

“THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER” *Our Parish Bulletin*

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

UPCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024 vol. X

20th Sunday after Pentecost
+Holy Martyress Paraskeva
Blessing of the Parish Council Officers
Monthly Memorial (Panachida) for +Stephen Fucsko, Jr. (2-yr), +William Sanders (9-yr), +Olga Radick (4-yr), +Richard Radick (34-yr), +John Potoski (32-yr), +Evalyn T. Brudnak (5-yr), +Francis (Smoley) Zatorsky (5-yr), +Sandra Hricak (1-yr), the Priest, +Protopresbyter John Gido (3-yr), +Kelly Leone (5-yr), +Justine Kailyar (48-yr), the Priest, +Protopresbyter Michael Hanas (28-yr), +Nancy Horvath

*** Sr. ACRY Meeting

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9:30 – 11:30 am Church open for personal prayer

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

6:30 pm Moleben to St. Nectarios with Anointing
7:00 pm Orthodoxy 101: Icons inside the Church

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

9:30 – 11:30 am Church open for personal prayer

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - IOCC SUNDAY

21st Sunday after Pentecost
+Venerable Ioannicius the Great of Bithynia (846)
9:15 am Third Hour
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20
Gospel: Luke 8:41-56 (7th Sunday of Luke)
Tone 4; Liturgical Color: **Gold**
Youth Sunday

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL
MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

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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.

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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*** **Rolls for Sale** - St. John’s in East Pittsburgh is once again selling Nut, Poppyseed and Apricot rolls. They are making them **Saturday, November 16**. Rolls are \$18 each. For information or to place an order, call Nancy Sabeh at 412-951-3165.

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*** **OCF** – Are you in college? Is your child or grandchild in college? How active is the local chapter of the OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship)? Please contact Fr. Dave with some details

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*** **Website Assistance** – If you have basic online website skills and are interested in assisting with our parish page, please contact Fr. Dave ASAP.

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* **RJT Concert** – The **Rankin Jr Tamburitians** will have their Annual Concert on **Saturday, November 16** at 4:00 pm at the Turtle Creek Elementary Steam Academy (126 Monroeville Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145). Guest groups for the concert will be RJT Alumni and Otets Paissi (Bulgarian) Children’s Group. A social reception will following immediately after at the Rankin Croatian Home (236 Fourth Ave., Rankin, PA 15104). An a la carte dinner will be offered. Music will be provided by Orkestar Zabava for your listening and dancing pleasure.

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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

* **St Constantine School Miracles of the Harvest Fall Gala** – A fundraiser event will be held on **November 16** from 6:30pm - 8:30pm at The Ballroom at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral to support the St. Constantine Orthodox School in Pittsburgh. *Your donation is also tax deductible. The Saint Constantine School is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.* An auction will include Pirates autographed memorabilia, golf outings, baskets, and much more! Your generosity in purchasing a table in advance of the gala creates momentum for the event. By inviting friends into our mission as guests, you can exponentially impact reaching our goal! Get ready to be entertained, delighted, and inspired! Single tickets are available at \$100 each. Kids are welcome! Pizza with supervision will be provided. Learn more about TSCS by emailing pittsburgh@saintconstantine.org or to set up a tour of our campus.

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* **Orthodoxy on Tap (Café Edition for Young Adults)** - Come enjoy a talk by Fr. Thomas Soroka, coffee, treats, fellowship, and discussion about *Bridging Divides: How Orthodox Christians can love across political lines* on **Sunday, November 17** at 5:00 pm at Fresh Start Café, 46 W Pike Street, Canonsburg, PA 15317.

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* **Christmas Candy Sale** – We are selling Anderson Candy as a winter fundraiser. Brochures are on the tables in the hall. Orders are due to Tim Martin, Reader, by **November 24**. Orders can be picked up on **December 1**. *The monies raised from this go into our Fundraising Account which is mainly used for our parish community outreach to help others.*

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* **Welcome to the Newly-Baptized! Waylon John Gaydos** was baptized and initiated into the Orthodox faith Sunday, October 20. May God give strength to him as he begins his Christian life and bless him, his parents, God-Parents, and families! Many Years!

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*** **Pan-Orthodox Christmas Concert: “Sing Praises to Our God, Sing Praises”** – The Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh is hosting a Pan-Orthodox Christmas Concert *featuring choirs from multiple Orthodox jurisdictions and the Pan-Orthodox Choir of Great Pittsburgh* on **Sunday, November 24** at 4:00 pm at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church (2110 Haymaker Road, Monroeville, PA). Fellowship will follow the concert in their hall. A Free-Will offering will be taken to benefit various Orthodox Charities.

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** The **St Nicholas Charity Dinner**, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Deanery to benefit our Christ the Saviour Seminary, will be on **Sunday, Dec. 8** at the Bulgarian-Macedonian Hall - BMNECC (449 West Eighth Ave., West Homestead, PA 15120). Doors open at **5:00 pm** with a Buffett Dinner at 5:30. Adults - \$40; Teens - \$30; Ages 5-12 - \$15 (*checks payable to “Pittsburgh Deanery”*). If anyone (or organization) would like to “sponsor a seminarian” (or part of their family), please see Father. Come meet the seminarians, enjoy the fellowship, carol sing-a-long, and a special guest! Our parish has been asked to bring 3 baskets (about a \$25 value) to be raffled off at the dinner. We are still looking for 2 more gifts to be offered. Please order your tickets by Sunday, Dec. 1.

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*** **Food Festival** – Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church (214 Mansfield Blvd., Carnegie, PA 15106) will be having their Christmas Food Festival featuring all the traditional favorites on **Saturday, Dec. 14** from 10 am to 12 pm. Orders Must Be Placed Online At www.hvroc.org. Call 412-276-6234 with any questions.

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* **Congratulations!** to Patrick and Lexi Wertz and their families on the birth of **Patrick Dean Wertz** born on 10/20 at 12:30 pm (9 lb 4 oz). Welcome to our Parish Family!

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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 275
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 104
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 501
Community Outreach:	\$ 13
Total Collections:	\$ 893
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 50

*Participating Souls - Sunday Liturgy: 42
Friday Feast of St. Demetrius: 1*

Weekly Candle Intentions or Memorials were offered last week by the Nelson Family; Carol and Tom Lorenzi; Lawrence Martin; Tim Martin; Kathy Schrmack; Fred and Juliana Anton; Carol Fucsko; Lindsay Matolyak; Cindy Pavilonis

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October Financial Report:

General Stewardship = \$ 6184.05

(includes \$ 397.05 from online stewardship)

***Expenses = \$ 8033.68**

Net Deficit = \$ 1849.63

Capital Improvement Fund = \$ 380

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 37

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*

Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Report:

(September through last month)

General Stewardship = \$ 10,919

***Expenses = \$ 12,908**

Net Deficit = \$ 1,989

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 37

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE HOLY MARTYRESS PARASKEVA

Commemorated on November 10 / October 28

The Holy Martyress Paraskeva, named also Piatnitsa, lived during the III Century at Iconium in a rich and pious family. The parents of the saint revered especially the day of the Passion of the Lord - Friday (Piatnitsa), and therefore they called their daughter Paraskeva this name, since she had been born on a Friday-Piatnitsa, and the name

Paraskeva in Slavic translation from the Greek means also - Piatnitsa-Friday.

Young Paraskeva with all her heart loved purity and the lofty morality of the virginal life, and she took a vow of celibacy. She wanted to devote all her life to God and to the enlightenment of pagans with the light of the faith of Christ. Upon this righteous path Saint Paraskeva was brought to judgement, bearing in her own name the memory of the day of the terrible Sufferings of Jesus, and she shared in the Passion of Christ also in her own life through her bodily torments. Because of her confession of the Orthodox faith, the pagans in a frenzy seized hold of her and brought her to the city governor. Here they demanded that she offer unholy sacrifice to the pagan idol. With a steady heart, and trusting on God, the saint refused this demand. For this she underwent great torments: having tied her to a tree, the torturers tore at her pure body with iron nails, and then exhausted by the torture, they threw her into prison, all lacerated to the bone. But God did not forsake the holy sufferer, and miraculously healed her torn body. Not heeding this Divine miracle, the executioners continued with their torture of Saint Paraskeva, and finally, they cut off her head.

Saint Paraskeva-Piatnitsa has always enjoyed an especial love and veneration amongst the Orthodox people. With her memory is associated many a pious custom and observance. In the ancient Russian mesyatseslovs with Saints-Lives, the name of the martyress is inscribed thus: "Saint Paraskeva, also called Piatnitsa". Churches in the name of Saint Paraskeva in antiquity were given the name Piatnitsa. Small wayside chapels received of old in Rus' the name-form Piatnitsa. The simple Russian people called the Martyress Paraskeva variously Piatnitsa, Piatina, Petka. The icons of Saint Paraskeva were especially venerated and embellished by our forefathers. Russian iconographers usually depicted the martyress as an austere ascetic, tall of stature, with a radiant crown upon her head. Icons of the saint guard over pious and happy households. By Church belief, Saint Paraskeva - is protectress of fields and cattle. Therefore on the day of her memory it was the custom to bring fruit to church for blessing, which as a blest object was kept until the following year.

Moreover, Saint Paraskeva is prayed to for protection of cattle from disease. Saint Paraskeva is likewise an healer of people from grievous illness of both body and soul.

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NOV. COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY



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!*

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SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Paul's Vindication of His Apostleship

¹¹For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. ¹²For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹³For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; ¹⁴and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. ¹⁵But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, ¹⁶was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, ¹⁷nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus.

¹⁸Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days.

¹⁹But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

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Gospel: Luke 8:26-39 (6th Sunday of Luke)

Jesus Heals the Gerasene Demoniac

²⁶Then they arrived at the country of the Ger'asenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷And as he stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." ²⁹For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³²Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. ³⁶And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Ger'asenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, ³⁹"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

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PRAYER CORNER

For the Health of... Robert, Matthew, David, Stephanie, Angelo, Patricia, Edward, Joseph, Suzanne, Nicholas, Sherry, Charles, William, Boyd, Millicent, Barbara, Paul, Robert, Kelly, 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... +Charles Popovich (10/16), +Helen Sarraf (10/12), +Thomas Blaschak, the Priest (10/7) +Albert Dzuka (10/2) *...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God's Memory!*

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ONLINE BONUSES

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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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ADDITIONAL BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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***** Retirement** – At his request, Fr. Michael Zak will be retiring at the end of this year, December 31, 2024. He will serve at St. Nicholas in Homestead through January 7, 2025. Congratulations and Many Years!

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COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

Please sign up by the kitchen or by contacting Fr. Dave
November 17: Sr. ACRY – Team B
November 24: _____?
* December 1: _____?
**meatless during the fast*

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**** Random Tidbits...** Father Dave 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 (Sacrament) of Holy Anointing (Unction) to be fully prepared.

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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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"Code" for reading the bulletin:

*** = new news ** = 2nd time in the bulletin

* = at least the 3rd time in the bulletin

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2024-25 SJB PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Lawrence Martin
Vice-President: Elizabeth Radomsky
Treasurer: Timothy Martin, Reader
Financial Secretary: Rich Mirilovich
Recording Secretary: Gina Fall
Chief Auditor: Robert Fall
Auditors: Subdeacon Ryan Ferko,
John Kirish, Kimberly Opsitos,
Matthew Opsitos, and Kathy Schrmack

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CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:

- ✘ *** The building committee and Parish Council continue to discuss our plan of action going forward with work in the church proper. Please be patient with us! Also, remember that for a project like the one that we are undertaking, work goes top down so the ceiling and walls will be done before the floor. As mentioned, please be patient with us!
- ✘ ** At the yearly meeting, a vote passed to go with Kodiak Excavating to install a French Drain in the front of the church and for the ground on the side and back to be re-graded (*to keep water away from the building*). Due to supply chain and other issues, this work will be done in the spring. A contract has been signed. The cost will be over \$30,000. Donations to the Capital Improvement Fund are requested.

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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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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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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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MONTHLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

9:30 – 11:30 am Church open for personal prayer

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8

FEAST OF THE GREAT MARTYR DEMETRIUS
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

9:15 am Third Hour
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Blessing of the Parish Council Officers
Monthly Memorial (Panachida)
Sr. ACRY Meeting

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

6:00 pm Moleben to St. Nectarios with Anointing
6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting (*All are welcome to come and listen to the discussions at the meeting*)

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - IOCC SUNDAY

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL
MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

6:30 pm Moleben of Thanksgiving

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

NATIVITY FAST BEGINS (PHILIP'S FAST / FILIPOVKA)



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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.

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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.

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STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET



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



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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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Why Should I Join the Local ACRY?

The ACRY is an Orthodox Christian family fellowship dedicated to the purpose of encouraging spiritual growth through charitable and apostolic missionary works, prayer and fellowship for the Glory of God and the building up of the Church and our Diocese. The local ACRY focuses on outreach to the community in various forms and fellowship within. This could be a fundraiser or family event at the church grounds to introduce people to our parish, or the volunteering of our time to help support a community event. In addition to these, the ACRY has the opportunity to branch out and meet other members of our diocesan ACRY community through deanery and nation events and partake in outreach at a broader level.

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

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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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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(s) *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., Kevin, 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., 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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November NAMEDAYS:

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

Makaela Kirish - Archangel Michael (11/21)

Cindy Pavilonis - Saint Cyntianus (11/28)

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

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

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November Birthdays:

Fr Joseph Birthisel (11/2), Subdeacon Ryan Ferko (11/4), Matt Opsitos (11/4), Jason Shelpman, Jr (11/4), Nicholas Kubis (11/6), Caitlin Carlisle (11/9), Fr. James Blomeley (11/14), Cindy Pavilonis (11/14), Kim Opsitos (11/21), 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) *...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... Maxwell, Barbara, Tyler *...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.*

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

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November Anniversaries:

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

Thomas & Harmonie Torchia (11/12/11)

Alisha & Aaron Zak (11/15/15)

...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For Pregnant Mothers...

Mallory (*due in March*), Lindsay (*April*)

...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 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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A Prayer for College Students

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

A Prayer in Front of an Icon of Christ

We bow in worship to Your most pure icon, O Good One, and ask You to forgive our sins, O Christ our God: for of Your own good will, You were please to ascend the Cross in the flesh, that You might free from slavery to the enemy those whom You had created. Therefore, we cry out to You: You have filled all things with joy, O our Saviour, for You came to save the world. Amen.

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A Prayer in Front of an Icon of the Theotokos

Make us worthy of mercy, O Theotokos, fountain of tenderness. Look upon us sinners and reveal your power as you always do, for we have put our hope in you. We cry to you, “Rejoice,” as Gabriel, the leader of the angels, once did. Amen.