



ST. 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*
Subdeacon Ryan Ferko
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*
Lawrence Martin, *Parish Council President*
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SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

please wear masks following the CDC guidelines

SUNDAY, JULY 11 * APOSTLES' FAST

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Translation of the relics (412) of Cyrus & John

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Rom. 5:1-10; Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

Panachida for +Andrew Kurtz (50-yr), +Helen

Roskwitalkski (4-yr), +John Horbal (3-yr),

+Louis Haynes (1-yr), +Anastasia Martin (B-day)

11:30 am Baptism of Sonia Kretchek

7:00 pm Feast Day Vespers

MONDAY, JULY 12 - FEAST OF STS PETER & PAUL

9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

THURSDAY, JULY 15

9:30 am Morning Moleben

SATURDAY, JULY 17

2:30 pm Wertz Wedding

SUNDAY, JULY 18

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Venerable Athanasius of Mt. Athos (1003)

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Rom. 6:18-23; Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13

Panachida for the newly departed

Tone 3; Liturgical Color: **Green**

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Live-Broadcast – If you are unable to attend church on Sunday morning, please pray along with our Cathedral's services online at **9:00 am**.

www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/

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Future Services – Our online "Parish Calendar" is continually updated on our website at:

www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wed.)

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St John's Parish Family Picnic – Our parish picnic will be on **NEXT WEEK**, Sunday, July 18th from Noon till 5:00 at The Cabin in North Park (1370 E Ingomar Rd, Allison Park, PA 15101). Everyone is welcome! Come and experience a day of fun amongst family and friends. We will share a pot-luck meal – so bring your favorite recipe to share (a sign up sheet is in the church hall so that we get a good variety). There will be activities for all! If you need directions, please see Fr Dave. If you have other questions, please see a Parish Council member.

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LET'S FILL THE TABLES - We will have our Garage Sale from **August 13-15:** Friday and Saturday from 9am to 3pm and, *new this year*, Sunday from 12-noon to 3pm. Tax-deductible donations for the sale (*that are clean and with all of their parts*) are being accepted now through **July 23** (*no TV's or clothing please*). **WHEN YOU BRING YOUR ITEMS IN, LOOK AT THE SIGNS ON THE TABLES AND PLACE OUR ITEMS DIRECTLY ON THE TABLES AS WE CONTINUOUSLY SET UP AS A COMMUNITY FOR THIS COMMUNITY EVENT.** If you are not able to bring your items in on a Sunday, please contact Fr Dave 412-748-0148 / OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com) to arrange dropping them off. *Your extra items will be a treasure to someone else!*

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! 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 again soon! If you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy, please see Fr. Dave.

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Stewards needed for each day – whether you can offer your time all day or even just for 2 hours, please sign up on the sheet in the hall as we prepare for the return of our garage sale.

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Garden Blessing – Let's schedule some garden blessings! (*The format of the blessing is similar to our annual home blessing.*) You say you've never had your garden blessed? Well, it's okay to do something new! Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested.

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Congratulations! to Donald and Carley Gavulich and their families on the birth of **Colton Daniel Gavulich** born on June 29th at 6:32 pm (7 lb 2 oz and 19 ¾ in). Welcome to our Parish Family!

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Monday's Spiritual Vitamin:
Tropar to Saints Peter and Paul

First-enthroned of the apostles,
teachers of the universe:
Entreat the Master of all
to grant peace to the world,
and to our souls great mercy!

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3rd Bans of Marriage are Announced for Alexei Kroh and Patrick Wertz who will be united together in the Mystery of Holy Matrimony at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church on Saturday, July 17, 2021. If anyone has canonical reason why this Mystery (Sacrament) should not be administered, please relay the objection to Father.

BULLETIN IS OFFERED:

In memory of
+Anastasia Martin's
Birthday.

May her memory
be eternal!

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship:	\$ 120
Candles/Eternal Lamp Offerings:	\$ 48
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 264
Total Collections:	\$ 432
Relocation Fund:	\$ 50

In faith that God provides: "And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.'" – 2 Corinthians 9:8-9

June Financial Report:

General Stewardship = \$ 6116.40
(includes \$ 177.08 from online stewardship)

***Expenses = \$ 4960.42**

Net Income = \$ 1155.98

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: **28**

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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Nelson Family; Gaydos Family; Cindy Pavilionis; Shuster Family; Andrea Urban; 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

The Eternal Lamp was offered last week by Matt Peifer, in memory of parents, +Jack & +Viola Peifer. May Their Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamyat!

Weekly Offerings to God – During this time, if you are not yet coming to the church, we request that weekly donations be mailed to Tim Martin (2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143)



On-Line Giving is now available from our parish website! The best option is to come to church and give your offering to God in His Temple (2nd best is to mail it in). Now you can also donate from your home and set up a recurring donation to the:

- ✘ General Stewardship Fund,
- ✘ Capital Improvement Fund, or
- ✘ Relocation Fund.

If you miss coming to church for a week, this allows you another option to “catch up” on your weekly stewardship. For our parish to continue it’s ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, we need your generosity to continue.

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Pussy Willow Bush – There are two bushes that took root and are ready for a new home. Please let Fr. Dave know if you are interested.

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Tuesday’s Spiritual Vitamin:

“Never leave your house without making the sign of the cross. It will be to you a staff, a weapon, an impregnable fortress. Neither man nor demon will dare to attack you, seeing you covered with such powerful armor. Let this sign teach you that you are a soldier, ready to combat against the demons, and ready to fight for the crown of justice. Are you ignorant of what the cross has done? It has vanquished death, destroyed sin, emptied hell, dethroned Satan, and restored the universe. Would you then doubt its power?” +St. John Chrysostom

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ORTHODOXY AROUND THE ‘BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

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Kennywood – Here are some Nationality Days that you might be interested in: Slovak Day: July 15; Serbian Day: July 24.

St. John the Baptist Golf Classic – Details have been finalized for East Pittsburgh’s golf outing. Please contact Fr. Dave for more information.

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VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

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Wednesday’s Spiritual Vitamin:

“Do not fear, do not be faint-hearted, do not be irritated when you are deprived of money, food, drink, enjoyments, clothes, dwelling, even of your body itself; but fear when the enemy deprives your soul of faith, of trust, and love for God and your neighbor; when he sows hatred, enmity, attachment to earthly things, pride, and other sins in your heart.” +St John of Kronstadt

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SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

Results of Justification

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. **2** Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. **3** More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, **4** and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, **5** and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

6 While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. **7** Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. **8** But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. **9** Since, therefore, we are now

justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. **10** For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

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Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

The Sound Eye

22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; **23** but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

Serving Two Masters

24 “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Do Not Worry

25 “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **27** And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? **28** And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; **29** yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. **30** But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? **31** Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ **32** For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. **33** But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.

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FEAST DAY FEATURE

The Holy, Glorious And All-Praised Leaders Of The Apostles, Peter And Paul

Commemorated on July 12 / June 29

The divinely-blessed Peter was from Bethsaida of Galilee. He was the son of Jonas and the brother of Andrew the First-called. He was a fisherman by trade, unlearned and poor, and was called Simon; later he was renamed Peter by the Lord Jesus Christ himself, who looked at him and said, “Thou art Simon the son of Jonas; thou shalt be called Cephas (which is by interpretation, Peter)” (John 1:42).

On being raised by the Lord to the dignity of an Apostle and becoming inseparable from him as his zealous disciple, he followed him from the beginning of his preaching of salvation up until the very Passion, when, in the court of Caiaphas the high priest, he denied Him thrice because of his fear of the Jews and of the danger at hand. But again, after many bitter tears, he received complete forgiveness of his transgression. After the Resurrection of Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit, he preached in Judea, Antioch, and certain parts of Asia, and finally came to Rome, where he was crucified upside down by Nero, and thus he ascended to the eternal habitations about the year 66 or 68, leaving two Catholic (General) Epistles to the Church of Christ, known as 1 Peter and 2 Peter. He is also generally regarded as being the primary source (i.e., in interview) for the material recorded in the Gospel of Mark.

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Thursday’s Spiritual Vitamin:

“Strong faith in a man’s heart both requires and produces prayer, and a prayer life of many years produces love. The goal of our life is nothing other than cleansing our heart to such an extent that it is able to sing with joy. Thus, prayer of the heart leads to joy of the heart. Nothing is difficult for a joyful person, because he has love.”

Elder Thaddeus(Strabulovich) of Vitovnica
Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE TRANSFER OF THE RELICS OF THE HOLY MARTYRS, UNMERCENARIES AND WONDERWORKERS, CYRUS AND JOHN

Commemorated on July 11 / June 28

The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Martyrs, Unmercenarities and Wonderworkers, Cyrus and John from the city of Konopa, near Alexandria (where they suffered in the year 311) to the nearby village of Manuphin, took place in the year 412. This Egyptian village prompted fear in everyone, since in a former time there was a pagan temple inhabited by evil spirits. Patriarch Theophilus (385-412) wanted to cleanse this place of demons, but he died. His wish was fulfilled by his successor in the See of Alexandria, the holy Patriarch Cyril (412-444). He prayed fervently in carrying out this project. An angel of the Lord appeared in a vision to the hierarch and commanded the venerable relics of Saints Cyrus and John be transferred to Manuphin. His Holiness Patriarch Cyril did the angel's bidding and built a church at Manuphin in the name of the holy martyrs.

From that time this place was purified of the Enemy's influence, and by the prayers of the holy Martyrs Cyrus and John there began to occur many miracles, healings of the sick and infirm. An account of Saints Cyrus and John is located under January 31.

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

Binding Our Anger:

The Passion of Anger Destroys the Soul

If we think we have to be slaves to anger we deceive ourselves. Anger is not a normal part of any one's personality and as with any addictive pattern of behavior, it can be changed. As long as we continue to justify our anger we remain trapped, with God pleasing holiness avoided. Christ awaits our decision to move forward with His help, receiving the grace needed to be made whole. We do not have to go it alone, for the

Saviour of our souls is quick to forgive and ready to bring healing.

No one consumed with anger can be happy, for the passion of anger destroys the soul and spreads unhappiness to those unfortunate enough to be in close proximity to the angry person. Transformation can begin only when we invite the Great Physician to enter into our heart and change us.

With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon

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Friday's Spiritual Vitamin:

"The beginnings of prayer reside in the desire of the heart to know God, to rest with Him at every moment; but growth in prayer requires that we make out of this desire a life-changing course of action. It requires that we so order our lives that the heart can know God, and no longer be stripped of His glory and driven from His presence by our sin."

Bishop Irenei Steenberg
The Beginnings of a Life of Prayer p.58

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PRAYER CORNER

Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions and Other Needs

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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... Justin, Christopher, Sharon, John, Fr. Thomas, Michelle, Frederick, Fr. Patrick, Joseph, Gary, Joanne, Barbara, Mary Jane M., Brian, Kristina, Sean, Julia, Susan, John, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, and Roberta ...through the prayers of *St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer.*

For the Special Intentions of... His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. Photios, Fr. Theodore, Deacon Charles, Carlene, Georgia, Eleanora, Mark, Michaleana, Dorell, Elizabeth, Donald, Susan, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our seminarians:* Dylan, Thomas, Nicholas, and Aydin *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Lawrence, Matthew, 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 - Apostle Peter (7/12)
(contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)

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Birthday Prayers for... Pañi's Grandmother, Maria Alexa (7/11/28), Emilia Zak (7/11), 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) ...*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!*

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For our Catechumens & Inquirers...

Susan, Marilyn, John ...through the prayers of *St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Lexi & Patrick, Lauren & Corey, Nicole & Dustin ...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... Lindsay (*due in July*), Theresa (*August*), Pañi Davina (*September*) ...through the prayers of *St. Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St. Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadovsky and Trevor Meegan ...through the prayers of *St. George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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For the souls of the newly departed...

+George Livanos, the Priest (7/1), +Dale Fisher (6/15), and +Stephen Hall, the Deacon (6/10) ...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May their Memory in God be Eternal*

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Saturday's Spiritual Vitamin:

"If, when it is time for us to pray, we don't want to, if we are worn down and tired, know that this too comes from the demons."
Elder Sergei of Vanves

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK

A Prayer to Accept the Will of God

by Metropolitan Philaret

Lord, I do not know what to ask of You. You alone know what I need. You love me more than I am able to love You. Father, give Your servant that for which I am unable to ask. I do not dare to ask either for a cross or for consolation: I only stand before You. My heart is open to You, and You Yourself see needs of which I am unaware. See and do according to Your mercy. Strike me and heal me; knock me down and lift me up. I show reverence and keep silence before Your holy will: Your destiny for me is beyond understanding. I offer myself as a sacrifice to You. I have no other desire besides the desire to carry out Your Will. Teach me how to pray - and You Yourself pray in me! Amen.

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A Prayer for our Diocesan Clergy (Sunday)

O Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of Your sheep, light the fire of ardent love in the hearts of all Your priests, that they may ever and in all things seek only Your glory. Remember especially, Lord, our Bishop (name), and our spiritual father (name), and all our diocesan clergy, who are laboring in Your vineyard for the salvation of all those whom You have entrusted to them. Make their lives as holy as the word they preach. Keep them from being discouraged. Hear their prayers for our salvation. Give them wisdom and courage to proclaim Your truth. Make them priests after Your own heart. For You are a merciful God Who loves us and to You we give glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life-giving- Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

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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.*

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Online Women's Retreat: The Joy of Resolving the Unresolved: Navigating Life's Stages More Peacefully with Fr. Joshua Makoul

It is hard to get through life without accumulating life experiences that leave a mark on us. If we move through our lives and those life experiences remain unresolved, they can resurface later and make our transition into later life stages more painful and difficult. By learning to unpack and heal from painful life experiences, we will be able to make life stage transitions more easily, peacefully, and joyfully. By embracing humility, insight, self-awareness, and

no small amount of motivation, we can learn to navigate any life crisis.

The retreat will be Saturday, November 13 from 11 am to 3:30 pm and costs \$35. Register at <https://store.ancientfaith.com/2021-womens-retreat/> by November 10.

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