



Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople



Reverend Dave Urban, Pastor
Very Reverend John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus
Timothy Martin, Reader
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors
Matthew Peifer, Church Council President
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November 19, 2017

Volume III

24th Sunday after Pentecost / 7th Lukan Sunday / St Paul the Confessor (350)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 7

Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22; Gospel: Luke 8:41-56

YOUTH Sunday / 2pm - Turkey Bingo

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Tue, Nov 21 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Synaxis of All the Bodiless Powers of Heaven

Wednesday, November 22 – 7pm Exploring Orthodoxy at the Eat 'n Park in Wexford

Thursday, November 23 – 9:30am Moleben of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Holy Mystery of Confession available following every service.

Monday	Holy 33 Martyrs of Melitene	2 Thess 1:1-10	Luke 12:13-15,22-31
Tuesday	Synaxis of the Archangel Michael & the other Bodiless Powers: the Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, Barachiel, & Jeremiel	2 Thess 1:10-2:2	Luke 12:42-48
* Wed.	St. Nectarius, metropolitan of Pentapolis (1920)	2 Thess 2:1-12	Luke 12:48-59
Thursday	Apostles Olympas, & Herodion of the Seventy (1 st c.)	2 Thess 2:13-3:5	Luke 13:1-9
* Friday	Martyr Menas of Egypt (304)	2 Thess 3:6-18	Luke 13:31-35
Saturday	St. John the Merciful, patriarch of Alexandria (620)	Hebrews 2:2-10	Luke 9:37-43

** Let us imitate Christ and the Saints and fast as they did.*

Sunday, November 26 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost / 8th Lukan Sunday / St. John Chrysostom (407)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 8

Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Epistle: Ephesians 4:1-6; Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Glory Be To Jesus Christ! (Glory Be Forever!)

Slava Isusu Christu! (Slava na v'iki!)

We are happy that you have joined us today! **Please join us downstairs** for coffee and a bite to eat. It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning and we wish God's Blessings to all who visit with us today and hope you stop in again soon!

If you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy, please see Fr.

Dave and he will gladly answer any of your questions to the best of his ability. He looks forward to meeting you!

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This Bulletin is offered:

In Memory of

+Nicholas Buhonick.

May his memory be eternal!

LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

Wednesdays through December 13 – 7pm Exploring Orthodoxy at Eat 'n Park in Wexford

Tuesday, November 26 – Nativity Fast (*Filipovka*) Begins – 9:30am Moleben for the Nativity Fast

Friday, December 1 – 9:30am Akathist Hymn to the Nativity of Christ

Sunday, December 3 – 3pm Pittsburgh Deanery St. Nicholas Charity Dinner (see details below)

Monday, December 4 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos

Friday, December 8 – 9:30am Moleben of the Nativity Fast

Saturday, December 9 – 9am-noon – Fall Church Clean-Up / 11am-1pm Mystery of Confession

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions for this section to Father by Wednesday.)



Donation Request - Nicole Martellotti has a big project due in December for her internship. Her project includes asking the community to donate some cleaning supplies to help families in need that are clients at her internship, Clinton County Children and Youth Services. Everyday a caseworker goes to the store to buy cleaning supplies for families. Nicole is looking to help the agency get some supplies so they could stock up so they don't have to run to the store everyday. Here is a list of some of the common things that people ask for:

- Clorox wipes
- Mops
- Disinfectant cleaner
- Dust pans
- Multi-purpose cleaner
- Rags
- All-purpose cleaner
- Garbage bags
- Brooms
- Windex cleaner
- Bathroom cleaner
- Bleach
- Glass cleaner
- 409 Cleaner

The supplies don't have to be the most expensive things (it could be from the dollar store). *Anything that you give is greatly appreciated!* Nicole will pick up any donations on **Sunday, November 26th** when she is home for Thanksgiving Break.

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Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Melanie Shuster; Viola Peifer; Lawrence Martin; Olga Radick; Eleanor Sanger; Joanne Nelson; Pani Branco; Cindy Pavilonis; Patty Watson.

"I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." - John 8:12

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Exploring Orthodoxy Adult Study & Catechism Returns! – We will meet on Wednesdays from 7:00p to about 8:15p thru Dec. 13th at Eat 'n Park (2650 Brandt School

Road, Wexford, Pa 15090 / 724-940-3270). We will continue our examination of *the priestly prayers of St John Chrysostom's Divine Liturgy*. We hope and pray that everyone is able to attend these tangent oriented discussions about Orthodoxy! Come for a bite to eat (*we need to spend \$40 to use the room*) and learn about your faith! (*If you need a ride, please contact Fr. Dave.*)

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

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Community Outreach Collection for Christ the Saviour Seminary will be next Sunday (11/26). Sorry for the mistake on the page 1.

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St Nicholas Charity Dinner for the Pittsburgh Deanery will be on **Sunday, December 3rd** at a *different location*

this year: Edgewood Country Club (100 Churchill Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15235). Doors open at 2:30pm (Dinner at 3:00). This annual dinner benefits our *Christ the Saviour Seminary*. Adults are \$30 and Children under 12 are \$10. (*Please make checks payable to "Pittsburgh Deanery"*.) Please see Fr Dave by **November 29th** for your ticket(s). *Donations of any prizes to be raffled off at the dinner can be given to Father.*

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Winter Church Clean-Up – will be on Saturday morning, **December 9th** from 9am-noon. A "to-do list" is being put together...

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New ACRY Members – Are you interested in becoming a member of the ACRY to help in this wonderful and important ministry of the church? *In our local parish*, the ACRY are stewards of the Church with it's time, talents, and treasures. They support charitable and local associations throughout the year. Please see one of the officers! (Theresa Sharpless, Timothy Martin, Katherine Schrmack, or Carol Lorenzi)

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Christmas at FOCUS – We have offered to donate, as we did last year, 4 sheet cakes, 250 bottles of water, and napkins to FOCUS Pittsburgh for their annual Christmas Dinner for those in need. In addition, they are asking for \$25 gift cards from Target. Please see Kathy Schrmack if you are able to make a donation towards this wonderful event which will be held on **Saturday, December 16th**. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated!

Our Stewardship Gift To God

Dues/Stewardship:	\$ 197
Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box:	\$ 134
Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special:	\$ 543
Total Collections:	\$ 874
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 105
<i>Collection for the Saints: "On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper." 1 Cor 16:2</i>	

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Bulletin Sponsor – Please contact Fr Dave or sign up in Vestibule to sponsor a bulletin *In Memory of* someone or *In Honor of* (anniversary, birthday, etc.). An additional stewardship offering to the Church is kindly requested.

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*****Protecting Veil of the Theotokos of Pittsburgh Icon** – This Icon (*the centennial icon of St. Mary Orthodox Church, Southside Pittsburgh*) is being

reproduced by the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery (Saxonburg, PA) with all proceeds going to the monastery to help rebuild after their lightning strike and fire. Please email Father for an order form or see the sheet in the hall as sizes and prices vary from 11"x14" for \$65 to 18"x24" for \$290 (there are 5 different styles to choose from).

Coffee Social Steward Schedule

- November 26: **Open "Pot Luck"**
- December 3: **Open "Pot Luck"**
- December 10: **Open "Pot Luck"**

Thank you to all those who support this critical ministry of our Church!

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Coffee Social Stewards Needed – On weeks that no one signs up to host and organize our coffee social, we will have a 'pot-luck' meal. On these weeks, we ask that every household brings something small for a pot-luck surprise spread for the community to enjoy that week! (Don't over think the menu - Plan to *keep it simple* ☺) Everyone is also encouraged to help clean up after. *The Divine Liturgy concludes at the final blessing, but the liturgy continues downstairs as we gather in love and fellowship with our parish family and visiting neighbors.* Lets keep this critical ministry alive in our parish!

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Snow Removal Team – as temperatures have begun to drop, we are reminded that snow is on it's way. Just a reminder that we will be looking for folks, as in the past, to offer some of their time prior to people getting to church on Sundays to help with snow removal. *Please let Father know if you will be able to come earlier to Church to assist with keeping the sidewalks clear.* Ideally we will have a rotation of people so that the same person is not doing it each snowfall.

Parish Stewardship Opportunities...

- *As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them.* (Luke 6:31)
- Take a Coffee Social week
- Attend an additional service at Church
- Plan to help with the Fall Clean-Up

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LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD... Please mark your calendar for upcoming important dates:

Sun., Dec. 17 – St. Nicholas Breakfast	Sat., Mar. 24 – Parish Spring Clean-Up
Tue., Dec. 19 – Feast of St Nicholas	Sun., Apr. 1 – Palm Sunday
Sun., Jan. 7 – Feast of the Nativity of our Lord	Sun., Apr. 8 – Orthodox Pascha (Easter)
Fri., Jan. 19 – Feast of Theophany/House Blessings Begin	Thu., May 17 – Feast of the Ascension of our Lord
Sun., Feb. 11 – Pre-Lenten Breakfast	Sat., May 19 – Italian Feast and Basket Raffle
Mon., Feb. 19 – The Great Fast Begins	Sun., May 27 – Feast of Pentecost

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ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK

EUCCHARIST - Taken from a Greek word meaning “**Thanksgiving**,” Eucharist designates Holy Communion, the central act of Christian Worship At the Last Supper Christ gave thanks (Mt 26:27; 1Co 11:24), and embodied in the communion service is our own thanksgiving. The word came into use very early, and appears in the late first century document, *The Didache* (“Now concerning the Eucharist...” Did. 9:1) and also in the letters of St. Ignatius of Antioch (Ign. Phil. 4:1) written about AD 107.

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

Christ Our Peace “For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.” +*St. Paul, Ephesians 2:14-18 (NKJV)*

MONDAY

"Prayer changes from entreaty to thanksgiving, and meditation on the divine truths of faith fills the heart with a sense of jubilation and unimpeachable hope. This hope is a foretaste of future blessings, of which the soul even now receives direct experience, and so it comes to know in part the surpassing richness of God's bounty, in accordance with the Psalmist's words, 'Taste and know that the Lord is bountiful' (Ps. 34:8). For He is the jubilation of the righteous, the joy of the upright, the gladness of the humble, and the solace of those who grieve because of Him." +*St. Gregory Palamas, The Philokalia Vol. 4*

TUESDAY

"We must begin with thanksgiving for everything. The beginning of joy is to be content with your situation." +*St. Ambrose of Optina*

WEDNESDAY

"A man of discernment, meditating on the healing Divine Providence, bears with thanksgiving the misfortunes that come to him. He sees their causes in his own sins, and not in anyone else. But a mindless man, when he sins and receives the punishment for it, considers the cause of his misfortune to be God, or people, not understanding God's care for him." +*St. Maximus the Confessor, Chapters on Love, 2.46*

THURSDAY

"Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." +*St. Paul, Philippians 4:6 (RSV)*

FRIDAY

"Every genuine confession humbles the soul. When it takes the form of thanksgiving, it teaches the soul that it has been delivered by the grace of God." +*St. Maximus the Confessor, Various Texts on Theology, the Divine Economy, and Virtue and Vice 3.62*

SATURDAY

"You receive the Cup which seemingly comes from the hands of man. What is it to you whether the bearer of the Cup acts righteously or unrighteously? As a follower of Jesus, your concern is to act righteously; to receive the Cup with thanksgiving to God and with a living faith; and courageously to drink it to the dregs." +*St. Ignatius Brianchaninov, The Cup of Christ*

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SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am–4pm OR by appointment.
Online Community: Please email Fr. Dave to receive the weekly bulletin via email.
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 so he can pray with you and you may receive the Anointing to be fully prepared.
Mystery of Confession – Opportunities are available after every service, Saturdays during fasting periods from 11:00am to 1:00 pm, OR by appointment.
Holy Communion/Eucharist – The reception of the Holy Eucharist is encouraged by all Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves, with fasting from midnight on, regular Confession, and

forgiveness for all people. Those who are not Orthodox may receive a *blessing* from the chalice.
Baptisms – Please consult Father for details.
Marriages – Please consult Father ASAP for details (*before* arrangements are made for the hall).
Church Funerals – are provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual and financial obligations; 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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PRAYER CORNER

*Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions and Other Needs **



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



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For the Health of... Mildred, Anna Mae, Julie, Jane, Eleanor D., Mark, Viola, Juliana, Nathaniel, Katie, Kenneth, Michael, Teresa, Roberta, Fr Shuster, Thomas, Fredrick, Helen B., Wendy, Gary, Barbara, Matthew, Patricia, Denise, Lino, John, Fr. Jonathan Tobias, Pañi Marsha Tobias ...*through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer.*

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For the Special Intentions of... *those working towards our Community Outreach*, Christ the Savior Seminary, for Bishop Gregory, Stephen, David, Joshua, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Ameer, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Olga, John, Sarah, Sharon, Ryan, Cora, John S., and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee: Matthew, John, Timothy, Patricia, Theresa, Lawrence, Donald, Jane, Cynthia, Katherine, Eleanor, Kenneth, Gina, Robert, Jillian, Wendy, Olga, John, Melanie, Michael, John, Richard, John, Margaret, Sarah, Patricia ...*through the prayers of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker; St. John the Baptist; the Archangels Michael & Gabriel; and the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.*



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For Expectant Mothers... Pañi Ileana, Ameer, Ashley, Harmonie ...*through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, & St Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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Birthday Prayers for... Fr Michael Rustick (11/21) and Father's sister, Suzanne Verbanick (11/25) ...*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!*
Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!

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

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Anniversary Prayers for... ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... ...*through the prayers of St George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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

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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. Memory eternal!*

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* This is to be used for the special intentions of our brothers and sisters and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you would 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 and sisters in Christ. Those whom we add to the list do **NOT** need to be Orthodox Christians.

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SUNDAY'S GOSPEL READING

(Luke 8:41-56) And there came a man named Ja'irus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and could not be healed by any one, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been

immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK:

A Thanksgiving Prayer: From the Akathist of Thanksgiving, Kondak 13
Life-giving and most merciful trinity, receive our thanksgiving for all your kindness; make us worthy of your blessings, so that, when we have brought a profit from the talents you have entrusted to us, we may enter into the eternal joy of our Lord, singing the triumphal hymn: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!