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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Shuster Family; Lawrence Martin; Olga Radick; Eleanor Sanger; Mary Jane Hudak; Kirish Family; Joanne Nelson; Theresa Sharpless; 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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Sermon Series on the Mysteries of the Church - Father Dave concludes the series of sermons on the main Mysteries (Sacraments) of the Church next week with *Marriage and Ordination (Holy Orders)*. **If you have a specific question that he may be able to address, PLEASE let him know ASAP.**

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Additional Church Curators Needed – Our curator list has become shorter. If anyone is interested and willing to be “trained” to be “on-the-door”, please see Theresa Sharpless.

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Garage Sale – *Thank you again to everyone who helped this year’s garage sale be such a success! We helped many people and raised \$2,184.25 from the sale! (over \$40 more than last year!) Thank you again for your countless hours that were put into this form of community stewardship outreach! May God Bless you!*

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IOCC Mission Trip to Texas – There is an opportunity to join an IOCC Mission Team for hurricane recovery in Texas from **October 21-26**. Please contact Fr. Dave for more details.

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2020 Camp Nazareth Dates – Save the dates – Family Camp **May 29-31**. Family Day: **May 31**. Pittsburgh week will be **July 26 – August 1**. Please plan vacations around these so that your children can experience the beauty of our camp!

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Coffee Social Steward Schedule
October 13: **Open / Potluck**
October 20: John and Olga Radick
October 27: **Open / Potluck**

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA ‘BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

Fall Festivals

- **October 10-11** – All Saints (601 West McMurray Rd., Canonsburg) *Greek*
- **October 11-12** – St. Nicholas (903 Ann St., Homestead) *Carpatho-Rusyn*
- **October 12** – St. Nicholas (320 Munson Ave., McKees Rocks) *Slavic Food Fest*
- **October 12** – St Vladimir (73 S 18th St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203) *Ukrainian*
- **October 20** – St. Michael (146 3rd Ave., Rankin) *Carpatho-Rusyn*

Please contact Father for more info on any festival.

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26th Annual 7-K Walk/Run for Missions **“Fulfilling Jesus’ Great Commission”** – will be NEXT WEEK, **Sunday, October 13th** at Schenley Park AND South Park Children’s Playground Pavilion (Corrigan & Brownsville

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Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 270
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 168
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 514
Community Outreach (OCF):	\$ 93
Total Collections:	\$ 1045
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 25
Fundraising Acc’t (Garage Sale):	\$ 2,184.25
Relocation Fund:	\$ 730

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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August Financial Report:

Donation Income = \$ 5,307.51
***Expenses = \$ 4,662.18**
Net Income = \$ 645.33

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 46

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Steeler Ticket Raffle - We will be having a Relocation Raffle with 1st Prize being 2 Steeler Tickets (vs. the Bills) and 2nd Prize of \$100. Tickets will be \$5 each and the winner will be drawn at this year’s Turkey Bingo. Please see Sharon Peifer or Carol Lorenzi for tickets.

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Reader of the Third Hour:

October 13: *Available to you*
October 20: John Kirish
October 27: *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

- ✕ **Sunday**, October 13 – Walk for Missions
- ✕ **Wednesday**, October 23 – 87th Anniversary of the founding of our parish in 1932
- ✕ **Friday**, October 25 – 9:30am Akathist

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Rd., South Park, PA 15129) sponsored by the *Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh*. Register at 1pm at South Park. Walk begins at 2pm. There will be complimentary refreshments before the walk and a light lunch following the walk. 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 info, visit www.holycrosspgh.org/events or call 412-251-3207. Proceeds earmarked for the Guatemalan Mission work of Fr. John and Presbyteria Sandy Chakos. Visit www.TheWordFromGuatemala.com to follow the blog of this mission!

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Cognac Tasting to benefit IOCC will be at the Leaf & Bean (3525 Washington Rd., McMurray, PA) on **Thursday, October 17** from 7p to 10p. Please contact Father for more information.

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Fall Retreat: “The Pursuit of God’s Peace in a Fallen World” will be presented at St. George Orthodox Cathedral (3400 Dawson St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213) on **Saturday, October 19** from 9a to 4:30p. There is no charge and food will be provided. Please RSVP at 412-681-2988.

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Young Adult Fall Retreat – will be run **October 25-27** at Camp Nazareth. Keynote Speaker this

year will be Rev. Fr. Ken Bachofsky, Professor of Old & New Testament at Christ the Saviour Orthodox Seminary. Get the chance to explore Camp Nazareth during the Fall! The weekend event will be filled with learning, fun, fellowship, worship, and time for reflection and rejuvenation! See Father Dave for more information.

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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

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ST JOHN’S MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting donations for the Seminarians and **Christ the Saviour Seminary**. Sunday, December 8th 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!*

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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: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain.² For he says,

“At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation.”

Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.³ We put no obstacle in any one’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry,⁴ but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,⁵ beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger;⁶ by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love,⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;⁸ in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;⁹ as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed;¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

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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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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

The Conception of the Venerable Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John

Commemorated on September 23

The Conception of the Venerable Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The

holy Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the Messiah would appear His Forerunner, who would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of His Forerunner. In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine lived the

righteous priest Saint Zachariah and his wife Saint Elizabeth, assiduously observing the commandments of the Lord. The couple however had a misfortune: getting up in years they remained childless and they prayed unceasingly to God, that He should grant them a child. One time, when Saint Zachariah was in turn priest at the Temple of Jerusalem, he went during the time of Divine-services into the Sanctuary for making an incensing. Having gone in behind the Sanctuary veil, he beheld an Angel of God, standing at the right side of the incense altar. Saint Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear, but the Angel said to him: "Fear not, Zachariah, thine prayer is heard, and thy wife Elizabeth will bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John". But Righteous Zachariah did not believe the words of the heavenly messenger,



and then the Angel said to him: "I – am Gabriel, that standeth before God and am sent to announce this unto thee. But now, thou shalt be mute until the day of birth, since that thou hast not believed my words". Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and they were astonished, that he had not come out from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a blessing upon the people, but could not pronounce it since he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah explained by gestures that he was unable to speak, the people then understood that he had experienced a vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled, and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her barrenness, having given birth to the Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, named John.

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ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK

UNCTION / HOLY ANOINTING – Anointing of the sick with blessed oil, for the healing of body and soul. The gift of healing is bestowed by the Holy Spirit through the

anointing, together with the prayers of the Unction service. (See article “Healing,” at James 5 in the Orthodox Study Bible.)

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

Holy Unction: The mystery of holy unction renews the body and cleanses the spirit

The Mystery of Holy Unction provides both physical and spiritual healing with holy oil blessed by the Holy Spirit, and is usually celebrated during Great Lent on Holy Wednesday of Holy Week, but private services are also common and can be done at any time during the year. Everyone in a parish who is in good ecclesiastical standing may be anointed with the holy oil for the healing of spiritual and bodily ills. As this is one of the sacraments of the Orthodox Church, it may be administered only to Orthodox Christians.



As one of the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) of the Church, the oil carries God’s grace both to renew the body and to cleanse the spirit. This service follows the apostolic tradition mentioned in the New Testament: “...let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven” (James 5:14-15).

Holy unction is a mystery that provides spiritual comfort to the faithful Christian, and while seeking healing, asks for faithful to seek patience to accept the will of God whatever the physical outcome.

The full service is composed of psalms from the Old Testament, hymns of direct supplication to God, and prayers to the saints to intercede for the petitioner. In addition, there are seven readings from the Gospels preceded by seven other New Testament writings, notably the epistles of St. Paul and St. James. After each set of scriptural readings, a prayer is offered on behalf of the penitent by the priest asking for forgiveness and the sanctification of the oil. Traditionally, the service is celebrated by seven priests, but where fewer than seven priests are available (which is often the case), it will be served by at least one (and often with less readings).

At the end of the service, the priest puts holy oil on the forehead, eyes, ears, nostrils, lips, chest, and hands of the parishioners in the form of the cross, saying: “O Holy Father, physician of our souls and bodies, heal Thy servant [name] from every physical and emotional affliction” (Russian tradition). The exact wording varies according to tradition and translation.

When the unction is received privately, the full service is often not performed, but simply the anointing itself is done along with a few prayers.

With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY – FEAST OF THE CONCEPTION OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

Tropar (Tone 4) - Make merry, O barren woman, who before was unable to bear a child! For, lo! you have manifestly conceived the lamp of the Sun, who will enlighten the world which suffers from blindness. Dance you, O Zechariah, crying out with boldness: He who will be born is the prophet of the Most High!

MONDAY

“The Church is your hope, the Church is your salvation, the Church is your refuge.” +St. John Chrysostom

"Have great care of your children. We live at a time when much freedom is given to the expression of thought, but little care is taken that thoughts should be founded on truth. Teach them to love truth."
- Elder Macarius of Optina

“Do not ever succumb to the insane thought that God has abandoned you. God knows exactly how much one can endure and, according to that, measures the sufferings and pains of everyone.”
+St. Nikolaj Velimirovič

“When we pray for someone, we take upon ourselves his suffering.” - Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

"Let all involuntary suffering teach you to remember God, and you will not lack occasion for repentance"
+St. Mark the Ascetic

"Value highly, and always preserve Christian meekness and kindness, mutual peace and love, crushing by every possible means the impulses of self-love, malice, irritability, and disturbance."
+St. John of Kronstadt

Merciful Lord, visit us in our time of need and affliction; and as you healed Jairus' daughter and raised her from her bed of infirmity, visit your servant, Master, and deliver him/her from sickness and pain. For you alone have born the sickness and affliction of our world and with you nothing is impossible. For you are all-merciful and to you we ascribe glory and adoration forever. Amen.