



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
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CHRIST IS RISEN!
*Christ is Risen From The Dead, Trampling
Down Death By Death and To Those In The
Tomb's Bestowing Life!*
INDEED HE IS RISEN!

June 2, 2019

Volume IV

6th Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Blind Man

9:20 – Paschal Canon; 9:30 – Divine Liturgy Tone 5 Liturgical Color: **White**

Epistle: Acts 16: 16– 34; Gospel: John 9: 1– 38

Family Day at Camp Nazareth (10am Divine Liturgy with fellowship, meal, & activities following)

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Thursday, June 6 – 9:30am Diving Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord
The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

Monday	Holy Equals-to-the-Apostles Constantine (337) & Helen (327)	Acts 17:1-15	John 11:47-57
Tuesday	St. John-Vladimir, martyr and ruler of Serbia (1015)	Acts 17:19-28	John 12:19-36
* Wednesday	Venerable Michael the Confessor (818)	Acts 18:22-28	John 12:36-47
Thursday	Venerable Symeon Stylites (the Younger) (596)	Acts 1:1-12	Luke 24:36-53
* Friday	3rd Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist (850)	Acts 19:1-8	John 14:1-11
Saturday	Apostles Carpus of the Seventy and Alphaeus (1st c.)	Acts 20:7-12	John 14:10-21

* Let us Imitate Christ and the Saints and Fast as they did!

No Kneeling in Prayer for 50 Days – Replace “O Heavenly King” with “Christ is Risen” (3 times)

June 9 – 7th Sunday of Pascha: The Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

9:15 - Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy Tone 6 Liturgical Color: **White**

Epistle: Acts 20: 16– 18, 28– 36; Gospel: John 17: 1– 13
additional collection for our Capital Improvement Fund

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Christ is risen! (responded with: **Indeed He is risen!**)

Christos Voskrese! (**Voistinu Voskrese!**)

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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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



Saturday, June 15 – 9:30am All Soul Saturday Divine Liturgy and Panachida (final for the year)

Sunday, June 16 – Feast of Pentecost (*Rusalja*) / “Green Sunday” / Trinity Sunday /

YOUTH Sunday / Father's Day / Kneeling Prayers following the Divine Liturgy / Panachida

Pentecost Monday, June 17 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for Holy Spirit Day with Gospel Procession

Saturday, June 22 – 4:05 Pittsburgh Pirates' Faith “Night” at PNC Park

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PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



Faith “Night” at PNC Park – will be on Saturday, June 22nd at 4:05 (Pgh Pirates vs. SD Padres). We will be organizing a group of tickets in sections 130/132. Tickets are \$25 and you get a \$5 concessions voucher with it. Please contact Wendy Martellotti at 412-583-6254 or martellotti11@verizon.net to reserve your tickets today. (Please plan to pre-pay.) And Let's Go Bucs!



Our annual garage sale is not finalized. We need to get a sense of who is willing to offer some time in the prep for or actual garage sale. Please sign up on the sheet in the church hall.

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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Viola Peifer; Tim Martin; Liz Radomsky; Linda Gavulich; Mary Jane Hudak; Theresa Sharpless; Cindy Pavilonis; Margaret Rusnak.

"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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41 Days Till Camp! – *Have you registered your kids yet?!?* Please talk with Fr Dave before registering to get the online code that you will need. Information regarding registration is available at: www.CampNazareth.org. Our ACRY is offering a partial 'Campership' for assistance and additional assistance is also available if needed. *If you have never been to Camp Nazareth, you do not know what you are missing!* Our Deanery Camping week is **July 14-20** with the theme "Being Believing". Please talk to Fr Dave if you have any questions.

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Science & Nature Week will be **August 4-10** at Camp Nazareth (339 Pew Road, Mercer, PA). Registration is available online.

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Garden Blessings – How's your garden coming along? Time to get it blessed! *(The format of the blessing is similar to our annual house blessing.)* Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested.

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Exploring Orthodoxy – reservations have been made so please mark your calendars for this fall's *Exploring Orthodoxy* on the 5 Wednesday's from **October 23 thru November 20** from 7pm ~ 8pm at Eat'n Park (2650 Brandt School Road, Wexford). What's *Exploring Orthodoxy* you say? Please ask Father Dave...

Coffee Social Steward Schedule

- June 9: **Open / "Pot Luck"**
- June 16: **Open / "Pot Luck"**
- June 23: **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!

Paschal Greeting

(used instead of 'hello', before 'good morning', etc.)

Christ is risen!

(responded with: Indeed He is risen!)

Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship/Dues:	\$ 549
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 140
Envelopes:	\$ 867
In Memory of Mildred Gavulich	\$ 75
Community Outreach:	\$ 70
Total Collections:	\$ 1,701
Relocation Fund:	\$ 50

Give Generously: "For they gave according to their means... and beyond their means, of their own free will." 2 Cor 8:3

May Financial Report:

Donation Income = \$ 5505

***Expenses = \$ 8452.61**

Net Deficit = \$ 2947.61

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 34

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Legacy Gift to our Parish – We have been blessed with the generosity of the Potoski Family as we have received \$10,000 in memory of +Julie Potoski and +Jane Barrett. May their memory be eternal! And may God bless Jim Potoski in his journey! Many Years!

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Reader of the Third Hour:

June 9: Available to you

June 16: John Kirish

June 23: Available to you

This should begin by 9:15 and can be read or chanted. Please contact Fr Dave if you are interested in participating in this wonderful stewardship prayer opportunity!

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Relocation Update – ALL are invited to take a drive and look at the recent property that the Relocation Committee has discussed and looked at:

1520 Shipley Lane, Franklin Park, Pa 15143

The 17 acres is zoned as Residential-1 and a *Place of Worship* is "contingent". The owners said that they "would entertain an offer with a zoning contingency on it. In that case, the Church would be able to break the deal if the zoning application was denied."

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Please continue to talk with the Relocation Committee or Father with any thoughts or concerns about our next steps in our journey together. *(Committee includes: Sharon P, Larry M, Carol L, John K, John Righetti, Lynn M, Matt P, Peggy Rusnak, Rich M, Sharon D, Tim M, & Todd Tusick)*

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Visit Our Diocese On-Line

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

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

Upcoming Orthodox Food Festivals:

- **June 3-8** – All Saints (601 West McMurray Rd., Canonsburg) *Greek*
- **June 10-15** – Koimissis (2111 Davidson St., Aliquippa) *Greek*
- **June 11-14** – Holy Cross (123 Gilkeson Rd., Pittsburgh) *Greek*

Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the church hall for times and more information or visit holytrinitypgh.org/pittsburgh-greek-festivals-guide



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Diocesan Sobor Essay Contest – We are inviting all high school juniors and seniors as well as college students to participate in writing an essay, maximum 1,500 words, about the Orthodox Christian perspective on one of the following topics: *Abortion; End of Life Issues; Same-sex Marriage; Wealth and Poverty; or Violence, Conflict and War.* All submissions will be printed in the Sobor Journal which will be issued at the XXIV Council. Students are asked to submit their essays as a WORD document to the Chancellor at: fpmiloro@atlanticbb.net, no later than **August 31st**. *Please note: applicant's names should not be included on their essays so that essays can be judged without bias.* Three monetary awards will be given as follows: 1st Place - \$500; 2nd Place- \$400; 3rd Place- \$300. Please contact Father Dave with any questions

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

The Martyrs Thalaleas, Alexander & Asterias *Commemorated on June 2 / May 20*

The Martyrs Thalaleas, Alexander and Asterias: During the reign of Numerian (283-284), the governor of the city of Aegea dispatched soldiers to seek out Christians. They brought to him Thalaleas, an 18 year old blond-haired youth. To the governor's interrogation Saint Thalaleas answered: "I am a Christian, a native of Lebanon. My father, by the name of Beruchius, was a military commander, and my mother was named Romilia. My brother has the dignity of sub-deacon. I however am a student of medicine under the physician Makarios. During a former time of persecution against Christians in Lebanon I was brought before the governor Tiberias, and just barely escaped execution. But now I stand before this court, do with me what thou dost wish. I desire to die for Christ the Saviour and my God, hoping from Him help to endure all torments".



The enraged governor ordered the two torturers Alexander and Asterias to pierce the legs of the martyr with rope and suspend him head downwards. But the executioners, by the design of God, bored into a block of wood, which they hung up in place of the martyr. When the governor saw that they had deceived him, he then ordered that Alexander and Asterias be fiercely whipped, and they too confessed themselves Christians and glorified God. The governor gave orders to immediately cut off their heads. Twice he himself attempted to carry out the execution, and to pierce the leg-bones of the saint, but the grace of God prevented him, and he in his impotence then commanded that Saint Thalaleas be drowned.

The returning servants reported to the governor that they had carried out the execution, but suddenly, just as they finished their report, Saint Thalaleas appeared in white raiment. For a long while everyone was numbed with terror, but finally the governor said: "Behold, this sorcerer hath bewitched even the sea". Then one of his advisers, the magician Urvician, advised the governor to have the martyr thrown for devouring by wild beasts, but neither the vicious bear, not the hungry lion and lioness, would touch the saint, all meekly but laying down at his feet. Seeing this happen, the people began loudly to shout: "Great is the God of the Christians, O God of Thalaleas, have mercy on us!". The crowd seized hold of Urvician and threw him to the beasts, which did not hesitate to tear apart the magician. Finally, the governor gave orders to kill the holy martyr with a sword. They led away the martyr of Christ to the place of execution, called Aegea, where he prayed to God and bent his neck beneath the sword. This occurred in the year 284. The relics of the holy martyr Thalaleas are situated in the church of Saint Agathonikos of Constantinople and have made many miracles. The holy Martyr Thalaleas, as a physician without payment treating the sick, is called by the Church an UnMercenary, and is called on in prayers over the sick in the Sacrament of Anointing-with-Oil and during the Blessing of Waters.

Church Slavonic:
Christos Voskrese!
(Voistinu Voskrese!)
If greeted in a language you are unfamiliar with, translate & respond in English (then learn the response)

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

The Importance Of Lighting Your Own Candles In Church

Source: www.goarch.org/chapel/lightacandle

Upon entering an Orthodox church it is customary to light [two] candles and offer prayers for one's personal needs or that of a family member or friend. Candles are lit before icons as a sign of one's faith and hope in God's help that is always sent to all who turn to Him



and His Saints with faith and prayers. In practice, when lighting a candle in Church the faithful usually make an offering to the Church. By lighting a candle and offering a prayer [one for the living and one for the departed], one enters into closer contact with the Church and her ministry to the faithful, invisibly warming the soul by the visible light of the candle.

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SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

"Of all the afflictions that burden the human race, there is not one, whether spiritual or bodily, that cannot be healed by the Holy Scriptures." +Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle: Acts 16: 16– 34

Paul and Silas in Prison

¹⁶As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of

divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. ¹⁷She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." ¹⁸And

this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; ²⁰and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. ²¹They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." ²²The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. ²³And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. ²⁷When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, ³⁰and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. ³³And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. ³⁴Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

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Gospel: John 9: 1– 38

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

⁹As he passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." ¹⁰They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Silo'am and wash'; so I went and washed

and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. ¹⁵The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. ¹⁷So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Spiritual Blindness

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

Greek:

Khristós Anésti!
(Alithós Anésti!)



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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK



“Do not be angry at anyone and do not hate anyone, neither for their faith, nor for their shameful deeds... Do not foster hatred for the sinner, for we are all guilty... Hate his sins, and pray for him, so that you may be made like unto Christ, who had no dislike for sinners, but prayed for them.” +St. Isaac the Syrian

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“If you see your neighbor in sin, don’t look only at this, but also think about what he has done or does that is good, and infrequently trying this in general, while not partially judging, you will find that he is better than you.” +St. Basil the Great

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“If you see a man who has sinned and you do not pity him, the grace of God will leave you. Whoever curses bad people, and does not pray for them, will never come to know the grace of God.” +St. Silouan the Athonite

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Romanian:
Hristos a înviat!
(Adevărat a înviat!)

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... Ella, Liam, David, John, Patricia, John, Jake, Anna Mae, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Lino, Louis, June, Helen, Steven, Doug, Joanne, Lynn, Mary, Kathy N., Emily, Anthony, Eleanor ...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... Metropolitan Gregory, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our seminarians:* Michael, Daniel, and Dylan *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Matthew, Lawrence, Timothy, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Donald, Jane, Margaret, Eleanor, Steven, Kenneth, Jillian, John, Wendy, John, Melanie, Michael, John, John, Todd *and for those who labor towards our Community Outreach, Vision for Life ...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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Patronal Feast Days (Name’s Day): Eleanor Sanger – St. Helen (6/3)
(Please contact Fr Dave with your Patron Saint)

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Birthday Prayers for... Penelope Maruscak (6/5), Pañi Eleni Stagon (6/5), Lindsey Kovats (6/6), Maverick Torchia (6/6), Justin Winkler (6/7), Gina Mercurio (6/8) ...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 our Catechumens & Inquirers...

Dustin, Stephen, Peter, Anthony, Sheila, Anna Marie, Katie, Alexis, Sophie ...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.

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For those preparing for Marriage... Andrew & Davina, Ashley & Derek
...through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.

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Anniversary Prayers for... Adam & Jean Zak (6/2), Stephen & Jennifer Brancho (6/6/09), Sharon & Scott Robinson (6/6) ...May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!

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For Pregnant Mothers... Faith, Hayley, Alisha
...through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St Irene Chrysovalantou.

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadovsky, Devin Meegan, and Trevor Meegan ...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 be their Memory!

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

A Prayer For Lighting A Candle

Set our hearts on fire with love for You, O Christ our God, so that in its flame we may love You with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul and with all our strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, so that by keeping Your commandments we may glorify You, the giver of all good gifts. Amen.

