



# 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  
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July 22, 2018

Volume IV

## 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Hieromartyr Pancratius of Sicily (1st c.)

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy Tone 7 Liturgical Color: **Green**

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22

Panachida for +Jack Peifer (25<sup>th</sup> anniversary) & +Andrew Gogal / After Coffee: Special Parish Meeting

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

Tuesday, July 24 – 9:30am Akathist to the Great-martyr Euphemia

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

Monday	Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves (1073)	1 Corinthians 11:31-12:6	Matthew 18:1-11
Tuesday	Commemoration of the Miracle (451) of Great-martyr Euphemia the All-praised, of Chalcedon (304)	1 Corinthians 12:12-26	Mt 18:18-22, 19:1-2, 13-15
* Wednesday	Martyrs Theodore & his son John of Kiev (983)	1 Corinthians 13:4-14:5	Matthew 20:1-16
Thursday	Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel	1 Corinthians 14:6-19	Matthew 20:17-28
* Friday	Apostle Aquila of the Seventy (1st c.)	1 Corinthians 14:26-40	Mt 21:12-14, 17-20
Saturday	Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Prince Vladimir (1015)	Romans 14:6-9	Matthew 15:32-39

\* Let us imitate Christ and the Saints and fast as they did.

Sunday, July 29 – 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> 6 Councils

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy Tone 8 Liturgical Color: **Green**

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17; Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34

Additional Collection for our Community Outreach / following Coffee Social: Mystery of Holy Baptism and Initiation into the Orthodox Faith of Maverick Thomas Torchia

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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 Father 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  
+Jack Peifer  
(25<sup>th</sup> anniversary).  
May his memory be  
eternal!



### LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



Thursday, August 2 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Holy Prophet Elias

Sunday, August 5 – Annual Blessing of modes of transportation following the Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, August 8 – 7pm Akathist to St. Panteleimon with holy anointing

Sunday, August 12 – Additional Collection for our Capital Improvement Fund

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### PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

#### A Possible New Home For Our Parish –

We have an excellent long-awaited opportunity for our parish to survive and flourish. The existing building sits on nearly 2 acres at:

**2568 Wexford Bayne Road  
Sewickly, PA 15143**

The building was started, but never finished. The roof and foundation are good. The inside has wall studs, electric run, plumbing started, and utilities in place, but no drywall or anything finished. In comparison: North Side is about 60 ft. by 125 ft.; Wexford building is 65 ft. by 135 ft. Feel free to drive to the Wexford Exit of 79 and look at this site. It is practically a neighbor of Saints John and Paul Catholic Church.

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**Relocation Fund** – It was decided between the Relocation Committee and Church Council to set up a separate restricted account for our relocation. Monies that are donated towards this fund will strictly be used towards our relocation. In the event that we do not relocate, the monies will be distributed between Camp Nazareth and Christ the Saviour Seminary. Your kind generosity is greatly appreciated!

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**Prayer Request** – Please continue to pray for our parish community and the journey that we are on together!

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**Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials** were offered last week by Mary Jane Hudak, Joanne Nelson, Cindy Pavilonis, Viola Peifer, Olga Radick, Eleanor Sanger, Melanie Shuster, and 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 John Gaydos, Jr., in Memory of Mother, Catherine; and by Kathy Schrmack in memory of parents. May Their Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamjat!

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**Akathist to Saint Euphemia** – We have relics of The Holy Glorious Great-Martyr Euphemia in our Altar and Antimens on the Altar. Come to the Akathist on Tuesday to learn more about her!

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**Bibles for Babies** – It was decided a few weeks ago to purchase a Bible appropriate for babies for the little ones as they are baptized. The Bible that Father chose is \$10 each. (20 have been purchased.) Please feel free to make an additional stewardship donation to the church to help cover the cost (to date, half has been covered.)

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**Deanery Picnic** – Please save the date for the Inaugural Deanery Picnic to be held at The Anderson Shelter at Schenley Park on **Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>** from Noon to dusk. A flyer, directions, and more details will be coming soon...

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### Our Stewardship Gift To God

Stewardship/Dues:	\$ 60
Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box:	\$ 119
Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special:	\$ 421
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$ 600</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 295</b>
<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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### Coffee Social Steward Schedule

July 29: **OPEN / "Pot Luck"**  
August 5: **OPEN / "Pot Luck"**  
August 12: **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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### Parish Stewardship Opportunities...

- As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. (Lk. 6:31)*
- Pray for our parish and it's future
  - Sponsor a Coffee Social
  - Donate towards Bibles for Babies
  - Bring in items for our garage sale
  - Donate towards our coat drive

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### Visit Our Diocese On-Line

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

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## ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH



**Ukrainian Food Festival** (or *Ukie Fest* as it is affectionately known by locals) will offer the opportunity to eat, drink, dance and be merry in the McKees Rocks Bottoms. **July 25–28** at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church (116 Ellen St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136), the event will include all your favorite Ukrainian dishes. Doors open daily at 5pm (Wed. 7pm Parade, 8:30p-10p Bobby Thompson and the Groove; Thu 8p-10p Justen Fabus; Fri 8p-10p The Jaggerz; Sat 8p-10p The Marcells) Visit [www.ukiefestrocks.org](http://www.ukiefestrocks.org) for more information or call 412-331-2362.

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"Saints Alive" **Vacation Church School** at Holy Cross **July 30-August 3** from 9am~12 Noon. Registration forms and more information can be found at: [www.holycrosspgh.org/ministries/vacation/](http://www.holycrosspgh.org/ministries/vacation/)

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**Annual Pilgrimage: Patronal Feast and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of The Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration** – Each year the monastery (321 Monastery Lane, Ellwood City, PA 16117) hosts its Patronal Feast Day Celebrations and Pilgrimage on August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> for the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior

Jesus Christ (*New Calendar*). Here is this year's schedule to be celebrated with His Beatitude, Metropolitan TIKHON (Primate of the Orthodox Church in America), His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL (Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America), and guest Hierarchs:

<b>Sunday, August 5—Eve of Transfiguration</b>	10:00 Hierarchical Liturgy, Homily, Blessing of Fruit, Anniversary Greetings
9:30 Divine Liturgy followed by coffee hour	1:00 Catered Luncheon; Gift Shop Open
5:30 Vigil for the Feast of Transfiguration	3:00 Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Unction (Anointing)
8:30 Supper for pilgrims	4:30 Refreshments
<b>Monday, August 6—Feast of Transfiguration</b>	5:30 Vespers and Departure
9:00 Akathist, "Glory to God for All Things"	
9:30 Greeting and Vesting of Metropolitan Tikhon	

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"Miracles of Jesus" **Vacation Church School** at Presentation of Christ **August 6-9** from 9am to 12 Noon. For registration and more information, contact the office (412-824-9188 / [LKoutsavlis@ypapanti.net](mailto:LKoutsavlis@ypapanti.net))

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## SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

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### Divisions in the Church

<sup>10</sup> I appeal to you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup> For it has been reported to me by Chlo'e's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apol'los," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I am thankful that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Ga'ius; <sup>15</sup> lest any one should say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> (I did baptize also the household of Steph'anas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any one else.) <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

### Christ the Power and Wisdom of God

<sup>18</sup> For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**Gospel:** Matthew 14:14-22

<sup>14</sup> As he went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. <sup>15</sup> When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." <sup>16</sup> Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." <sup>17</sup> They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." <sup>18</sup> And he said, "Bring them here to me." <sup>19</sup> Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup> And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. <sup>21</sup> And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

### Jesus Walks on the Water

<sup>22</sup> Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

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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 PriestMartyr Pankratios, Bishop of Tauromeneia

Commemorated on July 22/9

The PriestMartyr Pankratios, Bishop of Tauromeneia, was born at a time, when our Lord Jesus Christ yet lived upon the earth.

The parents of Pankratios were natives of Antioch. Hearing about the good-news of Jesus Christ, the father of Pankratios took his young son with him and set off to Jerusalem, in order to see for himself personally the great Teacher. The miracles astonished him, and when he heard the Divine teaching, he then believed in Christ as the Son of God. He became close with the disciples of the Lord, especially with the holy Apostle Peter. And it was during this period that young Pankratios got to know the holy Apostle Peter.

After the Ascension of the Saviour one of the Apostles came to Antioch and baptised the parents of Pankratios together with all their household. When the parents of Pankratios died, he left behind his inherited possessions and went to a Pontine mountain and began to live in a



cave, passing his days in prayer and deep spiritual contemplation. The holy Apostle Peter, one time passing through these parts, made a visit to Pankratios at Pontus, and took him along to Antioch, and then to Cilicia, where the holy Apostle Paul then was. And there the holy Apostles Peter and Paul ordained Saint Pankratios as bishop of the Cilician city of Tauromeneia.

Saint Pankratios toiled zealously for the Christian enlightenment of the people. Over the course of a single month he built a church, where he celebrated Divine-services. The number of believers quickly grew, and soon almost all the people of Tauromeneia and the surrounding cities accepted the Christian faith.

Saint Pankratios governed his flock peacefully for many years. But one time pagans connived against the saint, and seizing an appropriate moment, they fell upon him and stoned him. Thus did Saint Pankratios end his life as a martyr (I). The relics of the saint rest in the church named for him, at Rome.

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## LIVING ORTHODOXY

### Unchanging: The transformational power of a Faith unchanging

In an age when many Christian denominations are trying to appear relevant and modern, I am finding that large numbers of people are drawn to the Ancient Faith by the beard and robe. I am constantly thanked for dressing as I do by people

who appreciate symbols of faith in the midst of a secular world. Many Orthodox jurisdictions that previously wanted to blend in with their Catholic and Protestant neighbors by having our clergy put off the traditional "look" of Orthodoxy, are now rediscovering the wisdom of these traditions...

From my personal observations, I have come to believe that Orthodoxy, if it is to thrive into the next century, must adhere to the ancient traditions and roots of the faith that have set her apart from the religions. **The Church must proclaim the Good News of Christ in all its purity, so that the mystical and sacramental core of her very being be clearly seen by a world that so needs this ancient, unchanging faith.** The world must see by our differences that Orthodoxy offers the transformational healing that comes through the life of Christ's Church. By clinging to her ancient, God inspired Tradition, the Church takes seriously the mystical and sacramental roots of her divinely founded self.

As we Orthodox look in amazement at the phenomenal resurrection of our Church following the fall of communism, what with the thousands of new churches being reopened, new ones built, and monasteries growing at a phenomenal rate, we will see that the twenty-first century could well be the Age of Orthodoxy. And for this to happen, we must put off everything that has brought down Western Christianity.

Accountability must be foremost in how we operate as religious institutions. Bishops and priests must be accountable to one another, transgressions against the Body of Christ must be rooted out, and the clergy must serve others as humble servants of Christ, and as living icons of the Gospel message. Our co-suffering Saviour must be seen in how we serve, and in how we live, and in how we love. **The transformational power of Orthodoxy must be allowed to change the world, as the "institutional" church is replaced with the gospel vision of the Church as Hospital of the Soul.**

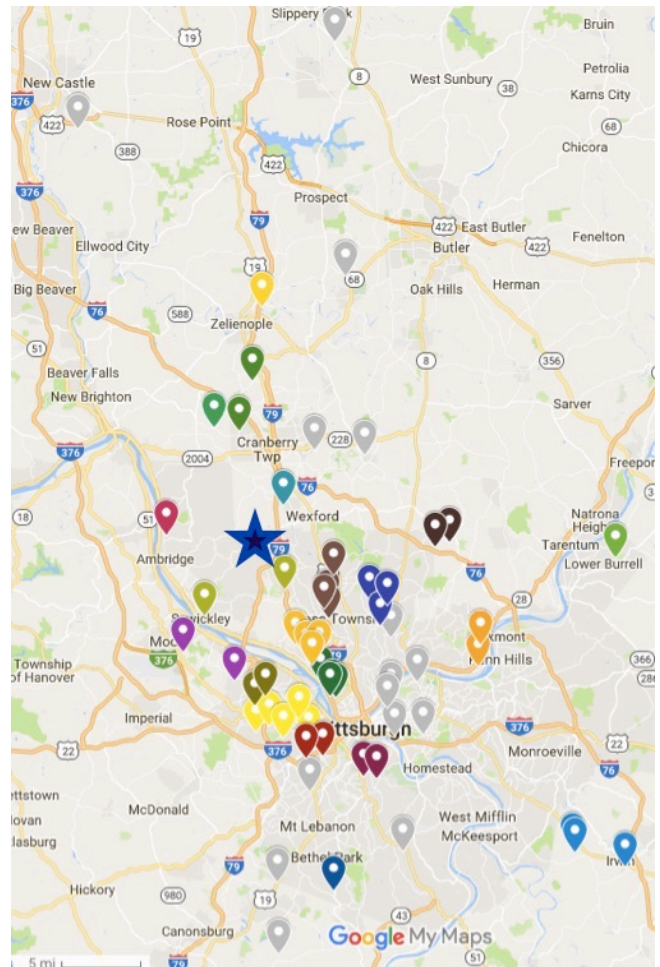
The Orthodox Church will thrive in the twenty-first century only if **we commit to being the otherworldly people we are called to be, living in the world, but not being of the world.** The Church will thrive, not because she adapts to modern styles of dress, and modern trends of moral and theological thought, but because of

her willingness to serve the world in imitation of the holy fathers of the Church who have gone on before us, and who refused to conform to the styles and fashions of a world that has always been in need of the unchanging Faith that has the power to transform lives, and usher the human race into communion with the Most High God.

Love in Christ,  
Abbot Tryphon

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**Where At?**– Here is a map of the 2018 House Blessings, for those that are curious, of where our parishioners are at. The Blue Star is the site of the proposed new home for our congregation.



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## SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

### SUNDAY

“Obedience is the virtue of a life in which self-will is sacrificed at the altar of the Cross, and the human person is united fully to the will of God.” - Bishop Irenei (Steenberg)

### MONDAY

"It is of great significance if there is a person who truly prays in a family. Prayer attracts God's Grace and all the members of the family feel it." - Elder Thaddeus

### TUESDAY

"I think there is no greater labor than that of prayer to God. For every time a man wants to pray, his enemies, the demons, want to prevent him, for they know that it is only by turning him from prayer that they can hinder his journey. Whatever good work a man undertakes, if he perseveres in it, he will attain rest. But prayer is warfare to the last breath." - Abba Agathon

### WEDNESDAY

"Now we are fighting the devil. So, try to become more brotherly and to have a brotherly fellowship. That's how we will all be able to walk together on the steep path of ascent toward sweet Golgotha." +St. Paisios of Mount Athos

### THURSDAY

“The Holy Scripture teaches: Pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17). How is this possible for people living in a secular world? If you are to pray all the time, how then are you to perform your other duties? The advice of perpetual prayer is directed not toward outward but toward inner prayer. If desired, you can turn to God internally whether you are alone or with others. Only he who does not want to pray will not find time for prayer.” + St. Innocent of Alaska

**FRIDAY**

"There is nothing better than peace in Christ, for it brings victory over all the evil spirits on earth and in the air. When peace dwells in a man's heart it enables him to contemplate the grace of the Holy Spirit from within. He who dwells in peace collects spiritual gifts as it were with a scoop, and he sheds the light of knowledge on others. All our thoughts, all our desires, all our efforts, and all our actions should make us say constantly with the Church: "O Lord, give us peace!" When a man lives in peace, God reveals mysteries to him." +St. Seraphim of Sarov

**SATURDAY**

"Some people living carelessly in the world have asked me: 'We have wives and are beset with social cares, and how can we lead the solitary life?' I replied to them: 'Do all the good you can; do not speak evil of anyone; do not steal from anyone; do not lie to anyone; do not be arrogant towards anyone; do not hate anyone; do not be absent from the divine services; be compassionate to the needy; do not offend anyone; do not wreck another man's domestic happiness, and be content with what your own wives can give you. If you behave in this way, you will not be far from the Kingdom of Heaven.'" +St. John Climacus

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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, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Barbara, Matthew, Patricia, Lino, David, Melissa, Louis, Marjorie, Jonathan, Donna, Doug, Danielle, June, Helen, Alexander ...*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, Rose *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...** Jennifer Brancho (7/22), Robert Fall (7/22), Lynn Mainolfi (7/23), Glenn Labas (7/25), Barbara Gedid (7/27), Ryan Gogal (7/27), *Pañi's father*, Stelian Popescu (7/27), Samuel Schrmack (7/27), Doug Delaney (7/28), Fr Stephen Lopusky (7/28) ...*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...** Thomas R. Dzadozsky ...*through the prayers of St George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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**For the souls of the newly departed...** +Andrew Gogal ...*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 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.

