

“THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER” *Our Parish Weekly Bulletin*

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

UPCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

18th Sunday after Pentecost;
Venerable Euphrosyne (445)
11:00 am Parish Picnic at The Cabin

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

6:00 pm Feast Day Vespers (*note the time change*)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

19th Sunday after Pentecost
PriestMartyr Cyprian & Martyress Justina (304)
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Youth Sunday
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9
Gospel: Luke 6:31-36 (*2nd Sunday of Luke*)
Tone 2; Liturgical Color: **Gold**
11:00 am Blessing of New Roof and HVAC
11:30 am Sr. ACRY meeting

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

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

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COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

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

October 15: _____
October 22: _____
October 29: _____

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

⁶The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And 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. ⁹As it is written, “He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.” ¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

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Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

⁵While the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennes’aret. ²And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” ⁵And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.” ⁶And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, ⁷they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” ⁹For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

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taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zeb’edee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men.” ¹¹And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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Parish Picnic Directions – *Here are directions to THE CABIN from Allison Park:*

RIGHT onto Duncan Avenue – .6 mi

RIGHT onto Hubbard Road – 500 ft

LEFT onto Sample Road - .5 mi

RIGHT onto Peebles Road – 1.5 mi

RIGHT onto Hemlock Drive – 100 ft.

RIGHT onto Babcock Boulevard - .5 mi

LEFT onto East Ingomar Road – 600 ft

The Cabin is on your LEFT - *1370 E Ingomar Rd*

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*** **Blessing of new items** – The first six months in Allison Park have been quite busy and a lot has been accomplished. **Next Sunday, October 15**, we will bless the new roof, AC units, and boiler after Liturgy (around 11 am). The owners of the companies and workers have been invited to join us.

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*** ACRY NEWS ***

* **Sr. ACRY Meeting** – On **Sunday, October 15**, the first Sr. ACRY meeting for the Church Year will occur after the blessing of the roof, boiler, and AC. Nominations for local officers is one item on the agenda. See Subdeacon Ryan Ferko with any questions.

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* **Lots–O–Luck Calendars** – The National ACRY Lots-O-Luck Calendars are available. \$25 per ticket gets you a years worth of prizes totaling \$10,000! Please see Subdeacon Ryan Ferko for tickets.

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* **Church School Teachers** are needed. Please contact Fr. Dave or a Parish Council Member if you are interested in helping with one of the three classes that are being set up (*Pre-First Confession, First Confession, and Post-First Confession classes*)

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*** **Pumpkin Patch** – On **Sunday, October 22** after the coffee social we will venture over to Shenot’s Farm & Market (3754 Wexford Run Rd., Wexford, PA 15090) for an afternoon of fun! For \$5 you can take a hay ride to a pumpkin patch and corn field mazes ☺ fun for all ages! It is only 17 minutes (8.6 miles) from our church. (*A group discount is being looked into.*) Visit their website for more info:

<https://www.shenotfarm.com/fall-events-2023.html>

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** **Young Adult Fall Retreat** at Camp Nazareth, a joint effort of ACROD, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church USA, will be held **October 27-29** with the topic of the retreat *Iconography: Awed By The Beauty*. All those aged 18 to 35 are invited. Go to TINYURL.COM/YAFALL2023 to register.

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Fall Retreat - On **Saturday, October 28** from 9:30am to 4:45pm, St. George Orthodox Cathedral (3400 Dawson Street, Pittsburgh, PA) is hosting a retreat by Dr. Jeannie Scarvelis Constantinou called *"The True Orthodox Mind and Lifestyle: Why it Matters"*. (Dr. Constantinou wrote the well-known book "Thinking Orthodox: Understanding and Acquiring the Orthodox Christian Mind".) Please register and RSVP at www.sgcoakland.org or call 412-681-2988. A \$30 donation is requested. Lunch, refreshments, and coffee will be provided. *Dr. Eugenia Constantinou hosts the popular podcast Search the Scriptures Live! on Ancient Faith Radio. She has been a professor and visiting lecturer on the Bible, patristic interpretation of Scripture, and early Christianity at Orthodox and non-Orthodox universities and schools of theology.*

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* **LAST CALL for Home Blessings** – Our Annual Home Blessings began on Sunday, August 14 after the Lesser Blessing of Water. Fr. Dave is looking forward to visiting *every home* this fall. **Please schedule with Fr. Dave today.**

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2023 Home Blessings

How to prepare for your home blessing?

1. See Fr. Dave, email him (fr.sleepless@gmail.com), call or text him (412-748-0148) today with your preferred windows of time for him to visit.
2. Have a white cloth placed on the dining room or kitchen table, an icon and/or a cross, and a candle to be lit. (Fr Dave will provide the Holy Water for the blessing.)
3. Have a list of names of those who live in the home (including your pets) and a list of the departed members of your family and friends you wish to have prayed for during the service.
4. Have all TVs, radios, and cell phones turned off.
5. Have on the table anything to be blessed (such as an Icon, Cross, etc.).
6. Participation is important! Have everyone in the family gather around the table and join in the blessing. Invite neighbors and friends over to be a part of this beautiful tradition as well!
7. If you need to discuss a personal matter, this is a good time to do so!

Home blessings will take place from August 14 through October 14

It would be ideal if Father could come on a weekday between 8:30am and 3:30pm. IF this is not possible, certain evening, Saturday, and Sunday times will be available. Fr Dave looks forward to spending this time with your family!

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VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

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*** **Youth Encounter at CN** - The National ACRY Encounter is a yearly gathering for all of our youth ages 8 to 18 at Camp Nazareth. It's a great weekend for our kids! They have lots of great activities being planned and our kids can look forward to lots of their Camp favorites with a few special features thrown in! Registration is now open. The cost is \$110 (and scholarships are available). Please contact Fr. Dave for the registration link.

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* **Medicine Bottles** – Thank you to everyone who previously brought in used medicine bottles that we donated to an organization in Ohio who reused them. For multiple reasons, one of which being the cost of shipping them to Ohio, **We Will No Longer Be Collecting Medicine Bottles.**

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* **Holy Trinity Consecration** – Join the Holy Trinity Family and Friends to celebrate the Consecration of their Church and the Centennial of their Parish on **November 3, 4 & 5, 2023.** Tickets and Centennial commemorative items are now available at www.HolyTrinityPgh.org/centennial, with more information to come over the summer.

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2023-24 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, John Kirish, Mary Jane Hudak, Kathy Schrmack (5th position open)

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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 (Memorial Service) for them.*

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings: \$ 445
 Candle Stewardship: \$ 124
 Envelope Stewardship: \$ 989
 Community Outreach: \$ 105
Total Collections: \$ 1663
Capital Improvement Fund: \$ 565

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

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Upcoming IOCC events * **Oktoberfest - October 19** at Rusty Gold Brewing Co in Canonsburg * **Bourbon Tasting - November 2** in McMurray (details on the bulletin board flyers or contact Fr. Dave)

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* **Moving Help** – Could anyone with a truck or van help move a sectional and chair from South Park to Bradford Woods? If so, please contact Fr. Dave.

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MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting donations for the **Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)**. The OCF is the official collegiate campus ministry program under the *Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA*. OCF is charged with connecting Orthodox college students (and those interested in the Orthodox Christian faith) to Christ and His Church.

The vision of the OCF is to be the loving presence of Christ and the Orthodox Church on college campuses; to be an integral part of students' spiritual formation by challenging them to explore the Faith; and to inspire students to commit to living an Orthodox Christian way of life daily. This is accomplished via a growing network of on-campus OCF chapters led by talented students, clergy, and lay advisors, as well as through programs such as Reginald Retreats, College Conferences, Real Break, and the Summer Leadership Institute. Visit www.ocf.net for more info. *Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month!*

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET



TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES

PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

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* **Can You Go Up A Percentage?** – At our yearly meeting the idea, or request, was made for everyone to evaluate their giving to the parish and see if you can go up a % over the next year as we were at a deficit for 2022-23

Stewardship of Treasure Guide												
Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?												
Weekly Income	Beyond a Tithe	Tithe	Upper Range	Giving	Middle Range	Giving	Lower Range	Giving	15%	12%	10%	8%
\$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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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 your offering to the curator who sits at the desk in the vestibule (to the right after you enter),
 ✘ there are multiple baskets around the church for you to drop your offering in, or
 ✘ when saying your prayer and lighting 2 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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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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OCTOBER SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Blessing of the Parish Council

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

FEAST OF THE CONCEPTION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
9:30 am Akathist to St. John

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
~11:00 am Parish Picnic at *The Cabin* in North Park

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

6:00 pm Feast Day Vespers (*note the time change*)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
11:00 am Blessing of New Roof & HVAC
11:30 am Sr. ACRY meeting with elections

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE
7TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL (787)
9:30 am Divine Liturgy

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

FOUNDING OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY IN 1932

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

CARPATHO-RUSYN DAY IN NORTH AMERICA

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

9:30am Divine Liturgy
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PRAYER CORNER

*Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions & other needs**

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For the Health of... Mary, Elizabeth, Patricia, Carol, Matthew, Allison, Jason, Kevin, Mary Jane M., Thomas, Marianne, Kellie, Carlene, David, Donna, George, Beverly, Kelly, Marie, Brian, 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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October Namedays:

John Kirish - Venerable John Kukuzelis the Singer (10/14)
Kenneth Parks - Venerable Cainnech (10/24)
...May God grant them many and blessed years!

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October Birthdays: Genevive Martellotti (10/3), Matthew Mirilovich (10/6), John Gaydos, III (10/7), Sophie Jesko (10/7), *Father's sister*, Melissa Ditmire (10/11), *Father's mother*, Andrea Urban (10/11), Kevin Anton (10/12), Sheila Jesko (10/13), Frank Martellotti (10/15), Cameron Watson (10/17), Rhonda Gogal (10/19), Fr. Robert Buczak (10/20), Alyssa Duray (10/23), Fr. Daniel Vaskalis (10/24), Paula Watson (10/25), Doloris Bowser (10/26), Kaitlyn Duray (10/26), Fr. Mark Leasure (10/26), Sarah Fucsko (10/27), Mareena Shuster (10/29), Ryan Schrmack (10/30), Waylon Gavulich (10/31), Noah Winkler (10/31) *...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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October Anniversaries:

Rich & Renee Mirilovich (10/1)
Allen & Anastasia (Martin) Dzambo (10/2)
Brian & Rhonda Gogal (10/5)
Chi-Wing & Deborah (Brancho) Chow (10/08)
John & Jane Gaydos (10/9)
Meredith & Ryan Blobner (10/12)
...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For the souls of the newly departed...

Pañi Mary Buletza (10/8), Sean Carey (10/1)
...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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A Prayer for College Students

Heavenly Father, please be with these students as they go where they do not know. As they seek to grow in knowledge, we ask that they grow in faith. As they start to conquer the world, we hope that they conquer their fears. As they strive to find their place, we pray that they find You. Please go where we cannot, protect when we cannot, give strength that we cannot, and bring them safely home. Amen.

FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

The Conception Of The Venerable Prophet, Forerunner And Baptist Of The Lord, John:

Commemorated on October 6 / September 23

The Conception of the Venerable Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The holy Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the Messiah would appear His Forerunner, who would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of His Forerunner. In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine lived the righteous priest Saint Zachariah and his wife Saint Elizabeth, assiduously observing the commandments of the Lord. The couple however had a misfortune: getting up in years they remained childless and they prayed unceasingly to God, that He should grant them a child. One time, when Saint Zachariah was in turn priest at the Temple of Jerusalem, he went during the time of Divine-services into the Sanctuary for making an incensing. Having gone in behind the Sanctuary veil, he beheld an Angel of God, standing at the right side of the incense altar. Saint Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear, but the Angel said to him: "Fear not, Zachariah, thine prayer is heard, and thy wife Elizabeth will bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John". But Righteous Zachariah did not believe the words of the heavenly messenger, and then the Angel said to him: "I – am Gabriel, that standeth before God and am sent to announce this unto thee. But now, thou shalt be mute until the day of birth, since that thou hast not believed my words". Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and they were astonished, that he had not come out from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a blessing upon the people, but could not pronounce it since he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah explained by gestures that he was unable to speak, the people then understood that he had experienced a vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled, and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her barrenness, having given birth to the Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, named John.

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The Protection (Pokrov) Of The Most-holy Mother Of God:

Commemorated on October 14/1

The Protection of the Mother of God is one of the most beloved feast days on the Orthodox calendar among the Slavic peoples, commemorated on October 1. The feast is celebrated additionally on October 28 in the Greek tradition.

The Russian word Pokrov (Ποκροβ), like the Greek Skepi (Σκέπη), has a complex meaning. First of all, it refers to a cloak or shroud, but it also means protection or intercession. For this reason, the name of the feast is variously translated as the Veil of Our Lady, the Protecting Veil of the Theotokos, the Protection of the Theotokos, or the Intercession of the Theotokos.

The feast

The feast day celebrates the appearance of the Mother of God at Blachernae (Vlaherna) in the tenth century. At the end of St. Andrei (Andrew of Constantinople) Yurodivyi's life, he, with his disciple St. Epiphanius, and a group of people, saw the Mother of God, St. John the Baptist, and several other saints and angels during a vigil in the Church of Blachernae, nearby the city gates. The Blachernae Palace church was where several of her relics were kept. The relics were her robe, veil, and part of her belt that had been transferred from Palestine during the fifth century.

The Theotokos approached the center of the church, knelt down and remained in prayer for a long time. Her face was drowned in tears. Then she took her veil (cerement) off and spread it over the people as a sign of protection. During the time, the people in the city were threatened by a barbarian invasion. After the appearance of the Mother of God, the danger was averted and the city was spared from bloodshed and suffering.

Celebration of the feast

The Protection is commemorated most fervently in Slavic churches, probably because St. Andrei was a Slav. The first celebration of the Theotokos's cerement in the Russian Orthodox Church dates back from the 12th century and today is celebrated throughout the Orthodox Church.

The feast day commemorating the miracle is celebrated with an All-Night Vigil, with many of the same elements as occur on Great Feasts of the Theotokos. However, this feast has no afterfeast.

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Commemoration Of The Holy Fathers Of The Seventh Ecumenical Council (787)

Commemorated after October 24/11

On the Sunday of the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, Nicea II, under the holy Patriarch Tarasius.

Lights on the earth

The Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils are honored by the Church because, based upon the preaching of the Apostles, they have established one faith for the Church. Guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and accepted by the Church, the Ecumenical Councils are the highest authority in the Church, infallible.

Commemoration

This feast is commemorated on October 11, if it is a Sunday. If October 11 is not a Sunday, the Slavic tradition uses the preceding Sunday when the eleventh falls before Thursday, and the next Sunday otherwise, the Greek practice will use the Sunday which follows October 11.

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“Those who consider it a misfortune to lose money or any other of their belongings, must realize that in the first place they should be satisfied with what is given them by God; and then, when they have to give it back, they should be ready to do so gratefully, without any indignation at being deprived of it, or rather at giving it back — for since they have been enjoying the use of what was not their own, they are now in fact returning it to God.”

+Venerable and God-bearing
Father Anthony the Great

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ONLINE BONUSES

CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

When we purchased the property on Duncan Ave. in March, we knew certain jobs needed to be taken care of right away.

Here is a brief update from the past 3 months:

- ✘ The roof was replaced the week of August 14 (*donated by an anonymous donor*)
- ✘ AC units were replaced from August 28 to September 19 (*anonymous donor*)
- ✘ Work in the Sanctuary began August 29 (*cost is To Be Determined*)
- ✘ The Soffit & Facia will be completed the week of October 9 (*anonymous donor*)
- ✘ A new boiler was installed September 11 to October 10 (*anonymous donor*)
- ✘ A design for a sign to be placed near the street is being designed and will be proposed to Hampton Township soon (*cost is TBD*)
- ✘ The non-profit *Tree Pittsburgh* will be working with us to add trees to the property (*for free*)
- ✘ Estimates are being received for new windows in the nave, vestibule, & basement (*cost is TBD*)
- ✘ An 11-foot Outdoor Wall Cross has been donated by our sister parish in Hermitage, PA
- ✘ Installing the Kitchen Stove is being explored
- ✘ A chandelier for the nave has been donated by our sister parish in Potomac, MD

Through your generosity and dedication, all of this will come together – one thing at a time!

Glory to God for All Things!

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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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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE NUN EUPHROSYNIA

Commemorated on October 8 / September 25

The Nun Euphrosynia was born at the beginning of the V Century in the city of Alexandria. She was the only child in her family of illustrious and rich parents. Her mother died early. She was raised by her father, Paphnutios, a deeply believing and pious Christian. He frequented a monastery, the hegumen of which was his spiritual guide. When Euphrosynia turned age 18, her father wanted her to marry. He set off to the monastery to his spiritual guide to receive blessing for the planned wedding of his daughter. The hegumen conversed with the daughter and gave her his blessing, but Saint Euphrosynia yearned for the monastic life. Secretly having accepted tonsure from a wandering monk, she left her father's house and decided to enter a monastery in order to lead her life in solitude and prayer. She feared, however, that in a women's monastery her father would find her. Calling herself the eunuch Izmaragdos, she went to that very selfsame men's monastery, which since childhood she had visited with her father. The monks did not recognise Euphrosynia dressed in men's garb, and so they accepted her into the monastery. Here in a solitary cell, in works, fasting and prayer, Saint Euphrosynia spent 38 years and attained to high spiritual accomplishment. Her father grieved over the loss of his beloved daughter and more than once, on the advice of the hegumen, he conversed with the monk Izmaragdos, revealing his grief and receiving spiritual comfort. Before her death, the Nun Euphrosynia revealed her secret to her grieving father and asked, that no one except him should prepare her body for burial. Having buried his daughter, Paphnutios distributed all his wealth to both the poor and to the monastery, and then he accepted monasticism. For ten years right up to his own death, he asceticised in the cell of his daughter.

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SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Father is available to meet Monday thru Friday from 8:30am to 2:30pm 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 prepared or not of the Orthodox Faith may receive a *blessing* from the chalice.

How to receive - Please remember the following helpful hints aimed at helping to preserve the solemnity and safety of the Holy Mystery. Anyone wearing lipstick should remove it before receiving. Be sure to offer your baptismal name to the priest before receiving. Please take great care that the red cloth held by the acolytes (servers) is fully under your chin (*you should not hold it*), then use the centuries-old practice of receiving: please fully open your mouth, tilt your head back, receive the Holy Gifts, wait until They are securely in your mouth and so that none of the holy and precious Body and Blood of Christ is accidentally spilled. Thank you for your cooperation, and may God have mercy on us all!

Lapsed Members – You are always welcome home and we want you to come back! Generally speaking, sincere and regular participation in the Sunday Divine Liturgy and in the Mysteries of Confession and Communion 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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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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PRAYER CORNER #2

*Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions & other needs**

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

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For the Special Intentions of... His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. David S., Fr. Myron, Dcn. Dean, Michael L., Laura & family, Carlene, Georgia, 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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For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Tyler *...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.*

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

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For Pregnant Mothers... Ashley (*due in December*), 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. 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 of Stewardship

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the good steward, who redeemed Adam and Eve of their failed stewardship by offering Yourself for the life of the world. You did teach us in the feeding of the multitudes that whatever we give to God is returned to us multiplied. You did praise those good and faithful servants in the parable of the talents who returned to the Master their gifts. So help us to learn the joy of stewardship, remembering that everything we have comes from You and belongs to You. We know, Lord, that we often live in fear of the future and insecurity. Help us to remember the lilies of the field and so to trust in Your providence. Grant to us a cheerful and generous spirit. Enkindle in the hearts of all Your people a zealous love for You. For You are the Good Steward, and to You we give thanks, praise and glory, together with Your Father and Your all holy good and life-giving Spirit now and ever and onto the ages of ages. Amen.

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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“No one can say, ‘I am poor and hence I have no means of giving alms.’ For even if you cannot give as the rich gave their gifts into the temple treasury, give two farthings as the poor widow did, and from you God will consider it a greater gift than the gifts of the rich. And if you do not have as much as two farthings? You can take pity on the sick and give alms by ministering to them. And if you cannot do even this? You can comfort your brother by your words. ‘A good word is better than the best of gifts.’”

+St. Dorotheos of Gaza

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