

Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church



Volume IV

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

ather Dave Urban, Pastor

Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus

Timothy Martin, Reader

October 28, 2018

Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors

Matthew Peifer, Church Council President

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

www.facebook.com/pg/St-John-the-Baptist-Orthodox-Church-of-Northside-Pittsburgh-169297619784149

22nd Sunday after Pentecost / 4th Lukan Sunday / **Venerable Euthymius the New of Mt. Athos (889)**

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy Tone 5

Liturgical Color: Gold Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18; Gospel: Luke 8:5-15

Additional Collection for our Community Outreach / Special Parish Meeting with vote following Liturgy

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thursday, November 1 – 9:30am Moleben to St. Nectarios with holy anointing The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

Monday	Venerable Longinus the Centurion (1st c.)	1 Thessalonians 1:1-5	Luke 9:18-22
Tuesday	Prophet Hosea (Osee) (820 B.C.)	1 Thessalonians 1:6-10	Luke 9:23-27
* Wednesday	Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke (1st c.)	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Luke 9:44-50
Thursday	Prophet Joel (800 B.C.)	1 Thessalonians 2:9-14	Luke 9:49-56
* Friday	Great-martyr Artemius at Antioch (362)	1 Thessalonians 2:14-19	Luke 10:1-15
Saturday	Venerable Hilarion the Great of Palestine (371)	2 Corinthians 8:1-5	Luke 7:2-10

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

Sunday, November 4 – 23rd Sunday after Pentecost / 5th Sunday of Luke / 7 Holy Youths (7 Sleepers) of Ephesus (250)

9:15am – 3rd Hour; 9:30 – Divine Liturgy

Tone 6

Liturgical Color: Gold

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10; Gospel: Luke 16:19-31 ++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

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!

This Bulletin Is Offered: For Good Health To Mareena Shuster On Her Birthday. Many Years!



LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



Thursday, November 8 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Great Martyr Demetrius Sunday, November 11 – Additional Collection for our Capital Improvement Fund Thursday, November 15 – 9:30am Moleben to the Theotokos with holy anointing **Sunday**, November 18 – YOUTH Sunday / 2pm Turkey Bingo



+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Turkey Bingo - Advertising flyers have been made. Please let Father know how many you want and he will print them for you. *** Form letters are also available to approach businesses for supplies or donations.

+++ +++ +++ 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. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING A LOOK AT THE SERVICE BEFORE OFFERING YOUR TIME, PLEASE LET FATHER KNOW AS COPIES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE DESK IN THE CHURCH HALL.

Patron Saint Commemorations - We began commemorating our Patron Saints during the Proskomedia (Preparation) prayers of the Divine Liturgy and during the Great Entrance prayers. (FATHER WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INCLUDE THEM IN OUR NEXT PARISH DIRECTORY). Please contact Father Dave with 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)

+++ +++ +++

Weekly Candle Intentions/Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Melanie Shuster; Olga Radick; Barbara Kirish; Joanne Nelson; John Radick; Theresa Sharpless; Patty Watson; 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

+++ +++ +++



Flag Sale – This past Friday was Carpatho-Rusyn Day in North America. Father remembered that

he never sent in the flag order that we took a number of months ago. If you would like to purchase a Carpatho-Rusyn Flag for \$25, please let him know by the end of the month. If you have any questions, please contact Father.



+++ +++ +++ ACRY NEWS



Lots-O-Luck Calendars – The National ACRY Lots-O-Luck Calendars are available. \$25 per ticket for a year's worth of prizes totaling \$10,000! Please see Theresa Sharpless for tickets.

Membership Drive Meeting – The next ACRY meeting will be on **Sunday, November 11**th as part of their membership drive. Please plan to come to the meeting with any questions that you have about our Sr. ACRY.



Soup or Chili Sale – Our ACRY will be selling soup for \$4 a pint on Sunday, November 18th. Plan to take home a

couple varieties home to keep you warm.

+++ +++ +++ Readers of the Third Hour:

November 4: John Kirish November 11: OPEN November 18: OPEN

This should begin by 9:15 and can be read or chanted. Please contact Fr Dave if you are interested in participating in this wonderful stewardship prayer opportunity!

++++++++ 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 Read/Chant the Third Hour

+++ +++

Visit Our Diocese On-Line

+ + +

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

+++ +++ +++ +++

Our Stewardship Gift To God

Stewardship/Dues: \$ 442 Candles/Small C./Eternal Lamp/C. box: \$ 130 493 Envelopes: Sunday/Feast Day/Special: \$ **Total Collections:** \$ 1065 **Relocation Fund:** 40 Garage Sale (Fundraising Acc't): 35 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

+++ +++ +++

turkey
BING 0

Annual Turkey Bingo – will occur on **Sunday, November 18**th. Donation is \$10 for admission

which includes 3 cards. The doors will open at **2pm** and the games begin at 3pm. All Bingo winners will receive a turkey as a prize. Plan to have supper at the church hall as the *Carpathian Kitchen* will be open and plenty of refreshments will be available.

In conjunction with the bingo we will also have a raffle of sporting tickets, Auction, Food Raffle, and baked goods available.

We ask you to help to donate <u>unexpired</u> food and/or paper products to be a part of the food basket raffle, and to prepare some homemade baked goods to be sold the afternoon of the bingo. *Thank you in advance for your support!*

*** Also, your stewardship is needed in various areas during the event. Please see Matt and consider offering some of your time.

+++++++ **Purchasing Turkeys** – Speaking of the Turkey Bingo... If you would like to assist in paying for the turkey prizes that will be used at the event, please see Tim Martin as he will be purchasing them soon. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Christmas at FOCUS – We have again offered to donate 4 sheet cakes, 300 bottles of water, 300 napkins, and 300 plasticware sets to FOCUS Pittsburgh for their annual Christmas Dinner for those in need. In addition, they are asking for \$25 gift cards from Target. Please see **Kathy Schrmack** if you are able to make a donation towards this wonderful event which will be held on **Saturday**, **December 22**nd. Your prayers and stewardship are greatly appreciated!

+++ +++ +++ Coffee Social Steward Schedule

November 4: **Tim Martin**November 11: **Kirish Family**November 11: **???**

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!

+++ +++ +++

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++

ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH

All Saints Concert – Featuring the Pan-Orthodox Choir of Pittsburgh *under the direction of Father Thomas Soroka* will present a concert on **Sunday, November 4**th **at 4pm** at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church (615 Grant St., Pittsburgh, PA 15219). *www.flcpittsburgh.org*

+++ +++ +++



Visitation of the Myrrh-streaming Tender-Heart Icon of the Theotokos, the "Kardiotissa" – On Friday, November 9th, the weeping icon from our sister parish in Taylor, PA will be visiting Holy Cross Orthodox Church (Gilkeson Rd., Pittsburgh, PA) for an All-night Vigil. The Icon will arrive at 6p; Small Paraklesis Service at 7p; Festive Matins at 10p; Divine Liturgy at 11:30p; Light Meal at 1am. The church will then be open all night before the icon departs Saturday morning.

+++ +++ +++

Fall Youth Encounter – The Annual Fall Youth Encounter will take place from **Fri., Nov. 9 at 7pm thru brunch on Sunday** at Camp Nazareth (339 Pew Road, Mercer, PA). The Encounter is sponsored by the National JR. ACRY and is open to youth ages 8-18. All Diocesan youth are invited and do not have to be a member of the JR. ACRY to attend. The weekend will be full of fun activities, spiritual activities and time spent in one of the best places on earth along with His Grace Bishop Gregory. Come and bring a friend and experience all your faith and friendships have to offer in our Lord Jesus Christ! Please contact Father Dave for registration information.

+++ +++ +++



Orthodoxy on Tap – The Pittsburgh Orthodox Young Adults (POYA) will meet for their next "Orthodoxy on Tap" on **Sun., Nov. 11**th at 6:30p at the Industry Public House (4305 Butler St.). All young adults (21-39) are invited for an evening of appetizers, beverages, socialization and growth in their Orthodox Faith. Speaker will be Fr. Joseph Fester of St. John's in East Pittsburgh who will speak on "Orthodoxy in Thailand & Georgia" from which he and his wife recently returned.

+++ +++ +++



Dinner and Wine Paring **to Benefit IOCC** – **Sunday, November 11**th from 6p~8p at Khalil's II Restaurant (4757 Baum Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213). Come enjoy a traditional family style Middle Eastern feast with four wine pairings. Tickets are \$75 per person. Limited seating available. Contact Danielle Opacic at dopacic@verizon.net or 412-915-5525 to register.

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Pirohi Fest – St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church (3455 California Avenue) will be having their Fall Pirohi Festival on **Saturday**, **Nov.** 3rd from 11a-4p. The menu includes: **7** Varieties of pirohi: potato and cheese, sauerkraut, half and half, loaded potato, jalapeno, farmer's cheese, lekvar (prune plum); **3** Kinds of Soup: borscht, chicken noodle, mushroom barley; and Baked goods. For more information on this event please call the parish office at 412-766-8801.

++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

LIVING ORTHODOXY

Being a Christian: The Christian life requires work and effort

Every priest can tell you that he's had his share of people who don't think he understands the difficulties they face with their jobs, families, and spouses. Many people think their priest expects too much of them, and they ignore the homilies that challenge them to go deeper into their faith. They drop a check into the collection plate, and head out the door of the church for another round of spiritual nothingness.

Yet the scriptures tell us that we must seek first the Kingdom of Heaven. Being successful in business or raising the perfect child are wonderful things, but they should not be on the top of our list. Making more money than your brother-in-law, or having a better house than your neighbors should not be on your list. Working for a good retirement can be a good thing, but not at the expense of your eternal life.

The challenges given to us by the Church's priests are meant to aid us in our quest for the Kingdom of God. And if we are taking our faith seriously we will be grateful for those hard to hear homilies that hit too close to home. We seek out a golf pro in order to improve our swing, and expect him to help us be a better golfer. The trainer in the gym is expected to help us be healthier, and fitter, and our financial adviser is expected to help us make good choices in our investments, yet we ignore the advice of our parish priest, as he attempts to help us gain ground in the spiritual arena.

Our pride can keep us from deepening our

spiritual life, if we refuse to seek the guidance of one more experienced in the inner life. If we don't want anyone telling us what do to or pointing out areas of our lives that need change, we can become off kilter, spiritually. The spiritual father gives direction and sets standards that, like the golf pro and weight lifting instructor, are based on experience.

Have your priest recommend some spiritual books that can inspire you to work for perfection in your spiritual life. If you don't have a prayerbook, get one and use it. Create an icon corner or wall for your own personal and family devotions.

Start going to confession on a regular basis. And, whatever you do, don't allow yourself to be late for the services. Arrive from fifteen minutes to a half hour early, so as to properly prepare yourself for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Get in the habit of attending the Vesper service, or the All Night Vigil, on Saturday night. Make an effort to immerse yourself in the life of the Church.

Remember, if we let our own ego be our spiritual guide, we will be following the direction of a fool. Living the Christian life takes effort on our part, and with the guidance of someone who really knows us, and is willing to point out where we need to change, we will begin to grow in our faith. The Christian life begins when we decide to think like a Christian, and spiritual maturation comes with work and effort, just as does emotional maturation. Spiritual maturation will fill your life with tranquility, joy and meaningfulness, but you must work for this end.

With love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

The Monk Euthymios the New, of Soluneia (Thessalonika)

Commemorated on October 28/15

The Monk Euthymios the New, of Soluneia (Thessalonika), in the world was named Nikita, and he was a native of the city of Ancyra in Galatia. His parents, Epiphanios and Anna, led virtuous Christian lives, and their son was from childhood meek, pious and obedient. At age seven he was left fatherless and he soon became the sole support of his mother in all matters. Having entered military service, Nikita married, on the insistence of his mother. After the birth of a daughter he secretly left home, in order to enter a monastery. And for 15 years the Monk Euthymios asceticised on Mount

The monk then resettled to Holy Mount Athos. Along the way, having learned that his mother and wife were in good health, he informed them that he

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++

Olympus, where he learned monastic deeds from

had become a monk, and he sent them a cross, calling on them to follow his example. On Athos the monk accepted the great schema and lived for three years in a cave, in total silence, struggling with temptations. And for a long time Saint Euthymios asceticised upon a pillar, not far from Soluneia, instructing those coming to him for advice and healing the sick. The monk so very

much cleansed his mind and heart, that he was vouchsafed Divine visions and revelations. At the command of the Lord, Saint Euthymios founded two monasteries in 863 on Mount Peristeros, not far from Soluneia, which he guided for 14 years, with the dignity of deacon. In one of these his wife and mother accepted monastic tonsure. Before death the monk settled on an islet of Athos, where he reposed in 889. His remains were transferred to Soluneia. The Monk Euthymios is termed the "New" in distinction from the Monk Euthymios the Great (Comm. 20 January).

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

"Of all the afflictions that burden the human race, there is not one, whether spiritual or bodily, that cannot be healed by the Holy Scriptures." +Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Final Admonitions and Benediction

the elders.

¹¹See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. 12 It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. 14 But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For neither circumcision counts for anything, uncircumcision, but a new creation. 16 Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷ Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. 18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

> +++ +++ +++ Gospel: Luke 8:5-15

away, because it had no moisture. ⁷ And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. ⁸ And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

The Purpose of the Parables

⁹ And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, ¹⁰ he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. 11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. 13 And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. 14 And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. 15 And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience.

SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

"Keep the commandments, and you will find peace; love God, and you will attain spiritual knowledge." +St. Thalassios the Libyan

MONDAY

"The Word of God must be understood as the holy fathers understood it, as the Orthodox Church understands it, and not as we ourselves might wish." - Priest Daniel Sysoev

TUESDAY

"Establish in your heart the following truth: one thing alone is worthy of all our hatred— that is, sin or vice; and towards men nourish exclusively love." +St. John of Kronstadt

WEDNESDAY

"God's desire to save you is incomparably greater than that of your enemy to destroy you." +St. Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain

THURSDAY

"Do not be surprised that you fall every day; do not give up, but stand your ground courageously. And assuredly, the angel who guards you will honour your patience." +St. John Climacus

FRIDAY

"Learn to know the spirit of the age, study it, so whenever possible you will be able to avoid its influence." – Bishop Ignatius Brianchaninov

SATURDAY

"Spiritual Father, when someone is not needy but pretends to be, should we help him? - Christ said, We should give to him who begs from us without examining. Even if someone who begs from you is not in need, you should still give to him. Be happy in giving to him." +Elder Paisios of Mount Athos

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

PRAYER CORNER

Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions and Other Needs *

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., Fr. Tony J. ...through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; & St. Panteleimon, the Healer.

+++ +++ +++

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.

+++ +++ +++

Birthday Prayers for... Mareena Shuster (10/29), Ryan Schrmack (10/30), Noah Winkler (10/31), Fr Joseph Birthisel (11/2) ... 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.

+++ +++ +++

Anniversary Prayers for... Doug & Elizabeth (Radomsky) Delaney (11/1) ... May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!

+++ +++ +++

For Expectant Mothers... Lindsay, Mary Ann, Elyse, Lauren, Pańi Marianna, Faith ...through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St Irene Chrysovalantou.

+++ +++ +++

For the souls of the newly departed... +Susan Semancik, 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 Prayer Before Making A Decision

By Fr. Ruperto Santos concerning

O God, author of life and source of goodness, I come to You and humbly implore Your divine assistance. I sincerely promise to decide and do things not on the basis of what I want nor of what others desire, not solely for my benefit nor my own advantage, not for profit nor prestige, but for the common good, according to Your Holy Will. Forgive me, Lord, for my harsh judgments, my selfish interests, enlighten me with Your Truth that I may listen to my conscience. Grant me the grace that I may follow Your commandments. I come on bended knees, my loving Savior and Redeemer, to offer my penitent self... turn me into an instrument of creation; keep me from being an agent of destruction; show me how I can serve my brothers and sisters; let me not abandon them in their hour of need; let me share my gifts, my talent and my life. I have received Your gift of life, Your gift of love, I pray that I may never cease to cherish these. Amen.