



CHRIST IS RISEN!

*Christ is Risen From The Dead, Trampling
Down Death By Death and To Those In The
Tomb's Bestowing Life!*

INDEED HE IS RISEN!



Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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

Reverend Dave Urban, *Pastor*
Very Reverend John Brancho, *Pastor Emeritus*
Timothy Martin, *Reader*
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*
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April 22, 2018

A TWO WEEK BULLETIN

Volume III

3rd Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women / the Righteous Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus

9:30 am – Deacon's Service with Eucharist Tone 2

Liturgical Color: **White**

Epistle: Acts 6:1–7; Gospel: Mark 15:43–16:8

Earth Day



SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	Martyr Demetrius (1942)	Acts 6:8-7:5, 47-60	John 4: 46– 54
Tuesday	St. Barsanuphius, bishop of Tver (1576)	Acts 8: 5– 17	John 6: 27– 33
* Wednesday	Hieromartyr Zeno, bishop of Verona (ca. 260)	Acts 8: 18– 25	John 6: 35– 39
Thursday	Hieromartyr Artemon, presbyter of Laodicea in Syria (303)	Acts 8: 26– 39	John 6: 40– 44
* Friday	St. Martin the Confessor, pope of Rome (655)	Acts 8:40–9:19	John 6: 48– 54
Saturday	Martyr Sabbas the Goth of Buzau in Wallachia (Romania) (372)	Acts 9: 19– 31	John 15:17-16:2

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

No Kneeling in Prayer for 50 Days – Replace “O Heavenly King” with the Paschal Tropar

Sunday, April, 29 – 4th Sunday of Pascha: The Sunday of the Paralytic

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy Tone 3

Liturgical Color: **White**

Epistle: Acts 9: 32– 42; Gospel: John 5: 1– 15

*Additional Collection for our Community Outreach *** Bring in your OCMC Coin Boxes by this week!*

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Wednesday, May 2 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Mid Pentecost

The Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

Monday	Venerable Zosimas of Solovki (1478)	Acts 10: 1– 16	John 6: 56– 69
Tuesday	Venerable John, disciple of St. Gregory of Decapolis (820)	Acts 10: 21– 33	John 7: 1– 13
* Wednesday	St. Tryphon, patriarch of Constantinople (933)	Acts 14: 6– 18	John 7: 14– 30
Thursday	Apostle Zacchaeus, bishop of Caesarea (1st c.)	Acts 10: 34– 43	John 8: 12– 20
* Friday	St. Alexis, priest of Bortsumany, Nizhni-Novgorod (1848)	Acts 10:44-11:10	John 8: 21– 30
Saturday	Apostles Nathaniel, Luke, and Clement	Acts 12: 1– 11	John 8: 31– 42

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

Sunday, May 6 – 5th Sunday of Pascha: The Samaritan Woman / Feast of St George

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy Tone 4

Liturgical Color: **White**

Epistle: Acts 11: 19– 26, 29– 30; Gospel: John 4: 5– 42

Cemetery Grave Blessings following Coffee Social

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Paschal Greeting (used instead of ‘hello’, before ‘good morning’, et cetera)

Christ is risen! (Indeed He is risen!)

Christos Voskrese! (Voistinu Voskrese!)

Khristós Anésti! (Alithós Anésti!)

Hristos a învîiat! (Adevărat a învîiat!)

If greeted in a language you are unfamiliar with, translate and respond in English (then learn the response)

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Christ is risen! (Indeed He is risen!)

Christos Voskrese! (Voistinu Voskrese!)

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 Fr.

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 +Helen
Kailyar and members
of the Jugan Family.

May their memory
be eternal!

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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

Monday, May 7 – 7pm Akathist to St Alexis of Wilkes-Barre
Thursday, May 10 – 9:30am Moleben to the Theotokos with holy anointing
Sunday, May 13 – Additional collection for our Capital Improvement Fund
Thursday, May 17 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord
Friday, May 18 – 7pm Akathist to the “Inexhaustible Cup” of the Theotokos with holy anointing
Saturday, May 19 – 4pm Italian Feast and Basket Raffle
Sunday, May 20 – YOUTH Sunday



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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Vacation – Fr Dave will be unavailable from April 21-28. Please contact the following priests for any hospital visits or other emergencies:
Fr. Robert Prepelka: 724-266-2879
Fr. Nik Ferencz: 724-953-6046
Fr. Michael Zak: 412-461-3264

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Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials were offered last week by Viola Peifer; Melanie Shuster; Tim Martin; Lawrence Martin; Olga Radick; Michael Spirnak; Mary Jane Hudak; Joanne Nelson; Theresa Sharpless; Cindy Pavilonis; 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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Semi-Annual Meeting – Here are a few thoughts from last week’s meeting: We had a good discussion about stewardship, the need to still have a semi-annual meeting, and an update on our move north as we are still looking for property in the 79 corridor. The brief informal meeting was filled with a healthy Q&A! Please plan to attend future meetings of our church!

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Photo Hunt – Do you have any photos from St. John’s Parish events from between 1932 & 1937? Please contact Fr Dave if you do.

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Calling All Graduates – if you will be graduating from High School, a University, or a Trade School this year, please contact Father ASAP.

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Cemetery Grave Blessing – We will bless graves this year on **Sunday, May 6th**. We will celebrate a Panachida at church following the Divine Liturgy and head to the cemetery after the coffee social. I pray that more of you will be able to join us!

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ACRY Booklet – The 70th ACRY Bowling Tournament will be held in Perth Amboy, NJ (May 25-28). 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.

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Visit Our Diocese On-Line

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org
Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org
FB: www.facebook.com/acroddiocese
Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews
You Tube: youtube.com/acroddiocese

Our Stewardship Gift To God

Stewardship/Dues:	\$ 1105
Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box:	\$ 124
Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special:	\$ 1314
Patriarchal Pence:	\$ 10
Total Collections:	\$ 2553
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 83
<i>Collection for the Saints: “On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper.” 1 Cor 16:2</i>	

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Family Day (June 3rd) Raffle Tickets are available from Theresa Sharpless. This is the only diocesan-wide fundraiser for camp and it is a significant source of income for the Camp Nazareth program and our children. Raffle tickets are \$20 each with prizes exceeding \$20,000. Support our camp: buy (at least) one. + + + The Family Day flyer is hanging in the church hall with details for that day!

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Italian Feast and Basket Raffle – This annual ACRY event will be held on **Saturday, May 19th**. Baskets are needed. There is a sign up sheet in the Church Hall with more details. All profits will go towards our church.

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Parish Stewardship Opportunities...

- As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. (Lk. 6:31)
- Pray for our parish
 - Assist with the Dinner & Basket Raffle
 - Donate to our parish or one of it’s outreaches
 - Attend additional services
 - Sponsor a Coffee Social

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Bulletin Sponsor – Please contact Fr Dave or sign up in the Vestibule to sponsor a bulletin *In Honor of* (anniversary, birthday, etc.) or *In Memory of* someone. An additional stewardship offering to the Church is kindly requested.

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Coffee Social Steward Schedule

April 29: **Lynn Mainolfi**
May 6: **Bob and Gina Fall**
May 13: **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!

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA ‘BURGH



Young Adult Spring Retreat: “God’s Plan... Your Plan: Will it ever make sense?”

– Will be held at Camp Nazareth May 4-6. Keynote speakers will be His Grace, Bishop Gregory and Steven Christoforou. Open to young adults (19-35) of all jurisdictions. Fee is \$75 (Financial aid is available if needed, please contact Fr. Loposky at 724.662.4840 or fr.stephen.loposky@gmail.com).

Register online at www.acrod.org and clicking the link. *The weekend event will be filled with learning, fun, fellowship, worship, and time for reflection and rejuvenation!*

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SUNDAY 4/22 SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 6:1–7

Seven Chosen to Serve

6 Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.² And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.³ Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty.⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”⁵ And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Proch’orus, and Nica’nor, and Timon, and Par’menas, and Nicola’us, a proselyte of Antioch.⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them.

⁷ And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

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Gospel: Mark 15:43–16:8

⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus.⁴⁴ And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he

asked him whether he was already dead.⁴⁵ And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph.⁴⁶ And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.⁴⁷ Mary Mag’dalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

The Resurrection of Jesus

16 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Mag’dalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.² And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen.³ And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?”⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large.⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed.⁶ And he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him.⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.”⁸ And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

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SUNDAY 4/29 SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 9: 32– 42

The Healing of Aeneas

³² Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda.³³ There he found a man named Aene’as, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed.³⁴ And Peter said to him, “Aene’as, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.” And immediately he rose.³⁵ And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

Peter in Lydda and Joppa

³⁶ Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity.³⁷ In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, “Please come to us without delay.”³⁹ So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which Dorcas made while she was with them.⁴⁰ But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, rise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.⁴¹ And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive.⁴² And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

Gospel: John 5: 1– 15

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

5 After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Beth-za’ta, which has five porticoes.³ In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed.⁵ One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years.⁶ When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?”⁷ The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me.”⁸ Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your pallet, and walk.”⁹ And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked.

Now that day was the sabbath.¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who was cured, “It is the sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet.”¹¹ But he answered them, “The man who healed me said to me, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk.’”¹² They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk’?”¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.¹⁴ Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you.”¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

THE BASIC DIFFERENCE

*Excerpt from Daily Vitamins for Spiritual Growth by
Anthony M. Coniaris*

A Mohammedan and a Christian were discussing their religions and had agreed that both Mohammed and Christ were prophets. Where, then, lay the difference? The Christian illustrated it this way: "I came to a crossroads and I saw a dead man and a living man. Which one did I ask for directions?" The response came quickly, "The



living one, of course." "Why then," asked the Christian, "do you send me to Mohammed who is dead, instead of Christ Who is alive?"

Is not this the basic difference between Christ and every other religious leader? All the others came into the world, lived and died—but none of them lived again. The resurrection of Christ was the one event that persuaded His disciples once and for all that Jesus was indeed God in the flesh and not just man.

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STEWARDSHIP: A Way Of Life

6 Reasons Why Tithing is Good for an Orthodox Parish

*Excerpt from Fr Andrew Stephen Damick
(...Continued from last week...)*

- ...1. *tithing enables us to be saved...*
- 2. *tithing shows that we're serious...*
- 3. *tithing is absolutely orthodox.*



Some people say that tithing is not Orthodox. This is nonsense. Giving is Orthodox. Asceticism is Orthodox. Generosity is Orthodox. Ministry is Orthodox. Discipline is Orthodox.

The purpose in tithing is not because it is an "absolute requirement" in order to be saved. It's not. But how can we be saved if we do not nurture a truly generous heart? And how can we nurture that generous heart without becoming disciplined about giving all that we have? The Orthodox Church understands how to become disciplined. We understand asceticism. This is one of the best ways to do it.

Tithing was a *minimum* set up in the Old Covenant (and there were multiple tithes, equaling about 23%). 100% is the standard in the New Covenant (Acts 4), and when the Fathers talk about tithing, they say that because the New is superior to the Old, we give *more* than the Old Covenant people did.

So perhaps it's true that "tithing is not Orthodox." But that's not because we give *less* than 10%, but because we give *more* than 10%.

God is merciful, of course, and if we're not ready to meet that standard, we can work toward it. But are we working toward it? If not, let's get on it.

4. *tithing becomes ministry.*

There are things that a parish would love to do but just can't because they don't have the money for it. Perhaps they could improve or repair the building or build a new one. They could start that iconography project. They could get an assistant priest. They could hire a youth director. They could give to charities. They could fund continuing education for the priest, the choir director, or other parish workers. They could bring in special speakers. They could sponsor kids to summer camp. They could sponsor people to go on pilgrimages. They could do a lot more outreach. They could feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

The possibilities really are almost endless. The point is that God takes what we give, blesses it, and then returns it to us for our sanctification.

When we give our money, God turns it into *ministry*.

And sometimes ministry is just the most basic things, like keeping the priest from having an outside secular job, keeping health insurance in place for him and his family, paying the parish's utility bills, buying supplies, etc.

When we tithe, that's what God does with our money. It doesn't go to lining anyone's pockets. Most clergy—not just Orthodox, but all clergy—are actually rather underpaid for their level of education, experience and the labor they put in. And almost none of them ever get a raise for preaching about tithing. *And a lot of them are tithing themselves.* In many parishes, the priest is one of the top givers, and he usually does it on a salary far below the parish average.

5. *tithing ends money problems for the parish, once and for all.*

If a mission parish has 25 tithing families who each make roughly the national average (\$50k/yr.), the collective income for the parish would be \$125k, which is usually plenty for a mission to function on.

If a parish has 50 tithing families who make that average, pledge income would be \$250k. We are now well above the income of most medium to small parishes.

If there are 100 families who tithe like that, the income would be \$500k. And they're probably about to burn any mortgage, buy new land, build something new or start a new mission. Or maybe they're hiring a couple more clergy, a secretary, etc. How many 100-family parishes have half a million dollars to use every year?

Even if half the families in a parish start tithing or even if that same half started giving just 5%, the parish would probably never have any more money problems ever.

6. *tithing changes a parish culture.*

Related to #5, I sometimes hear that, if only the membership knew all the money problems in their parish, they would be inspired to give a little bit more. But usually the people who say that, knowing full well the financial situation of their parish, have not themselves increased their pledge. Giving information and insight to the unmotivated usually doesn't accomplish much.

But what if we started thinking about parish life in a whole new way?

What if we stopped talking and worrying about paying for things and started thinking about why each of us needs to become generous, serious givers? We have to put the horse before the cart: We don't develop a culture of generosity by complaining about money problems. We develop a culture of generosity, and our money problems go away.

A tithing parish sees itself as a group of people ministering to one another, not as a group of people who are paying for something or expect to get something. And that's the kind of parish that's truly Christian, because they have love for each other (John 13:35).

From: <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/roadsfromemmaus/2015/10/27/>

6-reasons-why-tithing-is-good-for-an-orthodox-parish/
[Have you noticed that our monthly financial summaries tend to be in the negative? Let's all take a step up]

Stewardship of Treasure Guide													
Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?													
Weekly Income	Beyond a Tithe 15%	12%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	
\$200	\$30	\$24	\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4	\$2	
\$300	\$45	\$36	\$30	\$27	\$24	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6	\$3	
\$400	\$60	\$48	\$40	\$36	\$32	\$28	\$24	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$8	\$4	
\$500	\$75	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$5	
\$600	\$90	\$72	\$60	\$54	\$48	\$42	\$36	\$30	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6	
\$700	\$105	\$84	\$70	\$63	\$56	\$49	\$42	\$35	\$28	\$21	\$14	\$7	
\$800	\$120	\$96	\$80	\$72	\$64	\$56	\$48	\$40	\$32	\$24	\$16	\$8	
\$900	\$135	\$108	\$90	\$81	\$72	\$63	\$54	\$45	\$36	\$27	\$18	\$9	
\$1,000	\$150	\$120	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$10	
\$1,100	\$165	\$132	\$110	\$99	\$88	\$77	\$66	\$55	\$44	\$33	\$22	\$11	
\$2,000	\$300	\$240	\$200	\$180	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$40	\$20	
\$3,000	\$450	\$360	\$300	\$270	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$150	\$120	\$90	\$60	\$30	

1. Find where YOU are on the chart (your weekly income/giving).
2. Move one block to the left to determine what GROW ONE% would be.

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

Saints Mary and Martha, sisters of Saint Lazarus (1st c.)

Commemorated on the Sunday of Myrrh-Bearing Women and June 4

Mary and Martha, with their brother Lazarus, were especially devoted disciples of our Lord; their story up to the time of the Resurrection can be found in Luke 10 and John 11-12. Mary and Martha were among the Myrrh-bearing women. They, with their brother, reposed



in Cyprus, where Lazarus became first Bishop of Kition after he was raised from death by Christ.

An ancient tradition holds that Lazarus was thirty years old when he was restored to life by the Lord, and that he lived another thirty years. After he was raised from the dead, he never again laughed; but once, when he saw someone stealing a clay pot, he smiled and said, 'Clay stealing clay.' His name is a Greek version of Eleazar, meaning 'God has helped.'

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

By Your Resurrection, O Christ our God, You told the women bringing ointment to rejoice; and You stilled the weeping of Eve, the first mother. You instructed the women to announce to Your Apostles: "The Savior has risen from the tomb." – Kondak of the Myrrh-bearing Women

MONDAY

" You need not be despondent. Let those be despondent who do not believe in God. For them sorrow is burdensome, of course, because besides earthly enjoyment they have nothing. But believers must not be despondent, for through sorrows they receive the right of sonship, without which is impossible to enter the Kingdom of Heaven." +St. Barsanuphius of Optina

TUESDAY

"This is accomplished by the action of Divine grace grated through the Church, but man's effort is also required. God saves His fallen creature by His own love for him, but man's love for his Creator is also necessary; without it he cannot be saved. Striving towards God and cleaving unto the Lord by its humble love, the human soul obtains power to cleanse itself from sin and to strengthen itself for the struggle to complete victory over sin." +St. John the Wonderworker of Shanghai and San Francisco

WEDNESDAY

"In spite of our sinfulness, in spite of the darkness surrounding our souls, the Grace of the Holy Spirit, conferred by baptism in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, still shines in our hearts with the inextinguishable light of Christ ... and when the sinner turns to the way of repentance the light smooths away every trace of the sins committed, clothing the former sinner in the garments of incorruption, spun of the Grace of the Holy Spirit. It is this acquisition of the Holy Spirit about which I have been speaking." +St. Seraphim of Sarov

THURSDAY

"He says: I was dead, and behold, I am alive for, evermore, amen; and you also will be alive forever. This is the meaning of the words of Him Who arose: I am the first and the last; I am He that lives and was dead for you, for your redemption from death, and I; that is: I conquered your death by My innocent death for your sake, and behold, I am also forever and will sit with My Father on His throne; I was not separated from Him, even though I was on earth accomplishing My great work for you who are subject to sin and death. Therefore, do you also, My followers, work and struggle against sin and do righteous deeds, and where I am, there shall My servant be also—that is, in the eternal Kingdom." +St. John of Kronstadt, Homily on Pascha

FRIDAY

"He who shall preserve the life bestowed upon him, and give thanks to Him Who imparted it, shall receive also length of days forever and ever. But he who shall reject it, and prove himself ungrateful to his Maker, inasmuch as he has been created, and has not recognized Him Who bestowed the gift upon him, deprives himself of the privilege of continuance forever and ever. And, for this reason, the Lord declared to those who showed themselves ungrateful towards Him: "If you have not been faithful in that which is little, who will give you that which is great?" (cf. Lk. 16:11) indicating that those who, in this



brief temporal life, have shown themselves ungrateful to Him Who bestowed it, shall justly not receive from Him length of days forever and ever.” + *St. Irenaeus*



SATURDAY

With Your divine protection, O Lord, as You once raised the paralytic, now lift up my soul paralyzed with all kinds of sin and evil deeds of wickedness, so that, as saved, I may cry out to You: “Glory to Your Might, O Merciful Christ!” – *Kondak of the Paralytic*

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PRAYER CORNER

Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions and Other Needs *

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

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For the Health of... Mildred, Anna Mae, Andrew, Julie, Jane, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Katie, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Wendy, Gary, Barbara, Matthew, Patricia, Lino, David, Fr James, Edward, Melissa, Louis, and Marjorie ...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... Bishop Gregory, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, John S., Amee, Joshua, John, Ashley, John, and Noella, *our seminarians:* Nathaniel, Vince, Michael, and Daniel, *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Matthew, John, Timothy, Patricia, Theresa, Lawrence, Donald, Jane, Cynthia, Katherine, Eleanor, Kenneth, Gina, Robert, Jillian, Wendy, Olga, John, Melanie, Michael, John, Richard, John, Margaret, Sarah, Patricia, *and for those working towards our Community Outreach, Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) ...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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Birthday Prayers for... Fred Anton (4/24), Fr Peter Paproski (4/24), Donna Tongel (04/24), Jaxson Maruscak (4/25), Fr Christopher Rocknage (4/26), Fr Jonathan Bannon (4/29), Sharon Peifer (4/29), Anna Dzadony (5/3) ...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 Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!*

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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 those preparing for Marriage... Nicole & Seminarian Subdeacon Nathaniel, Kristyn & Seminarian Vince, and Nicole & Jeffrey ...through the prayers of *Sts. Adrian & Natalia & all Holy Martyrs.*

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For Expectant Mothers... Brittany, Harmonie, Pañi Stacey, Aimee, and Lindsay ...through the prayers of *St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, & St Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Ashley and Patrick ...through the prayers of *St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... ...through the prayers of *St George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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For the souls of the newly departed... ...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. *Eternal Memory!*

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* This is to be used for the special intentions of our brothers and sisters and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you would 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 Orthodox Christians.*

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF 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.