

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

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A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

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

We are happy that you have joined us today! It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning.

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 18, 2023 #APOSTLESFAST

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Synaxis of Regional Saints (Carpatho-Rusyn and North American Saints)

FATHER’S DAY

Youth Sunday

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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SUNDAY, JUNE 25 #APOSTLESFAST

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Venerable Arsenii of Konevsk (1447)

9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Reader’s Service

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10; Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

Tone 2; Liturgical Color: **Green**

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SUNDAY, JULY 2 #APOSTLESFAST

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

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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)

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***** The Holy Apostles’ Fast (Peter and Paul Fast)**

This is one of the four fasting seasons of the Orthodox Christian year that culminates with our celebration of Saints Peter & Paul on July 12th.

Apostles Fast by Fr. Ed Pehanich

We are now in the middle of the Apostles’ Fast.

While many ignore this fast it has a very important purpose for us. St. Leo the Great in the 5th century wrote:

After the Feast of Pentecost, fasting is especially necessary to purify our thoughts to render us worthy to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

We engage in increased prayer and fasting in order to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, self-control. Need these in your life? Work at increased prayer and fasting during these weeks.

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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 or contact him to set up another time.

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**** Annual Parish 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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*** 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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“THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER” *Our Parish Weekly Bulletin*

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

***** 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 TODAY (so a count can be passed to Fr. Nik)

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***** Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Ellwood City** is our Community Outreach this month. Along with a monetary donation that we will collect throughout the month, they can use the following items:

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|--|----------------------------|
| AA and AAA Batteries | Zip lock bags |
| Match Books | Canned fuzzy water |
| Toilet paper | Facial Tissues |
| Paper towels | Napkins |
| Tall 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 |
| Tuna in water | Salted mixed nuts |
| Raisins | Canola oil |
| Honey | Cooking spray |
| Coffee mate non dairy creamer powder (small sizes) | |
| HE Laundry detergent | Fabric softener |

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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.

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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.*

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BULLETIN IS OFFERED:

For the health of Fathers and Godfathers.

Many Years!

And in memory of our departed Fathers and Godfathers. *May their memory be eternal!*

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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 30 – East Pittsburgh
July 9 – Ambridge

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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

(A *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 25*:

July 1*:

July 8*:

* no meat within the Apostles’ Fast

Carol Lorenzi

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 5
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 65
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 208
Total Collections:	\$ 278
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 230

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Nelson Family; Juliana and Fred Anton; Carol and Tom Lorenzi; Melanie Paieski; and Cindy Pavilonis.

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***** Summer Travels** – As we prepare for summer vacations and time away, please do not forget about our parish. We continue to function even when you are away. If possible, mail your regular offering in or ‘catch up’ when you return. It is all a part of stewardship!

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**** 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 Pañi Peggy to da ‘burgh! Many Years!

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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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*** 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!

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THIRD HOUR READER

June 25:	_____
July 1:	_____
July 8:	_____

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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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SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16

¹⁰but glory and honor and peace for every one who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹For God shows no partiality.

¹²All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. ¹⁴When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them ¹⁶on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

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Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zeb’edee and John his brother, in the boat with Zeb’edee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus Ministers to Crowds of People

²³And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Lights From the Carpathians and North America

(from the websites of acrod.org and oca.org)

The Holy Spirit provides every gift: He inspires prophecy and perfects the priesthood; He grants wisdom to the illiterate, makes simple fishermen become wise theologians, and establishes perfect order in the assembly of the Church. Therefore, O Comforter, equal in nature and majesty with the Father and the Son, O Lord, glory to You!

From the Vespers of Pentecost

Many modern advertisers promote their products by showing a before/after picture of a person who used their cleaning product, diet pills, etc. The point of the commercial or ad is to show results, that is, proof that the product “works”. The two Sundays after Pentecost are a meditation and a celebration of the impact of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of men and women throughout history. It is in the lives of holy men and women – the Saints – that we see the fruit of the descent of the Holy Spirit and the reason why He was sent: for the sanctification and enlightenment of the faithful. The first Sunday after Pentecost is known as the Sunday of All Saints in which we honor all the known and unknown holy men and women throughout history who were sanctified by the descent Holy Spirit. The second Sunday after Pentecost is another Sunday of All Saints but more focused: it honors the holy men and women of a certain nation or region such as All Saints of Russia, All Saints of Mount Athos. In 2005, His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas of blessed memory established within our Diocese the commemoration of All Saints of Carpatho-Rus on the second Sunday after Pentecost. The descent of the Holy Spirit has produced many fruits of holiness and virtue among the people of Carpatho-Russia, even within our own time until the present day. Along with the holy men and women of more ancient times such as Sts. Cyril and Methodius and St. Moses Uhryn there many modern examples of the work of the Holy Spirit.

In a nation whose religious culture has accommodated Catholics, Protestants, and Jews, Orthodox Christian in North America have been largely overlooked and ignored. With few exceptions, their historical

experiences remain unrecorded, their documents untranslated, their personalities, institutions, and activities unknown.

Contemporary American Orthodoxy is the result of the Russian missionaries to Alaska, but also of the migration of peoples from Central and Eastern Europe and the Middle East. From its humble beginnings in 1794, when a small group of missionaries landed on Kodiak Island, Alaska, Orthodoxy in America has expanded to comprise a church of over two million faithful. Yet numerous Americans from all cultural and religious backgrounds have, particularly in recent decades, joined Orthodoxy as well. Orthodoxy does have something to say to American society To this list of righteous men and women of Carpatho-Rus and America, can we hope and pray that one day the name of His Eminence, Metropolitan Orestes Chornock can be added? Confessor of the Faith? He suffered much in his return to Orthodoxy: court cases, slander, lies, deprivation. Apostle? He led at least 30,000 people in their embrace of the Orthodox Faith. May his memory be eternal! Vicnaja jemu pamjat!

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PRAYER CORNER

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

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For the Health of... Mary Jane, 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 souls of the newly departed... Barbara Vasko (6/18), 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!*

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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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VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS

“The saints don’t save. The saints only intercede. All our saints go to Christ. From individuals, saints become persons and are written into the ledgers of the heavenly kingdom. This call is to everyone.

A saint is a perfected personality who lives to love, to receive God’s mercy, to do good and to glorify God.”

+Monk Moïsis the Athonite

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ONLINE BULLETIN BONUS

**Saints Were People Just Like Ourselves:
*Are We Striving To Be Like The Saints?***

by Very Rev. Archimandrite Nektarios Serfes
"Our Church honors saints not as gods, but as faithful servants, as holy men and friends of God"

+*St. Nektarios of Aegina*

On Holy Mt. Athos in Greece, a visitor asked the Elder (Abbot) Chrysostomos of St. Nikodemos the Hagiorite Monastery: ‘what is the mission of the church?’ The pious Elder replied: ‘the mission of the Church is to make people saints.’ Saints were people just like ourselves. The

Orthodox Church has indeed given birth to many saints, and many of us know about them. We even know on which day the Church celebrates the saint we are named after, as this is called the ‘names day’, and is also known as the ‘angels day’.

Spiritual nourishment is vital for all of us, and an important part of this "food" is the time we spend reading the lives of the saints and mediating upon them. Reading Holy Scripture, reading the lives of the saints and the writings of the Holy Fathers of the Church—this is a discipline for us, and we gain strength, wisdom and nourishment for our minds and souls by undertaking this discipline regularly.

There is a danger that we may think that the saints, about whom we read, lived lives to a standard we simply cannot attain. Their life stories, though, are examples of how we too should live our lives spiritually. They did not start ‘at the top’ in a state of perfection but, like us ‘at the bottom’. They, just like us, began their spiritual walk encumbered with grievous sins. They, like us, came before the presence of our mighty and Holy God and prostrated themselves in repentance and humility of spirit. By His grace they were saved, cleansed, and forgiven, and so were able to attain, step by step, the Kingdom of Heaven. Any one of us who piously struggles to attain the Kingdom of Heaven does so through repentance which our Merciful Lord grants us by His suffering for us.

As the saints looked upon the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, they shared in His sufferings. They struggled, they fasted, and they prayed constantly, never forgetting their purpose on this earth—to seek out their salvation. This is our purpose on this earth too, to be like the saints, and struggle both inwardly and outwardly for our salvation, walking every day along the path towards the salvation that is an eternal promise to us.

The saints received, just as we can, the guidance and presence of the Holy Spirit, which is granted to all those who seek God, and our theosis (the vision of God) with Him. The Lord

our God gave the saints this great spiritual resource, and at the same time great grace, so that they were able to embrace the whole world with love.

Of course we have hardships in our lives, and sometimes we even languish in affliction. We may feel that our hearts are withering away within us, and our souls become despondent as we seem to be far from our loving God. Remember that the saints went through these same situations in their lives, and, seeking the power and grace of the Holy Spirit, they sought to overcome these struggles, never giving up, maintaining their regular disciplines of prayer and asceticism, and holding firmly on to their hope, faith and love for our God. We have to do the same thing as the saints. We too must struggle with the same determination, having the same hope, faith and love for our God, and being in prayer as often as possible.

Then again, the saints constantly fasted, disciplining their bodies, and were obedient to all the fast days ordained by the Church. Are we obedient when the Church calls us to fast during the Lenten periods, and on every Wednesday and Friday? The saints loved to fast and pray because these disciplines kept them close to God. Let us follow their great examples by fasting and praying with the same love for our God. Do not forget to participate in the prayers that are offered on behalf of a patron saint, such as the Troparion, or Dismissal Hymns of the saint. We would then be able to accomplish so much spiritually, being equipped with great spiritual weapons to deal with our inner struggles.

When we do something wrong, our Lord God is waiting for us to repent, and our Gracious God loves us more when we are in the state of repentance. He is always glad to hear us cry to Him when we are truly sorry for our sins. Even the saints see our lives just as does our Lord God. They see the way we fail even to love one another. They see that we fall into the trap of constantly judging others. And they know for sure that we do not have full freedom spiritually

from our sins and the effects of these sins. So, by their examples, the saints have taught us that we can too overcome our sins, and faults, when we realize that the way to return to the peace and grace of our Lord God is to repent, to be sorry for what we have done wrong in our lifetime. Therefore, we should as often as possible remember the saints of the Orthodox Church, and especially the saint who we are named after, who will help guide us on the path towards our salvation. Seek to learn as much as you can about your patron saint. Including also the Dismissal and Kontakion hymns of your patron saint. Look at the way the life affects and trains you, and share what you have learned with others. Let your life and witness become an example, just as is the life of the saint. This is how we should live as pious and faithful Orthodox Christians.

The saints love us with a profound love bestowed upon them by our Lord, who graced them with the Holy Spirit. Does our soul burn with the same love for our Lord God and His saints? Do we too have the same love for one another? Or has our love grown dim? While the saints were with us, they learned of the love of God through the Holy Spirit, so let us humbly and piously seek the same blessings from our Lord God. Let us strive to accomplish what is truly our mission on this earth: to be like the saints, loving our God and loving one another. This is our mission as faithful and loving children of our Holy Orthodox Church: to be like the saints, and to be ever watchful. Amen. May all the saints pray for us!

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“Truly, then, education signifies illumination—illumination through sanctification in the Holy Spirit who is the vehicle and the creator of holiness and of the light of knowledge. The saints, because they are sanctified and illuminated by the Holy Spirit, are also true teachers and educators.”

+*St. Justin (Popovic) of Chelije in Serbia*

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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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Stewardship of Treasure Guide												
Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?												
Weekly Income	Beyond a Tithe 15%	Tithe 12%	Upper Range Giving 9%	8%	7%	Middle Range Giving 6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	
\$200	\$30	\$24	\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4	\$2
\$300	\$45	\$36	\$30	\$27	\$24	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6	\$3
\$400	\$60	\$48	\$40	\$36	\$32	\$28	\$24	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$75	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$5
\$600	\$90	\$72	\$60	\$54	\$48	\$42	\$36	\$30	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6
\$700	\$105	\$84	\$70	\$63	\$56	\$49	\$42	\$35	\$28	\$21	\$14	\$7
\$800	\$120	\$96	\$80	\$72	\$64	\$56	\$48	\$40	\$32	\$24	\$16	\$8
\$900	\$135	\$108	\$90	\$81	\$72	\$63	\$54	\$45	\$36	\$27	\$18	\$9
\$1,000	\$150	\$120	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$10
\$1,100	\$165	\$132	\$110	\$99	\$88	\$77	\$66	\$55	\$44	\$33	\$22	\$11
\$2,000	\$300	\$240	\$200	\$180	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$40	\$20
\$3,000	\$450	\$360	\$300	\$270	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$150	\$120	\$90	\$60	\$30

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

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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 (2nd best is to mail it in to Tim Martin, 2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143). If you miss coming to church for a week, online giving allows you another option to “catch up” on your weekly stewardship. You can also set up a recurring donation online. For our parish to continue

it’s ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, your generosity and stewardship is needed.

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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 4th and 5th positions are vacant)

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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:

- ✓ AA and AAA Batteries
- ✓ Match Books

- ✓ Zip lock bags
- ✓ 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 (4th 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 3RD 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 (5th 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 Reader's Service

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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.



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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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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 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), John Fucsko (6/15), 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 Dzacony (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)

John & Sarah Fucsko (6/18/11)

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.*

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzacovsky ...*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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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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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.