



Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church



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

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Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus
Timothy Martin, Reader
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July 29, 2018

Volume IV

9th Sunday after Pentecost / Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the 1st 6 Councils

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy Tone 8 Liturgical Color: **Green**

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17 / Hebrews 13:7-16 (Fathers); Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34 / John 17:1-13 (Fathers)

Additional Collection for our Community Outreach / following Coffee Social:

Mystery of Holy Baptism and Initiation into the Orthodox Faith of Maverick Thomas Torchia

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thursday, August 2 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Holy Prophet Elias

The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

Monday	Great-martyr Marina (Margaret) of Antioch (4 th c.)	1 Corinthians 15:12-19	Matthew 21:18-22
Tuesday	Martyr Hyacinth of Amastris (4 th c.)	1 Corinthians 15:29-38	Matthew 21:23-27
* Wednesday	Venerable Macrina, sister of St. Basil the Great (380)	1 Corinthians 16:4-12	Matthew 21:28-32
Thursday	Holy Glorious Prophet Elias (Elijah) (9 th c. B.C.)	2 Corinthians 1:1-7	Matthew 21: 43-46
* Friday	Prophet Ezekiel (6 th c. B.C.)	2 Corinthians 1:12-20	Matthew 22:23-33
Saturday	Holy Myrrh-bearer Mary Magdalen (1 st c.)	Romans 15:30-33	Mt 17:24-18:4

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

Sunday, August 5 – 10th Sunday after Pentecost / Martyr Trophimus and 14 others in Lycia (305)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy Tone 1 Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16; Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23

Annual Blessing of Vehicles following the Divine Liturgy

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

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

Slava Isusu Christu! (Slava Na Viki!)

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 Father 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:

If you wish to sponsor a bulletin *In Honor of* (anniversary, birthday, etc.) or *In Memory of* someone, please do so by signing up on the sheet on the table in the Vestibule of the Church or by contacting Fr. Dave. An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.



LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



Thursday, August 9 – 9:30am Akathist to St. Panteleimon with holy anointing

Sunday, August 12 – Additional Collection for our Capital Improvement Fund / following Coffee Social:

Mystery of Holy Baptism and Initiation into the Orthodox Faith of Noella Robin Gaydos

Tuesday, August 14 – Akathist in Honor of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Thursday, August 16 – 9:30am Paraklis to the Theotokos

Saturday, August 18 – 11-1 Mystery of Holy Confession offered

Sunday, August 19 – Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord with Blessing of Fruit and Vegetables

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PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Relocation Update: A Transparent Process

– There are no secrets in this relocation process. As we learn and things develop, they will be shared with the congregation.

The architect that looked at the property a week ago Friday returned a preliminary zoning report to us. There are a lot of questions that still remain about the property that we discussed at the Special Meeting. We are continuing to research and find answers that are needed with this location.

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Relocation Fund – This restricted fund is for the future of our parish. It may be used as part of our Phase 1 research or Phase 2 of an opportunity that we pursue. The important goal is for this fund to grow so that our parish has a chance to grow. As a reminder, *monies that are donated towards this fund will strictly be used towards our relocation.* In the event that we do not relocate, the monies will be distributed between Camp Nazareth and Christ the Saviour Seminary. Your kind generosity is greatly appreciated!

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Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Melanie Shuster; Lawrence Martin; Eleanor Sanger; Barbara Kirish; Joanne Nelson; Theresa Sharpless; Patty Watson; Mary Jane Hudak

"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

The Eternal Lamp was offered last week by John Gaydos, Jr., in Memory of Mother, Catherine. May Her Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamjat!

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Last Call For Garage Sale Donations – The time has come to get your last donations in for our 26th Annual Garage Sale. Purge what you have not used in the past year! What is excess for you may be a treasure for someone else! Let's be good stewards of the gifts/treasures that God has given us!!

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Garage Sale Helpers Needed! – There is a sign up sheet in the church hall looking for helpers for the upcoming Garage Sale at the end of August. Items will need to be cleaned and placed on the tables before hand, items will need to be priced, assistance will be needed the weekend of the sale, and it also takes time to pack everything up after the sale. Please sign up and give a little of your time towards this wonderful stewardship event of our parish!

Visit Our Diocese On-Line
Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org
Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org
FB: www.facebook.com/acroddiocese
Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews
You Tube: youtube.com/acroddiocese

Our Stewardship Gift To God

Stewardship/Dues: \$ 363
Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box: \$ 154
Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special: \$ 918
Total Collections: \$ 1435
Relocation Fund: \$ 1000
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

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Prayer Request – Please continue to pray for our parish community and the journey that we are on together!

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Coffee Social Steward Schedule

August 5: **OPEN / "Pot Luck"**
August 12: **OPEN / "Pot Luck"**
August 19: **OPEN / "Pot Luck"**

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. (Everyone is also encouraged to help clean up after.) Thank you to all those who support and keep this critical ministry alive in our parish!

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Parish Stewardship Opportunities...

As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. (Lk. 6:31)
- Pray for our parish and it's future
- Sponsor a Coffee Social
- Donate towards Bibles for Babies
- Bring in items for our garage sale
- Donate towards our coat drive

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH

"Saints Alive" **Vacation Church School** at Holy Cross **July 30-August 3** from 9am~12 Noon. Registration forms and more information can be found at: www.holycrosspgh.org/ministries/vacation/

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24th Rusyn Food Festival – St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Ambridge will have their Rusyn Food Festival August 3 & 4 in their air-conditioned Parish Center (722 Fifth St., Ambridge). There will be a variety of Carpatho-Rusyn entrées and desert items. This year's schedule will be: Aug. 3rd from 4-6 p.m. (**frozen foods and take out items available only**) and Aug. 4th from 11am to 6pm (take out and eat in). For more information or to place orders, please call 724 462 3942.

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Annual Pilgrimage: Patronal Feast and 50th Anniversary Celebration of The Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration – Each year the monastery (321 Monastery Lane, Ellwood City, PA 16117) hosts its Patronal Feast Day Celebrations and Pilgrimage on August 5th and 6th for the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (*New Calendar*). Here is this year's schedule to be celebrated with His Beatitude, Metropolitan TIKHON (Primate of the Orthodox Church in America), His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL (Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America), and guest Hierarchs:

Sunday, August 5—Eve of Transfiguration
9:30 Divine Liturgy followed by coffee hour
5:30 Vigil for the Feast of Transfiguration
8:30 Supper for pilgrims
Monday, August 6—Feast of Transfiguration
9:00 Akathist, "Glory to God for All Things"
9:30 Greeting and Vesting of Metropolitan Tikhon
10:00 Hierarchical Liturgy, Homily, Blessing of Fruit, Anniversary Greetings
1:00 Catered Luncheon; Gift Shop Open
3:00 Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Unction (Anointing)
4:30 Refreshments
5:30 Vespers and Departure

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"Miracles of Jesus" **Vacation Church School** at Presentation of Christ **August 6-9** from 9am to 12 Noon. For registration and more information, contact the office (412-824-9188 / LKoutsavlis@ypapanti.net)

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SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp, and bear the abuse he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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Gospel: John 17:1-13

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

¹⁷When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee, ²since thou hast given him power

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over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. ⁴I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; ⁵and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made.

⁶"I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. ⁷Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; ⁸for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. ⁹I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; ¹⁰all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Source: www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar © 1996-2001 by translator Fr. S. Janos

The Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

Commemorated on the Sunday closest to July 29/16

In the Ninth Section of the Nicea-Constantinople Symbol-Creed of Faith – worked out by the holy fathers of the First and Second Ecumenical Councils, we confess our faith in "One, Holy, Catholic-Conciliar ("Soborny") and Apostolic Church". By virtue of the Catholic-Conciliar ("Soborny") nature of the Church, the All-Churchly or Ecumenical Council is the Church's supreme facility, and possessing the plenitude, to resolve the major questions of religious life. An Ecumenical Council is comprised of archpastors and pastors of the Church, and representatives of all the Local Churches, from every land of the "oikumene" (i.e. from all the whole inhabited world, the Ecumenical basis of the "Universality" ("Vselennost") of the Church is implied in the Greek word "kath'olon", from whence the word "catholic", which encompasses the evangelisation of the whole world).



an "assembly" or "council". The erudite might also recognise similarity with the word "Sobornost" – a term emphasised in ecclesiology by the Russian religious-philosopher A. S. Khomyakov in the 1800's. "Sobornost" is translated sometimes as "Catholico-Conciliarity", but often also as "Communality". This latter nuance signifies the "Catholicity" of the Church, not as a formal external quality regarding the Church as worldly institution and outward authority, but rather existing as a spiritually inward and dynamic quality within each believer. It is the Gospel that defines the locus of the Church saying: "The Kingdom of God is within you". This however does not mean the fragmenting individualism of belief often seen in Protestantism. The Church as "ekklesia" (assembly of believers) is "One" in Christ in the Apostolicity and Holiness of its faith in Christ – our own oneness is with the one authentic faith of the Holy Apostles in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ, preserved as Holy Tradition throughout all the generations of believers. The "Communality" or "Communion in Christ Jesus" is not merely with our fellow believers in the Church in the present time, but with all the generations of the "faithful" that have gone before us. All the Four Marks of the Church – One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic – are inter-connected. The Catholicity of the Church extends universally not merely through spatiality, but also back through time – it is the "Church Triumphant" as well as the "Church Militant".]

[Trans. note: The Church Slavonic word "Soborny" – in English usually translated merely as "Catholic", has actually a deeper and more profound meaning than commonly understood in the West, and it reflects linguistically the Greek word "katholikos" as interpreted by Holy Tradition for Saints Cyril and Methodios. The adjective form "Soborny" has its word-root in "Sobor" – meaning

The Orthodox Church acknowledges Seven Holy Ecumenical Councils: The First Ecumenical Council (Nicaea I) was convened in the year 325 against the heresy of Arius, in the city of Nicaea in Bithynia under the holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Constantine the Great.

The Second Ecumenical Council (Constantinople I) was convened in the year 381 against the heresy of Macedonias, by the emperor Theodosius the Great.

The Third Ecumenical Council (Ephesus) – was convened in the year 431 against the heresy of Nestorius, in the city of Ephesus by the emperor Theodosius the Younger.

The Fourth Ecumenical Council (Chalcedon) – was convened in the year 451, against the Monophysite heresy, in the city of Chalcedon under the emperor Marcian.

The Fifth Ecumenical Council (Constantinople II) – "Concerning the Three Chapters", was convened in the year 553, under the emperor Justinian the Great.

The Sixth Ecumenical Council (Constantinople III) – during the years 680-681, was against the Monothelite heresy, under the emperor Constantine Pogonatos.

The Seventh Ecumenical Council (Nicaea II) – was convened just like the First Council, at Nicaea, but in the year 787 against the Iconoclast heresy, under the emperor Constantine and his mother

Irene. (Accounts about the Councils are likewise located under the days of commemoration).

The significance of a special Church veneration of the Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils consists in this, that the Ecumenical Councils, and only they, are of themselves in entirety expressive of the faith, will and mind of the Ecumenical Catholic Church – of an Orthodox Plenitude, by virtue of the immutable promises of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and by the Apostolicity inhering in the hierarchy, – they possess the wherewithal to bring forth infallible and "of benefit to all" definitions in the areas of Christian faith and Church piety.

The Ecumenical Councils were convened in the Church each time regarding a special need, in connection with the appearance of divergent opinions and heresies, so as to seek out the Orthodox Church teaching of faith and tradition. But the Holy Spirit has thus seen fit, that the dogmas – the truths of faith, immutable in their content and scope, constantly and consequently are revealed by the conciliar mind-set of the Church, and are given precision by the holy fathers within theological concepts and terms in exactly such measure, as is needed by the Church itself for its economy of salvation. The Church, in expounding its dogmas, is dealing with the concerns of a given historical moment, "not revealing everything in haste and thoughtlessly, nor indeed, ultimately hiding something" (Saint Gregory the Theologian).

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

In the Midst of Battle:

Our enemy is not of flesh and blood

The Church Militant, which is the Church of Christ here on this earth, is in the midst of a battle. Our enemy is not one of flesh and blood, but one of darkness and evil. The survival of humankind is not dependent on the number of people who accept or reject the true faith, but rather that those who do, activate the fermentation, for just as yeast acts as a starter for bread, so faith in Christ can transform the world, and the entire cosmos. Saint Seraphim of Sarov said, "Save yourself, and a thousand around you will be saved".

With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon

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Jesus said, "Come, Follow Me."

A lady went to the Priest and said, "I won't be attending Church anymore."

He said, "may I ask why?"

She said, "I see people on their cell phones during the service, some are gossiping, some just ain't living right, they are all just hypocrites."

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

"When Christ asked us to love, He also gave us the strength to do it." - Elder Arsenie

MONDAY

"Having God, fear nothing, but cast all of your care upon Him, and He will take care of you. Believe undoubtingly, and God will help you according to His mercy." +St. Barsanuphius the Great

TUESDAY

"At those times when you think of God, multiply your prayers, so that when you forget Him the Lord may remind you." +St Mark the Ascetic

WEDNESDAY

"Just as the trees, if they have not stood before the winter's storms they cannot bear fruit, so it is with us; this present age is a storm and it is only through many trials and temptations that we can obtain an inheritance in the kingdom of Heaven." - Amma Theodora

THURSDAY

"A heart that is full of love things not of itself, but of others. It prays for all living things and for the whole world." - Elder Thaddeus

FRIDAY

"Force yourself, when you meet your neighbor, to honor him more than he deserves." +St Isaac the Syrian

SATURDAY

"Completely have trust in God, leave everything in His hands, and believe that His love will act for your own benefit. Then God will take care of everything, because there is nothing He cannot do; everything is easy for Him. The difficult thing is for man to decide to humble himself and leave everything to God's providence and love." - Elder Paisios of Mount Athos

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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... Julie, Jane, Mildred, Anna Mae, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Barbara, Matthew, Patricia, Lino, David, Melissa, Louis, Marjorie, Jonathan, Donna, Doug, Danielle, June, Helen, Alexander, Steven, Thomas ...*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... Bishop Gregory, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, John S., Ameer, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Ashley, John, and Noella, Rose *our seminarians:* Michael and Daniel, *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, *and for those working towards our Community Outreach, The Monastery of the Transfiguration ...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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Birthday Prayers for... Luke Tongel (7/30), *Pañi's brother*, Florin Popescu (7/30), Sharon Dzadoony (8/2), Robert 'Bobby' Paieski (8/03), Stephen Anton (8/4), Joseph Mainolfi, Jr. (8/4) ...*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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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 preparing for Marriage... Nicole & Jeffrey ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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For Expectant Mothers... Lindsay, Mary Ann, Elyse, and Lauren ...*through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadoovsky ...*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. Eternal Memory!*

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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 & sisters in Christ. *This prayer list is NOT limited to Orthodox Christians.*

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS OF THE WEEK:

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.