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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Pañi Brancho, Joanne Nelson, Cindy Pavilonis, Viola Peifer, Melanie Shuster, 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**

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Relocation Update – We have spoken to Franklin Park and Ohio Township offices about the Shipley Lane location and it would be cost prohibitive for us to access the water and sewage that would be needed for a church building. We are no longer looking at this property. Please pray for the future of our parish as we continue to look.

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Please continue to talk with the Relocation Committee or Father with any thoughts or concerns about our next steps in our journey together. *(Committee includes: Sharon P, Larry M, Carol L, John K, John Righetti, Lynn M, Matt P, Peggy Rusnak, Rich M, Sharon D, Tim M, & Todd Tusick)*

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Reader of the Third Hour:

August 4: Available to you

August 11: Available to you

August 18: Available to you

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!

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Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 240
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 127
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 313
Total Collections:	\$ 780
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 190
Relocation Fund:	\$ 150

Give Generously: "For they gave according to their means... and beyond their means, of their own free will." 2 Cor 8:3

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*** 2nd Annual Deanery Picnic** – Please save the date for the Deanery Picnic to be held at The Veterans Pavilion at Schenley Park on **Sunday, September 29th** from Noon to dusk. A flyer, directions, and more details will be coming soon...

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Coffee Social Steward Schedule

August 4: **Open / "Pot Luck"**

August 11: **Open / "Pot Luck"**

August 18: **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!

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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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



Friday, August 9 – 9:30am Akathist to Saint Panteleimon, Holy Great-martyr and Healer

Sunday, August 11 – Additional Collection for our Capital Improvement Fund / Lesser Blessing of Water

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE



25th Rusyn Food Festival will be this week, **August 2nd and 3rd** at the air conditioned Parish Center at 722 Fifth St., Ambridge, Pa featuring delicious Slavic homemade foods (pirohy (*potato/cheese, sauerkraut, or potato/kolbasy*), dumpling or noodle halushky, kolbasy and kraut, holubky (stuffed cabbage), borscht (beet soup), chicken soup, potato/bean soup, Rusyn summer salads, and others). Baked goods will include traditional Rusyn favorites like nut, apricot and poppyseed rolls, palachinky (fruit and cheese-filled crepes), paska breads, and Rusyn torte along with other tasty specialties. Schedule is as follows: Friday 11am - 6pm (frozen foods and take out items available only) and Saturday 11am - 6pm (take-out or eat-in). For more information, call 412-518-7149.

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Annual Pilgrimage for Feast of the Transfiguration – Transfiguration Monastery (321 Monastery Lane, Ellwood City, PA 16117) hosts its Patronal Feast Day Celebrations and Pilgrimage on August 5th & 6th for the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (*New Calendar*). Here is this year's schedule to be celebrated with His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL (Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America):

Monday, August 5 - Eve of Transfiguration

5:00 light refreshments available
6:00 Vigil for the Feast of Transfiguration
light refreshments available for 1-hour after

Tuesday, August 6 - Feast of Transfiguration

9:30 Akathist, "Glory to God for All Things"
10:00 Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Fruit
12:30 Picnic Luncheon
2:30 Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Unction (Anointing)
4:00 Light Refreshments and close of Pilgrimage

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Diocesan Sobor Essay Contest – High school juniors and seniors as well as college students are invited to participate in writing an essay about the Orthodox Christian perspective on one of the following topics: *Abortion; End of Life Issues; Same-sex Marriage; Wealth and Poverty; or Violence, Conflict and War*. All submissions are due no later than **August 31st**. Three monetary awards will be given: 1st Place - \$500; 2nd Place- \$400; 3rd Place- \$300. Please contact Fr. Dave for more details



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100th Anniversary of St. John the Baptist, East Pittsburgh celebration will be on **November 16 - 17**.
Anniversary Ad Book ads: Full page (\$100); Half page (\$50); Quarter Page (\$25); Patron (\$10),
Booster (\$5). A sign up sheet is in the hall for Patrons and Boosters with a deadline of **August 15**.
Anniversary Brunch: Sunday, November 17 at the Edgewood Country Club. Ticket prices: Adult: \$35.
Children 3-12: \$15 OR Chicken Finger Plate \$10. Children 2 and under: no charge. For reservations,
please call DeBorah Hutnyan at 412-288-3299. Deadline is **October 4**.
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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: *Hebrews 13:7-16*

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp, and bear the abuse he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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Gospel: *John 17:1-13*

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

17 When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee, ²since thou hast given him power

over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. ⁴I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; ⁵and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made. ⁶“I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. ⁷Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; ⁸for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. ⁹I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; ¹⁰all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

Why have your car blessed next week?

Our annual Blessing of Chariots (cars, trucks, bikes, etc) is next week. It is a custom of Orthodox Christians to have their cars blessed both when newly acquired and on or near the feast of the Prophet Elias (*August 2nd*) as he ascended into heaven on a fiery chariot. So why is the blessing of the vehicles so important? In the words of Fr. Gabriel Bilas:



"St. Elijah, who we commemorate this week, was in a similar situation as we are in today. He lived in a Godless society... one that had lost its way. Yet his humble faith allowed God to guide him, and bring Light to the darkness of his time. In honor and memory of this glorious prophet, we will be doing our part to bring God back into the forefront of our community. By blessing vehicles, we will proclaim that God is present and fills all things in this world."

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The Battle: Our common enemy is not of flesh and blood

Many of us are horrified to be witnessing the massive changes that are taking place in our world. It would seem that there are attacks against the very soul of Western Civilization, with Christianity taking the brunt of this attack. At no time in history have we witnessed genocide

against Christians in so many parts of the world. Even in countries that were once bastions of Christianity, we witness atheism, secularism, and Islam, attacking the very heart of the Christian faith. The scandals, sexual and otherwise, that have beset certain parts of Christianity, have also contributed to a mass exodus, with atheism

The Church Militant, which is the Church of Christ here on this earth, is in the midst of a battle. In truth, the enemy is not one of flesh and blood, but one of darkness and evil. The survival of humankind is not dependent upon the number of people who accept or reject the true faith, but rather that those who do, activate the fermentation, for just as yeast acts as a starter for bread, so faith in Christ can transform the world, and the entire cosmos.

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Church Fathers (or **Fathers of the Church**) are influential theologians and writers in the Church, particularly those of the first five centuries of Christian history. The term specifically refers to writers and teachers of the Church, not saints in general.

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

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rather, for those who are willing to commit themselves to this battle as serious Christians, willing to stand up for Christ, and for Truth. Saint Seraphim of Sarov said, "Save yourself, and thousands around you will be saved". Like Saint Seraphim, we must be willing to commit with our whole heart, and our whole mind and body, to the transformational power of the Holy Spirit. This is the only way the powers of darkness can be turned around, and sent back to the depths of hell, where they belong.

With love in Christ,

Abbot Tryphon

teachings, even though they might have seemed harmless at face value, were regarded as poison that could potentially lead people down the wrong path. These Holy Fathers of the Church, our “lights upon the earth,” helped to establish for us a single united faith, rooted in Truth in Christ.

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 – Two God-parents are required, at least one of whom must be Orthodox by faith (and the other



a practicing Christian). In the case of infants, the newly-baptized must have one name that is Christian in origin. Parents/grandparents/guardians must also promise to bring the child up in an Orthodox Christian way of life. Please consult Father for more 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 solemnized on Saturdays or Sundays. They are not performed during fasting periods and certain Feast Days. Please consult Father ASAP for more 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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"The cremation of bodies is not a Christian act. It is a custom of modern times. The body of a Christian has been sanctified with the Grace of the Holy Spirit, and as such may not be burned. God did not create our bodies for burning." - Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

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"Orthodox Christians are Orthodox because they maintain a continuous sense of divine-human catholicity which they preserve and kindle through prayer and humility. They never preach about themselves; they never boast; they never remain entirely within their base human nature; they never idealize humanism." +Venerable Justin (Popovic) of Chelije in Serbia

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"Remember the words: "Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth" (Psalm 140:3). Do not teach if you are not asked!" - Archbishop Seraphim (Sobolev) of Bogucharsk

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“Only by being illuminated with the light of the God-man Christ does the world open the blossom of its essence to us and thus reveals its true meaning and value. That is why the Savior said: "I am the light of the world" (John 8: 12; 9: 5).” +Venerable Justin (Popovic) of Chelije in Serbia

"Let us not be scared, practicers of the prayer of Jesus, either by winds or waves! By winds I mean diabolic thoughts and imaginings, and by waves the revolt of the passions aroused by thoughts and reveries. From the midst of the most furious storm, with perseverance, courage and weeping you will cry to the Lord Jesus Christ, and He will rebuke the winds and waves." +St. Ignatius (Brianchaninov)

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... George, Alisha, Emilia, Olga, Fr. Michael Rustick, David, John, Patricia, John, Jake, Anna Mae, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Lino, Louis, June, Helen, Steven, Doug, Joanne, Lynn, Mary, Kathy N., Emily, Anthony, Eleanor

...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.

For the Special Intentions of... Metropolitan Gregory, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our seminarians:* Daniel and Dylan *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Matthew, Lawrence, Timothy, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Donald, Jane, Margaret, Eleanor, Steven, Kenneth, Jillian, John, Wendy, John, Melanie, Michael, John, John, Todd *and for those who labor towards our Outreach, Light of Life Missions ...through the prayers of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker; Baptist; the Archangels Michael & Gabriel; and the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.*

Community Outreach, Light of Life Missions ...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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Patronal Feast Days (Name's Day): Margaret (Peggy) Rusnak - Great Martyr Marina of Antioch (7/30)
Mareena Shuster - Great Martyr Marina of Antioch (7/30) *(Please contact Fr Dave with your Patron Saint)*

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Birthday Prayers for... Doug Delaney (7/28), Fr Stephen Loposky (7/28), Luke Tongel (7/30), *Pañi's brother*, Florin Popescu (7/30), Sharon Dzacony (8/2), Robert Paieski (8/03) ...*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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For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Dustin, Stephen, Peter, Daniel ...*through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Andrew & Davina, Ashley & Derek
...through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.

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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 Pregnant Mothers... ..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... +Jane Barclay (6/25) ...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. Eternal be their 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 FOR THE WEEK:

A Prayer for Those Battling Addiction

By Vienna Cobb Anderson

Most loving God, we ask Your blessing upon all who suffer from addiction.

Strengthen them to reach out for help.

Enable them to take the first step in recovery.

Bless them with the persistence to persevere in the fight to be free.

Give courage and hope to their families, drawing them close together
in the power of Your love, which alone can transform our lives. Amen

