

This Bulletin Is Offered:
for Good Health
for brother
Tim Martin, Reader,
on his birthday!
Many Years!

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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Cindy Pavilonis; Viola Peifer; Shuster Family; Kathy Schrmack; Olga Radick; Mirilovich Family; Joanne Nelson; Patty Watson; Melanie Paieski

***"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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Do you have a clean coat or two that you have not worn since before our last coat drive but it is still in good condition? We are collecting clean coats and jackets to donate to FOCUS Pittsburgh (who provide **F**ood, **O**ccupation, **C**lothing, **U**nderstanding, and **S**helter to those who are in need). We will collect the clean coats on the coat rack in the hall for only a couple more weeks.

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Remembering the Feast of the Beheading – Saint John was a holy prophet and an innocent man (see *Mark 6:14-30*). His beheading was a preview of the crucifixion of Our Lord; the Innocent Lamb Who is greater than all the prophets. **A Strict Fast from meat and dairy** is observed on this day, **September 11th**, in commemoration of the murder of the man Jesus called, "the greatest man born of woman." Also, in commemoration of the way that St. John was martyred, pious Orthodox will not eat from a plate but only from a bowl, will not use knives to eat with, and will not eat foods that are round or come as a 'head' (cabbage, lettuce, etc.).

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2nd Annual Deanery Family Picnic will be held on **Sunday, September 29th** in Schenley Park at the Veterans Pavilion (*a bigger facility than last year*) from Noon (*after church*) to Dusk (*no Steeler Game that day*). A food sign-up sheet is in the hall for pot-luck items that will be brought to the picnic. Plan to come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with our brothers and sisters from our sister Deanery Parishes. Get together with old friends and family! Make new friends! Come enjoy God's creation in one of the best parks in Pittsburgh!

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

Upcoming Orthodox Food Festivals:

- **August 28-September 1** – Holy Trinity (985 Providence Blvd., Pittsburgh) *Greek*
- **September 6-7** – Saints Peter and Paul (220 Mansfield Blvd., Carnegie) *Ukrainian*
- **September 7-8** – St Andrew (56 Glenn Way, McKees Rocks) *Romanian*

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Craft Beer Tasting – IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities) will host a Craft beer Tasting fundraiser on **Tuesday, September 12th** at 6pm at Rusty Gold Brewery Company (Canonsburg). Tickets are \$10 and include 4 beer samples. Registration is due by September 5th. Please contact Kevin Reck at 724-344-5610 / kevinsreck@gmail.com with any questions.

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Icon of the Tender Heart - Visit of the Kardiotisa, "The Tender Heart" myrrh-flowing, miraculous icon of the Theotokos from Taylor, PA

Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 275
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 142
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 463
Community Outreach:	\$ 47
Total Collections:	\$ 927
Relocation Fund:	\$ 100

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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Coffee Social Steward Schedule

September 8: **Open / Potluck**

September 15: **Annual Meeting Potluck**

September 22: **Open / Potluck**

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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Reader of the Third Hour:

September 8: *Available to you*

September 15: *Available to you*

September 22: *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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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

- ✱ **Wednesday**, September 11 – Strict Fast – 9:30 Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist and Panachida
- ✱ **Saturday**, September 14 – Ecclesiastical (Church) New Year
- ✱ **Sunday**, September 15 – YOUTH Sunday - Parish Annual Meeting following Liturgy
- ✱ **Saturday**, September 21 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

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will be on **Friday, September 13th** and **Saturday, September 14th** at Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church (220 Mansfield Blvd. Carnegie). Vespers Friday at 7p and Divine Liturgy Saturday at 9a. If you are considering going, please sign the sheet in the church hall so they can accommodate about how many will be coming. If you have any questions, please contact Fr John at frjohn.charest@aol.com or 847-910-7120.

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Church Slavonic Class - The 2019/20 academic year at Christ the Saviour Seminary will begin on **September 9th**. Fr. John Brancho, instructor for the Church Slavonic course (both in fall & spring), is inviting parishioners to join the seminarians. Classes are Fridays 9a-12p. There is **no** tuition charge. The first class is **Friday, September 13th**. Any questions may be directed to Fr. John (814-539-5043 / frbrancho@aol.com)

“Joy Fest” – Holy Cross Church is excited to revive the tradition of "JOY Fest" on **Saturday, September 21**: a one-day gathering for all children ages 7-12. Special guest musician will be Kh. Gigi Shadid from Houston, TX. The schedule is on the flyer in the church hall. Gigi is a trained educator and will also be leading a presentation and discussion with Sunday School teachers on Friday evening, **September 20**. Both events are open to all. Contact Emmanuel "Manoli" Maginas with questions, or to RSVP for either event at emmanuelmaginas@gmail.com

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26th Annual Walk For Missions – will be **Sunday, October 13th**. More details coming soon...

The Diocesan Council SOBOR will take place in Johnstown on **October 13-16**. For any of our faithful interested in attending any of the meals during the Sobor, especially the Grand Banquet on Tuesday 15th, please contact Fr Dave as soon as possible. Ticket prices vary and deadline for reservations is **September 8**. Please contact Fr. Dave for information on this and for placing ads in the commemorative journal.

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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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: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

² If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.
³ This is my defense to those who would examine me. ⁴ Do we not have the right to our food and drink? ⁵ Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? ⁶ Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? ⁷ Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk?
⁸ Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? ⁹ For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain.” Is it for oxen that God is concerned? ¹⁰ Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. ¹¹ If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? ¹² If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more?
Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

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Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

²³ “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; ²⁵ and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; ³³ and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

LIVING ORTHODOXY

Death, The Beginning of Glory

by Sergey Khudiev

Why does the Church celebrate the Dormition (i.e., literally death) of the Mother of God? Why are the days of memory of the saints the days of their death? Why do we celebrate death like this?

Christian attitude to death is the attitude to a defeated enemy. On the one hand, death is what sin introduced into the world; God did not create death. Death is contrary to our true nature. In the words of a church hymn, “I weep and lament



when I think of death, and see lying in the graves, our beauty created in the image of God, disfigured and without glory, having no shape or form.” (8th hymn of St. John Damascus in the Funeral Service)
However, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ endured death on the Cross and defeated it. **Today, it is the gateway to eternal and blessed life for faithful Christians.** Apostle Paul says, “For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved,

we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” (Phil. 1:23, 2 Corinthians 5:1,2).

Seeing martyrdom ahead, the apostle says, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing” (2 Tim. 4:7,8). This assurance of eternal life in Christ is all the more true for His Most Pure Mother, for whom the end of her earthly journey signified the reunion with her Son.

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SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Father can meet M-F 9:30a–4p or by appointment.
Online Community: Please email Fr. Dave to receive the weekly bulletin via email.
Phone Tree – Please call Fr. Dave to be added.
Emergency Sick Calls – Please notify Fr Dave when you or a family member are going into the hospital or having a procedure so he can pray with you and you may receive the Anointing to be fully prepared.
Mystery of Confession – Opportunities are available after every service, most Saturdays during fasting periods from 11am to 1pm, OR by appointment.
Holy Communion/Eucharist – The reception of the Holy Eucharist is encouraged for 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



The Church declares that the saints who have gone to God do not forget us. Rather, by God’s will, they mysteriously participate in the work of our salvation, like older brothers in a good family who take care of the younger children at the behest of the Father.
This is particularly true for the Mother of God. The Church sings, “In your Dormition you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.” Not only are we certain of the blessed fate of the Mother of God, but also of the fact that her death was as painless as falling asleep and that she, as a caring Mother, constantly remembers and prays for us ever since her Dormition.

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

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

The Martyr Andrew (Andreios) Stratelates
Commemorated on September 1 / August 19
The Martyr Andrew (Andreios) Stratelates was a military commander in the Roman armies during the reign of the emperor Maximian (284-305). They loved him in the Roman armies because of his bravery, invincibility and sense of fairness. When a large Persian army invaded the Syrian territories, the governor Antiochus entrusted Saint Andrew with the command of the Roman army, giving him the title of "Stratelates" ("Commander-General"). Saint Andrew chose for himself a not large detachment of brave soldiers and proceeded against the adversary. His soldiers were pagans. Saint Andrew himself had still not accepted Baptism, but he believed in Jesus Christ. Before the conflict he persuaded the soldiers, that the pagan gods – were demons and unable to render help in battle. He proclaimed to them Jesus Christ, the omnipotent



God of Heaven and earth, giving help to all believing in Him. The soldiers went into battle, calling on the help of the Saviour. The not large detachment set to flight the numerous host of the Persians. Saint Andrew returned from the campaign in glory, having gained a total victory. But the jealous reported on him to the governor Antiochus, that he – was a Christian, converting to his faith the soldiers under his command. Saint Andrew was summoned to trial, and there he declared his faith in Christ. For this they subjected him to torture. He reclined himself upon a bed of white-hot copper, but as soon as he recoured to help from the Lord, the bed became cool. They crucified his soldiers on trees, but not one of them renounced Christ. Having locked the saints away in prison, Antiochus dispatched the report of charges on to the emperor, being undecided on whether to impose the death sentence upon the acclaimed

victor. The emperor knew, how the army loved Saint Andrew, and fearing a mutiny, he gave orders to free the martyrs, and secretly he ordered that each under some pretext be executed separately.

Having been set free, Saint Andrew together with his fellow soldiers went on to the city of Tarsus. There the local bishop Peter and bishop Nonos of Beroeia baptised them. Then the soldiers proceeded on to the vicinity of Taxanata. Antiochus wrote a letter to the governor of the Cilicia region Seleukos, that under the excuse of deserting their military standards he should overtake the company of Saint Andrew and kill them. Seleukos came upon the martyrs in the passes of Mount Tauros, where they were evidently soon to suffer. Saint Andrew, calling the soldiers his brothers and children, urged them not to fear death. He prayed for all who would honour their memory, and besought the Lord to send a curative spring on the place where their blood would be shed. At the time of this prayer

the steadfast martyrs were beheaded with swords (+ c. 302). During this time a spring of water issued forth from the ground. Bishops Peter and Nonos, with their clergy secretly following the company of Saint Andrew, buried their bodies. One of the clergy, suffering for a long time from an evil spirit, drank from the spring of water and at once he was healed. Reports about this spread amongst the local people and they started to come to the spring, and through the prayers of Saint Andrew and the 2593 Martyrs suffering with him, they received gracious help from God.

”How honored and magnified is mankind through the Holy Virgin Mother of God, for it has been made worthy of renewal and sonship by God; She herself was made worthy by her immeasurable humility and exceedingly great purity and holiness to be the Mother of the God-man!” ~ St. John of Kronstadt

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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(s)**. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver **him/her/them** from sickness and bitter pain. Heal **him/her/them** so that **he/she/they** may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.



Patronal Feast Days (Name’s Day):
(Please contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)

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Birthday Prayers for... Samuel Mainolfi (9/1), Timothy Martin (9/2), Ruth Herbert (9/2), Ashley Wertz (9/2), Danielle Yakemawiz (9/5), Fr. Bob Teklinski (9/6), Pañi Deborah Zak (9/7) ...*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 l Blahaja L’ita!*

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For the Health of... James, Emilia, Olga, Jake, Anna Mae, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Lino, Louis, June, Helen, Doug, Joanne, Anthony, Eleanor ...*through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer.*

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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... Melanie & Michael Shuster (9/5), Marianne & Steven Kubis (9/6/14) ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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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... +Douglas Painter (8/22), +Harry Coe (8/26) ...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. Eternal be their Memory!*



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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:



A PRAYER FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Heavenly Father, please be with these students as they go where they do not know.
As they seek to grow in knowledge, we ask that they grow in faith.
As they start to conquer the world, we hope that they conquer their fears.
As they strive to find their place, we pray that they find You.
Please go where we cannot, protect when we cannot,
give strength that we cannot, and bring them safely home.
Amen.