



Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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



Father Dave Urban, Pastor
Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus
Timothy Martin, Reader
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors
Matthew Peifer, Church Council President
www.facebook.com/pg/St-John-the-Baptist-Orthodox-Church-of-Northside-Pittsburgh-169297619784149

2688 California Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa 15212
412-748-0148, Talk or Text
OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com
www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.com

June 17, 2018

Volume IV

3rd Sunday after Pentecost / St. Metrophanes, 1st Patriarch of Constantinople (325)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 2

Liturgical Color: **Green**

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

YOUTH Sunday / Panachida for all deceased Fathers of our parish and families

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thursday, June 21 – 9:30am Moleben to the Theotokos with Holy Anointing

Saturday, June 23 – 11-1 Mystery of Holy Confession offered

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

* Monday	Hieromartyr Dorotheos, bishop of Tyre (361)	Romans 9:18-33	Matthew 11:2-15
* Tuesday	Venerable Bessarion the Wonderworker of Egypt (466)	Rom. 10:11-11:2	Matthew 11:16-20
* Wednesday	Martyr Theodotus of Ancyra (303)	Romans 11:2-12	Matthew 11:20-26
* Thursday	St. Theodore, bishop of Rostov and Suzdal (1023)	Rom. 11:13-24	Matthew 11:27-30
* Friday	Venerable Cyril, abbot of White Lake (1427)	Rom. 11:25-36	Matthew 12:1-8
* Saturday	Hieromartyr Timothy, bishop of Prusa (362)	Romans 6:11-17	Matthew 8:14-23

** The Apostles' (Peter & Paul) Fast - Let us imitate Christ and the Saints and fast as they did.*

Sunday, June 24 – 4th Sunday after Pentecost / Apostle Bartholomew

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 3

Liturgical Color: **Green**

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

Add'l Collection for our Community Outreach / 50th Wedding Anniversary Prayers for Dave & Andrea Urban

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Glory Be To Jesus Christ! (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 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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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



Wednesday, June 27 – 7pm Akathist to Saint Peter and Saint Paul

Sat., June 30 – 11am Mystery of Holy Baptism and Initiation into the Orthodox Faith of **Bryce James Blobner**

Tuesday, July 3 – 9:30am Akathist in times of Sorrow and Depression

Saturday, July 7 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Sunday, July 14 – Additional collection for our Capital Improvement Fund / 12-5 Church Picnic

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Relocation Update – The Church Council this past week passed the following motion: *“The exploration of having all Parish services for two to three months in the North Corridor and in consequence, the North Side Church will not have services.”* With this decision being made, the Relocation Committee will reconvene. After details are gathered, we will have a special parish meeting to make a decision on this item. Please talk with any Church Council member or Father with any questions.

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Faith Night at PNC Park – is **Friday, July 27th** at 7:05 as the Pittsburgh Pirates battle the New York Mets. We are organizing a group of tickets in section 204. For \$30 we will have a discount on concessions and all-you-can-eat snacks. (We are going to extend this offer to our Pittsburgh and Tri-State Deaneries.) Please contact Wendy Martellotti (412-583-6254 or martellotti11@verizon.net) to reserve your ticket by July 8th. And *Let's Go Bucs!*

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Garden Blessings – A new opportunity this year – Father will come and bless your garden if you wish! The format of the blessing is very similar to our annual house blessing. Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested.

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; ²³but 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? ²⁶Look 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? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But 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? ³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

Sainted Mitrophanes, Patriarch of Constantinople

Commemorated on June 17/4

Sainted Mitrophanes, Patriarch of Constantinople, was a contemporary of Saint Constantine the Great (306-337). His father, Dometius, was by birth a brother of the Roman emperor Probus (276-282). Having reasoned out the falseness of the pagan religion, Dometius came to believe in Christ. During a time of terrible persecution of Christians at Rome, Saint Dometius set off to Byzantium with two of his sons, Probus and Mitrophanes, and began to be instructed in the law of the Lord by Bishop Titus, a man holy of life. Seeing the ardent desire of Dometius to labour for the Lord, Saint Titus ordained him presbyter. And after the death of Titus there was elevated upon the bishop's throne first Dometius (272-303), and thereafter his sons, Probus (303-315) and in 316 – Saint Mitrophanes.

Upon a time having come to Byzantium, the emperor Constantine was delighted by the beauty and comfortable setting of the city. And having seen the holiness of life and sagacity of Saint Mitrophanes, the emperor took him back along to Rome. Soon Constantine the Great



transferred the capital from Rome to Byzantium and he brought Saint Mitrophanes there. In the year 325 there was convened the First OEcumenical Council for resolving the Arian heresy. Constantine the Great had the holy fathers of the Council bestow upon Saint Mitrophanes the title of Patriarch. In such manner, the saint became the first Patriarch of Constantinople. Saint Mitrophanes was himself very old, and was not able to be present at the Council, and he sent in place of himself the khore-bishop (vicar bishop) Alexander. At the close of the Council the emperor together with the holy fathers visited with the ailing Patriarch. At the request of the emperor, the saint disclosed his choice of worthy successor to himself – Bishop Alexander, foretelling, that after Alexander there would be elevated upon the patriarchal throne Paul (at that time a reader), and to the Patriarch of Alexandria Alexander he foretold, that his successor would be the archdeacon Saint Athanasias.

Saint Mitrophanes peacefully expired to God in the year 326, at age 117. His relics rest at Constantinople, in a church, erected in his memory.

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH

Upcoming Orthodox Food Festivals:

➤ **June 22-24** – Holy Dormition (12 Washington Ave., Oakmont) *Greek*

Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the church hall for times and more information or visit holytrinitypgh.org/pittsburgh-greek-festivals-guide



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“Saints Alive” **Vacation Church School** at Holy Cross (123 Gilkeson Rd., Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228) Monday-Friday, **July 30-August 3** from 9am~12 Noon (*8:30am for Monday) For all children age 3 through entering 6th grade (older students, parents, and interested adults are welcome to volunteer!) Nominal registration fee: \$20 if received by 6/30; \$30 by 7/15; \$40 after 7/15. Registration forms found at: www.holycrosspgh.org/ministries/vacation/

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Vacation Church School at Presentation of Christ (1672 Electric Ave., East Pittsburgh, PA) Monday-Friday, **August 6-9** from 9am to 12 Noon. All children ages 5-12 are welcome. We ask a \$5 per child donation. Registration information can be obtained by contacting the office (412-824-9188 / LKoutsavlis@ypapanti.net)

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

What Should I Wear?

By Presvytera Alexandra Houck

Have you ever wondered what you were going to wear? Maybe you spent some time, looking through your drawers or in your closet. Did you know that the average woman spends 16 minutes every morning deciding what to wear? That's a lot of time worrying about our clothes! But the Bible tells us today, "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?" Our Lord tells us in the Bible today, "Your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of

God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you too." We hear that God wants us to think about what's on the inside of us, not the outside of us. He wants us to think about how we can grow closer to Him, how we can love God more, how we can love our brothers and sisters and our parents more. God wants us to think about how we can help each other more and to do nice things for each other. So, the next time you are deciding what to wear, remember that our Lord wants us to think about the inside, not the outside. Then you can spend those 16 minutes (or more) on something more important to your salvation!

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The Spiritual Aspects Of Fatherhood

by Al Rossi, Ph.D

A conference participant once asked the speaker, "What is the best way for a father to love his children?" The speaker replied, "The best way for a father to love his children is to love their mother." I reflect often upon that superbly accurate statement. And I think the reverse is equally true: the best way a mother can love her children is to love their father. More than anything else in the world, children need a loving family and parents who support each other, even if the parents are apart through separation or divorce. Christ challenges us to love one another, and that challenge becomes even more compelling within our own families. Even in the best of families, there is broken-ness. And that is why the man's call to fatherhood is so important. We fathers are called to show our families strong, manly love and forgiveness, virtues modeled powerfully in the father of the prodigal son (Luke 11:32). This father is stable, loving, and generous. In his fairness, he avoids violating the freedom of either of his sons. When the prodigal demands his inheritance and decides to leave, the father does not attempt to withhold the money. He does not pressure the son to stay by trying to make him feel guilty. And the father is wise enough not to send care packages to relieve the son's distress. The father allows both of his adult sons to make their own mistakes and to learn from their failures, an appropriate form of discipline for older adolescents and young adults. The prodigal's father demonstrates manly leadership by taking loving initiatives, and he takes many such initiatives. He maintains a thriving business to provide the generous

inheritance. He creates and supports a loving family for the prodigal to run from and for the older son to remain with. And there was his last generous, joyful initiative as he runs out to embrace the returning son, kiss him, and put on him the best robe, ring, and shoes. He celebrates the return of his son with a feast. And in a scene all of us fathers can recognize, he opens up the conversation with the sulking older son. The father takes the initiative in bringing about forgiveness and reconciliation in the whole family. He is a model for us in responding to our call to follow the Spirit of Jesus in taking many initiatives in our families, especially that of boundless forgiveness for our children. When a father takes responsibility for his own spiritual life, for the way he prays, goes to church, and practices virtue in the family, he gives good example. Then his leadership in the family is authentic, based on his own solid relationship with God, and he is less likely to be concerned about any resistance his children may give him. He can lead family prayer. When I suggest that we stand in the living room and pray before a trip or that we pray in a restaurant, I often feel an initial resistance in my children. But quiet cooperation and peacefulness soon follow. Sometimes the children will even tell me that they prayed in a restaurant when I wasn't there. At times the father's role of leading the family to great forgiveness and prayerfulness is an unpopular one. But as a man grows in his own spiritual life, he becomes more sturdy and willing to accept responsibility. Although all this is impossible for us fathers to do alone, God can do all things. God can even bestow the awesome spiritual power of fatherhood upon us.

From: www.theologic.com/oflweb/forfolks/spirfrhd.htm

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

"Here is a word for all. There is no reason for a Christian to despair. Be calm and at peace."
- Abbot Nikon Vorobiev

MONDAY

"Don't let anything deprive you of hope." +St. Nectarios of Aegina

TUESDAY

"He who fears God will pay careful attention to his soul and will free himself from communion with evil."
+St. Thalassios the Libyan

WEDNESDAY

"There is need not only of faith, but also of a spiritual way of life-that we may keep the Spirit that was given once for all." +St. John Chrysostom

THURSDAY

"Pray carefully and constantly. Pray in fear and trembling before the greatness of the name of Jesus."
+St. Ignatius Brianchaninov

FRIDAY

"For those who work carelessly and slackly apparently toil greatly, but they never gather fruit because they take no pains and are fundamentally painless." +St. Gregory the Sinaite

SATURDAY

"...devoutness is a transmittable virtue. The movements and behaviour of a devout person are transmitted like perfume, provided the recipient possesses good will and humility." - Elder Paisios of Mount Athos

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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... Julie, Jane, Mildred, Anna Mae, Andrew, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Barbara, Matthew, Patricia, Lino, David, Edward, Melissa, Louis, Marjorie, Jonathan, Ivana, Donna, Doug, Danielle, Pañi Patty Patrick, Sharon, June, Helen, ...*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, Kathryn, Ashley, John, and Noella, *our seminarians:* 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, The Monastery of the Transfiguration ...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... Anthony Horbal (6/17), Katherine Chow (6/20), Donna (Lanick) Staub (6/20), Pañi Melissa Chendorain (6/20), Mary Jane Hudak (6/23) ...*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 & Jeffrey ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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For Expectant Mothers... Lindsay, Mary Ann, Elyse, and Lauren
...*through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and 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 PRAYERS OF THE WEEK:

A Prayer On Fathers' Day

O Lord God, our Heavenly Father! We beseech You to hear the supplications, which we, Your humble and lowly servants, offer this day on behalf of all our fathers. Grant your guidance and wisdom to young fathers. Reassure and inspire our fathers in the prime of life, endowing them with spiritual joy. Comfort and sustain our elderly fathers. Look kindly upon our fathers whom You have called into Your Heavenly Kingdom. Kindle within our hearts the burning love and faithful devotion that Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ showed His earthly father, holy Joseph the Betrothed. We pray to You, O Heavenly Father, on this Fathers' Day to accept our prayers and graciously hear us now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.