



# 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 28, 2019

Volume V

## 6<sup>th</sup> 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 +Ann Nimick (19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) and +Jane Barclay (40-day Memorial)*

### SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

Monday	Hieromartyr Athenogenes (311)	1 Corinthians 5:9-6:11	Matthew 13:54-58
Tuesday	Great-martyr Marina (Margaret) of Antioch (4th c.)	1 Corinthians 6:20-7:12	Matthew 14:1-13
* Wednesday	Martyr Hyacinth of Amastris (4th c.)	1 Corinthians 7:12-24	Matthew 14:35-15:11
Thursday	Venerable Macrina, sister of St. Basil the Great (380)	1 Corinthians 7:24-35	Matthew 15:12-21
* Friday	Holy Glorious Prophet Elias (Elijah) (9th c. B.C.)	1 Corinthians 7:35-8:7	Matthew 15:29-31
Saturday	Prophet Ezekiel (6th c. B.C.)	Romans 12:1-3	Matthew 10:37-11:1

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

## August 4 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Holy Myrrh-bearer Mary Magdalen (1st c.)

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

Epistle: Romans 15:1-7; Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35

*Annual Blessing of Chariots (Cars, Trucks, Bicycles, etc.) following Divine Liturgy*

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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:

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 in the vestibule of the Church or by contacting Fr. Dave. An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.

### 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 30<sup>th</sup>**).

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**Third Hour** – John Kirish has graciously been chanting the Third Hour prior to Liturgy. He will be having minor eye surgery and will not be able to chant (much less read) for a few weeks. Please contact Father if you are able to step in!

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**Blessing of Chariots** - Immediately following Divine Liturgy **next Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**, we will head to the streets for the annual blessing of vehicles. *We bless vehicles in honor of the Feast of the Holy Prophet Elias who was carried to heaven in a fiery chariot.* Please go to your vehicle, open the hood & doors, and wait near your car. Fr. Dave will go to each vehicle and bless it with Holy Water.

and bless it with Holy Water.



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**ITEMS** – Clean donations for our 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Garage Sale will be accepted through **Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**.

Please respect this date as items will need to be priced after everything is set up.

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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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**New School Year Blessing** – We will have additional prayers soon for those who are going back to school. When are our college students leaving? Please let Father Dave know ASAP.

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**Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials** were offered last week by Pañi Brancho, Joanne Nelson, Cindy Pavilonis, Viola Peifer, Melanie Shuster, Patty Watson.

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

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**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)*

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**Reader of the Third Hour:**

August 4: Available to you  
August 11: Available to you  
August 18: 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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**Our Stewardship Gifts To God**

Stewardship:	\$ 240
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 127
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 313
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$ 780</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 190</b>
<b>Relocation Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 150</b>

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

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

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**Coffee Social Steward Schedule**

August 4: **Open / "Pot Luck"**  
August 11: **Open / "Pot Luck"**  
August 18: **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!*

**Visit Our Diocese On-Line**

Diocesan Website: [www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org)  
Camp Nazareth: [www.campnazareth.org](http://www.campnazareth.org)  
FB: [www.facebook.com/acroddiocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
You Tube: [youtube.com/acroddiocese](https://youtube.com/acroddiocese)

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**LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY**



**Friday, August 9** – 9:30am Akathist to Saint Panteleimon, Holy Great-martyr and Healer

**Sunday, August 11** – Additional Collection for our Capital Improvement Fund / Lesser Blessing of Water

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**ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE**



**25<sup>th</sup> Rusyn Food Festival** will be this week, **August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the air conditioned Parish Center at 722 Fifth St., Ambridge, Pa featuring delicious Slavic homemade foods (pirohy (*potato/cheese, sauerkraut, or potato/kolbasy*), dumpling or noodle halushky, kolbasy and kraut, holubky (stuffed cabbage), borscht (beet soup), chicken soup, potato/bean soup, Rusyn summer salads, and others). Baked goods will include traditional Rusyn favorites like nut, apricot and poppyseed rolls, palachinky (fruit and cheese-filled crepes), paska breads, and Rusyn torte along with other tasty specialties. Schedule is as follows: Friday 11am - 6pm (frozen foods and take out items available only) and Saturday 11am - 6pm (take-out or eat-in). For more information, call 412-518-7149.

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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 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> 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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**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 31<sup>st</sup>**. Three monetary awards will be given: 1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$500; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place- \$400; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place- \$300. Please contact Fr. Dave for more details



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**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. John the Baptist, East Pittsburgh** celebration will be on **November 16 - 17**. Anniversary Ad Book ads: Full page (\$100); Half page (\$50); Quarter Page (\$25); Patron (\$10), Booster (\$5). A sign up sheet is in the hall for Patrons and Boosters with a deadline of **August 15**. Anniversary Brunch: Sunday, November 17 at the Edgewood Country Club. Ticket prices: Adult: \$35. Children 3-12: \$15 OR Chicken Finger Plate \$10. Children 2 and under: no charge. For reservations, please call DeBorah Hutnyan at 412-288-3299. Deadline is **October 4**.

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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: Hebrews 13:7-16**

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. <sup>9</sup>Do 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. <sup>10</sup>We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup>For 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. <sup>12</sup>So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. <sup>13</sup>Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp, and bear the abuse he endured. <sup>14</sup>For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. <sup>15</sup>Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. <sup>16</sup>Do 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**

**17** When 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, <sup>2</sup>since thou hast given him power

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

<sup>6</sup>"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. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; <sup>8</sup>for 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. <sup>9</sup>I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; <sup>10</sup>all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And 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. <sup>12</sup>While 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. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

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### LIVING ORTHODOXY

#### **Why have your car blessed next week?**

Our annual Blessing of Chariots (cars, trucks, bikes, etc) is next week. It is a custom of Orthodox Christians to have their cars blessed both when newly acquired and on or near the feast of the Prophet Elias (*August 2<sup>nd</sup>*) as he ascended into heaven on a fiery chariot.



"St. Elijah, who we commemorate this week, was in a similar situation as we are in today. He lived in a Godless society... one that had lost its way. Yet his humble faith allowed God to guide him, and bring Light to the darkness of his time. In honor and memory of this glorious prophet, we will be doing our part to bring God back into the

forefront of our community. By blessing vehicles, we will proclaim that God is present and fills all things in this world."

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#### **The Battle: Our common enemy is not of flesh and blood**

Many of us are horrified to be witnessing the massive changes that are taking place in our world. It would seem that there are attacks against the very soul of Western Civilization, with Christianity taking the brunt of this attack. At no time in history have we witnessed genocide

against Christians in so many parts of the world. Even in countries that were once bastions of Christianity, we witness atheism, secularism, and Islam, attacking the very heart of the Christian faith.

The scandals, sexual and otherwise, that have beset certain parts of Christianity, have also contributed to a mass exodus, with atheism

taking possession of the souls of countless people throughout the Western World.

The Church Militant, which is the Church of Christ here on this earth, is in the midst of a battle. In truth, the enemy is not one of flesh and blood, but one of darkness and evil. The survival of humankind is not dependent upon 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.

This is not an age for the faint hearted, but

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### ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK

**Church Fathers** (or **Fathers of the Church**) are influential theologians and writers in the Church, particularly those of the first five centuries of Christian history. The term specifically refers to writers and teachers of the Church, not saints in general.

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### LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Source: [www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar](http://www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar) © 1996-2001 by translator Fr. S. Janos

**THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS** are honored on this Sunday. The councils were always called together for a particular reason: to make the Church's teaching and position clear to the world, especially in the face of heresy. Any false

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rather, for those who are willing to commit themselves to this battle as serious Christians, willing to stand up for Christ, and for Truth. Saint Seraphim of Sarov said, "Save yourself, and thousands around you will be saved". Like Saint Seraphim, we must be willing to commit with our whole heart, and our whole mind and body, to the transformational power of the Holy Spirit. This is the only way the powers of darkness can be turned around, and sent back to the depths of hell, where they belong.

With love in Christ,

Abbot Tryphon

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

**Baptisms** – Two God-parents are required, at least one of whom must be Orthodox by faith (and the other

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teachings, even though they might have seemed harmless at face value, were regarded as poison that could potentially lead people down the wrong path. These Holy Fathers of the Church, our "lights upon the earth," helped to establish for us a single united faith, rooted in Truth in Christ.

a practicing Christian). In the case of infants, the newly-baptized must have one name that is Christian in origin. Parents/grandparents/guardians must also promise to bring the child up in an Orthodox Christian way of life. Please consult Father for more 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 solemnized on Saturdays or Sundays. They are not performed during fasting periods and certain Feast Days. Please consult Father ASAP for more 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



### SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

"Orthodox Christians are Orthodox because they maintain a continuous sense of divine-human catholicity which they preserve and kindle through prayer and humility. They never preach about themselves; they never boast; they never remain entirely within their base human nature; they never idealize humanism." +Venerable Justin (Popovic) of Chelije in Serbia

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"Remember the words: "Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth" (Psalm 140:3). Do not teach if you are not asked!" - Archbishop Seraphim (Sobolev) of Bogucharsk

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