

am glorified in them. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves

“Therefore, a humble person is not weak, but actually strong, because God's power manifests itself and acts through him; the proud man is weak, for he rejects God's all-powerful grace and is left with only his human powers, which are, of course, immeasurably weaker and less significant than God's all-powerful grace.”
- Archbishop Averky (Taushev)

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PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

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A Few Quick Reminders & Updates:

- ✓ If you are going to have surgery or having flu-like symptoms, please contact Father Dave
- ✓ Sunday Divine Liturgy Services **ARE OPEN** with 23 “spots” for those of the same household to sit at. Plenty of room to safe-distance at this time!
- ✓ With that said, “Reservations” are **NO LONGER** Requested at this time.
- ✓ If you are not comfortable at this time to return to church, we understand, but please let Father know.
- ✓ A Facemask covering your nose and mouth 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.)

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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Blessing of Chariots -

Immediately following Divine Liturgy **next Sunday, August 2nd**, 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. ***** If you will not be coming to Liturgy due to Covid concerns, you are welcome to drive down to have your car blessed between 11:00 and 11:15.**

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New School Year Blessing – Though many schools will start with virtual classes, we still need to prepare for it! 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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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/

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA ‘BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

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3rd Annual Deanery Picnic – Please save the date for the Deanery Picnic to be held at The Veterans Pavilion at Schenley Park on **Sunday, September 20th** from

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Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 65
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 106
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 457
Parish House Offering:	\$ 250
Total Collections:	\$ 878
Relocation Fund:	\$ 540

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; Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Lawrence Martin; Patty Watson; Eleanor Sanger; Cindy Pavilonis; Urban Family.

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

The Eternal Lamp was offered last week by John Gaydos, Jr., in Memory of Mother, Catherine. May Her Memory Be Eternal! *Vičnaya Pamjat!*

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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

✦ **Friday, August 14** – Dormition Fast Begins

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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Noon to dusk. *This is pending how things continue in Allegheny County...*

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

The Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

Commemorated on the Sunday closest to July 29/16

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 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.

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The Sobor of the ArchAngel Gabriel

Commemorated on July 26/13

The Sobor of the ArchAngel Gabriel is celebrated on the day following after the Annunciation/Blagoveschenie, ie. 26 March. This feast is celebrated a second time 13 July. The reason for its being established probably served the dedication in the XVII Cent. of a church at Constantinople, constructed in the name of the Holy Archi-Strategos / Chief of the Heavenly Hosts.



The Archangel Gabriel was chosen by the Lord to make the blest-announcement to the Virgin Mary about the Incarnation of the Son of God from Her, to the great rejoicing of all mankind. Therefore on the day after the feast of the Annunciation – the day itself on which the All-Pure Virgin Herself is glorified, we give thanks to the Lord and we venerate His messenger Gabriel, who contributed to the mystery of our salvation.

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ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK

Church Fathers (or **Holy Fathers**) 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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LIVING ORTHODOXY



His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros
Homily for the National Day of Mourning over Hagia Sophia

Holy Trinity Archdiocesan Cathedral

July 24, 2020

New York, New York

Beloved Faithful and Friends around the world,

This day is a day, when grief and sorrow are mingled with faith and with hope. This day is a day, when our hymns to the Virgin Mother of God are chanted with urgency, as the very walls of our religious identity are being breached. This day is our National Day of Mourning, for the confiscation of our Hagia Sophia

(Ἁγία Σοφία) and its sacred precincts. Those who seek to reduce the Great Church from a symbol of the highest aesthetic and spiritual achievement, to a token of tribal triumphalism will never triumph in the end!

We do not mourn only for ourselves. We mourn for the whole world whose loss this is. And we mourn for all people of faith and good conscience, for every faith and every conscience is being violated by this forced conversion.

If only the stones of Hagia Sophia would be heard, for they long to cry out, even as too many around the world have held their peace, rebuked by fear. Our Lord Jesus Christ weeps over these stones, as He did over the Jerusalem of old.

But given the chance, the stones of the Great Church would not lament. They would proclaim and sing with us the very hymn we chant tonight:

To You the Champion, we your City dedicate

a feast of victory and thanksgiving,

as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos.

But as you are one with might that is invincible,

from all dangers that can be deliver us,

that we may cry to you: Rejoice, Bride unwedded!

Our Hagia Sophia – and I say it again – our Hagia Sophia will always be the Great Church of Christ. Our Hagia Sophia will always be the witness of the true Orthodox Faith of Christ throughout the oikoumene. Our Hagia Sophia remains untouched in heart, in soul, and in divine purpose.

One thousand, one hundred and fifty-three years ago

– on March 29th, which was the Great and Holy

Saturday of that year, in the presence of the

Emperors, during the Divine Liturgy within Hagia Sophia, the Patriarch of Constantinople, Photios, who is called "Great," unveiled the magnificent, ethereal, and heavenly Icon of the Panagia that dominates the apse of Hagia Sophia to this day. This was the first Icon to be placed in the Great Church after the painful

Hagia Sophia (Church of Holy Wisdom)
 532-537: Built as the Cathedral of the
 Patriarch of Constantinople
 1204: Roman Catholic Church
 1261: Orthodox Cathedral
 1453: Mosque
 1934: Museum
 July 24, 2002: Mosque

period of Iconoclasm, when the Icons were attacked within the Christian Roman Empire.

In his Homily, the Patriarch quoted from the Holy Scripture:

“Behold, I have painted your walls upon My hands, and you are ever before Me.”

The Lord of Hosts declares that the very walls of Hagia Sophia are ‘upon His hands!’ The icons that had been previously torn down by the Iconoclasts were not the end of the story. And the icons that were plastered over when the Great Church was first turned into a mosque, were not the end of the story. And the icons that will be blinded to us for a time once again, because our Hagia Sophia is forced to go against her nature and her purpose, will not be the end of story.

For the Lord opens the eyes of the blind! Christian, Muslim, Jew, believer, non-believer. The Lord is the Light of the world and in His light we shall see light! The painted walls of Hagia Sophia shall never be silenced, for they speak of the presence of God in this world; they speak of the mercy of God; and they speak of love of God for every human person.

The celestial vision in the apse of Hagia Sophia, of the Theotokos Mary holding her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has spoken to untold millions through the centuries. Now, she will be veiled in an act of desecration, because it is the Mother of God who makes the space sacred. But that space is now desacralized in order to make room for a strange purpose and a foreign understanding.

Many of us alive today have seen this wondrous icon that is suspended in the apse of Hagia Sophia, which connects the light-filled dome of heaven with the powerful stones of earth that ground this Temple of the Holy Wisdom of God. Listen, for a moment, to the words of the Sainly Patriarch Photios, when he unveiled her presence for the first time in history:

“With such a welcome does the representation of the Virgin’s form cheer us, inviting us to draw not from a bowl of wine, but from a fair spectacle, by which the rational part of our soul, being watered through our bodily eyes, and given eyesight in its growth towards the divine love of Orthodoxy, puts forth in the way of fruit the most exact vision of truth.

Thus, even in her images does the Virgin’s grace delight, comfort and strengthen us! A virgin mother carrying in her pure arms, for the common salvation of our kind, the common Creator reclining as an infant – that great and ineffable mystery of the Dispensation! A virgin mother, with a virgin’s and a mother’s gaze....”

My beloved Christians and Friends:

Can there be a more exalted vision? Can we allow it to simply disappear? On this night, as we gather from coast to coast and chant this Akathist with fervor, devotion, tears, and love, are we willing, are we committed to be the “Children of Memory” that our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has called us to be?

The Lord does not triumph by destroying others, but by destroying death by His own death.

We do not conquer with the sword, but with the truth. And ultimately, we are victorious because we

remember. We remembered where the Tomb of the Resurrection was even after the Romans buried it beneath tons of rock and pavement. We remembered where the Cave of Bethlehem was even though it was defiled by alien sacrifices. And we will forever remember – until the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ – what our Hagia Sophia is. In her essence, in her stones, in her walls, in her icons, and in her heart which can never be taken away!

Beloved and Dear People of God:

Tonight, as we leave our churches and return to our homes, as we leave this service of the Akathist and return to our lives, let us not leave behind our Hagia Sophia. Let us enshrine the Shrine of Holy Wisdom in our hearts and minds and souls. Let us make of our bodies a sacred space for the Great Church. Let us become “living stones” for God.

Let us become the very walls that are painted upon the hands of God, that we may offer, as Saint Photios says, “the most exact vision of truth” that leads to “the divine love of Orthodoxy.”

Finally, let us be wise and inspire wisdom in others. For as the Prophet says:

Wisdom has built a House for Herself;
 She has carved out seven pillars;
 She has sacrificed Her own offerings;
 She has mingled Her own wine in the chalice.
 She has prepared Her own table.

Let us be the House of Wisdom. Let our Seven pillars be the virtues of love, kindness, compassion, mercy, forgiveness, patience, and humility. Let us offer at every time and in every place the Offering that was sacrificed for the life of the world, mingling the Blood of the grape to receive the Divine Eucharist from Wisdom’s own table of the Holy Altar.

Thus, my beloved, we will overcome the grief of this present moment, and attain the vision of God that the Great Church is, and shall ever be. The Kingdom of God upon earth. The Kingdom of Peace. The Kingdom of Joy. The Kingdom of Love.

Through the prayers of the All-Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, may we attain this Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Who is glorified and worshipped, unto the ages of ages. Amen!



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“Prayer is the breathing of the soul, just as air is the natural breathing of the body. We breathe by the Holy Ghost. You cannot say a single word of prayer with the whole heart without the help of the Holy Spirit.” +St. John of Kronstadt

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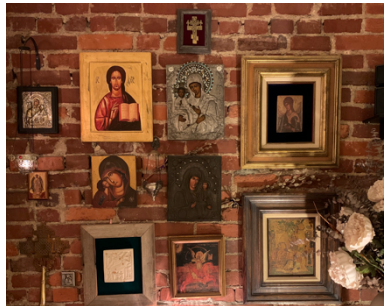
PRAYER CORNER

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... Fr. Edward Pehanich, James, Sean, Michael, Kenneth, Wendy, Thomas, Anthony, Julia, Theresa, Lynn, Fr. Michael Rustick, Ella, Lexi, John, Susan, John, Alexandra D., Pañi Marie, 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):

Margaret (Peggy) Rusnak and Mareena Shuster - Great Martyr Marina of Antioch (7/30) *(please contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)*

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Birthday Prayers for... Barbara Gedid (7/27), Ryan Gogal (7/27), Samuel Schrmack (7/27), Doug Delaney (7/28), Fr Stephen Loposky (7/28), Luke Tongel

(7/30), Pañi's brother, Florin Popescu (7/30), Fr. George Ellis (7/31) ...*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... +Anna Mae Gogal (7/22), +Sonia Urban (7/19), +Carol (7/11), +Louis Haynes (7/2), +Sister Nymphodora (+Eleanor Dussling) (6/17) 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.*

“Let us bear all things thankfully, be it poverty, be it disease, be it anything else whatever, for God alone knows the things expedient for us, ‘for we do not know ho to pray as we ought.’ We, then, who do not know even how to ask for what is fitting unless we have received of the Spirit, let us take care to offer up thanksgiving for all things, and let us bear all things nobly. Are we in poverty? Let us give thanks. Are we in sickness? Let us give thanks. Are we falsely accused? Let us give thanks. When we suffer affliction, let us give thanks. This brings us near to God.” +St. John Chrysostom

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:



A Prayer for Those Battling Addiction
By Vienna Cobb Anderson

Most loving God, we ask Your blessing upon all who suffer from addiction.
Strengthen them to reach out for help.
Enable them to take the first step in recovery.
Bless them with the persistence to persevere in the fight to be free.
Give courage and hope to their families, drawing them close together
in the power of Your love, which alone can transform our lives. Amen.

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