



Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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



Father Dave Urban, Pastor
Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus
Timothy Martin, Reader
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors
Matthew Peifer, Church Council President
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August 19, 2018

A Two Week Bulletin

Volume IV

12th Sunday after Pentecost / Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 3

Liturgical Color: **White**



Epistle: 2 Peter 1:10-19; Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

YOUTH Sunday / Blessing of Grapes and other Fruits and Vegetables /
Blessing of Students / Panachida for +John Horbal (40th Day)



Friday/Saturday, August 24/25 – 9a-3p Annual Garage Sale (Helpers are needed!)

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

* Monday	Martyr Dometius of Persia (363)	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Mark 3:6-12
* Tuesday	St. Emilian the Confessor, bishop of Cyzicus (820)	2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5	Mark 3:13-19
* Wednesday	Apostle Matthias (63)	2 Cor. 9:12-10:7	Mark 3:20-27
* Thursday	Blessed Laurence, fool-for-Christ at Kaluga (1515)	2 Corinthians 10:7-18	Mark 3:28-35
* Friday	Martyrs Basil & Theodore of the Kiev Caves (1098)	2 Corinthians 11:5-21	Mark 4:1-9
* Saturday	Martyrs Anicetus and Photius of Nicomedia (305)	1 Corinthians 2:6-9	Matthew 22:15-22

* *Dormition (Theotokos) Fast - Let us imitate Christ and the Saints and fast as they did.*

Sunday, August 26 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost / Venerable Maximus the Confessor (662)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy w/ Fr Robert Prepelka Tone 4

Liturgical Color: **Blue**

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24; Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

Additional Collection for our Community Outreach

** Monday	Prophet Micah (8th c. B.C.)	2 Corinthians 12:10-19	Mark 4:10-23
Tuesday	Venerable Macarius and St. Chariton (1550)	2 Corinthians 12:20-13:2	Mark 4:24-34
* Wednesday	Martyr Diomedes the Physician (298)	2 Corinthians 13:3-13	Mark 4:35-41
Thursday	Martyr Myron of Cyzicus (250)	Galatians 1:1-10,20-2:5	Mark 5:1-20
* Friday	Martyrs Florus and Laurus of Illyria (2nd c.)	Galatians 2:6-10	Mark 5:22-24,35-6:1
Saturday	Martyr Andrew Stratelates of Cilicia (3rd c.)	1 Corinthians 4:1-5	Matthew 23:1-12

** *Dormition (Theotokos) Fast - Let us imitate Christ and the Saints and fast as they did.*

Sunday, September 2 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost / Prophet Samuel (6th c. B.C.)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 5

Liturgical Color: **Blue**

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4; Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Blessing of Flowers and Herbs / Panachida for +Andrew Gogal (40th day) /

Garage Sale cleanup begins during coffee social

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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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Out of Town – Fr Dave (and family) will be unavailable from **August 19-31**.

Please contact either Fr. Nik Ferencz (724-953-6046) or Fr. Michael Zak: (412-461-3264)

for any hospital visits or other emergencies. Your prayers for our safe travels are much appreciated!

This Bulletin Is Offered:
In Memory of
Anna Louise
Pavilonis.
May Her Memory
Be Eternal!



Wednesday, September 5 – 9:30am Akathist in Honor of the Dormition of Theotokos on the Leave-Taking of Feast / 7pm Exploring Orthodoxy (in Wexford)

Sunday, September 9 – Additional collection for our *Capital Improvement Fund*

Tuesday, September 11 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist and Panachida

Friday, September 14 – 9:30am a service for the Ecclesiastical New Year

Sunday, September 16 – YOUTH Sunday / Parish Annual Meeting following the Divine Liturgy

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PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Melanie Shuster; Pañi Brancho; Lawrence Martin; Olga Radick; Eleanor Sanger; Mary Jane Hudak; Barbara Kirish; Joanne Nelson; Theresa Sharpless; Patty Watson; Rich Mirilovich; Cindy Pavilonis.

“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, Sr., in Memory of Wife, Catherine; and by Melanie Paieski, in Memory of Mother, Catherine. May Her Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamjat!

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Welcome the Newly-Baptized! Noella Gaydos was baptized and initiated into the Orthodox faith last Sunday. May God give strength to her as she begins her Christian life and bless her, her parents, God-Parents, and families! *Many Years!*

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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 this week. Please sign up and give a little of your time towards this wonderful stewardship event of our parish!

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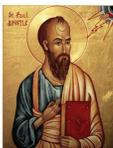
Feast of the Dormition – I regret that I will not be in town for this last Major Feast Day of the Liturgical Year. Please consider attending St Mary’s Ukrainian Orthodox Church (116 Ella St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136 / 412-331-2362) for their **10am** Feast Day Liturgy on **August 28th**.

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Flower and Herb Blessing – On the Sunday following the Feast of the Dormition, **September 2nd**, we will bless Flowers and Herbs. **Please** bring to church flowers and/or herbs from your garden (or from the store) to be blessed... **Let’s Live Orthodoxy!**

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Exploring Orthodoxy Returns! – Beginning **Wednesday, September 5th** from 7 to about 8:15pm we will meet at the Eat ‘n Park off of the Wexford exit of 79 (2650 Brandt School Road, Wexford, Pa 15090 / 724-940-3270) for our Exploring Orthodoxy Discussions. We will continue our examination of the priestly prayers of St John Chrysostom’s Divine Liturgy. There will be 6 sessions total this fall (ending on Oct. 10th). We hope and pray that everyone is able to attend these tangent oriented discussions about Orthodoxy! Come for a bite to eat and learn about your faith! (If you need a ride, please contact Fr. Dave.)

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Our Stewardship Gift To God

Stewardship/Dues:	\$ 366
Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box:	\$ 215
Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special:	\$ 1349
Matching funds transfer:	\$ 350
Total Collections:	\$ 2280
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 131
Relocation Fund:	\$ 120

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

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 or Christ the Saviour Seminary. *Your kind generosity is greatly appreciated!*

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1st Official Notice – Our Parish Annual Meeting will be on **Sunday, September 16th** following the Divine Liturgy. **New Proposals** for the Annual Meeting need to be submitted to *Matt Peifer* or *Tim Martin*. All proposals are much appreciated!

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Distinguished Diocesan Donors (DDD)

– We invite you to join with other St John’s faithful in giving to the annual DDD program. This program greatly supports our ministry at Camp Nazareth and other programs in our diocese. Those who give \$100 (& up) are invited to the Annual Banquet, which this year will be held on **Sunday, October 7th (Change for this year: Doors open at 4 / dinner at 5)** at the Edgewood Country Club (100 Churchill Rd., Pgh, PA 15235). Please see Father or Larry Martin, our local ambassador, for more information.

Coffee Social Steward Schedule

September 2: **OPEN / “Pot Luck”**
September 9: **OPEN / “Pot Luck”**
September 16: **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!

Parish Stewardship Opportunities...

- As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. (Lk. 6:31)*
- Sign up to help at the garage sale
 - Pray for our parish and it’s future
 - Sponsor a Coffee Social
 - Donate towards our coat drive

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

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH



Upcoming Orthodox Food Festivals:

- **August 29-September 2** – Holy Trinity (985 Providence Blvd., Pittsburgh) *Greek*
- **September 15-16** (Noon to 5pm) – St Andrew (56 Glenn Way, McKees Rocks) *Romanian*

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Irish Whiskey Tasting to benefit IOCC – will be held on **Thursday, September 6th** from 7-10pm at Leaf and Bean (3525 Washington Rd., McMurray, PA 15317). Cost is \$50 and includes a gift from Leaf & Bean, 3 whiskey samples, & light hors d'oeuvres. Please register at www.iocc.org by September 4th.

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Love & Marriage, But No Baby Carriage: New Reproductive Technologies in Light of Orthodox Christian Beliefs and Ethics – First comes love and then comes marriage, but what happens when there is no baby carriage? The grief and sadness of the barren womb, infertility, has been with us since the beginning of time. With the advent of new, assisted reproductive technologies, how are we to view them in light of Orthodox Christian beliefs and ethics? This presentation will be held on **Thursday, September 27th** at 7pm at St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral (8290 Thompson Run Road Pittsburgh, PA 15237). Join us and hear from our panel: Jennifer Lahl (*President Center for Bioethics and Culture Network, Pleasant Hill, CA*), Dr. Albert Rossi (*Dir. of Counseling and Psychological Services, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, Yonkers, NY*), and V. Rev. George Johnson (*Rector, St. John the Baptist Church, Conemaugh, PA*). Visit www.sanocpgh.org for more details.

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25th Annual Walk For Missions – will be Sunday, October 14th. More details coming soon...

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ST JOHN'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting donations for the ***Distinguished Diocesan Donors (DDD) Program***. "The Distinguished Diocesan Donors program strives to provide the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese with the necessary resources to bring a resurgence of life and an abundance of growth to its apostolates and ministries." Visit <http://www.acrod.org/ministries/dddprogram/> for more information. *Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month!*

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SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 2 Peter 1:10-19

¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be the more zealous to confirm your call and election, for if you do this you will never fall; ¹¹ so there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

¹² Therefore I intend always to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. ¹³ I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to arouse you by way of reminder, ¹⁴ since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. ¹⁵ And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

Eyewitnesses of Christ's Glory

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," ¹⁸ we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word made more sure. You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

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Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

The Transfiguration

¹⁷ And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. ³ And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Eli'jah, talking with him. ⁴ And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Eli'jah." ⁵ He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." ⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

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Next Sunday's Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Final Messages and Greetings

¹³ Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. ¹⁴ Let all that you do be done in love.

¹⁵ Now, brethren, you know that the household of Steph'anas were the first converts in Acha'ia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of

the saints; ¹⁶ I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. ¹⁷ I rejoice at the coming of Steph'anas and Fortuna'tus and Acha'icus, because they have made up for your absence; ¹⁸ for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men.

¹⁹ The churches of Asia send greetings. Aq'uila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. ²⁰ All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

²¹ I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. ²² If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! ²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. ²⁴ My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

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Next Sunday's Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

³³ "Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

The Reason for Fasting

By Fr. Barnabas Powell, the host of [Faith Encouraged Live](#) on Ancient Faith Radio

When I was just learning about the Ancient Faith, I was struck by the wisdom of fasting from certain foods. You see, I had been raised to think that a fast was no food at all, just water. And I would hear stories of Pentecostal pastors "fasting" for a month or even 40 days and "great miracles" occurring because of their fasting. So, of course, I tried that and failed every time I tried something like that.

Then I discovered the history of fasting, the reason for fasting (here's a big hint: It isn't to get God to do something for you!), and the power of fasting, not merely as an individual, but as a community.

It revolutionized my understanding of the purpose and the power of the normal Orthodox Christian practice of fasting. AND it changed my motivation for fasting. Turns out, that's the most important lesson!

Look at the passage in Mark 2:18-22: *At that time, John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast? And Jesus said to them, "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. The days will come, when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day. No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; if he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; if he does, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but new wine is for fresh skins."*

Jesus is once again confronted by the religious leaders and the religious lawyers of His day as to why He and His disciples "didn't follow the rules."

built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴ When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; ³⁵ and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. ³⁷ Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' ³⁹ And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?

Jesus answer didn't rebuke them for fasting, but He did confront them with their warped motivation. It isn't about following the religious rules; it's about exclusively focusing on Jesus Christ. The Lord teaches them and us that my fasting has to be motivated by my love, my longing, and my living for Jesus Christ!

The time to fast and the reason to fast is when "the Bridegroom is taken away." You see, I love Jesus Christ. And I want my life to stay focused on Jesus Christ! And my appetites, uncontrolled and undisciplined, will always distract me from a life lived and loved for Jesus Christ. My life, our lives, become distracted, and intoxicated by a lack of focus on the Lord and then we start living self-centered lives, and even if or when we fast from meat and dairy, it will be motivated by "just following the rules" instead of teaching even my physical body that what it wants is never as important as what my soul needs.

My motivation for obedience must be driven by love! Love for God and love for my brothers and sisters. When my motivation is too small, it produces self-righteousness instead of humble devotion, and that always leads me to judge my brother. Of course, when that happens it's as if I haven't fasted at all!

So, Today, what motivates your religious practices? Why do you fast, or go to confession, or even go to liturgy? Why do you follow the Faith? Turns out what motivates you reveals to you and to the universe WHO you really are! But the wisdom of the spiritual disciplines in the Timeless Faith draw us to a deeper place. A place where I finally WAKE UP to my need for Christ, and His everlasting and unchanging LOVE for me. AND I don't practice these disciplines by myself. No, the Church stands with me in my struggle against the self-destructive spiritual blindness of self-centeredness and says "We will do this all together. We will ALL be Orthodox on Purpose!

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Narcissistic Clericalism:

Clericalism shouldn't have anything to do with Christianity

The recent release of the findings of the District Attorney of Pennsylvania, have resurrected the memory of the failure of the hierarchs of the Roman Catholic Church to properly address the problem of the continuing sex abuse in the Catholic Church.

As a priest, I am deeply shocked, almost beyond words, and troubled by the abuse perpetrated upon innocent children, by clergy who have demonstrated a total lack of commitment to the teachings of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and who, in turn, used their sacred positions as clergy, to take advantage of children.

That bishops and clergy would violate their duty in such a way can only be describe it as diabolical. Although there are cultural and psychological ramifications, the problem remains primarily spiritual. This whole sordid behavior is a clear sign that Christianity is under Satanic attack, both from the media who take this as the ultimate chance to criticize, and discredit, Christianity, and in a society at large that has chosen to turn away from her Judeo-Christian roots.

For those who know me, they are not surprised to hear that I am anti-clerical. I am sickened when I witness clergy who expect special treatment, or who gush before their bishops, like court officials in some kingdom of bygone days. I was thus delighted to read that Pope Francis vowed to change the mindset of the Roman Catholic church, declaring that the institution "must return to being a community of the people of God" and rethink the relationship between its leaders and the laity.

The Pope went on to say, "Leaders of the Church have often been Narcissus, flattered and sickeningly excited by their courtiers. The court is the leprosy of the papacy. Sometimes when I meet a cleric, I suddenly become anti-clerical," the pontiff said. "Clericalism shouldn't have anything to do with Christianity."

I, like this pope, pray we Orthodox clergy, be we lowly monks like myself, or patriarchs, archbishops, archimandrites, or mitered archpriests, pay attention to the prophetic witness of this man of God. I pray we will not simply dismiss the Roman pope's words, and his humble example, as those of the leader of a church in schism from Orthodoxy, but hear his

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

Sainted Theoktist, Bishop of Chernigov

Commemorated on August 6

Sainted Theoktist, Bishop of Chernigov, prior to entering upon the cathedra-chair, pursued an ascetic life at the Kievo-Pechersk monastery. He was among the number of the great startsi-elders, healing by prayer the Monk Nikita, afterwards Sainted Bishop of Novgorod (Comm. 31 January). In the year 1103 Saint Theoktist

words as coming from a man who loves Christ, and who wishes to reverse the terrible turning away from God by mass numbers of people around the world.

This world cannot well afford the remnant of Christianity to continue living the bad example of privilege, power and wealth, while witnessing the slaughter of innocent Christians in the Middle East, the mass turning away from Christ in the West, and the masses of people lost in poverty and hopelessness.

It would do us well, as priests and bishops, to remember that the kissing of our hand by the laity is not about us. It is given as a way of honoring Our Lord Jesus Christ, for the priest is a servant of Christ and steward of the Mysteries. When someone kisses his right hand, it is about Christ, and Christ only.

"And for their sake I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth" (John 17:19). To sanctify means to consecrate. Christ consecrated Himself for the ministry and our redemption. All the ranks of the priesthood are consecrated for ministry, according to the example of Christ, the High Priest, and if we truly follow the example of Christ, we will serve His people as simple servants.

As Orthodox clergy, we dare not dismiss the actions of child rapists, and those who would cover the sins and crimes in their house, as simply a Roman Catholic problem. We Orthodox clergy need to remember that very time the media publishes such horrid news, more people walk away from all forms of Christianity. Like the first century, people need to see in us the Co-Suffering Saviour Who would lift us out of the mire and filth of this fallen world. They need to see, in us, humble, loving servants of the Lord God, clergy who, like Saint Paul, see ourselves as the worst of sinners, who point the way to the salvific role of the Church, and the Lord of Mercy, Who is the salvation of our souls.

Finally I ask, who hates children? The one who has never forgiven us for producing a God-Child! Unless we save all the children, we are allies of the one who hates every one of our spiritual brothers and sisters. They have nothing to do with my church, and when they go to hell, as most of them surely will, Mother Church will not follow them there. Because there are some places that mothers should not have to go.

Love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon

ground to the sky appeared and lightning lighted up all the earth, and at the 1st hour of the night there was the crash of thunder; the fiery pillar stood over the stone refectory so that its cross was not visible; afterwards it proceeded to the church and settled over the grave of the Monk Theodosii, and then, turning to the East, it disappeared. "This was not a pillar of fire, but rather an angelic face, – wrote the Monk Nestor the Chronicler, – because an angel appears thus, when there is a pillar of fire, a flaming, as says the Prophet David: Who maketh His angels spirits and His servants flames of fire" (Ps. 103 [104]: 4). In the year 1113 Saint Theoktist was ordained Bishop of Chernigov. The PriestMartyr Monk Kuksha (Comm. 27 August), enlightening at this time the Vyatichi, belonging to the Chernigov diocese. On 2 May 1115 Saint

Theoktist participated in the transfer of the relics of holy Princes Boris and Gleb to Vyshgorod, and later in Chernigov near his cathedral he consecrated a church in the name of the holy Princes Boris and Gleb, erected in the year 1120 by prince David of Chernigov. And to the noble Prince Passion-Bearers Boris and Gleb the saint made a sermon on the day of their memory. On 6 August 1123, the feast of the Transfiguration, Saint Theoktist died, and because of the feastday, his memory is made on 6 August. On one of the lists of the Saints it is said, that he was buried at the Pechersk monastery. For the memory of Saint Theoktist believers resort also to 28 September, when he is remembered in the 9th ode of the Canon of the Sobor-Assemblage of the Monastic Fathers of the Nearer Caves.

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SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Father can meet M-F 9:30a–4p 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, most Saturdays during fasting periods from 11am to 1pm, 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.

Lapsed Members – You are always welcome home and we want you back! Generally speaking, sincere participation in the Mysteries of Confession, Communion, and regular attendance at the divine

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services are all that is required to begin parish life anew! See Fr. Dave for specific details.

Baptisms – Please consult Father for 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 not performed during fasting periods and certain Feast Days. 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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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY – FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

“Master Jesus Christ our God, lead us upon the All-holy mountain of love, just as Thou led Thy chief apostles upon a lofty mountain. Open the eyes of our minds to a sight of unspeakable beauty just as for Thy apostles Thou surrounded Thy bodily form with a marvelous brightness, for Thou revealed the rays of Thy Godhead through Thy body. Guide us into better things by Thy all-powerful right hand. Beyond our understanding Thou changed this limiting form: now raise our senses to see Thy lordship witnessed by Moses and Elias. Give us a constant memory of the voice of Thy eternal Father, revealing His beloved Son, so that we may put Thy commandments into action, and shine forth with Thee to those worthy of Thy immortal Kingdom, who see in Thee the eternal Father, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thy all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.” - Amvon Prayer from the Feast

MONDAY

“If God the Father chose her, God the Holy Spirit descended upon her, and God the Son dwelt in her, submitted to her in the days of His youth, was concerned for her when hanging on the Cross - then should not everyone who confesses the Holy Trinity venerate her?” +St John Maximovitch

TUESDAY

“Nobody can become a Christian by being lazy. It needs work, lots of work.” +Elder Porphyrios

WEDNESDAY

“When we bravely and quietly endure the afflictions sent to us, we participate a little, albeit not fully, in the sufferings of Christ.” +St. Macarius of Optina

THURSDAY

“Keep from prying into other people's affairs, for such prying gives occasion for slander, judgment, and other grievous sins. Why do you need to be concerned about others? Know and examine your own self.” +St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

