



# Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church



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

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Very Reverend Father John Brancho, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Timothy Martin, *Reader*  
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July 12, 2020

Volume VI

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Feast of Saints Peter and Paul

9:15 – Litya Prayers; 9:30 – Divine Liturgy Tone 4 Liturgical Color: **Green**

Epistle: Romans 10:1-10; Gospel: Matthew 8:28-9:1

THE CHURCH IS **OPEN WITH RESERVATIONS STILL REQUESTED. DETAILS BELOW...**

## ONLINE SERVICES, SAINTS, & READINGS FOR THE WEEK



(At this time, we will ONLY have Sunday morning services on the North Side.)

Here Is Our Cathedral's Online Schedule Of Services ([www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/](http://www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/)):

Sunday: 9 am Divine Liturgy  
Saturday: 6 pm Great Vespers

Monday	Synaxis of the Holy, Glorious and All-praised 12 Apostles	Romans 16:17-24	Matthew 13:10-23
Tuesday	Wonderworking Unmercenaries Cosmas & Damian	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	Matthew 13:24-30
* Wednesday	St. Juvenal (1796)	1 Corinthians 2:9-3:8	Matthew 13:31-36
Thursday	Martyr Hyacinth of Caesarea in Cappadocia (108)	1 Corinthians 3:18-23	Matthew 13:36-43
* Friday	St. Andrew, archbishop of Crete (712-726)	1 Corinthians 4:5-8	Matthew 13:44-54
Saturday	Venerable Athanasius of Mt. Athos (1003)	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 9:18-26

\* *Weekly Fasting Days: Let Us Imitate Christ & The Saints & Fast As They Did!*

July 19 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Venerable Sisoës of the Kiev Caves (13<sup>th</sup> c.)

9:15 – Third Hour; 9:30 – Divine Liturgy Tone 5 Liturgical Color: **Green**

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14; Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

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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  
+Anastasia Martin  
(*Birthday Remembrance*).  
May Her Memory  
Be Eternal!

## 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. <sup>2</sup>I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. <sup>3</sup>For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. <sup>4</sup>For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified.

### Salvation Is for All

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>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); <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

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**Gospel:** Matthew 8:28-9:1

### Jesus Heals the Gadarene Demoniacs

<sup>28</sup>And 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. <sup>29</sup>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?" <sup>30</sup>Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. <sup>31</sup>And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. <sup>34</sup>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.



"The Church is your hope, the Church is your salvation, and the Church is your refuge."  
+St. John Chrysostom

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## PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

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### Having flu-like symptoms? PLEASE KEEP FR. DAVE POSTED OF ANY ILLNESSES SO TO BE ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST!

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Reminders for attending St. John's – Following His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory's guidelines along with our Parish Council and Pittsburgh going green:

- ✓ Sunday Divine Liturgy Services **ARE OPEN** With A **HIGHER** Limit. **OUR LIMIT IS TECHNICALLY OVER 100, BUT WE WANT TO MAKE SURE ALL ARE COMFORTABLE so for now...**
- ✓ "Reservations" Are Still Requested And Can Be Made By Contacting Father Between Monday And Friday At **NOON** Via A Phone Call Or Text Message To **412-748-0148**. (Do not email for this.) Father will send out a confirmation email **on Friday**.
- ✓ If You Are Not Comfortable At This Time To Return To Church, We Understand But Please Let Father Know.
- ✓ A Facemask must be worn in the church.
- ✓ Candles should be lit with a lighter that you bring from home. (It is a pious Orthodox tradition to say your prayer (intention) when lighting your candle for the living and your candle for the departed.)

Our approach is fluid in that we are flexible to adjusting things as they are needed. Please continue to pray along with the cathedral services when you are not able to attend. Through God's strength and guidance we will get through this together!

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**Cathedral Live-Broadcast** - Our diocese is blessed with the opportunity to watch our Cathedral's Divine Liturgy every Sunday at 9am (as well as other services). The best scenario is to attend the Divine Liturgy and receive the Eucharist, but in the current scenario, please take the time Sunday morning and throughout the week to pray with our brothers and sisters via the *live broadcast* on the web. [www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/](http://www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/)

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## ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

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**3<sup>rd</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 20<sup>th</sup>** from Noon to dusk. *This is pending how things continue in Allegheny County...*

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## ST JOHN'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH

This month we will have a weekly look at our Community Outreach organization,

### **Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM)**

**MISSION:** to serve those who are incarcerated and their families, and provides resources, training and support to our ministry partners so that lives are transformed and God is glorified.

#### **CORE VALUES:**

- Accept that each person is made in the image and likeness of God
- Love with compassion and respect
  - Integrity
  - Committed to excellence
  - Team-oriented



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### Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 0
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 44
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 552
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$ 596</b>
<b>Relocation Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>

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

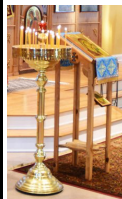
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**Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials** were offered last week by Joanne Nelson; Shuster Family; Cindy Pavilonis; Viola Peifer; Eleanor Sanger; Patty Watson.

*"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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**Candles in Church** – During this time of COVID-19, if you wish for Father to light your weekly candles, please text, email, or call him with your intentions (*for the living, departed, or other specific*) by Saturday evening. Please mail your candle donation along with your weekly offering to Tim Martin.

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**Weekly Offerings to God** – During this time, if you are not coming to the church, we request that all weekly donations be mailed to:

Tim Martin (2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143) For our parish to continue it's ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, we need your generosity to continue.

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### LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

✦ **Sunday, August 2** – Feast of the Holy Prophet Elias with the Annual Blessing of Chariots

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### 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/acroddioocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddioocese)
- Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)
- You Tube: [youtube.com/acroddioocese](https://youtube.com/acroddioocese)

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For more information on this organization, please visit: [www.theocpm.org](http://www.theocpm.org). Thank you in advance for your prayers and offering this month!

"At the Last Judgment I will not be asked whether I satisfactorily practiced asceticism, nor how many bows I have made before the divine altar. I will be asked whether I fed the hungry, clothed the naked, visited the sick, and the prisoner in his jail. That is all I will be asked." +Saint Maria of Paris

## 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, Glorious and All-praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul

Commemorated on July 12 / June 29

#### A Sermon of Blessed Augustine, Bishop of Hippo

On this present day Holy Church piously remembers the suffering of the Holy Glorious and All-Praiseworthy Apostles Peter and Paul.

Saint Peter, the fervent follower of Jesus Christ, for the profound confession of His Divinity: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God", – was deemed worthy by the Saviour to hear in answer: "Blessed art thou, Simon... I tell thee, that thou art Peter (Petrus), and on this stone (petra) I build My Church" (Mt. 16: 16-18). On "this stone" (petra), is on that which thou sayest: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God", – it is on this thy confession I build My Church. Wherefore the "thou art Peter": it is from the "stone" (petra) that Peter (Petrus) is, and not from Peter (Petrus) that the "stone" (petra) is – just as how the christian is from Christ, and not Christ from the christian. Do you want to know, from what sort of "rock" (petra) the Apostle Peter (Petrus) was named? – Hear ye the Apostle Paul: "I do not want ye not to know, brethren, – says the Apostle of Christ, – how our fathers were all under a cloud, and all passed through the sea: and all in Moses were baptised in the cloud and in the sea. And all thus eating spiritual food, and all thus drinking spiritual drink: for they did drink from the spiritual accompanying rock: for the rock indeed was Christ" (1 Cor. 10: 1-4). Here is the from whence the "Rock" is Peter.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the final days of His earthly life, in the days of His mission to the race of man, chose from among the disciples His twelve Apostles for preaching the Word of God. Among them, the Apostle Peter for his fiery ardour was vouchsafed to occupy the first place (Mt. 10: 2) and to be as it were the representative person for all the Church. And therefore it is said to him, preferentially, after the confession: "And I give thee the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven: and if thou bindest upon the earth, it will be bound in the Heavens: and if thou loosenest upon the earth, it will be loosened in the Heavens (Mt. 16: 19). Wherefore it was not one man, but rather the One Universal Church, that received these "keys" and the right "to bind and loosen". And that actually it was the Church that received this right, and not exclusively a single person, turn your attention to another place of the Scriptures, where the same Lord says to also all His Apostles: "Receive ye the Holy Spirit", – and further after this: "Whosoever sins ye remit, are remitted them: and whosoever sins ye retain, are retained" (Jn. 20: 22-23); or: "with what ye bind upon the earth, will be bound in Heaven: and with what ye loosen upon the earth, will be loosened in the Heavens" (Mt. 18: 18). Thus, it is the Church that binds, the Church that loosens; the Church, built upon the foundational corner-stone – Jesus Christ Himself (Eph. 2: 20) doth bind and loosen. Let both the binding and the loosening be feared: the loosening, in order not to fall under this again; the binding, in order not to remain forever in this condition. Wherefore "by the passions of his own sins, – says Wisdom, – is each ensnared" (Prov. 5: 22); and except for Holy Church nowhere is it possible to receive the loosening.

And after His Resurrection the Lord entrusted the Apostle Peter to shepherd His spiritual flock not because, that among the disciples only Peter alone was pre-deserved to shepherd the flock of Christ, but Christ addresses Himself chiefly to Peter because, that Peter was first among the Apostles and as such the representative of the Church; besides which, having turned in this instance to Peter alone, as to the



top Apostle, Christ by this confirms the unity of the Church. "Simon of John, – says the Lord to Peter, – lovest thou Me? – and the Apostle answered: "Yea, Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee"; and a second time it was thus asked, and a second time he thus answered; being asked a third time, seeing that as it were not believed, he was saddened. But how is it possible for him not to believe That One, Who knew his heart? And wherefore then Peter answered: "Lord, Thou knowest all; Thou knowest that I love Thee". "And sayeth Jesus to him" all three times "Feed My sheep" (Jn. 20: 15-17). Besides this, the thrice appealing of the Saviour to Peter and the thrice confession of Peter before the Lord had a particular beneficial purpose for the Apostle. That one, to whom was given "the keys of the kingdom" and the right "to bind and to loosen", himself thrice bound himself by fear and cowardice (Mt. 26: 69-75), and the Lord thrice loosens him by His appeal and in turn by his confession of strong love. And to shepherd literally the flock of Christ was acquired by all the Apostles and their successors. "Attend yourself to all the flock, – urges the Apostle Paul to church presbyters, – in which the Holy Spirit hath established ye as bishops, to shepherd the Church of the Lord God, acquired by His Blood" (Acts 20: 28); and the Apostle Peter to the elders: "Feed among you the flock of Christ, attending to it not by need, but by will and according to God: not for unrighteous profit, but zealously: not as commanding parables, but be an image to the flock. And when is appeared the Prince of pastors, ye will receive unfading crowns of glory" (1 Pet. 5:2-4).

It is remarkable that Christ, having said to Peter: "Feed My sheep", – did not say: "Feed thy sheep", – but rather to feed, good servant, the sheep of the Lord. "For was Christ divided, or is Paul crucified according to you, or are ye baptised in the name of Peter or of Paul?" (1 Cor. 1: 13). "Feed My sheep". Wherefore "wolfish robbers, wolfish oppressors, deceitful teachers and mercenaries, not being concerned about the flock" (Mt. 7: 15; Acts 20: 29; 2 Pet. 2: 1; Jn. 10: 12), having plundered a strange flock and making of the spoils as though it be of their own particular gain, they think that they feed their flock. Such are not good pastors, as pastors of the Lord. "The good pastor lays down his life for the sheep" (Jn. 10: 11), entrusted to Him by the Prince of pastors Himself (1 Pet. 5: 4). And the Apostle Peter, true to his calling, gave his soul for the very flock of Christ, having sealed his apostleship by a martyr's death, now glorified throughout all the world.

And the Apostle Paul, being formerly Saul, was changed from a robbing wolf into a meek lamb; formerly he was an enemy of the Church, then is manifest as an Apostle; formerly he stalked it, then preached it. Having received from the high-priests the authority at large to throw all christians in chains for execution, he was already on the way, "he breathed with rage and murder against the disciples of the Lord" (Acts 9: 1), he thirsted for blood, but – "the Living One in the Heavens mocked him" (Ps. 2:4). When he, "having persecuted and vexed" in such manner "the Church of God" (1 Cor. 15: 9; Acts 8: 5), he came nigh to Damascus, and the Lord from Heaven called to him: "Saul, Saul, wherefore persecutest thou Me?" – and I am here, and I am there, I am everywhere: here is My head; there is My body. There becomes nothing of a surprise in this; we ourselves – are members of the Body of Christ. "Saul, Saul, wherefore persecutest thou Me; it is terrible to thee to kick against the goad" (Acts 9: 4-5). Saul, however, "trembling and frightened", cried out: "Who art Thou, Lord?" I am Jesus, – answered the Lord to



him, – Whom thou persecutest". And Saul suddenly undergoes a change: "What wantest Thou me to do?" – he cries out. And suddenly for him there is the Voice: "Rise up and go to the city, and it will be told thee, what thou ought to do" (Acts 9: 6). Here the Lord sends Ananias: "Rise up go upon the street" to a man, "by the name of Saul", and baptise him, "for this one is a vessel chosen by Me, to bear My Name before pagans and rulers and the sons of Israel" (Acts 9: 11, 15, 18). This vessel must needs be filled with My Grace. "Ananias however answered: Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he hath done to Thine saints in Jerusalem: and to be here to have the authority from the high-priests to seize all calling upon Thy Name" (Acts 9: 13-14). But the Lord urgently commands Ananias: "Search for and fetch him, for this vessel is chosen by Me: for I shall tell him, how much needs be for him to suffer about My Name" (Acts 9: 11, 15-16).

And actually the Lord did direct the Apostle Paul, what things he had to suffer for His Name. He instructed him the deeds; He did not stop at the chains, the fetters, the prisons and shipwrecks; He Himself felt for him in his sufferings, He Himself guided him towards this day. On a single day is done the memory of the sufferings of both these Apostles, though they suffered on separate days, but by the spirit and the closeness of their suffering they

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constitute one. Peter went first, Paul followed soon after him, – formerly called Saul, and then Paul, having transformed in himself his pride into humility, as means also his very name (Paulus), meaning "small, little, less", – demonstrates this. What is the Apostle Paul after this? Ask him, and he himself gives answer to this: "I am, – says he, – the least of the Apostles: but more so than all I have laboured, yet not I, but the grace of God, which is with me" (1 Cor. 15:9-10).

And so, brethren, celebrating now the memory of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, remembering their venerable sufferings, we esteem their true faith and holy life, we esteem the innocence of their sufferings and pure confession. Loving in them the sublime quality and imitating them by great exploits, "in which to be likened to them" (2 Thess. 3: 5-9), and we shall attain to that eternal bliss which is prepared for all the saints. The path of our life before was more grievous, thornier, harder, but "how great the cloud of witnesses enveloping us" (Hebr. 12: 1), having passed by along it, made now for us easier, and lighter, and more readily-passable. First there passed along it "the Founder and Fulfiller of faith" our Lord Jesus Christ Himself (Hebr. 12: 2); His daring Apostles followed after Him; then the martyrs, children, women, virgins and a great multitude of witnesses. Who acted in them and helped them on this path? – He that said: "Without Me ye are able to do nothing" (Jn. 15: 5).

## LIVING ORTHODOXY

"The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Cor. 9:6-7

### A List of 12 Things a Normal Orthodox Christian Does

by Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick

The normal Orthodox Christian—who is living according to the norms of the Orthodox faith—will be doing the following (this is not an exhaustive list, nor is this in order of priority):

- 1. Participating in church services as often as possible.** Attendance at every Sunday morning liturgy is a minimal baseline for worship life—in most cases, it is not enough. And participation doesn't just mean attendance, but engagement, whether silently and attentively, singing along, making the Sign of the Cross, etc.
- 2. Prayer at home every day.** Ideally, at least morning and evening prayer, as well as prayer over meals. It is especially important for husbands and wives to pray together regularly and for parents to pray with their children. This will include reading Scripture, too, especially Scripture that is prayer, such as the Psalms.
- 3. Receiving the sacraments.** This isn't just communion and confession, but also holy unction (when sick), marriage (in the Church, not outside!), baptism and chrismation (for you and your children), and even considering whether you or one of the men of your family should think about ordination.
- 4. Avoiding immorality.** What we do with our bodies, minds and words has an effect on our salvation. Use them for good, not for evil. Seek to serve rather than to be served.
- 5. Fasting according to church tradition.** Your father-confessor will help to apply the fasting traditions of the Church for you and your family. We fast on most Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as during the

four major fasting seasons (Great Lent, the Apostles Fast, the Dormition Fast and the Nativity Fast).

**6. Confession.** The Mystery of Confession is critical to our repentance. We should go at least once during each of the 4 fasting seasons but also whenever there is a need, especially a sin that disrupts your peace.

**7. Getting spiritual advice.** This often happens in confession, but your father-confessor is there for you at other times, too. He's a resource you should utilize frequently.

**8. Tithing.** Giving 10% of your income back to God (it is His gift to you!) is a Biblical standard that Orthodox Christians should embrace. If you're not ready for 10% yet, choose another percentage and be disciplined about it, working toward 10%. If you're able to give more than 10%, do so. Don't "give until it hurts"—give until it feels good! Giving our money to God in worship (not because we need to meet a budget) is one part of what it means to give Him everything about ourselves so that it can be healed. (Is tithing Orthodox? Yes! It's mentioned in the Fathers many times, but here's the kicker—the Fathers usually say that Christians should exceed the tithe expected by the Old Covenant.)

**9. Almsgiving.** This is directly aiding someone in need. It might be monetary, but it also might be with your labor, your encouragement or even just your attitude.

**10. Education.** We seek a deeper understanding of our faith not only so that we can know what our piety means but so that we give even our minds to God for His healing and transformation. Our whole intellect should be engaged in Christ—whether through spiritual reading, classes or some other form of education. Knowing and understanding the Scripture should be at the top of our educational efforts.

**11. Sharing the faith.** If you're grateful for the salvation God has given you, you will want to share it with others.

**12. Going on pilgrimage.** It's a journey with a holy purpose. Common destinations include monasteries and important shrines.

<https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/asd/2015/10/07/12-things-the-normal-orthodox-christian-is-doing/>

## PRAYER CORNER

Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions & Other Needs

**A Prayer For The Sick:** O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant **name(s)**. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver **him/her/them** from sickness and bitter pain. Heal **him/her/them** so that **he/she/they** may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.



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**For the Health of...** Michael, Kenneth, Wendy, Thomas, Anthony, Julia, Theresa, Lynn, Fr. Michael Rustick, Ella, Lexi, John, Susan, John, Alexandra D., Pañi Marie, Sonja, Anna Mae, Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Lino, June, for all those battling viruses ...*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, Susan, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Ameer, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our seminarians:* Thomas, John, Daniel and Dylan *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Matthew, Lawrence, Timothy, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Jane, Anthony, Mary Jane, Steven, Kenneth, Jillian, John, Wendy, John, Margaret, John, John, Todd *and for those who labor towards our Community Outreaches ...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):** Craig Bowser - Holy and All-glorious Apostle Peter (7/12) *(please contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)*

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**Birthday Prayers for...** Fr. John Gido (7/12/28), Jean Zak (7/12), Ben Scherer, Sr. (7/14), Pañi Joanna Ferencz (7/17), Rebecca Horbal (7/17), Katie Jesko (7/17), Mark Tongel (07/17), Fr Michael Polanichka (7/17), Alaina Anton (7/18), Fr Michael Chendorain

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(7/18), Fr Luke Mihaly (7/18) ...*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 Mnohaya I Blahaya L'ita!*

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**For our Catechumens & Inquirers...** Dustin, Stephen, Daniel, Susan ...*through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

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

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**Anniversary Prayers for...**

...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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**For Pregnant Mothers...** Mallory Ann (*due in July*), Brittany (*October*) ...*through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, & St Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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**For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities...** Thomas R. Dzadoovsky, 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...** +Louis Haynes (7/2), +Sister Nymphodora (+Eleanor Dussling) (6/17), +Michael Psenechnuk, the priest (6/6), and those who have passed from the coronavirus ...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May their Memory in God be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamyat!*

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\* This is to be used for the special intentions of our brothers and sisters in Christ and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (in the case of answered prayers) to our Parish List. The words of the Gospel are true: **it is good to pray for one another.** Let this be a place where we lay out our concerns and beg the help of our brothers & sisters in Christ. This prayer list is NOT limited to only Orthodox Christians.

## DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

### A prayer for our Neighborhoods by Archbishop Demetrios of America

I pray to you, God, for the families of my neighborhood. Visit them. Throw their troubles out of them and bring hope. Make the daily cares that devour the heart disappear. Present solutions to life's problems. Settle the disturbed relationships among members of different families whom I know or do not know. O Lord, remind the people of our area that You exist, that You are a strong and loving Protector. Keep away, Lord, anything that causes the disappearance of peace from souls, and the escape of sleep from our eyes. Stay a little while more tonight in our neighborhood. Spread peace along with the night. Let the harshness of the day and its struggles not spread over the night. Amen.

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### A PRAYER TO THE MOTHER OF GOD DURING THIS TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS

*With the Blessing of Metropolitan Gregory (ACROD) – 3-31-2020*

O Most-Holy Ever-Virgin Mary, Theotokos: receive this heartfelt supplication from us, your unworthy servants. We run to you tearfully, O Sovereign Lady, as this dreadful illness spreads through the whole world. Listen to the much-afflicted sighs of your ailing people and grant healing of soul and body. As a loving Mother, cover your suffering children everywhere with your protecting veil. In times of despair, console the faint-hearted, strengthen the weak, and enlighten those with embittered hearts. Guide the minds and hands of our doctors and nurses, that they may serve as instruments of the all-powerful Physician, Christ our Savior.

You are the strong intercessor for our city, our country, and the whole world, O Queen of All.

Present our prayers before the throne of the King of Glory, your Son and our God, that He may be merciful towards us and grant His grace to those who honor you and bow before your holy icon with faith and love.

O joy of the sorrowful and consolation of the afflicted, stretch out your hands which are full of health and cures, so that having quickly received your wondrous help, we may glorify the Life-giving and Undivided Trinity: the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.