

“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 GUESTS!

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 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

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024 vol. X

4th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy GreatMartyr Procopius (303)
Youth Sunday

MONDAY, JULY 22

9:30 – 11:30 am Church open for private prayer
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SUNDAY, JULY 28

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the
First Six Ecumenical Councils
Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) Sunday
9:15 am Third Hour
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Tone 4; Liturgical Color: **Gold**
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***Mystery of Confession** – Father is available to hear Confessions after every service *or* by appointment.
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***Live-Broadcast** – If you are unable to attend church services, please pray along with our Cathedral online:

www.acrod.org/directories/cathedral/live/

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***Calendar** - Future Services are updated online at:

www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar

(Please see Fr. Dave if you want a printed copy)

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SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: *Romans 6:18-23*

¹⁸and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification. ²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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Gospel: *Matthew 8:5-13*

Jesus Heals a Centurion’s Servant

⁵As he entered Caper’na-um, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him ⁶and saying, “Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress.” ⁷And he said to him, “I will come and heal him.” ⁸But the centurion answered him, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” ¹⁰When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, “Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. ¹¹I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, ¹²while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.” ¹³And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; be it done for you as you have believed.” And the servant was healed at that very moment.

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

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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** **New Refrigerator** – We are exploring the idea of upgrading our refrigerator. If you are interested in donating one or donating towards one – please contact someone on the Building Committee (Fr. Dave, Larry, Kathy, or Bob).



** **Congratulations!** to Carly (Anton) and Kyle Jozwiakowski and their families on the birth of Wade Thomas born on June 20th (8 lb 3 oz).

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* **Media Ministry** – Do you have experience with FB, Instagram, X, and / or website programming? Could you help our parish in this area? Please contact Fr. Dave for more details...

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* **2024 Camp Nazareth Wishlist** – Please sponsor one of the items on the list (or even part of one) and help Camp fulfill its Wishlist goal for 2024. Some of the items are related to the Campers, or Staff, or the Kitchen, or the Camp Church, or for Programming and New Internship Positions. The Camp Wishlist is a great way for you to support the Camp in its mission. You can access the Wishlist by clicking this link: [2024 Camp Nazareth Wishlist](http://2024.CampNazarethWishlist). Once you sponsor/reserve an item (or part of an item), you will be sent an email with instructions about how to give towards the item. You will be directed to the "Donate" Tab or the "Support Camp Nazareth" Button on the Camp Website (campnazareth.org) to make your contribution. Please put in the Memo line the name of the item you are sponsoring. Again, please help us make it to our goal of having each item sponsored by visiting the Wishlist link above.

** **ACRY Convention 2024** – St Michael’s ACRY Chapter #40, Binghamton, NY, is delighted to be your hosts for the 79th National ACRY Convention & 40th Anniversary of the Jr. ACRY this Labor Day weekend from **Aug 30 to Sep 2**. All information is online at: <https://bit.ly/24ACRYRegistration> Please contact BinghamtonACRY@gmail.com with any questions. Key Deadlines include:
July 30th - DoubleTree Hotel Reservations
August 9th - Booklet ads, Patrons, and Boosters
August 16th – Meals and Golf Registration

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 270
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 100
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 454
Community Outreach:	\$ 98
Total Collections:	\$ 922
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 0

Participating Souls: 44

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

COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

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

July 28:	___?___
August 4:	___?___
August 11:	___?___

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PRAYER CORNER

For the Health of... Petra, Andrea, Alexandra, Robert, Helen, Cynthia, Barbara, Patrick, Thomas, Paul, Mary, Cheryl, Christopher, Robert, Joanne, Jason, Carlene, Kelly, Marie, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, and Michael *...through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer*

ONLINE BONUSES

Diaper Drive

St. John's in Ambridge is sponsoring a diaper drive for Adoption Connection, PA, which is a Beaver Co. non-profit adoption and fostering agency.

Here are the details:

- Adoption Connection, PA. Our community closet, which supplies needed items to our foster families and local residents in need is in great need of diapers and wipes. All sizes are needed, but especially larger sizes (4-6). We also take donations of clothing, toiletries, and linens.
- Please drop off donations to St. John's Church on Sundays after Liturgy or Thursdays 11-1 or Saturdays 1-4
- Please bring all donations by August 17
- Call Mary Gido with any questions: 412-496-1121

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For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.(Romans 6:23)

From Commentary on Paul's Epistles:

Paul says that the wages of sin is death because death comes through sin, and thus whoever refrains from sin will receive eternal life as his reward.

Those who do not sin will not undergo the second death.

Just as those who follow sin obtain death, so those who follow the grace of God, that is, the faith of Christ which pardons sins, will have eternal life.

They will therefore rejoice at being dissolved for a time, knowing that they will obtain this life which is free of all care and has no end.

It was when he saw this from afar that St. Simeon asked to be released from this world that he might go into peace, that is, into life which allows no disturbance.

And he bears witness that this gift is given to us by God through Christ our Lord, so that we should offer thanks to God through no one other than his Son.

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE HOLY GREATMARTYR PROCOPIUS

Commemorated on July 21/8

The Holy GreatMartyr Procopius, in the world Neanius, a native of Jerusalem, lived and suffered during the reign of the emperor Diocletian (284-305). His father, an eminent Roman by the name of Christopher, was a Christian, but the mother of the saint, Theodosia, remained a pagan. He was early deprived of his father, and the young lad was raised by his mother. Having received an excellent secular education, he was introduced to Diocletian in the very first year of the emperor's accession to the throne, and he quickly advanced in government service. Towards the year 303, when open persecution against Christians was enacted, Neanius was dispatched as a proconsul to Alexandria with orders to mercilessly persecute the Church of God. But on the way to Egypt, near the Syrian city of Apameia, Neanius had a vision of the Lord Jesus, just as once formerly had happened with Saul on the road to Damascus. A Divine voice exclaimed: "Neanius, why persecutest thou Me?" Neanius asked: "Who art Thou, Lord?" – "I am the crucified Jesus, the Son of God". And at this moment in the air appeared a radiant cross. Neanius sensed in his heart an inexpressible joy and spiritual happiness and he was transformed from being a persecutor into instead a zealous follower of Christ. From this point in time Neanius became fondly disposed towards Christians and struggled victoriously only against the barbarian pagans.

But for the saint there transpired the words of the Saviour, that "the enemies for a man – are of his own household" (Mt. 10: 36). His mother, a pagan herself went to the emperor with a complaint against her son, of not reverencing the ancestral gods. Neanius was summoned to the procurator Judaeus Justus, where he was solemnly handed the missive of Diocletian. Having read through the missive filled with its blasphemies, Neanius quietly before the eyes of everyone tore it up. This itself was already a crime, which the Romans regarded as an "insult to authority". Neanius was held under guard and in chains sent off to Caesarea Palestine, where the Apostle Paul once languished. After terrible torments

they threw the saint into a dank prison. By night in the prison room there shone a light, and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, having come with luminous Angels, made Baptism for the suffering confessor, and gave him the name Procopius.

Repeatedly they led Saint Procopius to the courtroom, demanding him to renounce Christ and anew they subjected him to tortures. The stolidity of the martyr and his fiery faith brought down God's abundant grace viewing the execution. Inspired by the deed of Procopius, beneath the sword of the executioner went many of the holy prisoner's former guards and Roman soldiers together with their tribunes Nicostrates and Antiochus. And with martyr's crowns was sealed the faith of 12 Christian Women, having themselves come to the gates of the Caesarea Praetorium. Struck by the great faith of the Christians and their courage, and having seen the firmness of her son in bearing terrible sufferings, Theodosia became repentant and stood amidst the line of confessors and was executed. Finally the new procurator, Flavian, convinced of the uselessness of the tortures, sentenced the holy GreatMartyr Procopius to beheading by the sword. By night Christians took up the much-tortured body, and having wrapped it in grave-clothes, with tears and prayers they committed it to earth (+ 303).

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS

“For a man to have such faith appears simple, but it is, on the contrary, something very lofty, not easily attained by many. Such faith is born of boldness before God; but such boldness comes (only) from pleasing God. Beloved, great labour is needed to acquire, through pleasing God, such boldness before Him that one firmly believes that he will grant all that one asks; as it is written, Ask, and it shall be given to you.”

+St. John Chrysostom

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“The particular gifts consist of all that God has given to each individual. These include wealth, so that one can perform acts of charity; poverty, so that one can endure it with patience and gratitude; authority, so that one can exercise righteous judgment and establish virtue; obedience and service, so that one

can more readily attain salvation of soul; health, so that one can assist those in need and undertake work worthy of God; sickness, so that one may earn the crown of patience; spiritual knowledge and strength, so that one may acquire virtue; weakness and ignorance, so that, turning one's back on worldly things, one may be under obedience in stillness and humility; unsought loss of goods and possessions, so that one may deliberately seek to be saved and may be helped when incapable of shedding all one's possessions or even of giving alms; ease and prosperity, so that one may voluntarily struggle and suffer to attain the virtues and thus become dispassionate and fit to save other souls; trials and hardships, so that those who cannot eradicate their own will may be saved in spite of themselves, and those capable of joyful endurance may attain perfection. All these things, even if they are opposed to each other, are nevertheless good when used correctly; but when misused, they are not good, but are harmful for both body and soul.”

+St. Peter of Damascus

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, our additional collection will be for **Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM)** whose **mission** is to serve those who are incarcerated and their families, and provides resources, training and support to our ministry partners so that lives are transformed and God is glorified. **Core values:** Accept that each person is made in the image and likeness of God; Love with compassion and respect; Integrity; Committed to excellence; Team-oriented For more information on this organization, please visit: www.theocpm.org. Thank you in advance for your prayers and offering this month!

VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

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THIS MONTH'S SERVICE SCHEDULE

MONDAY, JULY 1 #APOSTLESFAST

APOSTLES' (PETER AND PAUL) FAST BEGINS

SATURDAY, JULY 6 #APOSTLESFAST

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers

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SUNDAY, JULY 7 #APOSTLESFAST

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10 #APOSTLESFAST

6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting (*All are welcome to come and listen to the discussions at the meeting*)

THURSDAY, JULY 11 #APOSTLESFAST

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers

FRIDAY, JULY 12 FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

9:30am Festal Divine Liturgy

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SUNDAY, JULY 14

Sunday of Regional Saints (*American and Rusyn*)

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

Monthly Memorial Panachida

SUNDAY, JULY 21

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

Youth Sunday

SUNDAY, JULY 28

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the

First Six Ecumenical Councils

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) Sunday

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

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FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

The Nativity Of The Holy Forerunner And Baptist Of The Lord, John:

Commemorated on July 7 / June 24

The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The Gospel (Lk. 1: 57-80) relates that the righteous parents of Saint John the Baptist – the Priest Zachariah and Elizabeth, lived in the ancient city of Hebron, and reached old age being childless, since Elizabeth was barren. One time, Saint Zachariah was making Divine services at the Jerusalem Temple and saw the Archangel Gabriel,

standing on the right side of the incense offertory. He predicted, that Saint Zachariah would father a son, who would announce the Saviour – the Messiah, awaited by the Old Testament Church. Zachariah was troubled, and fear fell upon him. He had doubts that in old age it was possible to have a son, and he asked for a sign. And it was given to him – it appeared at the same time as a chastisement for his unbelief: Zachariah was struck speechless until the time of the fulfillment of the archangel's words.

Saint Elizabeth came to be with child, and fearing derision over the lateness of her pregnancy, she kept it secret for five months, until there came visiting her distant relative the All-Blessed Virgin Mary, to share with her Her own joy. Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Holy Spirit, was the first to greet the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God. And together with her Saint John also – in the womb of his mother Righteous Elizabeth – did greet "with leaps as in song" the MostHoly Virgin Mary and the Son of God incarnated within Her.

It became time, and Saint Elizabeth gave birth to a son, and all the relatives and acquaintances rejoiced together with her. On the eighth day, in accord with the law of Moses, was made the circumcision. His mother named him John. Everyone was amazed, since no one in their family had been named such. When they asked Saint Zachariah about this, he motioned for a tablet and wrote on it: "John is his name" – and immediately the binding of his tongue at the prediction of the archangel was unbound, and Saint Zachariah, at the prompting of the Holy Spirit, glorified God and pronounced the words of prophecy about the Advent-Coming into the world of the Messiah, and about his own son John – the Forerunner of the Lord.

After the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and the worship of the shepherds and the Magi, wicked king Herod gave orders to kill all the infants. Hearing about this, Saint Elizabeth fled into the wilderness and hid in a cave. Saint Zachariah as a priest was at Jerusalem and was doing his priestly service in the Temple. Herod sent soldiers to him to find out the abode of the infant John and his mother. Zachariah answered, that their whereabouts were unknown to him, and he was killed right there in the Temple.

Righteous Elizabeth continued to live in the wilderness with her son and she died there. The lad John, protected by an Angel, dwelt in the wilderness until such time, when he came preaching about repentance and was himself vouchsafed worthy to baptise the Lord Who was come into the world.

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The Holy, Glorious And All-Praised Leaders Of The Apostles, Peter And Paul

Commemorated on July 12 / June 29

The Holy Apostle Peter

The son of Jonah and brother of Andrew the First-Called, of the tribe of Simeon and the town of Bethsaida, he was a fisherman and was at first called Simon, but the Lord was pleased to call him Cephas, or Peter (JN 1:42). He was the first of the disciples to give clear expression to his faith in the Lord Jesus, saying, "*Though art the Christ, the Son of the Living God.*" (MT 16:16) His love for the Lord was very strong and his faith in Him went from strength to strength. When the Lord was put on trial, Peter denied Him three times, but he needed only one look into the face of the Lord and Peter's soul was filled with shame and repentance. After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Peter became a fearless and powerful preacher of the Gospel. After his first sermon in Jerusalem, about 3,000 souls were converted to the Faith. He preached the Gospel throughout Palestine and Asia Minor, in Italy and in Illyria. Peter was condemned to death on the order of the wicked Emperor Nero. After installing Linus as Bishop of Rome and exhorting and encouraging the flock of Christ there, Peter went to his death with joy. When he saw the cross before him, he asked the executioner to crucify him upside-down, because he felt himself to be unworthy to die in the same way as his Lord. And so, this great servant of the greatest Master went to his rest and received a crown of eternal glory!

The Holy Apostle Paul

Born in Tarsus and of the tribe of Benjamin, he was formerly called Saul and studied under the teacher Gamaliel. He was a Pharisee and fierce persecutor of Christians. Saul was wondrously converted to the Christian Faith by the Lord Himself, who appeared to him on the road to Damascus. He was baptized by the Apostle Ananias, named Paul and enrolled in the

great work of the Apostles. He preached the Gospel everywhere with burning zeal, from the borders of Arabia to the land of Spain, among both the Jews and Gentiles (heathens) and receiving the title '*Apostle to the Gentiles*'. His fearful sufferings were matched only by his superhuman endurance. Through all the years of preaching, he hung from day to day like a thread between life and death. Filling his days and nights with toil and suffering for Christ, organizing the Church in many places and reaching a high level of perfection, he was able to say, "*It is not I who lives, but Christ who lives in me.*" (Galatians 2:20) Paul was brutally beheaded in Rome in the reign of Nero, at the same time as St. Peter.

ADDITIONAL BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



***** Joining the ACRY** – If you would like to become a part of our philanthropic organization of the ACRY (American Carpatho-Russian Youth), which is open to all ages, please contact Subdeacon Ryan Ferko at 484-744-2771 or rferko85@yahoo.com.

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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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CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:
 ✘ *** The Construction Committee will be starting various little projects around the church in the upcoming weeks (around vacations and summer schedules). Please contact Fr. Dave if you have an idea of an improvement that we should look into.
 ✘ upcoming contractor projects include an outdoor sign, new doors, and possibly putting drywall on the ceiling in the nave of the church
 ✘ * The old push-matic electrical panel has been replaced (*donated by an anonymous donor*)
Glorify 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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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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STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

**TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES
 PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

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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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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. (*please grab the coffee grounds before taking the bag*)

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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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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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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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THIRD HOUR

Please let Fr. Dave know if you are interested in reading or chanting the Third Hour at 9:15 am

July 21: _____?____
 July 28: _____?____
 August 4: _____?____

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Stewardship of Treasure Guide

Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?

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

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

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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.

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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, David, Donna, George, *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). If one of your special days is missing – please let Fr Dave know ASAP. See Fr. Dave with any questions.

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July NAMEDAYS:

Rich Mirilovich - St. John the Baptist (7/7)
Craig Bowser - Holy & All-glorious Apostle Peter (7/12)

Margaret (Peggy) Rusnak - Great Martyr Marina of Antioch (7/30)

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

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July BIRTHDAYS:

Joanna Delaney (7/2), Pañi Stacey Mihaly (7/5), Felix Matolyak-Ferraz (7/6), Charles Deluca (7/8), *Father’s Godfather*, Richard Babbie (7/9), *Pañi’s Grandmother*, Maria Alexa (7/11), Emilia Zak (7/11), Jean Zak (7/12), Ben Scherer, Sr. (7/14), Pañi Joanna Ferencz (7/17), Mark Tongel (7/17), Alaina Anton (7/18), Fr Michael Chendorain (7/18), Fr Luke Mihaly (7/18), *Father’s Godson*, Nathaniel Salio (7/21), Jennifer Brancho (7/22), Robert Fall (7/22), Lynn Mainolfi (7/23), Carol Fucsko (7/27), Barbara Gedid (7/27), Ryan Gogal (7/27), Demetrie Ernest Pido (7/27), Samuel Schrmack (7/27), Doug Delaney (7/28), Fr Stephen Lopusky (7/28), Luke Tongel (7/30), *Pañi’s brother*, Florin Popescu (7/30), Fr. George Ellis (7/31) *...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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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...

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

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July ANNIVERSARIES:

Fred & Juliana Anton (7/20/63)

Alexei & Patrick Wertz (7/24/21)

...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For Pregnant Mothers... Lexi (*due in 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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For the souls of the newly departed...

...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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* 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 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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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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