

“THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER” *Our Parish Weekly Bulletin*

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

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Glory be 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, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

24th Sunday after Pentecost;
St. Paul the Confessor of Constantinople (350)
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
IOCC Sunday

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL
MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

9:30am Moleben of Thanksgiving

+++ +++ +++

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023

25th Sunday after Pentecost;
St. John Chrysostom
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Ephesians 4:1-6
Gospel: Luke 10:25-37 (*8th Sunday of Luke*)
Tone 8; Liturgical Color: **Gold**

+++ +++ +++

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

14 For he is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of

hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18 for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

+++

Gospel: Luke 8:41-56

⁴¹ And there came a man named Ja’irus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus’ feet he besought him to come to his house, ⁴² for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. ⁴³ And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and could not be healed by any one, ⁴⁴ came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. ⁴⁵ And Jesus said, “Who was it that touched me?” When all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!” ⁴⁶ But Jesus said, “Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me.” ⁴⁷ And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared

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

+++ +++ +++

*** The **St Nicholas Charity Dinner**, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Deanery to benefit our Christ the Saviour Seminary, will be on **Sunday, December 10** at the BMNECC (449 West Eighth Ave., West Homestead, PA 15120). Doors open at 4:30 pm with a Buffett Dinner at 5:00. Adults - \$35; Teens - \$25; Ages 5-12 - \$10 (make checks payable to “Pittsburgh Deanery”). If anyone (or organization) would like to “sponsor a seminarian” (or part of their family), please see Father. Our parish has been asked to bring 3 baskets (minimum \$25 value) to be raffled off at the dinner. Come meet the seminarians, enjoy the fellowship, carol sing-a-long, and a special guest! Please order your tickets by Sunday, December 3.

+++ +++ +++

** **Healthy Snacks** – The variety of “grab-n-go” healthy snacks for our coffee social are getting low. Please consider bringing in a box of something to share.

+++ +++ +++

** **Volunteer to Help Seniors** – The North Hills Community Outreach is in need of stewards to help area senior citizens (giving rides, yard work, visiting, etc.). For more information, please visit: www.NHCO.org/Volunteer-To-Help-Seniors or contact Harriet Klatte (*Volunteer Coordinator*) at 412-487-6316 x3204 or hzklatte@nhco.org

+++ +++ +++

** **Brown Lunch Bags** – Over the years, we have acquired too many brown lunch bags. If you can use them, please take some from the multi-purpose room.

+++ +++ +++

in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. ⁴⁸ And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.” ⁴⁹ While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler’s house came and said, “Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more.” ⁵⁰ But Jesus on hearing this answered him, “Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well.” ⁵¹ And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. ⁵² And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, “Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping.” ⁵³ And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. ⁵⁴ But taking her by the hand he called, saying, “Child, arise.” ⁵⁵ And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. ⁵⁶ And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

+++ +++ +++

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

+++ +++ +++

*** **Christmas Candy Sale** – We will be selling Anderson Candy as a winter fundraiser this year. Brochures are in the multi-purpose room. Orders are due to Tim Martin, Reader by December 3.

+++ +++ +++

*** **Prayer Service of Thanksgiving** – There is no better way to begin the day than giving Thanks to God. Let’s gather this Thursday morning at 9:30 to begin Thanksgiving together in prayer. (*The Moleben service is not too long...*)

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 67
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 92
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 693
Total Collections:	\$ 852
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 190

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by the Nelson Family; Carol and Tom Lorenzi; Tim Martin; John Radick; Fred and Juliana Anton; Kathy Schrmack; Rich and Renee Mirilovich; Cindy Pavilonis

+++ +++ +++

* **Window Contract** – The next Capital Improvement Project that we are going to tackle is getting new windows on the first floor (*nave, vestibule, and bathrooms*). They will cost \$28,000 and a contract has been signed. Glory to God! An anonymous donor has stepped forward to cover these costs! May their generosity build them true treasures!

+++ +++ +++

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

+++ +++ +++

*** **2024 Yearbook, A.C.R.Y. Annual** - If you would like to include a patron, booster, or memorial listing in this Year Book of the activities of our God-saved Diocese, a sign-up sheet has been placed in the vestibule on the black cabinet. Patron & Memorial listings are \$6, and Booster listings are \$3. Please see Subdeacon Ryan Ferko with any questions. Deadline is December 31.

+++ +++ +++

COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

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

November 26:	_____?
* December 3:	_____ Blobners
* December 10:	_____?

** meatless during the Fast*

+++ +++ +++

LIVING THE ORTHODOXY FAITH

When we think of the saints, often times we think of the early centuries of Christianity. We think of saints who lived in deserts, who had no modern conveniences. Saint Nektarios, who the church commemorates each year on November 9, is a “modern day” saint. He lived in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He died just over 100 years ago and he was made a saint in 1961, before some of us were even born. Saint Nektarios was a bishop. He was a very prayerful man. He was ordained a priest in Egypt and was serving as a parish priest in Cairo. He was ordained a bishop in 1889. However, after serving for only one year, he was exiled from Egypt without any explanation. He spent his life writing, hearing confessions, preaching and celebrating the Liturgy. He died of cancer in 1920.

When he died, and people came to prepare his body for burial, they threw his clothes onto the bed next to him. And the man who was suffering from cancer on the bed was healed. After St. Nektarios was buried on the island of Aegina, his tomb began to emit oil and people who were anointed with the oil were healed. He was “proclaimed” a saint in 1961, after a groundswell of support from pious people who had been healed at his tomb. St. Nektarios is the patron saint of cancer patients.

The words I want to focus on today are from the Epistle lesson read on this day, from Ephesians

5:8-19. In verses 8:10, we read: “For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.” In this passage, St. Paul reminds us that we once walked in darkness but now we are supposed to walk in the light of the Lord.

Saint Nektarios did not die a violent death. He did, however, have a challenging life. He was exiled without explanation. He had to leave his home for no reason. He lost his reputation without recourse. And yet he found a way to glorify God, and to witness for Christ. He actually intended to live his life in relative obscurity. He was content to be a priest, a man of prayer, a humble spiritual father, and a writer. He didn’t set out to achieve acclaim. But his quiet labor for Christ got him exactly that. He gained fame because of his humility. People flocked to him because of his piety. People asked his advice because he was living in Christ and Christ was living in him and this was very attractive to people stressed out by the challenges of life.

I love the story of St. Nektarios because it is a story that can belong to ANY of us. If we work with humility, if we seek to honor Christ in our lives, and if we strive to imitate the love of Christ, this will do two things for us. It will bring people to us because people want to be around loving and Godly people. And secondly, it will please God.

The word for “saint” in Greek is “agios.” And “agios” means set apart. Some of the “agios” (people who are set apart) are acclaimed as saints by us, and they are honored with churches and icons. The most important thing in life, however, is not to have a church named after you, or to be assigned a saint’s day. The most important thing in life is to be recognized by God as an “agios”, as one who tries to set his or her life apart from the ways of the world in order to embrace the

ways of God. In so doing, God will recognize us as “agios” and save for us a place in His heavenly kingdom.

Saints are not just people who lived a long time ago. There are saints walking in our world today. There are people who when they die will be recognized as saints. The story of St. Nektarios proves that this could happen to any of us, if we live our lives as witnesses and imitators of Christ.

The son of Silybria, the guardian of Aegina, and the ardent lover of virtue who in recent years has appeared, the God-inspired servant of Christ Nektarios, O faithful, let us praise. For he gushes forth healings of every kind to those who cry out reverently: Glory to Christ who glorified you; glory to Him for your miracles; glory to Him who through you effects cures for all. (Apolytkion of St. Nektarios, Trans. By Fr. Seraphim Dedes)

Set yourself apart for Christ today!

+++

For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.” Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart. Ephesians 5:8-19 (Epistle of Feast of St. Nektarios)

PRAYER CORNER

For the Health of... David, Eleanor, Kathleen, Alexandra, Joanne, Mary, Elizabeth, Patricia, Matthew, Allison, Jason, Kevin, 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.*

+++ +++ +++

For the souls of the newly departed...

+Irving Liberman (11/6), +Maria Sokur (10/28), +Mary Jane Matolyak (10/27)

...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God's Memory!*

+++ +++ +++

IOCC Thanksgiving Prayer for Those in Need

O Heavenly King, Comforter, who grants all blessings, we thank You for Your abundant grace and mercies. Help us to be good stewards of Your treasury through the ministry of IOCC. Help us to strip ourselves of our earthly adornment, so that the poor may be sufficiently clothed and fed. And, by so loving our neighbor, adorn us with the everlasting pearls of virtue instead. Where there is suffering, help us to bring Your mercy; where there is despair, Your hope. Where there is war, allow us to present You who are the Prince of Peace; where there is pain, You who are the Comforter; Where there is hatred, You who are Love; where there is death and destruction; You who are the Resurrection and Life. Daily guide our work in and through IOCC so that we may do all things, in every place and at all times, for Your glory. Amen.

NOVEMBER SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Panachida Memorial Service for Fucsko, Hanas,

Martin, and Radick Families
Church School

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

FEAST OF THE GREAT MARTYR DEMETRIUS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 - IOCC SUNDAY

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Youth Sunday
Church School

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL

MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

9:30am Moleben of Thanksgiving

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:30am Divine Liturgy

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

NATIVITY FAST BEGINS (PHILIP'S FAST / FILIPOVKA)

? 6:30 pm Moleben for the Nativity Fast

+++ +++ +++

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)

+++ +++ +++

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

SAINTED PAUL, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE,

Commemorated on November 19/6

Sainted Paul, Archbishop of Constantinople, was chosen to the patriarchal cathedra-seat after the death of Patriarch Alexander (+ 340), when the Arian heresy had again flared up. Many of the Arians were present at the Council which selected the new Constantinople patriarch. They revolted in opposition to the choice of Saint Paul, but the Orthodox at the Council were in the majority. The emperor Constantius, ruling over the Eastern half of the Roman empire, was an Arian. At the time of the election of the patriarch he was not in Constantinople. Upon his return, he convened a council, which illegally declared the dethronement of Saint Paul, and the emperor banished him from the capital. In place of the saint they raised up Eusebios of Nicomedia. Patriarch Paul withdrew to Rome, where also were other Orthodox bishops banished by Eusebios.

Not for long did Eusebios rule the Constantinople Church. When he died, Saint Paul returned to Constantinople. He was greeted by his flock with love. But Constantius exiled the saint a second time, and so he returned to Rome. The Western emperor Constans wrote his Eastern co-ruler an harsh letter, which he dispatched to Constantinople along with the holy exiled archpastor. The threats worked, and Saint Paul was reinstated upon the patriarchal throne.

But soon the pious emperor Constans, a defender of the Orthodox, was treacherously murdered during a palace coup. They again banished Saint Paul from Constantinople and this time sent him off in exile to Armenia, to the city of Kukuz, where he accepted a martyr's death. When the Patriarch was celebrating the Divine Liturgy, Arians rushed upon him by force and

strangled him with his own hierarchical omophor. This occurred in the year 350. In the year 381 the holy Emperor Theodosius the Great solemnly transferred the relics of Saint Paul the Confessor from Kukuz to Constantinople. In 1326 the relics of Saint Paul were then transferred to Venice.

Saint Athanasias the Great, a contemporary of Saint Paul, writes briefly about his exiles: "Saint Paul the first time was dispatched by Constantine to Pontus, the second time fettered in chains by Constantius, and then he was locked up in Mesopotamian Syngara and from there moved to Emesus, and the fourth time to Cappadocian Kukuz in the Taurian wilderness".

+++ +++ +++

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

+++ +++ +++

MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting monetary donations for the **International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)**. This agency, that is under the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, represents Orthodox Christians in North America and understands its work to include developing in Orthodox Christians a commitment to philanthropy and global cooperative involvement in the work of the Orthodox Church. They have a yearly campaign called a "day of giving Sunday" before Thanksgiving. *Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month!*

+++ +++ +++

+++ +++ +++

CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

- Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:*
- ✘ Work in the Sanctuary began August 29 (*cost is To Be Determined*)
 - ✘ The non-profit *Tree Pittsburgh* came October 28 and donated 6 trees for the property (*for free*)
 - ✘ *** A contract was signed on 11/3 for new windows on the 1st floor (*cost is \$28,000 – covered by an 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*)
 - ✘ 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!

+++ +++ +++

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

+++ +++ +++

FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

The Holy Greatmartyr Demetrios Of Solunea
Commemorated on November 8 / October 26
Tropar (*Tone 3*) The entire world has found you to be a great champion in times of peril; for you put the heathen to flight, O victorious one. As

you brought to naught the boasts of Lyaeus, and gave courage to Nestor in the stadium, in the same way, O Holy Great Martyr Demetrios, entreat Christ God, that He grant us great mercy. Kondak (*Tone 2*) God, Who has given you invincible strength, Demetrios, has adorned the Church with the royal purple of the streams of your blood, and has kept your city unharmed, for you are its support.

+++ +++ +++

The Celebration Of The Sobor (Assemblage) Of The Leader Of The Heavenly Hosts Michael, & The Other Heavenly Bodiless Hosts

Commemorated on November 21 / 8
Tropar (*Tone 4*) Commanders of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy beseech you, by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory, and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry to you: “Deliver us from all harm, for you are the commanders of the powers on high!”
Kondak (*Tone 2*) Commanders of God’s armies and ministers of the divine glory, princes of the bodiless angels and guides of mankind, ask for what is good for us, and for great mercy, supreme commanders of the Bodiless Hosts.

+++ +++ +++

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES

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 10%	Middle Range Giving 9%	Middle Range Giving 8%	Middle Range Giving 7%	Middle Range Giving 6%	Middle Range Giving 5%	Middle Range Giving 4%	Lower Range Giving 3%	Lower Range Giving 2%	Lower Range Giving 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.

+++ +++ +++

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.

+++ +++ +++

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.

+++ +++ +++

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.*

+++ +++ +++

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.



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.

+++

“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

+++ +++ +++

The Jesus Prayer

(Inhale) O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God,
(Exhale) have mercy on me, a sinner!

(Repeat until your heart is calm...)

+++ +++ +++

PRAYER CORNER #2

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

+++ +++ +++

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.

+++ +++ +++

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, 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.*

+++ +++ +++

November Namedays:

Urban Family – Holy Disciple Urban of the 70 (11/13)

Makaela Kirish - Archangel Michael (11/21)

Michael Shuster - Archangel Michael (11/21)

Cindy Pavidonis - Saint Cyntianus (11/28)

Matthew Mirilovich - Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (11/29)

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

+++ +++ +++

November Birthdays:

Fr Joseph Birthisel (11/2), Subdeacon Ryan

Ferko (11/4), Jason Shelpman, Jr (11/4),

Nicholas Kubis (11/6), Caitlin Carlisle (11/9),

Dustin Kovats (11/12), John Sharpless (11/13),

Fr. James Blomeley (11/14), Cindy Pavidonis

(11/14), Fr Michael Rustick (11/21), *Father’s*

sister, Suzanne Verbanick (11/25), Stephen

Brancho (11/26), Fr. Michael Ellis (11/26), Pañi

Peggy Teklinski (11/26), Victor Zerby (11/27),

Pañi Ileana Bennett (11/28), Chi-Wing Chow

(11/29), Liam Kovats (11/30)

...May God allow them to grow in peace and love all the days of their lives and may He grant them many and blessed years!

+++ +++ +++

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

+++ +++ +++

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

+++ +++ +++

November Anniversaries:

Doug & Elizabeth (Radomsky) Delaney (11/1)

Thomas & Harmonie Torchia (11/12)

Alisha and Aaron Zak (11/15)

...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

+++ +++ +++

For Pregnant Mothers... Ashley (due in December), 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.

+++ +++ +++

* 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.*

+++ +++ +++

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.

+++ +++ +++

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.

+++ +++ +++

A Prayer of Thanksgiving to the Theotokos after partaking of Holy Communion

O most holy Lady Theotokos, the light of my darkened soul, my hope, my protection, my refuge, my rest, and my joy: I thank you, for you have permitted me, the unworthy, to be a partaker of the most pure Body and precious Blood of your Son.

Give the light of understanding to the eyes of my heart, you that gave birth to the True Light. Enliven me who am deadened by sin, you that gave birth to the Fountain of Immortality.

Have mercy on me, O loving Mother of the merciful God.

Grant me compunction and contrition of heart, humility in my thoughts, and a release from the slavery of my own reasonings. And enable me, even to my last breath, to receive the sanctification of the most pure Mysteries, for the healing of soul and body.

Grant me tears of repentance and confession, that I may glorify you all the days of my life, for you are blessed and greatly glorified to the ages.

Amen.