# Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople ather Dave Urban, Pastor 2688 California Avenue Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus Pittsburgh, Pa 15212

Timothy Martin, Reader

Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors

Matthew Peifer, Church Council President

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# November 17, 2019

Volume V

412-748-0148, Talk or Text

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# 22nd Sunday after Pentecost / The Holy Priest Martyr Nikander Liturgical Color: Gold

9:15 - Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy Tone 5

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18; Gospel: Luke 8:41-56 (7th Sunday of Luke) YOUTH Sunday / Church School

# SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday, November 20 – 7pm Exploring Orthodoxy in Wexford with guest speaker, Edith Humphrey Thursday, November 21 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Archangel Michael

The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

Monday	The Holy Martyrs Galaktion and Epistimia	1 Thessalonians 1:1-5	Luke 12:13-15,22-31
Tuesday	St Paul the Confessor (350)	1 Thessalonians 1:6-10	Luke 12:42-48
* Wednesday	Holy 33 Martyrs of Melitene	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Luke 12:48-59
Thursday	Synaxis of the Archangel Michael & other Bodiless Powers	1 Thessalonians 2:9-14	Luke 13:1-9
* Friday	St. Nectarius, metropolitan of Pentapolis (1920)	1 Thess. 2:14-19	Luke 13:31-35
Saturday	Apostles Olympas, & Herodion of the Seventy (1st c.)	2 Corinthians 8:1-5	Luke 9:37-43
	* Lat us Imitate Christ and the Sainte an	d East as they did!	

Let us Imitate Christ and the Saints and Fast as they did!

November 24 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Martyr Menas of Egypt (304) 9:15 - Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy Tone 6 Liturgical Color: Gold

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10; Gospel: Luke 12:16-21 (8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke) Add'I Collection for our Community Outreach (on IOCC Sunday) / Church School / 3pm Turkey Bingo \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*\*

A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Glory Be To Jesus Christ! (responded with: 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:

In Memory of

+George Huron

(11/19/61)

May His Memory Be

Eternal!

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

PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Exploring Orthodoxy** (Continuing Education) Here is our remaining schedule:

20<sup>th</sup> - "A Woman's Role in the Orthodox Church" By Guest Presenter, Edith Humphrey, (\*see below) We will meet at Eat 'n Park off of the Wexford exit of 79 (2650 Brandt School Road, Wexford, Pa 15090 / 724-940-3270) from 7 to ~8:15pm. These discussions are geared towards teenagers through senior citizens. We hope and pray that everyone is able to attend these tangent oriented discussions about Orthodoxy! Come for a bite to eat and learn about your faith! (If you need a ride, please contact Fr. Dave.)

About Edith M. Humphrey: She is the Professor of New Testament at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS). Prior to emigrating, she was professor of

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Scripture at Augustine College, Ottawa, Canada. The author of 7 books on varied subjects as well as numerous articles on the literary and rhetorical study of the Bible. She is well known as a popular speaker at Orthodox church retreats, ecumenical conferences, and seminary events.

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Godparents / Godchild(ren) Sunday Our Annual Godparents celebration will be 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER Sunday, (\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THE

CORRECTED DATE) a day to honor them and to encourage the growth of this spiritual relationship. Personally invite your Godparents (or those of your children) and/or invite your Godchildren to come to Church and share this day with you. Please prepare yourself and join them in receiving the Eucharist (Holy Communion) on this day. We need to keep the Spiritual bonds alive with our God-parents and God-children. Even more important, we need to keep our life united with our Lord, Jesus Christ. This unites us with one another. Contact Fr Dave if you have ideas for the day or a desire to be involved in planning our Godparents Sunday. +++ +++ +++

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Shuster Family; Lawrence Martin; Kathy Schrmack; Olga Radick; Eleanor Sanger; Mary Jane Hudak; Mirilovich Family; Joanne Nelson; 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

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Annual Turkey Bingo – will occur on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. 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 unexpired 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.

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.

WE NEED STEWARDS (VOLUNTEERS) To Step Forward With Your Time, Talents, And God Given Gifts To Make This A **Successful Community Event!** Please see a Parish Council member to offer your help

#### Thank you in advance for your support! +++ +++ +++

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.

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St Nicholas Charity Dinner for the Pittsburgh Deanery will be on Sunday, **December 8<sup>th</sup> at Edgewood Country** Club (100 Churchill Rd., Pittsburgh,

PA 15235). Doors open at 4pm with a Buffett Dinner at 5. This annual dinner benefits our Christ the Saviour Seminary. Adults - \$35; Teens 13-18 - \$10; 12 and Under - Free. (Please make checks payable to "Pittsburgh Deanery".) Please see Fr Dave by **December 1**<sup>st</sup> for your ticket(s). Auction Prize Donations (\*which may be combined with other donations\*) to be raffled off at the dinner can be given to Father. Come meet the seminarians, enjoy the fellowship, carol singa-long, and a special guest!

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Winter Church Clean-Up and Nativity Decorating – will be on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am to noon(ish). A sign up sheet and to-do list will be on the desk in the church hall.

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Our Stewardship Gifts To	Goa
Stewardship:	\$ 325
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 178
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 425
Total Collections:	\$ 928
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 147
Relocation Fund:	\$ 580
Give Generously: "For they gave to their means… and beyond the of their own free will." 2 Cor	ir means,

**ACRY NEWS** Next Meeting - Our Sr. ACRY will have their next meeting this Tuesday, November 19th at 7pm at Eat 'n' Park in Wexford. Please plan to join us!

+ + + Membership Drive – The ACRY is having their membership drive this month. Please see any of our ACRY members or Father Dave with any questions that you may have!

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Soup or Chili Sale – Our ACRY will be selling soup and chili for \$4 a pint on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Plan to take a couple varieties home to keep you warm. + + +

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. + + +

2020 Yearbook, A.C.R.Y. Annual - If you would like to include a patron, booster, or memorial listing in this Year Book of the activities of our God-saved Diocese, a sign-up sheet has been placed in the Church Hall. Patron & Memorial listings are \$6, and Booster listings are \$3. Please see Theresa Sharpless with any questions. Deadline to sign-up is **December 1**<sup>st</sup>.

+ + + Pill Bottle Collection - Our ACRY continues it's outreach to "Matthew 25: Ministries" who accepts donations of clean empty plastic medicine pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies and for shredding and recycling. Our pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment. More information is on the bulletin board in the church hall. +++ +++ +++

> **Reader of the Third Hour:** November 24: John Kirish December 1: Available to you December 8: Available to you

> > +++ +++ +++

Christmas at FOCUS – We have again offered to donate 4 sheet cakes, 300 bottles of water, 300 napkins, and 300 plastic-ware 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 physical or monetary donation towards this wonderful event which will be held on Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Your prayers and stewardship are greatly appreciated!

**#GivingTuesday** is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated **Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** following Thanksgiving after the widely recognized shopping events *Black Friday* and *Cyber Monday*, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-ofyear giving. Let's remember our Orthodox neighbors if you will be donating online.

Coffee Social Steward Schedule November 24: Open / Potluck December 1: Open / Meat-Free Potluck December 8: Open / Meat-Free Potluck

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#### 🗢 LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY 🗇 🛛

- ✤ Thursday, November 28 (Thanksgiving) Nativity Fast Begins – 9:30am Moleben of Thanksgiving and Stewardship
- ★ Saturday, November 30 11-1 Confessions
- ✤ Tuesday, December 3 Giving Tuesday
- Wednesday, December 4 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
- ✤ Saturday, December 7 9a-12p Winter Clean-Up and Nativity Decorating / 11a-1p Confession offered

prayer will be abundant around the scheduled

services. The icon has been manifested as being

miraculous in helping those with cancer, family

needs and especially for married couples having

difficulty with conception. Each day, Father

Archimandrite Sergius will offer talks on the icon.

All are welcome to venerate and pray before this

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You Tube: youtube.com/acroddiocese

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# **ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE**

Free Community Dinner – On Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, from 4-5pm St. Nicholas (320 Munson Ave., McKees Rocks, PA 15136) will offer a free community dinner for anyone in need of one. If you have any questions, please contact Ashley.loboda@gmail.com or 412-715-2163. +++++++

Visitation of the Wonderworking Saint Anna Icon – The Icon will be at St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral (8290 Thompson Run Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237 / 412-366-4647) on Saturday, December 7 (5pm Great Vespers, moleben, and presentation on "Acquiring the mind of Christ.") and Sunday, December 8 (10am Divine Liturgy). Times for veneration and +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

# SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

holy icon.

"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**

<sup>11</sup>See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. <sup>16</sup> Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. <sup>17</sup> Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. <sup>18</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

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#### Gospel: Luke 8:41-56

<sup>41</sup> And there came a man named Ja'irus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, <sup>42</sup> for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. <sup>43</sup> And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and could not be

healed by any one, 44 came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. <sup>45</sup> And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." <sup>47</sup> And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. <sup>48</sup> And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." <sup>49</sup> While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." 50 But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." <sup>51</sup> And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. 52 And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." <sup>53</sup> And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." <sup>55</sup> And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. <sup>56</sup> And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

# LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

# The Holy Priest Martyrs Nikander, Bishop of Myra, and the Presbyter Hermes (I)

Commemorated on November 17/4 The Holy PriestMartyrs Nikander, Bishop of Myra, and the Presbyter Hermes (I), were disciples of the holy Apostle Paul's follower and co-ascetic, the holy Disciple Titus (Comm. 25 August), and they were ordained by him to the priestly dignity. Asceticising amidst incessant pastoral works, the saints converted many pagans to Christ. For this they were arrested and brought before the city governor, named

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# LIVING ORTHODOXY

#### Q: "How are we to discern whether we are in the presence of an angel or a demon?"

A: "If whenever you are afraid, your fear is immediately taken away and replaced by unspeakable joy, cheerfulness. courage. calmness of renewed strength, thought, boldness, and love toward God, then take courage and pray because joy and a settled state of soul show the holiness of him who is present. This is how Abraham rejoiced and leaped for gladness beholding the Lord, as did John at the voice of Mary the God-bearer.

However, if there is confusion when you are afraid, hearing knocking, worldly display, threats of death and the other things which I have already mentioned, know that it is not of God, but +++ +++ +++

## The Power of Prayer

The love of the Elder Paisios for the whole world is well known. The Elder has helped a whole host of people before and after his physical death. But the question is from where did he receive his ability to help people and to perform miracles? He received this heavenly power through his fervent prayers to God.

The prayer at the end of the bulletin was given to a convent which had asked the Elder for a prayer +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

Libanius. Neither flattery nor threats swaved the holy martyrs to renounce Christ. Then Libanius

gave orders that they be tortured. The saints endured fierce and inhuman torments: they were bound to horses, dragged over stones, their bodies were lacerated with iron hooks and they were cast into an hot oven. The Lord helped them endure things, that a mere man by his own strength could not endue. Towards the end the martyrs were pierced in head and heart with spears, and thrown into a pit, they were covered over with ground.

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an onslaught of evil spirits." - St. Anthony (From "The Life of St. Anthony")

In everything St. Anthony said, there is one thing he emphasizes over and over: despise the demons, and do not fear them. We are to pray, make the sign of the cross, have complete disregard for anything they do, and they are completely defeated. Ever since the incarnation of Christ, the demons are powerless against our will. As St. Anthony taught us, "The devil doesn't even have power over swine. For as it is written in the Gospel, they besought the Lord, saying, "Let us enter the swine." They had no power over swine, let alone men formed in the image of God."

## rule that could be used by the nuns in their evening vigils. This directive was given to the nuns during the final years of his life. The main emphasis of this prayer is his profound love for all of humanity. This prayer can be used by every Christian believer since it takes in all the issues of life that need our prayers. Even the children can understand it easily since it is expressed in simple words. It can be used by families during their evening prayers.

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad. - Proverbs 12:25 + + +

"It is not a sin to eat; it is a sin to eat without gratitude." +St. Anthony the Great" +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

# 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. +++ +++ +++

For the Health of ... Aislinn, Emily, Fr. Dcn. Artemius, Pańi Marie, Michael, Daniel, Jake, Anna Mae, Eleanor

D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Gary, Lino, Louis, June, Helen, Doug, Joanne ...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... Metropolitan Gregory, Alisha, Aaron, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin our

seminarians: Sean, Thomas, John, Daniel and Dylan and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee: Matthew, Lawrence, Timothy, Theresa,





Rich, Gina, Robert, Jane, Anthony, Mary Jane, Steven, Kenneth, Jillian, John, Wendy, John, Margaret, John, John, Todd and for those who labor towards our Community Outreach, IOCC...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): Makaela Kirish - Archangel Michael (11/21) (please contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint) +++ +++ +++

Birthday Prayers for... Fr Michael Rustick (11/21) ... 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... Dustin, Stephen, Daniel ... through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magadalene, and St. John Maximovitch.

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For those preparing for Marriage... 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



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**DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:** 

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# Elder Paisios: Say This Prayer Every Day and God Will Always Be at Your Side Our Lord Jesus Christ: Do not abandon Your servants who live far away from the Church.

May Your love convict them and bring them back to You. Lord have mercy on Your servants who are suffering from cancer. On Your servants who suffer either from small or serious ailments. On Your servants who suffer from physical infirmities. On Your servants who suffer from spiritual infirmities. Lord have mercy on our leaders and inspire them to govern with Christian love. Lord have mercy on children who come from troubled homes. On troubled families and those who have been divorced. Lord have mercy on all the orphans of the world, on all those who are suffering pain and injustices since losing their spouses. Lord have mercy on all those in jail, on all anarchists, on all drug abusers, on all murderers, on all abusers of people, and on all thieves. Enlighten these people and help them to straighten out their lives. Lord have mercy on all those who have been forced to emigrate. On all those who travel on the seas, on land, in the air, and protect them. Lord have mercy on our Church, the bishops, the priests and the faithful of the Church. Lord have mercy on all the monastic communities, male and female, the elders and eldresses and all the brotherhoods of Mt. Athos. Lord have mercy on Your servants who find themselves in the midst of war. On Your servants who are being pursued in the mountains and on the plains. On Your servants who are being hunted like birds of prey. Lord have mercy on Your servants who were forced to abandon their homes and their jobs and feel afflicted. Lord have mercy on the poor, the homeless and the exiled. Lord have mercy on the nations of the world. Keep them in Your embrace and envelope them with Your holy protection. Keep them safe from every evil and war. Keep our beloved Greece (or the country you live in) in Your protective embrace day and night. Embrace her with Your holy protection defending her from all evil and war. Lord have mercy on those who have been abandoned and have suffered injustice. Have mercy on families that are going through trying times. Pour Your abundant love upon them. Lord have mercy on Your servants who suffer from spiritual and bodily problems of all kinds. Lord have mercy on those who are despairing. Help them and grant them peace. Lord have mercy on those that have requested that we pray for them. Lord grant eternal rest to all those who have passed on to eternal life throughout the ages.

...through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St Irene Chrysovalantou. +++ +++ +++ For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadovsky, Devin Meegan, and Trevor Meegan ... through the prayers of St

His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!

+++ +++ +++ For Pregnant Mothers ... Caitlinn, Allison, Pańi Ileana

George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker. +++ +++ +++

For the souls of the newly departed... +Barbara Wisnosky, +Michael Timko (10/24), +Evelyn Tihey (10/22), +Rosemary Jordanoff (10/14), +Peter Joyce (10/8) ... 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 in Christ and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you 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 only Orthodox Christians.

Amen.