. If you plan on attending, please let Fr. Dave know in advance (so a count can be passed to Fr. Nik) +++ +++ +++

\*\*\* Annual Church Picnic - The date for our Church Picnic HAS BEEN CHANGED due to a couple of conflicts that were realized. "The Cabin" in North Park is now booked for **Sunday**, **October 8** for our annual picnic. If you are in town, come on over!

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\*\*\* Church School Reorganization – It seems early to think about our fall Church School program (as schools have just left out), but we are in the planning season! Please let Fr. Dave know if you would be willing to teach Church School this coming fall.

#### "THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER" Our Parish Weekly Bulletin

O Holy John, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptizer of the Lord, pray to God for us!

\*\*\* 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.

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\*\*\* Clergy "Swap" - Over the summer, the Dean of Pittsburgh, Fr. Michael Zak, will visit the parishes in the Pittsburgh area. When he visits a parish, the "home" priest will serve that Sunday in Homestead. Here is the tentative schedule:

June 25 – Monongahela July 16 – Allison Park July 2 – Rankin July 23 – McKeesport July 9 – Ambridge July 30 – East Pittsburgh +++ +++ +++

\*\*\* 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

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#### COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

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

June 18\* (Father's Day): Tim Martin June 25\*:

July 1\*:

\* no meat within the Apostles' Fast

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

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\*\* 2023 Altar Boy Retreat - Registration is open for this Annual Diocesan event to be held from Sun., June 25th to Wed., June 28th. The deadline for registration (to guarantee a shirt) is June 7. Please contact Fr. Dave for more information.

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\*\* 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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\*\* Is vour 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. +++ +++ +++

Pittsburgh Deanery Picnic will return this year on Sunday, September 17 at The Veterans Shelter in Schenley Park. Mark your calendars today

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\*\* Congratulations to Bernadette Latuch and Stephen John Zerby who were united together in the Mystery of Holy Matrimony on Saturday, June 3. Through the prayers of Saints Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs, May God grant you many years! +++ +++ +++

#### VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

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THIRD HOUR READER		
June 18: June 25: July 1:		
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\* 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!



\*\* Congratulations to Subdeaecon 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.

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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD		
Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 246	
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 94	
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 869	
Total Collections:	\$ 1209	

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Nelson Family; Lawrence Martin; Tim Martin; Kathy Schrmack; Fred and Juliana Anton; Rich and Renee Mirilovich; Mary Jane Hudak; Cindy Pavilonis

**Bulletin Sponsor** – If you wish to sponsor a bulletin In Honor of (nameday, birthday, anniversary, etc.) or In Memory of someone, please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule or by contacting Fr. Dave (email, text, or call). An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested. Remember, sponsoring a bulletin in memory of someone does not replace having a Panachida (short Memorial Service) for them.

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#### SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Epistle:** Hebrews 11:33-12:2

33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. 35 Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated— <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. <sup>39</sup> And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, 40 since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

#### The Example of Jesus

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

> + + +**Gospel:** Matthew 10:32-33.37-38.19:27-30

<sup>32</sup> So every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

<sup>37</sup>He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; <sup>38</sup> and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

<sup>27</sup>Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" <sup>28</sup> Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup> And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. <sup>30</sup> But many that are first will be last, and the last first.

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#### PRAYER CORNER

**Return to Kneeling in Prayer** – At the Vespers service last Sunday evening on Pentecost, the kneeling prayers were recited. The Orthodox community now returns to kneeling in prayer and reciting O Heavenly King. +++ +++ +++

#### 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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For the Health of... Mary Jane, Sophia, 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. +++ +++ +++

For the souls of the newly departed...

John Gaydos, Sr. (6/14), 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!

#### LIVES OF THE SAINTS

The Monastic Martyress Theodosia lived during

THE MONASTIC MARTYRESS THEODOSIA Commemorated on June 12 / May 29

the VIII Century. She was born through the fervent prayer of her parents, and after their death, she was raised at the Constantinople women's monastery in honour of the holy Martyress Anastasia. Saint Theodosia accepted monasticism at the women's monastery after she distributed to the poor of what remained of her parental inheritance. Part of the money she used for writing icons of the Saviour, the Mother of God and the Martyress Anastasia. When Leo the Isaurian (717-741) ascended to the imperial throne, and being a fierce persecutor of iconveneration, he issued an edict to destroy holy icons everywhere. At Constantinople there then existed gates called the "Bronze Gates", and up over them for more than 400 years was a bronzen image of the Saviour. In the year 730 the Iconoclast pseudopatriarch Anastasias gave orders to remove the image. Orthodox people, at the head of which was the Monastic-Martyr Theodosia together with other nuns, rushed to the defense of the icon and toppled the ladder with the soldier atop, who was carrying out the command. The pseudo-patriarch Anastasias, fearing that the riot would intensify, informed the emperor about the incident, on whose orders soldiers went around beating up all the nuns, and Saint Theodosia being a very ardent defender of icons was locked up in prison. Over the course of a week they each day dealt her an hundred lashes, and on the eighth day they led her about the city, fiercely beating her along the way. One of the soldiers began to strike at the martyress and inflicted upon her a mortal wound, from which the martyress immediately died. The body of the holy monastic martyress, left cast upon the ground, was reverently buried by Christians in the Diokritis monastery in Constantinople. The place of burial of Saint Theodosia was glorified by numerous healings of the sick.

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#### ONLINE BULLETIN BONUS

#### How to Properly Prepare for the Apostles Fast, and Whether a Modern Person Needs to Fast Metropolitan Onuphry (Berezovsky)

In this brief interview, His Beatitude Metropolitan Onuphry of Kiev and All Ukraine speaks on fasting, modern man, and role models.

# —Your Beatitude, Pentecost ends the Paschal cycle. We start counting anew from this week. How does this period differ from the other cycles of the year?

—The holy Church was born on Pentecost, and after the feast it began to actively work and preach; similarly, after Pentecost, a new enumeration of every following Sunday begins in the Church's liturgical year, in which are recalled, besides the mystery of the Resurrection, notable Gospel events or events from Christian history. For example, on the first Sunday, the Synaxis of All Saints is remembered, and on the second, All Saints Who Shone Forth in the Russian Land, and so on.

## —The Apostles Fast begins today. Concerning fasting, you often hear that in our nervous age, fasting is just an additional stress. How is fasting useful for modern man?

—After the universal flood, due to man's infirmity, the Lord blessed meat; that is, people began to eat the flesh of animals and birds. But the former life expectancy of man was already gone. This shows us that fasting is not some kind of cruelty on the Lord's part towards His creation. The Lord wants us to return, through fasting, to the former order of this beautiful dispensation that man had in Paradise. In other words, fasting is not a stress for man, but a means that relieves stress.

## —What is the proper way to prepare for a **fast**? What can we do during a fast, and what can we not do?

—In the fasts we limit ourselves, firstly from non-fasting food. Vegetation is natural for man and the most beneficial to his health. When people are seriously ill, or when old age sets in, even doctors don't recommend eating heavy meats. They're better for young people, for those who have strong bodies, and for those doing hard physical labor. And the holy

Church, knowing what is good for man, advises to abstain from meat products during Great Lent to restore harmony to our body and that natural order that God established in every man. When we fast, our bodies restructure themselves. If someone always eats meat, it might be hard for him to live just on vegetation at first. But this is a positive reaction, and after a while, everything is restored, and he will feel fine. If someone who has smoked for a long time is forced to quit, he starts to have psychoses and some unpleasant changes in his body. But that doesn't mean he needs to smoke in such a malaise—it's just a positive reaction to his healing.

#### —What can happen to someone who doesn't fast?

—Someone who fasts has personal experience of overcoming various difficulties and temptations in life, but someone who doesn't fast is deprived of such experience. I wish that we would all be enriched by the experience of spiritual struggle, through which we travel to spiritual perfection. This is what the holy Church calls us to today through the blessing of the Apostles Fast. It should also be remembered that when a person joins in the bodily and spiritual fast, then an especially intensive spiritual development begins, ascending from degree to degree, or, as the holy Church says, spiritual perfection, which begins on Earth and continues eternally in the Heavenly life.

### —And a final, personal question. Do you have a role model?

—All of us Christians try to emulate our Savior and Creator; after all, everyone has God within Himself: As soon as a man is born, the Godhead already sanctifies and fills him. Some saints had the opportunity to see God even with their own eyes; they were filled inside with Divine light, which expanded their hearts and souls until they could see God Himself. However, there were few such people to whom the Lord Himself appeared. Among them was St. Silouan the Athonite. When the Lord was somewhat distant from him. St. Silouan suffered greatly because he no longer saw Christ during prayer, which was infinitely more difficult for him then. St. Silouan is a role model, for he shows us how we must draw nearer to Christ even in this earthly life through labors and prayer. Another example of holiness, very beneficial for modern man, is St. Mary

of Egypt, who through labors and prayer turned from a great sinner into a great saint. We are not capable of such *podvigs*, but we must know that when a person gradually, from fast to fast, from fasting day to fasting day, tries to abstain, to keep himself within the bounds of the Divine law, he also comes to his own measure of perfection, and is granted mercy from God both here, on Earth, and in Heaven—in the eternal Kingdom.

Metropolitan Onuphry (Berezovsky) Translated by Jesse Dominick Pravlife.org 6/4/2018

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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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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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#### 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
Schrmack, (the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> positions are vacant)



#### 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

#### 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 #APOSTLESFAST

APOSTLES' (PETER AND PAUL) FAST BEGINS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14 #APOSTLESFAST

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) 11 am – 1 pm Confessions Heard

#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 18** #APOSTLESFAST

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

**DATE CHANGE** TUESDAY, JUNE 20 #APOSTLESFAST 6:30 pm Akathist to Saints Peter and Paul

**SUNDAY, JUNE 25** #APOSTLESFAST

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

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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.

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.

To Orthodox Christians, the feast of Pentecost is not just a celebration of an event in history. It also is 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.

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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.



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 <u>not</u> 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

#### PRAYER CORNER #2

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

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.

#### 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, Amee, 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!

#### June Birthdays:

June Sefscik (6/1), Penelope Maruscak (6/5), Paňi 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), Paňi Melissa Chendorain (6/20), Mary Jane Hudak (6/23), Margaret Spirnak (6/24), Paňi 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! +++ +++ +++

For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Tyler, Susan ...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magadalene, & 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), Lauren (December)...through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Theotokos, and St. Irene Chrysovalantou.

For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadovsky ...through the prayers of St George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.

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

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A Prayer for our Diocesan Clergy

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



#### 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 Demetrics 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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#### SPIRITUAL VITAMINS

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