Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople Father Dave Urban, Pastor 2688 California Avenue

Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus Timothy Martin, Reader

Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors

Matthew Peifer, Church Council President

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October 7, 2018

Volume IV

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19th Sunday after Pentecost / 1st Sunday of Luke / Holy Protomartyr and Equal-to-the-Apostles Thecla (1st c) Liturgical Color: Gold

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Tone 2

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9; Gospel: Luke 5:1-11 Panachida for +Ann Sefscik (1 year anniversary)

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday, October 10 – 7pm Final Exploring Orthodoxy for 2018 (in Wexford) Thursday, October 11 – 9:30am Akathist to the Theotokos, Healer of Cancer, with holy anointing The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

Monday	St. Euphrosyne (445)	Philippians 2:12-16	Luke 4:37-44	
Tuesday	Repose of the Apostle John	Philippians 2:17-23	Luke 5:12-16	
* Wednesday	Martyr Callistratus (304)	Philippians 2:24-30	Luke 5:33-39	
Thursday	Venerable Chariton the Confessor (350)	Philippians 3:1-8	Luke 6:12-19	
* Friday	Venerable Cyriacus the Hermit (556)	Philippians 3:8-19	Luke 6:17-23	
Saturday	Hieromartyr Gregory of Armenia (335)	2 Corinthians 1:8-11	Matthew 25:1-13	

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

Sunday, October 14 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost / 2nd Sunday of Luke / Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos (Pokrov) / Venerable Romanus the Melodist (556) 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy Liturgical Color: Blue Tone 3

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9; Gospel: Luke 6:31-36 Additional collection for our Capital Improvement Fund

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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! +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ + + + + + ++++ +++



Friday, October 19 – 9:30 Moleben for Parents Grieving a Miscarriage, Stillbirth, or Loss of a Child **Sunday**, October 21 – YOUTH Sunday / Panachida for +Richard Radick (28th anniversary) and for the Founders of our Parish

Tuesday, October 23 – 86^{th} Anniversary of the founding of our parish in 1932

Thursday, October 25 – 9:30am Akathist in times of Sorrow and Depression on the Feast of St. Anastasia, Patron Saint of those suffering from mental disorders (October is Mental Health Awareness Month) Friday, October 26 – 9:30am Akathist to St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre on Carpatho-Rusyn Day in North America

Sunday, October 28 – Additional Collection for our Community Outreach +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++



PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Thank You! - Stephen Brancho and his family wishes to offer their deepest Thank You to everyone for their prayers, cards, and support. He has been on an interesting road over the past few months! He has recuperated well following colon surgery and he began his chemotherapy treatments this past week. He appreciates everyone's continued prayers as he continues down this road. Through the prayers of our Holy

Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and save us! Amen!

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Akathist to the Healer of Cancer – October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Our prayers continue to be needed for those with cancer. On Thursday, October 11th at 9:30am we will have the Akathist to the Theotokos, the Healer of Cancer, with holy anointing of myrrh from the weeping icon.

If you wish to sponsor a bulletin In Honor of (anniversary, birthday, etc.) or In Memory of someone, please do so by signing up on the sheet on the table in the Vestibule of the Church or by contacting Fr. Dave. An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.

This Bulletin Is Offered:

Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials were offered last week by Jane Barrett; Julie Potoski; Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Melanie Shuster; Barbara Kirish; Lawrence Martin; Olga Radick; Eleanor Sanger: Joanne Nelson; Theresa Sharpless; Patty Watson; Cindy Pavilonis; John Radick.

"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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Today is College Student Sunday **OCF** – Please keep in your prayers and in your care all of our college students.

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Panachida (Memorial) Services – If you desire to offer Panachida (Memorial) Services in memory of your departed loved ones, please, contact Fr. Dave ahead of Sunday to make these arrangements. Depending on the number of requests, we may combine with other families' commemorations. Typically in the Orthodox Church, Panachida's are offered on the anniversary of one's passing from this life to our eternal life. Also note that sponsoring the bulletin in memory of someone should not replace having the prayers of a Panachida (Memorial) Service. Thank you.

+++ +++ +++ Exploring Orthodoxy for teenagers

through senior (citizens) - ONE WEEK LEFT! We will meet this Wednesday from 7 to 8:15pm at the Eat 'n Park off of the Wexford exit of 79 (2650 Brandt School Road, Wexford, Pa 15090 / 724-940-3270) for our Exploring Orthodoxy Discussions. Come for a bite to eat and learn about your faith! (If you need a ride, please contact Fr. Dave.) +++ +++ +++



Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos (Pokrov) – Sunday, October 14^{th} , we will celebrate this Feast. It is an old custom to bring fresh flowers to church on the Feasts of the Theotokos to honor her. All are

encouraged to bring a bouquet next week and place it on the solea in front of the icon of Mary on the Iconostasis. It's not often that Feast Days fall on a Sunday – come and celebrate the Divine Liturgy with us!



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Protecting Veil of the Theotokos of Pittsburgh Icon - This Icon (the centennial Icon of St. Mary Orthodox Church, Southside Pittsburgh) is being reproduced by

Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery the (Saxonburg, PA) with all proceeds going to the monastery to help rebuild after their lightening strike and fire. Please email Father for an order form or see the sheet in the hall as sizes and prices vary from 11"x14" for \$65 to 18"x24" for \$290 (there are 5 different styles to choose from).

+++ +++ +++ Sr. ACRY - will have their next

meeting on Sunday, October 21st following Coffee Hour. If you would like more information about joining this philanthropic group, please plan to stay!

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Our Stewardship Gift To God

Stewardship/Dues:	\$	488		
Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box:\$ 285.50				
Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special: \$ 1162				
Community Outreach:	\$	70		
Total Collections: \$ 2005.50				
Relocation Fund:	\$	70		

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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August Financial Report: Donation Income = \$ 8037.40 *Expenses = \$ 3983.01 Net Income = \$ 4054.39 *details listed on the church hall bulletin board

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 42

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Patron Saint Commemorations – Please note that we will begin commemorating our Patron Saints during the Proskomedia (Preparation) prayers of the Divine Liturgy and during the Great Entrance pravers. Please contact Father Dave to confirm that he has the date of your Name's Day. Here are a couple website to search if you are not sure when your Name Day is:

orthodoxwiki.org/Baptismal_names (can help with more unique names)

holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/ (an "Old" Calendar site)

christopherklitou.com/when_is_my_nameday_d.htm ("New" calendar, but includes a lot of links to see the icons for the Saints)



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Reading (or Chanting) of the Third **Hour** – Beginning soon, we will have the 3rd Hour read prior to the start of the Divine Liturgy. This will begin by 9:15. If you are interested in this prayerful stewardship of the church, please contact Fr Dave.

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 - Offer to help with candles and cleaning October 13th and/or 20th - Offer to Read/Chant the Third Hour

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Coffee Social Steward Schedule

October 14: Theresa Sharpless October 21: Olga Radick October 28: ???

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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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

ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH

Upcoming Orthodox Food Festivals:

- > October 11-12 All Saints (601 West McMurray Rd., Canonsburg) Greek
- October 12-13 St. Nicholas (903 Ann St., Homestead) Carpatho-Rusyn
- > October 13 St. Nicholas (320 Munson Ave., McKees Rocks) Slavic Food Fest
- > October 13 St Vladimir (73 S 18th St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203) Ukrainian
- > October 14 St. Michael (146 3rd Ave., Rankin) Carpatho-Rusyn
- October 19-21 St. George (New Church / New Location: 3230 Washington Pike, Bridgeville) Mediterranean www.StGeorgeBridgeville.org

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25th Annual 7-K Walk/Run for Missions *"Fulfilling Jesus' Great Commission" – <u>TWO WALKS</u> <u>WILL OCCUR</u> on Sunday, October 14th. ONE AT SCHENLEY PARK (contact Fr Dave for more details) and the other at South Park Children's Playground Pavilion (Corrigan & Brownsville Rd., South Park, PA 15129) sponsored by the <i>Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh*. Register at 1pm at South Park. <u>Walk begins at 2pm</u>. There will be complimentary refreshments before the walk and a light lunch following the walk. FREE T-Shirt for children 8 years and under who raise \$50 or others who raise \$100 or more. Bring your pledge forms and collected money to the event (make checks payable to *"Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood"*). Even if you are unable to be with us in person, your donation will be extremely helpful in carrying out this important and necessary work of the Church. For more information, email <u>faith.williard@pittsburghmoves.com</u> or <u>stevekrakora@hotmail.com</u>, or call 412-251-3207. Proceeds earmarked for the Guatemalan Seminarians and Mission work of Fr. John and Presbytera Sandy Chakos. Visit <u>www.TheWordFromGuatemala.com</u> to follow the blog of this mission!

Raising Believing Children – This workshop will be on **Saturday, October 27th** from 10am to 3pm at Camp Nazareth (339 Pew Rd., Mercer, PA) Presentations and discussions led by His Grace, Bishop Gregory of Nyssa and Very Rev. Stephen Loposky. Lunch and Snacks provided. Freewill offering will be taken at the door. <u>Child Care provided by Camp Nazareth</u>. Register for the event at <u>www.acrod.org</u>

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IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Walk To End Alzheimer's will be this **Saturday, October 13th** (Registration @7:30am; Ceremony @9:30; Walk Begins @10) on the North Shore. Please see Fr Dave (who will be walking with Maria and Sophia) if you are interested in walking or donating to this great cause!

SAINT JOHN'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting donations for the Seminarians and <u>Christ the Saviour Seminary</u>. Sunday, December 9th is the annual St Nicholas Charity Dinner to support our seminary. Your donations this month will be presented at this event. *Thank you in advance for your prayers for our seminarians and offerings later this month*!

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9

³¹ The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. ³² At Damascus, the governor under King Ar'etas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, ³³ but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

Paul's Visions and Revelations

12 I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. ² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. ³ And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— ⁴ and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. ⁵ On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶ Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of

me than he sees in me or hears from me.⁷ And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸ Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; ⁹ but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weaknesss." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

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Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

5 While the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennes'aret. ² And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴ And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep

and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, ⁷ they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." ⁹ For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zeb'edee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." ¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

The Church Calendar and our spiritual maturation

One of the most spiritually profitable discoveries for me, personally, was when I started, as a new Orthodox Christian, the observance of the liturgical calendar. Each day of the year I was carried along with the cycle of commemorations that brought to life various events in the life of Christ. The calendar provided me with daily scripture readings that quenched my thirst. The historical memory of the Church, lived out in the various periods of fasts and feasts, allowed me to experience a Christianity that was vibrant and meaningful.

An important element in the calendar, I discovered, was the daily commemorations of Christian saints and martyrs. These saints came

Cross-Jurisdictional Cooperation

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America convened in Cleveland, Ohio today (Wednesday, October 3) for the second day of its ninth annual meeting.

During the morning session, the Hierarchs discussed ways to support cross-jurisdictional cooperation among parishes at the local level. The Hierarchs issued the following statement in that regard:

alive with each day's offering, allowing me a chance to emulate in my own life the lives of those who'd already won the battle, acquiring holiness in the Lord. It was the daily commemoration of the saints that allowed me to remember the mystical connection between the Church Militant here on earth and the Church Triumphant in heaven.

Just as a general of the army studies the military maneuvers of past generals in preparation for leading his men into battle, so can I study the saints who've triumphed in spiritual warfare. If I want to struggle more faithfully in my own spiritual quest to deepen my love for God, I need look no further than the lives of the saints to find inspiration.

With love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon

+++ +++ +++ "The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of hops of the United States of America is committed to

the United States of America is committed to encouraging spiritual unity, communication, and cooperation among the parishes of various jurisdictions situated in the same geographic areas. The work of local clergy brotherhoods is a critical part of this process of achieving greater unity. In particular, the Assembly encourages all parishes to engage in joint liturgical events, educational activities, and outreach ministries, with respective hierarchical blessings."

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

The Holy First-Martyress and Equal-tothe-Apostles Thekla

Commemorated on Oct 7 / Sept 24

The Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Thecla was a contemporary of the Apostles. She learned about Christ at a time when she

was engaged to be married to a prominent man in the city of Iconium, located in modern-day Turkey. St. Paul happened to be teaching at the next-door residence for three days, which Thecla openly heard through her open window. She then made the decision not to marry but to dedicate her life to Christ, which infuriated her fiancé enough to lead him to get Paul cast into prison for his influence. Thecla escaped and after Paul's release, met up with him in Antioch. There, they became coworkers, helping him preach and doing good

works together. In her beauty, many suitors tried to turn Thecla into marrying them but she turned them all down. In their anger, one by one, they tried to have her arrested. Resisting, she decided to only counsel and heal the sick.

SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

"Speak and do everything right undoubtingty, boldly, firmly, and decidedly. Avoid doubts, timidity, languor, and indecision. 'For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love.'" +St John of Kronstadt

MONDAY

"Love all God's creation, the whole of it and every grain of sand. Love every leaf, every ray of God's light. Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery in things." - Elder Zosima



TUESDAY

"Thank also the instruments of providence, those through whom the Lord teaches us humility. For whom the Lord loves He chastened (Heb. 12:6). Discover from experience the truths of Christianity." - Abbot Nikon Vorobiev

WEDNESDAY

"Never condemn anyone. Greet everyone with a good disposition, whoever he may be, with the hope of finding in him only good, seeing before you the image of God." +St. Nikon of Optina

THURSDAY

"Do not judge others, for this alone will intercede for us during any judgement before God." +St. Macarius FRIDAY

"If you cannot fall asleep for a long time after you go to bed, then, after lying down, try to imagine the Lord Jesus Christ in His sufferings on the cross and pray to Him in your heart about everything that comes into your heart..." - Metropolitan Gregory (Postnikov) of St. Petersburg

SATURDAY

"It does not lie within our power to decide whether or not the passions are going to harass and attack the soul. But it does lie within our power to prevent impassioned thoughts from arousing the passions into action." +St. Theodorus the Great Ascetic

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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 <u>name</u>. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver <u>him/her</u> from sickness and bitter pain. Heal <u>him/her</u> so that <u>he/she</u> may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.

For the Health of... Julie, Jane, Mildred, Anna Mae, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Lino, David, Melissa, Louis, Jonathan, Danielle, June, Helen, Steven, Thomas, Doug, Joanne, Lynn, Mary, Kathy N. ...*through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; & 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, Rose *our seminarians:* Michael and Daniel, *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Matthew, Lawrence, Timothy, Patricia, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Donald, Jane, Eleanor, Steven, Kenneth, Jillian, John, Wendy, John, Olga, John, Melanie, Michael, John, John,

Margaret, Todd and for those who labor towards our Community Outreach, Christ the Saviour Seminary ...through the prayers of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker; St. John the Baptist; the Archangels Michael & Gabriel; and the

Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. + + + + + + + +

Patronal Feast Days (Name's Day): Saint _____(/_) – _____. (contact Fr Dave to make sure he has your date.)

Birthday Prayers for... John Gaydos, III (10/7), *Father's sister*, Melissa Ditmore (10/11), *Father's mother*, Andrea Urban (10/11), Kevin Anton (10/12) ...*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!*

For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Ashley and Patrick

...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magadalene, and St. John Maximovitch.

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For those preparing for Marriage... ... through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.

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Anniversary Prayers for... Chi-Wing & Deborah (Brancho) Chow (10/08), John & Jane Gaydos (10/9/93), Meredith & Ryan Blobner (10/12) ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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For Expectant Mothers... Lindsay, Mary Ann, Elyse, Lauren, Pańi Marianna

...through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St Irene Chrysovalantou.

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

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For the souls of the newly departed... +Anna Evanisko (Pańi Miloro's mother), The Priest, Fr. +Dragan Filipovic ...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. Eternal Memory! ++++++++

* 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*.

DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK:

A Student's Prayer

Most blessed Lord, send the grace of Your Holy Spirit on me to strengthen me that I may learn well the subject I am about to study and by it become a better person for Your glory, the comfort of my family, and the benefit of Your Church and our Nation. Amen.





