



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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July 21, 2019

Volume V

5th Sunday after Pentecost / Holy Great-martyr Procopius of Caesarea (303)

9:15 - Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy Tone 4 Liturgical Color: **Green**

Epistle: Romans 10:1-10; Gospel: Matthew 8:28-9:1
YOUTH Sunday / Panachida for +Andrew Gogal (1-year Anniversary)

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Wed., July 24 – 9:30am Akathist to the Great-martyr Euphemia on the Commemoration of the miracle of 451
The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

Monday	Hieromartyr Pancratius of Sicily (1st c.)	Romans 16:17-24	Matthew 13:10-23
Tuesday	Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves (1073)	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	Matthew 13:24-30
* Wednesday	Commemoration of the Miracle (451) of Great-martyr Euphemia the All-praised, of Chalcedon (304)	1 Corinthians 2:9-3:8	Matthew 13:31-36
Thursday	Martyrs Theodore & his son John of Kiev (983)	1 Cor. 3:18-23	Matthew 13:36-43
* Friday	Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel	1 Corinthians 4:5-8	Matthew 13:44-54
Saturday	Apostle Aquila of the Seventy (1st c.)	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 9:18-26

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

July 28 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost / Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Prince Vladimir (1015)

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

9:15 - Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy Tone 5 Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14 / Hebrews 13:7-16; Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8 / John 17:1-13

Additional Collection for our Community Outreach / Panachida for +Jane Barclay (40-day Memorial)

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Glory Be To Jesus Christ! (responded with: **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:
In Memory of
departed from the
Horbal Family.
May their memory
be eternal!

PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



ACRY Convention Booklet – The 2019 ACRY Convention will be hosted by Chapter #21 in Taylor, PA from August 30 to September 2. There is a sheet in the Church hall for anyone who wishes to be a Patron (\$10), Booster (\$5), or have a Memorial listing (\$5) in the commemorative booklet (**due by July 30th**).

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Akathist to Saint Euphemia – We have relics of The Holy Glorious Great-Martyr Euphemia in our Altar and Antimens on the Altar. Come to the Akathist on Wednesday to learn more about her!

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Coat Drive – Do you have a clean coat or two that you have not worn since before our last coat drive but it is still in good condition? We are now collecting clean coats and jackets to donate to FOCUS Pittsburgh (who provide Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding, and Shelter to those who are in need). We will collect the clean coats on the coat rack in the hall through August.

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**** Prayers Answered?** – From time to time our prayer list in our bulletin *Prayer Corner* needs to be updated. Have your prayers been answered? If any names need to be added/deleted from the list, please contact Father Dave so he can do so.

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Relocation Update – We have spoken to Franklin Park and Ohio Township offices about the Shipley Lane location and it would be cost prohibitive for us to access the water and sewage that would be needed for a church building. We are no longer looking at this property. Please pray for the future of our parish as we continue to look.

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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)

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Shuster Family; Viola Peifer; Kathy Schrmack; Kirish Family; Joanne Nelson; Theresa Sharpless; Cindy Pavidonis.

***"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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Our annual garage sale will be on **Friday-Saturday, September 6-7**. We are going to set up for it as a community during and after our coffee social (similar to how we have been cleaning up after the event). We are ready to start emptying boxes of donations.

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*** New Style of Candle Lighters have arrived – Let's Be Safe!** – A donation was generously received of a rechargeable candle lighter. The Electric-Arc Lighter has no spark, no smell, and minimal "clicking" noise. Please Note that the arc will hurt if it hits your skin. The same safety precautions need to be taken as if it were a butane lighter that would burn you. *** If you go to use one and it does not light, then it needs recharged. PLEASE do not leave it where you found it. Rather, put it on the tetrapod and it will get recharged that week.



Coffee Social Steward Schedule

July 28: **Open / "Pot Luck"**
 August 4: **Open / "Pot Luck"**
 August 11: **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!

Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 201
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 116
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 500
Total Collections:	\$ 817
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 64
Relocation Fund:	\$ 320

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

2nd Annual Deanery Picnic – Please save the date for the Deanery Picnic to be held at The Veterans Pavilion at Schenley Park on **Sunday, September 29th** from Noon to dusk. A flyer, directions, and more details will be coming soon...

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*** Ambridge** – Starting on August 1st, Fr. Vince and Pañi Christyn Dranginis will be at our sister parish of St John the Baptist in Ambridge. Let's welcome them to the Pittsburgh Deanery! Many Years!

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Reader of the Third Hour:

July 28: John Kirish
 August 4: *Available to you*
 August 11: *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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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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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



Sunday, August 4 – Annual Blessing of Vehicles following Divine Liturgy
Friday, August 9 – 9:30am Akathist to Saint Panteleimon, Holy Great-martyr and Healer
Sunday, August 11 – Additional Collection for our Capital Improvement Fund

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

Kennywood – Visit Kennywood for there Heritage days with our Orthodox neighbors:
GREEK Day – Tuesday, July 23rd – contact Lucy Koutsavlis (412-824-9188 / lkoutsavlis@ypapanti.net). Credit Cards now accepted for phone orders. Ticket Prices: Regular Day Pass - \$26.00, Seniors 55+ - \$16.00, Seniors 70+ - \$12.00 (Children 3 & under are free).



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Upcoming Orthodox Food Festivals:

- **July 17-21** – Holy Trinity (2930 Beaver Rd., Ambridge) *Greek*
- **July 24-27** – St. Mary (116 Ellen St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136) *Ukrainian*



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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Ukrainian Food Festival (or *Ukie Fest* as it is affectionately known by locals) will offer the opportunity to eat, drink, dance and be merry in the McKees Rocks Bottoms **July 24–27** at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church (116 Ellen St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136). The event will include all your favorite Ukrainian dishes beginning daily at 5pm. Visit www.ukiefestrocks.com for more information or call 412-331-2362.

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Diocesan Sobor Essay Contest – High school juniors and seniors as well as college students are invited to participate in writing an essay 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 are due no later than **August 31st**. Three monetary awards will be given: 1st Place - \$500; 2nd Place- \$400; 3rd Place- \$300. Please contact Fr. Dave for more details

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Annual Pilgrimage for Feast of the Transfiguration – Transfiguration Monastery (321 Monastery Lane, Ellwood City, PA 16117) hosts its Patronal Feast Day Celebrations and Pilgrimage on August 5th & 6th for the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (*New Calendar*). Here is this year’s schedule to be celebrated with His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL (Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America):

Monday, August 5 - Eve of Transfiguration

5:00 light refreshments available
6:00 Vigil for the Feast of Transfiguration
light refreshments available for 1-hour after

Tuesday, August 6 - Feast of Transfiguration

9:30 Akathist, “Glory to God for All Things”
10:00 Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Fruit
12:30 Picnic Luncheon
2:30 Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Unction (Anointing)
4:00 Light Refreshments and close of Pilgrimage

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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: Romans 10:1-10

Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.² I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened.³ For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness.⁴ For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified.

Salvation Is for All

⁵Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it.⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, “Who will ascend into heaven?” (that is, to bring Christ down)⁷ or “Who will descend into the abyss?” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).⁸ But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach);⁹ because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.¹⁰ For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

Gospel: Matthew 8:28-9:1

Jesus Heals the Gadarene Demoniacs

²⁸And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way.²⁹ And behold, they cried out, “What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?”³⁰ Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them.³¹ And the demons begged him, “If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine.”³² And he said to them, “Go.” So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters.³³ The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs.³⁴ And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. **9** And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

The Holy GreatMartyr Procopius

Commemorated on July 21/8

The Holy GreatMartyr Procopius, in the world Neanius, a native of Jerusalem, lived and suffered during the reign of the emperor Diocletian (284-305). His father, an eminent Roman by the name of Christopher, was a Christian, but the mother of the saint, Theodosia, remained a pagan. He was early deprived of his father, and the young lad was raised by his mother. Having received an excellent secular education, he was introduced to Diocletian in the very first year of the emperor's accession to the throne, and he quickly advanced in government service. Towards the year 303, when open persecution against Christians was enacted, Neanius was dispatched as a proconsul to Alexandria with orders to mercilessly persecute the Church of God. But on the way to Egypt, near the Syrian city of Apameia, Neanius had a vision of the Lord Jesus, just as once formerly had happened with Saul on the road to Damascus. A



Divine voice exclaimed: "Neanius, why persecutest thou Me?" Neanius asked: "Who art Thou, Lord?" – "I am the crucified Jesus, the Son of God". And at this moment in the air appeared a radiant cross. Neanius sensed in his heart an inexpressible joy and spiritual happiness and he was transformed from being a persecutor into instead a zealous follower of Christ. From this point in time Neanius became fondly disposed towards Christians and struggled victoriously only against the barbarian pagans.

But for the saint there transpired the words of the Saviour, that "the enemies for a man – are of his own household" (Mt. 10: 36). His mother, a pagan herself went to the emperor with a complaint against her son, of not reverencing the ancestral gods. Neanius was summoned to the procurator Judaeus Justus, where he was solemnly handed the missive of Diocletian. Having read through the missive filled with its blasphemies, Neanius quietly before the eyes of everyone tore it up. This itself was already a crime, which the Romans regarded as an "insult

to authority". Neanius was held under guard and in chains sent off to Caesarea Palestine, where the Apostle Paul once languished. After terrible torments they threw the saint into a dank prison. By night in the prison room there shone a light, and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, having come with luminous Angels, made Baptism for the suffering confessor, and gave him the name Procopius.

Repeatedly they led Saint Procopius to the courtroom, demanding him to renounce Christ and anew they subjected him to tortures. The stolidity of the martyr and his fiery faith brought down God's abundant grace viewing the execution. Inspired by the deed of Procopius, beneath the sword of the executioner went many of the holy prisoner's former guards and

Roman soldiers together with their tribunes Nicostrates and Antiochus. And with martyr's crowns was sealed the faith of 12 Christian Women, having themselves come to the gates of the Caesarea Praetorium. Struck by the great faith of the Christians and their courage, and having seen the firmness of her son in bearing terrible sufferings, Theodosia became repentant and stood amidst the line of confessors and was executed. Finally the new procurator, Flavian, convinced of the uselessness of the tortures, sentenced the holy GreatMartyr Procopius to beheading by the sword. By night Christians took up the much-tortured body, and having wrapped it in grave-clothes, with tears and prayers they committed it to earth (+ 303).

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

Orthodox Christians Simona Halep & Novak Djokovic Ruled 2019 Wimbledon

The 2019 Wimbledon Championship was ruled by two Eastern Orthodox Christians. Serbian Orthodox Novak Djokovic won the Wimbledon Men's Championship by beating Roger Federer whereas Romanian Orthodox Simona Halep won the Women's title by beating Serena Williams.

Simona Halep

"It's an important thing for me in my life," she said of her faith. "I believe in God... I believe in Him, and I have [icons] with me and I believe in them."

Halep is a Romanian Orthodox Christian. Christianity Today reports that Halep is an Orthodox Christian and always carries an Orthodox icon. She was awarded the Order of the Patriarchal Cross for laypersons (the highest

distinction of the Romanian Patriarchate) after capturing the 2019 Wimbledon Championship. In 2018 Halep received the Cross of St. Andrew the Apostle from the Romanian Orthodox Patriarchate as well.

Novak Djokovic

"Before I am an athlete, I am an Orthodox Christian"

Djokovic is a faithful of the Serbian Orthodox Church. In the year 2011 Djokovic was awarded the highest award of the Serbian Orthodox Church, the Order of St. Sava of the First Degree by His Holiness Patriarch for his contributions to generosity and religion. Djokovic is famous for making the sign of the Orthodox cross while playing on the court.

Source: OCP News Service

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ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK



Antimins – (Gr: *Antimension* meaning "instead of the table") is among the most important furnishings of the altar in Orthodox Christian liturgical traditions. It is a rectangular piece of cloth, of either linen or silk, typically decorated with representations of the entombment of Christ, the four Evangelists, and scriptural passages related to the Eucharist [Holy Communion]. A small relic of a martyr is sewn into it. [Ours is from Saint Euphemia] The Eucharist cannot be celebrated without an antimins.... The antimins is consecrated and signed by our bishop. *Read more at: <https://orthodoxwiki.org/Antimension>*

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

"If we ourselves do not learn humility, God will not stop humbling us." - Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

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"Our life and our death is with our neighbor. If we gain our brother, we have gained God, but if we scandalize our brother, we have sinned against Christ." +St. Anthony the Great

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"Our strength, our soul, is invisible; the soul of animals is also invisible; in plants also, their strength, their life, is invisible; the whole material world exists and is moved by an invisible power." +St. John of Kronstadt

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"Hell cannot be made attractive, so the Devil makes attractive the road that leads there." +St. Basil the Great

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"Some men tell me, "I don't agree with my wife; we are complete opposites! How does God allow for such strange matches? Couldn't He provide so that couples would be compatible and live spiritually?" But I tell them, "Don't you understand that in this very difference of character lies hidden the harmony of God? It is the different characters which create harmony. God forbid that you should be the same in character! Think of what would happen if, for example, both of you had a short fuse; you would tear the house down!" +Saint Paisios of Mount Athos

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