

“THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER” *Our Parish Weekly Bulletin*

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

**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING
DOWN DEATH BY DEATH AND UPON THOSE IN
THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE!**

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

Christ is risen! (*responded with: **Indeed He is risen!***) *Christos voskrese! (Voistinu voskrese!)*
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 are with us today and hope you come again soon!
Please see Fr. Dave if you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy.

UPCOMING SERVICES

*There is no kneeling in prayer for 50 days
(until Pentecost) and omit the prayer
“O Heavenly King” as we anticipate the Holy Spirit*
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SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024

3rd Sunday of Pascha; Sunday of the Myrrhbearing
Women; Joseph of Arimathea, & Nicodemus
Monthly Memorial Panachida
Youth Sunday and Church School
Blessing of Graves
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SUNDAY, MAY 26

4th Sunday of Pascha - Sunday of the Paralytic
9:20 am Paschal Canon; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Acts 6:1–7; Gospel: Mark 15:43–16:8
Liturgical Color: **White**

~~TUESDAY, MAY 28 6:30 pm Vespers CANCELED~~

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29 FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
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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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PASCHAL GREETING:

(use instead of ‘hello’, before ‘good morning’, etc.)

Christ is risen!

(responded with: **Indeed He is risen!**)

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 6:1–7

Seven Chosen to Serve

6 Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. 2 And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. 3 Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. 4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” 5 And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Proch’orus, and Nica’nor, and Timon, and Par’menas, and Nicola’us, a proselyte of Antioch. 6 These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them.

7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

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Gospel: Mark 15:43–16:8

43 Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and

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

Paschal Greeting in Church Slavonic:
Christos voskrese! (Voistinu voskrese!)
If greeted in a language you are unfamiliar with, translate, respond in English, then learn the response

**** Family Camp at Camp Nazareth** – Cabins are still available for this year’s Family Camp from **Friday, May 31 to Sunday, June 2** (prior to Family Day). For more information, please contact Fr. Dave.

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**** Family Day at Camp Nazareth** will be on **Sunday, June 2**. Divine Liturgy will be at 10am. There will be great food, music entertainment, swimming, craft activities, games, and more! See the flyer on the bulletin board for more info or contact Fr. Dave.

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**** The Tamburitians** – The season finale for The Tamburitians will be on **Saturday, June 1** at 5:00 pm at Point Park University’s Pittsburgh Playhouse (350 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15222). Performance tickets start at \$20. Additional reception and dinner pricing available by calling 412-224-2071.

COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

Please sign up by the kitchen or by contacting Fr. Dave

May 26: Tim Martin

June 2: Matt and Kim Opsitos

In honor of 30th Anniv. and Emily’s BD

June 9 (Graduate Sunday): _____?

*** Did you know...** we have about 30 active families at SJB. If each family committed to one Sunday a year for the coffee social – that takes care of more than half the year! Please consider signing up in advance to host the coffee social (you are more than welcome to combine with someone else if you wish!)

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Paschal Greeting in Spanish:

¡Cristo ha resucitado!

(¡En verdad ha resucitado!)

asked for the body of Jesus. 44 And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. 45 And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. 46 And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. 47 Mary Mag’dalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

The Resurrection of Jesus

16 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Mag’dalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salo’me, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. 3 And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?” 4 And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large. 5 And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. 6 And he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.” 8 And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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*** THANK YOU** to everyone who brought something in for our Pot-Luck Paschal Meal or helped in anyway preparing for this Feast of Feasts!

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CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:

- ✘ ** The push-matic electrical panel has been replaced (*donated by an anonymous donor*)
- ✘ * Our outdoor maintenance shed is up (*donated by an anonymous donor*)

Glory to God for All Things!

Through your generosity and dedication, all of this is coming together – one thing at a time!
Thank you! Many stewards keep coming to the church and working very hard to make improvements. May God grant you many years!

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* **Cantor Classes** – Fr. Marc Wisnosky will be hosting a series of 4 classes to learn the basics of the 8 Sunday Tones, 8 vespers tones, and how to properly chant the Epistle Reading. Please RSVP to Fr. Marc at saintjohnsorthodoxchurch@gmail.com. Lunch will be provided. The tentative schedule is Saturdays, **June 1, 15, 22, and July 13** from 11am – 2pm at St. John the Baptist, 450 Glenwood Dr., Ambridge.

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** **Pittsburgh Deanery Week at Camp Nazareth** is **July 28 to August 3**. Registration for all campers, ages 8-18 has begun! Information is available on the Camp's Website: www.campnazareth.org.

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* **Grass Maintenance** – The new shed is up and the donated lawnmower and weedwhacker will be here this week. Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested in being a part of a rotation of folks who will maintain the grass throughout the summer.

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* **Kitchen Crew** – Please see Fr. Dave if you would be willing to be on a committee to organize and clean the kitchen and storage room and then help keep it organized, stocked, and clean.

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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 135
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 639
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 80
Total Collections:	\$ 854
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 5

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by the Nelson Family; Melanie Paieski; Cindy Pavilonis; and Margie Sanger.

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The **Christ Cross** was offered last week by Theresa Sharpless in memory of +Eleanor Sanger. May her memory be eternal! Christ is risen!

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The **Theotokos Cross** was offered last week by Margaret Dzuro IMO +Eleanor Sanger. May her memory be eternal! Christ is risen!

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The **Vigil Lamp** was offered last week by Carol and Tom Lorenzi IMO +Olga Tongel. May Her Memory Be Eternal! Christ is risen!

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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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Paschal Greeting in Italian:

Cristo è risorto! (*È veramente risorto!*)

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE NINE HOLY MARTYRS OF KYZIKA

Commemorated on May 12 / April 29

The Nine Holy Martyrs of Kyzika: The city of Kyzika is located in Asia Minor at the coast of the Dardenelles (Hellespont) Straits. Christianity there began to spread about already during the time of the preaching of the Apostle Paul (Comm. 29 June). But under the times of persecutions by the pagans events came to this – that some of the Christians fled the city, while others kept their faith in Christ in secret. Therefore by the time of the end of the III Century Kyzika was still basically a pagan city, although there was also a Christian church there. The situation in the city distressed true Christians, who sought to uphold the Christian faith. From there were also the Nine holy Martyrs: Theognides, Ruphos, Antipater,

Theostikhos, Artemon, Magnos, Theodotos, Thaumasio and Philemon. They hailed from various places, and were of different ages: both the young like Saint Antipater, and the very old like Saint Ruphos, and they came from various positions in society: among them were soldiers, countryfolk and city-people, and clergy. But all of them declared their faith in Christ and were all the more intense in their yearning for the spread and strengthening of the True Faith.

Having shown up in the city of Kyzika, the saints boldly confessed Christ and fearlessly denounced the pagan impiety. They were arrested and brought to trial before the city governor. Over the course of several days they were tortured, locked up in prison and again led out from it, and promised their freedom for a renunciation of Christ. But the valiant martyrs of Christ continued to glorify the Name of Christ. All nine martyrs were beheaded by the sword (+ c. 284-292), and their bodies buried nearby the city.

In the year 324, – when the Eastern half of the Roman empire came under the rule of Saint Constantine the Great (306-337, Comm. 21 May), and the persecutions against Christians ended, the Kyzika Christians removed the undecayed bodies of the 9 martyrs from the ground and placed them in a church, built in their honour.

Various miracles occurred from the holy relics: the sick were healed, and the mentally aberrant brought to their senses. The faith of Christ grew within the city through the intercession of the holy martyrs, and many of the pagans were converted to Christianity.

When Julian the Apostate (361-363) came to rule, the pagans of Kyzika turned to him with a complaint against the Christians for the destruction of pagan temples. Julian gave orders to rebuild the pagan temples and to lock up in prison bishop Eleusios. Bishop Eleusios was set free after the death of Julian, and the light of the Christian faith shined anew through the assist of the holy martyrs.

In Russia not far from the city of Kazan was built a monastery in honour of the Nine Martyrs of Kyzika. It was built by the monk-deacon Stefan, who brought with him from Palestine part of the relics of the saints. This monastery was built in the hope of deliverance

through their intercession and prayers from various infirmities and ills, particularly the fever which raged through Kazan in the year 1687, "since, – writes Sainted Dimitrii of Rostov (+ 1709, Comm. 21 September), the compiler of the service to the 9 Martyrs, – by these saints was given abundant grace for the dispelling of feverish and trembling sicknesses". Saint Dimitrii likewise described the sufferings of the holy martyrs and compiled a sermon on the day of their memory.

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*Paschal Greeting in Romanian:
 Hristos a înviat! (Adevărat a înviat!)*

PRAYER CORNER

For the Health of... Cynthia, Waylon, Ashley, Barbara, Nicholas, Patrick, Thomas, Paul, Mary, Christopher, Robert, Joanne, Jason, Carlene, David, Donna, George, Kelly, Marie, 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...

+His Grace, Bishop Matthias (5/4),
 +Eleanor Sanger (5/2)
...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God's Memory! Christ is risen!

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THE ANGEL EXCLAIMED TO HER, "FULL OF GRACE, REJOICE O PURE VIRGIN. AGAIN I SAY REJOICE, YOUR SON IS RISEN FROM HIS THREE DAYS IN THE TOMB, AND HE HAS RAISED ALL THE DEAD. LET ALL PEOPLE REJOICE!"

O SHINE, O SHINE, O NEW JERUSALEM: FOR THE GLORY OF THE LORD IS RISEN UPON YOU. O ZION, SING WITH JOY AND REJOICE. AND YOU, PURE MOTHER OF GOD, REJOICE IN THE RESURRECTION OF YOUR SON.

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ONLINE BONUSES

CELEBRATING THE BRIGHTNESS AT HOME

Published by Pres. Mallory Kasapakis on 5/7/24
Presvytera Mallory Kasapakis shows us how to keep the joy of Pascha alive in our hearts by celebrating the Bright Week that follows and maintaining our spiritual connection to the church through specific activities and traditions.

As Great Lent and Holy Week ends, the exhaustion of the Lenten season has turned into the excitement of Pascha. But what happens in the weeks that follow? Many of us are so burnt out that we decide to sleep-in the next Sunday and play hooky from church. We may become lax in our daily prayer routines or even turn our focus to planning our summer travels. Others decide to “check out” from church until the start of a new ministry year.

You may be tempted to say, “I’m so tired. I need a break.” But on the contrary, the next 40 days after Pascha are crucial for us as Christians. We have spent weeks preparing our hearts to receive the news of the glorious resurrection. The feelings after the Anastasi service are sometimes described as “inexplicable” and “child-like joy.” We have gained a new life and celebrate that reality with a joy that is so great that it is celebrated for another 40 days. Now is the time to ensure that our spiritual life continues to be nourished so that we can do our work and spread the good news to the world.

So how do we keep the momentum going? First, take a deep breath. The easiest (and most challenging) way is to simply continue on the path to salvation. Keep attending the Divine Liturgy. Receive Holy Communion frequently. Remain vigilant in your prayer life and active in your churches. During Bright Week there are specific feast days that are strategically placed to help us celebrate this new light. On Bright Friday, the Church commemorates The Mother of God of the Life-giving Spring (or Font), and depending on how the calendar falls, Saint George is commemorated on Bright Monday and Sts. Raphael, Nicholas, and Irene on Bright Tuesday. Saint Porphyrios, the wonderworker of Kafsokalyvia, writes in Wounded by Love:

There was no question of laziness. I liked to pray

even when I was tired. When I was exhausted, I sought God even more. You must believe this and realize that it’s truly possible. It’s a matter of love. It’s not simply that you work quickly. You do one job, then you begin another, you come back and do yet another, and you ensure you finish them all. With love, you are in perpetual motion. You should see, then, where sins go. They all fall into a deep sleep. Do you hear? This is truly a life lost from the world, a blessed and holy life, a life in Paradise.

We can continue the excitement of Pascha and the momentum toward the heavenly kingdom by bringing the church into our homes. Liturgical living at home is, more than anything, a lifestyle, a way of living and practicing our faith in the modern world. This lifestyle does not need to be Pinterest-worthy or photographed on social media; it is meant to be purposeful and practical. The church is filled with many traditions; they are tools that connect us every day back to our faith. There are big “T” traditions, which are more formal and passed down by our church fathers; there are small “t” traditions, which are passed down by generations of cultures; and there are things that we do simply because yiayia said so. The only rule is to create traditions that keep your life focused on Christ.

Here are a few ways our family has celebrated Bright Week and the Paschal season at home:

1. Keep the Paschal light ablaze. Many of us have carefully carried home our candles from the Anastasi service, protecting the precious light from the elements to bring the light of Christ into our homes. It is always fun to see the creative ways parishioners nurture their lights; during our Holy Friday retreat the youth spend some time decorating little lanterns for them to safely transport the flame home. When you get home, don’t forget to use the smoke of the Holy Light candle to make the sign of the cross over your front door to bring the Paschal blessings inside the home. This is a small “t” tradition of our church and you will see this marking in many Greek homes.
2. Brighten with Light. Leave a light on in the room where your icons are displayed. This will serve as a visual reminder in your own home, just like those we see in church during the Paschal season. There

are visual reminders of these continuous Pascha celebrations seen in our churches with festive banners, the Lord’s Burial Shroud, the tomb from Holy Friday displayed with beautiful flowers, and the royal doors that remain open leading up to the Sunday of Thomas.

3. Enjoy a Fast-Free Week. Immediately after the Anastasi service, we focus on the greatest and most important feast, the celebratory “Feast of Feasts.” To remain in this state of rejoicing, we do not abstain from any foods. It is a fast-free week, so make it fun for the family: make reservations at a fancy steak house, have ice cream sundaes for dinner, or have a BBQ in the park on Friday.
4. Brighten up your wardrobe and home. Wear white and bright colors to celebrate—white is the color of new life—a new life in Christ! Bring bright decorations into your home, such as a festive tablecloth or throw pillows. Remember you do not need to buy anything new—you can bring something into the living space from another room. Display or print an icon of the Resurrection and place it somewhere for everyone to see, like the dining room table or on top of a mantel.
5. Start a new Bible study or read a spiritual book. This is a time of great spiritual rebirth and an opportunity to dive into the scriptures. The OCN website has an abundance of recorded Bible studies on various topics. Click here for more ideas.
6. Plant a garden. Use this time as an opportunity to connect with Creation and the Creator. Jesus’ victory over death is evident in the trees and flowers that reemerge each spring, and planting seeds reminds us of the new life to come. Let us all celebrate Christ’s promise of eternal life and a more abundant life here on earth.

Christ is Risen! Truly he is Risen!

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Paschal Greeting in Greek:
Khristós anésti! (*Alithós anésti!*)

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Paschal Greeting in Swahili:
Kristo amefufukka! (*Kweli amefufukka!*)

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Paschal Greeting in Arabic:
El Messieh kahm! (*Hakken kahm!*)

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Paschal Greeting in French:
Le Christ est réssuscité!
(*En verite il est réssuscité!*)

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THIS MONTH’S SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, MAY 5 #Pascha - THE FEAST OF FEASTS

9:00 am Resurrection Matins with procession
~9:40 am Paschal Divine Liturgy

MONDAY, MAY 6 #BRIGHTWEEK

FEAST OF ST. GEORGE
9:30 am Paschal Liturgy with Paschal Procession

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 #BRIGHTWEEK

6:00 pm Akathist to the Holy Resurrection of Christ
6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting

FRIDAY, MAY 10 #BRIGHTWEEK

9:30 am Paschal Divine Liturgy

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SUNDAY, MAY 12 - MOTHER’S DAY

2nd Sunday of Pascha: ANTIPASCHA, ST. THOMAS
9:20 Paschal Canon; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Breaking of the Artos Bread

CANCELLED: SATURDAY, MAY 18

~~6:30 pm Akathist to the Inexhaustible Cup~~

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SUNDAY, MAY 19

3rd Sunday of Pascha; Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women; Joseph of Arimathea, & Nicodemus
9:20 am Paschal Canon; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Monthly Memorial Panachida
Youth Sunday and Church School
Blessing of Graves

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SUNDAY, MAY 26

4th Sunday of Pascha; Sunday of the Paralytic
9:20 am Paschal Canon; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

CANCELED: TUESDAY, MAY 28

~~6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers~~

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29 FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

to be announced soon

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FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

to be added soon

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ADDITIONAL BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*** St. Nicholas Choir from Homestead will sing the responses to the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 9.

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Paschal Notes – For 40 days from Pascha (Easter) until Ascension, we greet each other by saying, “Christ is risen!” and respond with “Indeed, He is risen!”. Some translations use “Truly, He is risen!”. We can also adjust our before and after meal prayers. The prayer to the Holy Spirit, “O Heavenly King”, is not said at home or in church during this season until the Feast of the Decent of the Holy Spirit: Pentecost. Instead we say or sing the Paschal Tropar, “Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down...” (three times) until the Feast of Ascension.

During the 50 days from Pascha to Pentecost, we do not kneel or make prostrations in church in keeping with the joyful and festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost that Sunday evening.

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** Annual Church Picnic – “The Cabin” in North Park is booked for Sunday, September 8, 2024 for our end of summer picnic. Please save the date!

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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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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

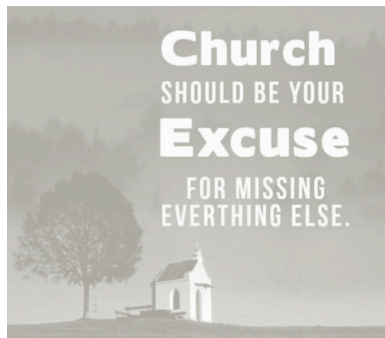
Auditors: Gina Fall, John Kirish, Mary Jane Hudak, Kathy Schrmack (5th position open)

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA ‘BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

** Pittsburgh Deanery Picnic – Are you interested in attending a picnic with our sister parishes this summer? Please let Fr. Dave know your thoughts...

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Paschal Greeting in Gaelic: Taw creest eeren! (Taw shay eeren guhdyne!)

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STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

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** Garbage and Recycling – Did you ever notice that we do not have a dumpster at the church? Being non-residential without pick up in Allison Park, all of our garbage and recycling heads to stewards’ houses. If you would be willing to stick around at the end of coffee social and take a bag, please let Larry know.

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** Third Hour – Prior to upcoming Liturgies, we will be chanting the Paschal Canon. After Ascension, we will return to chanting (or reading) the Third Hour. If you would like to be in the rotation for this, please let Fr. Dave know.

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

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** Additional Church Curators Needed – A synonym for curator is steward. Please see Larry Martin if you are interested in being a steward of their time and be “on-the-door”. Our curator list needs expanded!

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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 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 prayers 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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Stewardship of Treasure Guide table with columns for Weekly Income, Beyond a Tithe, Tithe, Upper Range Giving, Middle Range Giving, Lower Range Giving, and percentages.

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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.

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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.*

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LIVING THE ORTHODOX FAITH

Paschal Greetings from Around the World

The **Paschal greeting** is a custom among Orthodox Christians, consisting of a greeting and response. Instead of "hello" or its equivalent, one is to greet another person with "Christ is Risen!". The response is "Truly, He is risen!" (or "Indeed, He is risen!"). This greeting is used during liturgical services and informally at other times, starting with the [feast of Pascha](#) and lasting until [Ascension](#) – the period known as the *Paschal season* or *Paschaltide*.

In practice, this greeting is typically used only with people that one already knows are Orthodox. In some cultures (for example in Russia), it was also customary to exchange a triple kiss after the greeting. Orthodox Christians often compile lists of the greeting in various languages, as it is used around the world, and these are sometimes recited in church or in other formal settings as an act of Orthodox unity across languages and cultures.

Language	Greeting	Response
Aleut:	Khristus anahgrecum!	Alhecum anahgrecum!
Aleut:	Khristus-tusax aglagikux!	Agangu-lakan aglagikux!
Albanian:	Krishti U Ngjall!	Vertet U Ngjall!
Alutuq:	Khristus-tusax unguixtuq!	Pijii-nuq unguixtuq!
Amharic:	Kristos tenestwal!	Bergit tenestwal!
Anglo-Saxon:	Crist aras!	Crist sodhlice aras!
Arabic:	El Messieh kahm!	Hakken kahm!
Armenian:	Kristos haryav ee	Orhniaal eh

Language	Greeting	Response
	merelotz!	harootyunuh kristosee!
Athabaskan:	Xristosi banuytashtch'ey!	Gheli banuytashtch'ey!
Bulgarian:	Hristos voskrese!	Vo istina voskrese!
Byelorussian:	Khrystos uvaskros!	Saprawdy uvaskros!
Chinese:	Helisituosi fuhuole!	Queshi fuhuole!
Coptic:	Pchristos aftooun!	Alethos aftooun!
Czech:	Vstal z mrtvých Kristus!	Vpravdě vstal z mrtvých!
Danish:	Kristus er opstanden!	Ja, sandelig opstanden!
Dutch:	Christus is opgestaan!	Ja, hij is waarlijk opgestaan!
English:	Christ is risen!	Indeed He is risen!
Eritrean-Tigre:	Christos tensiou!	Bahake tensiou!
Esperanto:	Kristo levigis!	Vere levigis!
Estonian:	Kristus on üles tõusnud!	Ta on tõesti üles tõusnud!
Ethiopian:	Christos t'ensah em' muhtan!	Exai' ab-her eokala!
Finnish:	Kristus nousi kuolleista!	Totisesti nousi!
French:	Le Christ est réssuscité!	En verite il est réssuscité!
Gaelic:	Taw creest ereen!	Taw shay ereen guhdyne!
Georgian:	Kriste aghsdga!	Cheshmaritad aghsdga!
German:	Christus ist auferstanden!	Wahrlich Er ist auferstanden!
Greek:	Christos anesti!	Alithos anesti!
Hawaiian:	Ua ala hou 'o Kristo!	Ua ala 'I 'o no 'oia!
Hebrew:	Ha Masheeha houh quam!	Be emet quam!
Hungarian:	Krisztus feltamadt!	Valoban feltamadt!
Ibo (Nigeria):	Jesu Kristi	Ezia o' biliwo!

Language	Greeting	Response
	ebiliwo!	
Indian (Malayalam):	Christu uyirthezhunnettu!	Theerchayayum uyirthezhunnettu!
Indonesian:	Kristus telah bangkit!	Benar dia telah bangkit!
Italian:	Cristo e' risorto!	Veramente e' risorto!
Japanese:	Harisutos Fukkatsu!	Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!
Javanese:	Kristus sampun wungu!	Tuhu sampun wungu!
Korean:	Kristo gesso!	Buhar ha sho nay!
Latin:	Christus resurrexit!	Vere resurrexit!
Latvian:	Kristus ir augsham sales!	Teyasham ir augsham sales vinsch!
Lugandan:	Kristo ajukkide!	Amajim ajukkide!
Norwegian:	Christus er oppstanden!	Sandelig han er oppstanden!
Polish:	Khristus zmartwyckwstal!	Zaprawde zmartwyckwstal!
Portuguese:	Cristo ressuscitou!	Em verdade ressuscitou!
Romanian:	Hristos a inviat!	Adevărat a înviat!
Russian:	Khristos voskrese!	Voistinu voskrese!
Sanskrit:	Kristo'pastitaha!	Satvam upastitaha!
Serbian:	Hristos vaskrse!	Vaistunu vaskrse!
Slovak:	Christos vstal z mrtvych!	Vpravde vstal z mrtvych!
Spanish:	Cristo ha resucitado!	En verdad ha resucitado!
Swahili:	Kristo amefufukka!	Kweli amefufukka!
Swedish:	Kristus är uppstånden!	Han är sannerligen uppstånden!
Syriac:	M'shee ho dkom!	Ha koo qam!
Tlingit:	Krisdos kuᵗ wudigút!	X'éiga kuᵗ wudigút!
Turkish:	Hristos diril - di!	Hakikaten diril - di!
Ugandan:	Kristo ajukkide!	Kweli ajukkide!
Ukrainian:	Khristos voskres!	Voistinu voskres!

Language	Greeting	Response
Welsh:	Atgyfododd Crist!	Atgyfododd yn wir!
Yupik:	Xris-tusax Ung-uixtuq!	Iluumun Ung-uixtuq!
Zulu:	UKristu uvukile!	Ngempela uvukile!
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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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ONLINE PRAYER CORNER

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. Stephen B., Fr. Thomas B., Protodeacon Gregory B., 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:* Dcn Peter S, Nicolas W., Seamus M., Samuel L., Timothy P., Nicholas L., Alexander H., *and our Parish Council and Curators:* Lawrence, Subdeacon Ryan, Timothy, Rich, Elizabeth, Robert, Gina, John, Mary Jane, Katherine, Kenneth 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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***** NAMEDAY, BIRTHDAY, and ANNIVERSARY PRAYER LIST IS BEING RESET** – Our parish prayer list of key dates and special occasions in our lives will be reset going forward (starting 3/1/24). Please see Fr. Dave with any questions!

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May NAMEDAYS:

Robert Fall - St Robert, Abbot of Blois (5/8)
Mark Tongel - St. Mark the Evangelist (5/8)
Subdeacon Ryan Ferko – St. Thomas Sunday (5/12)
Thomas Lorenzi – St. Thomas Sunday (5/12)
Renee Mirilovich - Great-martyr Irene (5/18)
Christopher Bowser - Martyr Christopher (5/22)
Christopher Kubis - Martyr Christopher (5/22)
...May God grant them many and blessed years!

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May Birthdays:

Anna Dzadony (5/3), Fr Matthew Stagon (5/4), Donald Bodnar (5/6), Fr Thomas Soroka (5/6), Ethan Gogal (5/7), Jillian Gaydos (5/14), Robert Mozes (5/16), Pañi Alexandra Urban (5/16), Natasha Kretchek (5/19), Patrick Wertz (5/19), Linda Gavulich (5/20), Kenneth Parks (5/22), Elias Mainolfi (5/24), Fr Jonathan Tobias (5/27) *...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 *...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Max &

Allison & Michael, Francis & Alexandra *...through the prayers of Sis. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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May Anniversaries:

Father’s Godparents, Dick & Andrea Babbie (5/7)
Father’s Best Man, Joe & Sarah Lavra (5/7/05)
Derrick and Ashley (Wertz) Andrekovich (5/16/20)
Melissa & Christopher Ditmore (5/17/98)
Fr Dave’s Ordination to the Priesthood (5/17/15)
Ernest & Claudia (Herbert) Pido (5/19/90)
Fr Dave & Pañi Alexandra (5/25)
Jim & Katherine Schrmack (5/26/79)
...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For Pregnant Mothers... Carly (*due in June*), Allison (*October*), Lexi (*October*) *...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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Special Intentions – Did you ever wonder for what reasons would a person’s name go under “For the Special Intentions of...” on our Prayer Page? A special intention request is very diversified! It could be when one is under extreme job stress, struggling with spiritual issues, infertility, dealing with the loss of a loved one... the list goes on. As with the other lists on our page, one does not have to be Orthodox to be added.

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Prayer requests – During the Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy, prayers are said for the sick and those celebrating special occasions listed in the bulletin. If silent prayers are requested, they will be offered quietly at the Altar at all services. All those listed in the “Prayer Corner” are prayed for during the Proskomedia (*Preparation of the Bread and Wine for Communion*). Prayer requests will remain for (about) 40 days unless requested otherwise. Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (*in the case of answered prayers*) to our prayer list.

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A Prayer for our Diocesan Clergy

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

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A Prayer for Peace

Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of all people on the earth. Guide, I pray, all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice, prejudice, exploitation, conflict and war. Help us to put away mistrust, bitterness and hatred. Teach us to cease the storing and using of implements of war. Lead us to find peace, respect and freedom. Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of peace against ignorance, poverty, disease and oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony and friendship as brothers and sisters created in Your image, to Your honor and praise. Amen.

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A prayer for our Neighborhoods

by Archbishop Demetrios of America

I pray to you, God, for the families of my neighborhood. Visit them. Throw their troubles out of them and bring hope. Make the daily cares that devour the heart disappear. Present solutions to life’s problems. Settle the disturbed relationships among members of different families whom I know or do not know. O Lord, remind the people of our area that You exist, that You are a strong and loving Protector. Keep away, Lord, anything that causes the disappearance of peace from souls, and the escape of sleep from our eyes. Stay a little while more tonight in our neighborhood. Spread peace along with the night. Let the harshness of the day and its struggles not spread over the night. Amen.

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