



# Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church



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

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Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus  
Timothy Martin, Reader  
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors  
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June 24, 2018

Volume IV

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Holy Apostle Bartholomew (1<sup>st</sup> century)

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 / 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Prayers for Dave & Andrea Urban

### SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

**Saturday**, June 30 – 11am Mystery of Holy Baptism & Initiation into the Orthodox Faith of **Bryce James Blobner**

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

* Monday	Venerable Onuphrius the Great (400)	Rom 12:4-5,15-21	Matthew 12:9-13
* Tuesday	Martyr Aquilina of Byblos in Lebanon (293)	Romans 14:9-18	Mt 12:14-16,22-30
* Wednesday	Prophet Elisha (10th c. B.C.)	Romans 15:7-16	Mt 12:38-45
* Thursday	St. Michael, first metropolitan of Kiev (992)	Rom. 15:17-29	Mt 12:46-13:3
* Friday	St. Tychon, bishop of Amathus in Cyprus (425)	Romans 16:1-16	Matthew 13:4-9
* Saturday	St. John of Shanghai & San Francisco the Wonderworker (1966)	Romans 8:14-21	Matthew 9:9-13

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

**Sunday**, July 1 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost / Martyr Leontius at Tripoli in Syria (73)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 4

Liturgical Color: **Green**

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

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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



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 8 – Additional collection for our Capital Improvement Fund / 12-5 Church Picnic

Thursday, July 12 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul

Sunday, July 15 – YOUTH Sunday

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This Bulletin Is Offered:

In honor of  
Dave & Andrea  
Urban's  
50<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
Anniversary.  
May God grant them  
many years!



### PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

**St John's Parish Picnic** – Our annual parish picnic is around the corner! We will gather on **Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>** from Noon to 5:00 at *The Cabin* in North Park (988 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. For other questions, please see a Church Council member.

#### Parish Stewardship Opportunities...

As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. (Lk. 6:31)

- Bring in items for the Monastery
- Sponsor a Coffee Social



**Faith Night at PNC Park** – is **Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>** 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 8<sup>th</sup>**. And *Let's Go Bucs!*

#### 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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**Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials** were offered last week by Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Melanie Shuster; Kathy Schrmack; Lawrence Martin; Linda Gavulich; Barbara Kirish; Olga Radick; Eleanor Sanger; Mary Jane Hudak; Joanne Nelson; Theresa Sharpless; Patty Watson (for Father); Donald Gavulich; Cindy Pavilonis.

***"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 Tim Martin, In Memory of Father, Lawrence; by John Gaydos, Jr., In Memory of Mother, Catherine; and by Cindy Pavilonis, In Memory of Father, Joseph. May Their Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Jim Pamjat!

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**Coat Drive** – *Do you have a clean coat or two that you have not worn since before the last coat drive? (...but it still looks good and you don't want to get rid of it?) We are now collecting clean coats and jackets, in good condition, to donate to FOCUS Pittsburgh this August. We will collect the clean coats on the coat rack in the hall.*

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**Coffee Social Steward Schedule**

July 1: **Bob and Gina Fall**  
July 8: **OPEN / Pot Luck**  
July 15: **Kathy Schrmack**

*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!*

**Our Stewardship Gift To God**

Stewardship/Dues: \$ 876  
Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box: \$ 241  
Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special: \$ 693  
**Total Collections: \$ 1810**

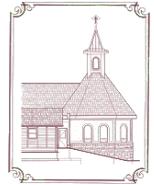
*Collection for the Saints: "On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper." 1 Cor 16:2*

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**Collection for Holy Transfiguration Monastery – Please bring in items by NEXT week. Here is this year's list of needed items requested by the nuns:**

**Monastery Supplies:**

Toilet tissue  
Facial Tissues  
Paper Towels  
Paper napkins  
Tall Kitchen White Trash Bags  
Dessert size **paper** plates  
9 in. and 12 in. **paper** plates



**Cleaning Supplies:**

Clorox Bathroom Cleaner (not wipes)  
Clorox Bleach Cleaner  
409 Cleaner  
Dish washing liquid (refill)

**Food Items:**

sugar & creamers containers for coffee hour  
powdered sugar  
canola oil  
cooking spray  
salted canned nuts  
honey – large jars  
honey bear jars – small  
granola bars – snack bars  
small cans of chick peas (plain not seasoned)

**Don't Forget:**

Bring in your used greeting cards to the bin in the Vestibule

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**ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH**

**Pittsburgh Serbfest** - We will be kicking off a year of giving with Pittsburgh's first-ever Serbfest at the American-Serbian Club (2524 Sarah St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203) on **July 1<sup>st</sup> from Noon to 7pm**. There will be roasted lamb, cevapcici, drinks, music, dancing, and more! The event supports The Lifeline Humanitarian Organization of Pittsburgh. The Tri-State committee has been in existence for 3 years. Please join us in continuing to raise much needed aid this year! (The Tri-State Committee organizes events in order to raise funds and resources in support of Lifeline Humanitarian Organization. One hundred percent of our time and proceeds are donated to the organization and personally delivered to Serbia.)

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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/](http://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](mailto:LKoutsavlis@ypapanti.net))

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**SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Epistle: Romans 6:18-23**

<sup>18</sup>and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification.

did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>But then what return

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**Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13**

**Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant**

<sup>5</sup>As he entered Caper'na-um, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him<sup>6</sup> and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress."<sup>7</sup> And he said to him, "I will come and heal him."<sup>8</sup> But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another,

'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." <sup>10</sup>When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even<sup>[a]</sup> in Israel have I found such faith. <sup>11</sup>I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, <sup>12</sup>while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." <sup>13</sup>And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

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**LIVES OF THE SAINTS**

Source: [www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar](http://www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar) © 1996-2001 by translator Fr. S. Janos

**The Holy Apostle Bartholomew**

*Commemorated on June 24/11*

The Holy Apostle Bartholomew was born at Cana of Galilee and was one of the Twelve Apostles of Christ. After the Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, it fell by lot to the holy Apostles Bartholomew and Philip (Comm. 14 November) to preach the Gospel in Syria and Asia Minor. In their preaching they dispersed through various cities, and then met up together again. Accompanying the holy Apostle Philip was his sister, the holy virgin Saint Mariam. Traversing the cities of Syria and Myzia, they underwent much hardship and tribulations, they were stoned and they were locked up in prison. In one of the villages they met up with the Apostle John the Theologian, and together they set off to Phrygia. In the city of Hieropolis by the power of their prayers they destroyed an enormous viper, which the pagans worshipped as a god. The holy Apostles Bartholomew and Philip with his sister proved their preaching with many a miraculous sign.



At Hieropolis there lived a man by the name of Stakhios, who had been blind for 40 years. When he received healing, he then believed in Christ and was baptised. News of this spread throughout the city, and a multitude of the people thronged to the house where the apostles were staying. The sick and those beset by demons were released from their infirmities, and many were baptised. The city governor gave orders to arrest the preachers and throw them in prison, and to burn down the house of Stakhios. At the trial pagan priests came forth with the complaint, that the strangers were turning people away from the worship of the ancestral gods. Thinking that perhaps some sort of magic power was hidden away in the clothes of the apostles, the governor gave orders to strip them. But Saint Mariam began to seem like a fiery torch before their eyes, and none dared touch her. They sentenced the saints to crucifixion. The Apostle Philip was raised up on the cross upside down. But there then began an earthquake, and a fissure in the earth swallowed up the governor of the city, together with the pagan priests and many of the people. Others took fright and rushed to take down the apostles from the crosses. Since the Apostle Bartholomew had not been put up high, they managed to take him down quickly. The

Apostle Philip however had died. Making Stakhios the bishop of Hieropolis, the Apostle Bartholomew and Blessed Mariam left the city and moved on.

Preaching the Word of God, Mariam arrived in Likaoneia, where she peacefully died (Comm. 17 February). The Apostle Bartholomew set off to India, and there he translated from Hebrew the Gospel of Matthew, and he converted many pagans to Christ. He visited likewise Great Armenia (the country between the River Kura and the upper stretches of the Tigrus and Euphrates Rivers), where he worked many a miracle and healed the daughter of the emperor Polimios from the demons afflicting her. The emperor in gratitude sent gifts to the apostle, who however refused to accept them, saying that he sought only for the salvation of the souls of mankind. Then Polimios together with the empress, their healed daughter and many of those close to them accepted Baptism. And people from the ten cities of Great Armenia followed their example. But through the intrigues of the pagan priests, the Apostle Bartholomew was seized by the emperor brother Astiag in the city of Al'ban (now the city of Baku), and crucified upside down. But even from the cross he did not cease to proclaim the good news about Christ the Saviour. Finally, on orders from Astiag, they flayed the skin from the Apostle Bartholomew and cut off his head. Believers placed his remains in a pewter coffin and buried him.

In about the year 508 the holy relics of the Apostle Bartholomew were transferred to Mesopotamia, to the city of Dara. When the Persians seized the city in 574, Christians took the relics of the Apostle Bartholomew with them when they fled to the shores of the Black Sea. But since the enemy overtook them there, they were compelled to leave the coffin at the sea. By the power of God the coffin miraculously arrived on the island of Lipara. In the IX Century, after the taking of the island by the Arabs, the holy relics were transferred to the Neapolitan city of Beneventum in Italy, and in the X Century part of the relics were transferred to Rome.

... Saints John Chrysostom, Cyril of Alexandria, Epiphanius of Cyprus and certain other teachers of the Church regard the Apostle Bartholomew as being one and the same person as Nathanael (Jn. 1: 45-51, 21: 2).

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## LIVING ORTHODOXY

### Resentment

#### We must put aside all resentment

The decision to forgive another person a wrong done to us begins when we decide to let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge. To forgive someone does not mean that we forget what they did to us, for this may be impossible. The memory of the hurt might always remain with you, but when you decide to forgive the person who wronged you, the grip of resentment is put aside. When we forgive someone it is even possible the find yourself filled with compassion and empathy for the person, for the act of forgiveness opens the heart to God's grace.

When we forgive someone, we are not denying their responsibility for hurting or offending us, nor are we justifying their act. We can forgive them without approving or excusing their transgression against us. The act of forgiving another opens our heart to the peace that brings closure to hurt and pain, and opens us up to the love and peace that comes from living a life without resentment.

If we find ourselves struggling to forgive, it is a good reminder to recall those hurtful things we've done to others, and remember when we've been forgiven. It is especially good to recall how God has forgiven us, and call upon Him to give us the grace needed to put aside our resentment, and truly forgive the other person. Being quick to forgive, and putting aside all thoughts of revenge will open our heart to a joyful and peaceful life.

Finally, if we pray for those who've offended us, we open the door to all kinds of possibilities. When we ask God to help the person whose been unkind and hurtful, our own hearts receive healing, for when we've forgiven others, grace abounds.

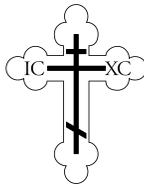
"Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate when people say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it." (1 Peter 3:9)

With Love in Christ,  
Abbot Tryphon

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## SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

*Father can meet M-F 9:30a-4p or by appointment.*  
**Online Community:** Please email Fr. Dave to receive the weekly bulletin via email.  
**Phone Tree** – Please call Fr. Dave to be added.  
**Emergency Sick Calls** – Please notify Fr Dave when you or a family member are going into the hospital or having a procedure so he can pray with you and you may receive the Anointing to be fully prepared.  
**Mystery of Confession** – Opportunities are available after every service, most Saturdays during fasting periods from 11am to 1pm, OR by appointment.  
**Holy Communion/Eucharist** – The reception of the Holy Eucharist is encouraged by all Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves, with fasting from midnight on, regular Confession, and forgiveness for all people. Those who are not Orthodox may receive a *blessing* from the chalice.  
**Lapsed Members** – You are always welcome home



and we want you back! Generally speaking, sincere participation in the Mysteries of Confession, Communion, and regular attendance at the divine services are all that is required to begin parish life anew! See Fr. Dave for specific details.  
**Baptisms** – Please consult Father for details.  
**Adult Chrismation** – New parishioners are always welcome! In the case of adults seeking entrance into the Church, a period of prescribed catechism will be established with Fr. Dave before administration of the Mysteries. An Orthodox Christian sponsor is also required.  
**Marriages** – Are not performed during fasting periods and certain Feast Days. Please consult Father ASAP for details (*before* arrangements are made for the hall).  
**Church Funerals** – are provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual and financial obligations; otherwise burial is from the funeral home. The Church does not permit cremation.

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## SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

### SUNDAY

"Do not be discouraged when you see no improvement. One thing is needful: try to live according to the Gospel commandments. Fight and defend yourself against every sin through deeds, words or thoughts, and do not voluntarily succumb to bad influences. If you do succumb, repent before the Lord, ask forgiveness, and rise to fight again. And so until death." - *Abbot Nikon Vorobiev*

### MONDAY

A monk asked: "I would like to preserve my heart but I cannot," to which the elder +St. Sisoës responded: "How can we preserve the heart when the gate to our heart the tongue stands open?"

### TUESDAY

"Words are instruments of this world, but silence is a mystery of the age to come." +St. Isaac the Syrian

### WEDNESDAY

"Like a bee one should extract from each of the virtues what is most profitable. In this way, by taking a small amount from all of them, one builds up from the practice of the virtues a great honeycomb overflowing with the soul-delighting honey of wisdom." +St. Gregory of Sinai

### THURSDAY

"Saul heard the voice from Heaven and after that he could not see for he had persecuted the incomprehensible One, and for zeal of the Law he exchanged his sight. However, he was led to the font and received Baptism by faith, and in immersion he gained sight in both his physical and spiritual eyes. Awed by your wondrous calling, we gratefully cry out to you: Rejoice, Apostle Paul, called by God, for you were sent to preach to all nations." - *Ikos 2, Akathist Hymn to Apostle Peter and Apostle Paul*

**FRIDAY**

"He who has no love cannot be called a Christian... the whole Gospel is summarized in compassion."  
+St. Justin Popovich

**SATURDAY**

"The Lord calls to Him all sinners; He opens His arms wide, even to the worst among them. Gladly He takes them in His arms, if only they will come to Him." +St. Macarius of Optina  
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**PRAYER CORNER**

*Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions and Other Needs \**



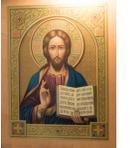
**A Prayer For The Sick:** O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant *name*. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver *him/her* from sickness and bitter pain. Heal *him/her* so that *he/she* may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.

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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, Mary Jane ...*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., Ameer, 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...** Anna Mae Gogal (6/25), Pañi Marianna Bannon (6/25), Darlene Labas (6/26), Nicole Maruscak (6/27), Ryan Dzadony (6/28), *Father's niece,* Aislinn Verbanick (6/28), John Radick (6/29), Elizabeth Radomsky (6/29), and Fr Miles Zdinak (6/29) ...*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...** Daniel & Linda Gavulich (6/27)...*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 PRAYER OF THE WEEK:**

**A Prayer of a Married Couple**

O merciful God, we ask You always to remind us that the married state is holy, and that we must keep it so.

Grant us Your grace, that we may continue in faithfulness and love; increase in us the spirit of mutual understanding and trust, that no quarrel or strife may come between us.

Grant us Your blessings, that we may stand before our friends and in Your sight as a loving family; and finally, by your mercy, count us worthy of everlasting life.

For You are our sanctification and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.