



# Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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



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Very Reverend Father John Brancho, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Timothy Martin, *Reader*  
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*  
Matthew Peifer, *Church Council President*  
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February 2, 2020

Volume V

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — Zacchaeus Sunday Venerable Euthymius the Great (473)

9:15 – Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy      Tone 8      Liturgical Color: **Gold**  
Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15; Gospel: Luke 19:1-10  
40-day Panachida for +Stelian Popescu / Church School / Annual Home Blessings



## SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK



### Annual Home Blessings Through February 26

**Thursday, February 6** – 9:30am Akathist to St. Xenia of Petersburg, Fool-for-Christ, with Holy Anointing  
*The opportunity for the Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.*

Monday	Venerable Maximus the Confessor (662)	1 Peter 2:21-3:9	Mark 12:13-17
Tuesday	Apostle Timothy of the Seventy (~96)	1 Peter 3:10-22	Mark 12:18-27
* Wednesday	Hieromartyr Clement, bishop of Ancyra (296)	1 Peter 4:1-11	Mark 12:28-37
Thursday	St. Xenia of Petersburg, fool-for-Christ (18th c.)	1 Peter 4:12-5:5	Mark 12:38-44
* Friday	St. Gregory the Theologian (389)	2 Peter 1:1-10	Mark 13:1-8
Saturday	St. Paula of Palestine (404)	2 Tim. 2:11-19	Luke 18:2-8

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

## February 9 – 34<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee Venerable Peter of Egypt (5<sup>th</sup> c.)

9:15 – Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy      Tone 1      Liturgical Color: **Gold**  
Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15; Gospel: Luke 18:10-14  
*Additional Collection for our Capital Improvement / Church School / Annual Home Blessings*

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## 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!

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*This Bulletin Is Offered:  
In Memory of  
+Stelian Popescu.  
May his memory in  
God be eternal!  
Vičnaya Pamyat!*



## PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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



**Akathist to St. Xenia with holy anointing** – This Akathist covers many topics. Within it, Orthodox Prayers are offered to Save a Marriage, for the Healing of Mental Illness, to Find a Spouse, a Home, or a Job! (*St Xenia is the patron saint for finding employment.*) Whether any of these areas are a concern for you or not, come and pray on **Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>** for those who it will benefit!

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**Ice Skating** – The Jr. ACRY hosted Ice Skating event has been rescheduled for **Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>** (weather pending) at PPG Rink following the Coffee Social. All are welcome!

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**Orthodox Scouting Sunday** – We will observe Scout Sunday on **February 9<sup>th</sup>** where we pause from our busy routine to remember the many contributions that the Scouting Community has made to make our world a better place to live.



**Home Blessing Update:** 4 homes (92 miles) and 7 scheduled. **Please talk with Fr Dave today to schedule yours.** He is interested in visiting with EVERYONE this Theophany season. Please grab Father when he has his calendar (a.k.a. his phone) or email him to schedule.

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*Remember, the invitation to the priest to come and bless your home is an invitation to ask for the mercy of God upon the household. The sprinkling of the Holy Water is a sign of God's presence in the home as an extension of His Holy House, the Church. It is a time to renew our commitment to God as we begin another year in His mercy.*

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### **Holy Water Reminders: Do Not Hoard It!**

While Holy Water does not "go bad", it is best to refresh your water each year. Holy Water from the previous Theophany should be poured outside (*preferably on the corner of your house or in a garden where people are not going to walk on it*). The best scenario though is to use your Holy Water: take a drink in the mornings, use in your cooking, etc.

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**Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials** were offered last week by Viola Peifer; Tim Martin; Shuster Family; Lawrence Martin; Kathy Schmack; Eleanor Sanger; Mary Jane Hudak; Kirish Family; Mirilovich Family; Joanne Nelson; Mike Puhac; 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*

**The Eternal Lamp** was offered last week by John Gaydos, Jr., In Memory of his Mother, Catherine. May Her Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamyat!

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**Third Hour** – We have returned to having the Third Hour *read or chanted* prior to the Divine Liturgy. **Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested in participating in this wonderful stewardship prayer opportunity!**

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**Coffee Social Ministry & Sponsoring Bulletins** – The sign up sheets are available in the church hall and vestibule. For the coffee social, IF every family takes one week – the year will be filled! Please consider being a part of this stewardship ministry of our church.

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**Snowed In? Physically unable to make it to church?** – Our diocese is blessed with the opportunity to watch our Cathedral's Divine Liturgy every Sunday at 9am. Of course, the best scenario is to attend the Divine Liturgy and receive the Eucharist. When limitations occur, please take the time Sunday morning to pray with our brothers and sisters via the web at [www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/](http://www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/) to watch the live broadcast.

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**Greeting Cards** – Please consider repurposing your greeting cards and prior church calendar icon tops after the season concludes. Our collection box is in the vestibule for the *Holy Transfiguration Monastery*. Thank you for giving back!

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**Blessing of Candles** – We will bless candles following the Feast Day Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Meeting of Our Lord in the Temple on **Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** *as well as* after the Liturgy on **Sunday February 16<sup>th</sup>**. All are encouraged to bring in candles from home to be blessed after these two Liturgies. Let's light up the world with our blessed candles!

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**Gertrude Hawk Candy** – Our Easter Candy Sale forms are in the Church Hall with orders due by **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please see Tim Martin with any questions.

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#### Coffee Social Steward Schedule

February 9: Kathy Schmack

February 16: **Open / Potluck**

February 23: **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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"To escape death is impossible.

Knowing this, those who are truly intelligent and practiced in virtue and in spiritual thought accept death uncomplainingly, without fear or grief, recognizing that it is inevitable and delivers them from the evils of this life."

+St. Anthony the Great

#### Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 71
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 172
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 815
Community Outreach:	\$ 140
Parish House Donation:	\$200
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$ 1258</b>
<b>Relocation Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 300</b>

*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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**Prayer requests** – During the Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy, prayers are said for the sick and those celebrating special occasions listed in the bulletin. If silent prayers are requested, they will be offered quietly at the altar at all services. All those listed in the "Prayer Corner" are prayed for during the Proskomedia (*Preparation of the Bread and Wine for Communion*). Prayer requests will remain for (about) 40 days unless requested otherwise. Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (*in the case of answered prayers*) to our prayer list.

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**Special Intentions** – Did you ever wonder for what reasons would a person's name go under "For the Special Intentions of..." on our Prayer Page? A special intention request is very diversified! It could be when one is under extreme job stress, struggling with spiritual issues, infertility, dealing with the loss of a loved one... the list goes on. As with the other lists on our page, one does not have to be Orthodox to be added.

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#### All-Soul Saturdays (*Zadušna Subota*) –

The All-Soul Saturday Liturgies or Parastas for 2020 will be on **February 22<sup>nd</sup>, March 14<sup>th</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup>, March 28<sup>th</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, and June 6<sup>th</sup>**. On these days, we especially pray for the departed loved ones of our families. If you are not working on a Saturday, come to church and pray with us, light a candle, and remember your departed loved ones. Please inform Fr Dave if there are any additions to be made to the Commemoration Diptychs (*Hramoty*) from last year. Offering Envelopes and cards are available in the vestibule.

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#### Reader of the Third Hour:

February 2: John Kirish

February 9: Available to you

February 16: 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, February 12** – 10:00am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs at St. Nicholas in HOMEASTEAD.
- ✘ **Saturday, February 15** – 9:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Meeting of Our Lord in the Temple with Candle Blessing
- ✘ **Thursday, February 20** – 9:30am Morning Moleben
- ✘ **Saturday, February 22** – 9:30am All Soul Saturday (*Zadušna Subota*) Divine Liturgy & Panachida (1<sup>st</sup> of 5)
- ✘ **Sunday, February 23** – Meatfare Sunday Annual Pre-Lenten Breakfast

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Diocesan Website: [www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org)  
Camp Nazareth: [www.campnazareth.org](http://www.campnazareth.org)  
FB: [www.facebook.com/acroddiocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
You Tube: [youtube.com/acroddiocese](https://youtube.com/acroddiocese)

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the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold.”<sup>9</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham.”<sup>10</sup> For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost.”



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## ST JOHN'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting unexpired food and donations in order to make a delivery to **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry** (at Holy Assumption of St. Mary Orthodox Church, 105 S. 19<sup>th</sup> St., Pgh, PA 15203). Volunteers are needed every Thursday from 5:15 to 6:45 to assist in the distribution of these goods. (If interested, please contact Fr Patrick at 412-431-6428.) Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month! Here is a list of food items that they are looking for:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| ✓ Ready to eat canned fruit or vegetables | ✓ Noodle/Rice Mixes                            | ✓ Canned and Boxed 100% Juice                  |
| ✓ Peanut Butter                           | ✓ Small Package of Rice or Noodles             | ✓ Crackers                                     |
| ✓ Jelly                                   | ✓ Canned Stews                                 | ✓ Tuna Helper Box                              |
| ✓ Canned Soups                            | ✓ Canned or Pouches of Tuna, Salmon or Chicken | ✓ Instant Cereal                               |
| ✓ Canned Chili                            | ✓ Boxed Meals ready to be prepared             | ✓ Boxed Cereal                                 |
| ✓ Macaroni & Cheese                       | ✓ Baked Beans                                  | ✓ Canned Pastas (Chef Boyardee, Ravioli, etc.) |
| ✓ Spaghetti Sauce                         |  | ✓ Canned Meats                                 |
| ✓ Pasta                                   |  |  |

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## LIVING ORTHODOXY

### SIX ACTION STEPS

#### For An Intentional And Joyful New Year

By Stacey Dorrance from [www.filledwithless.com](http://www.filledwithless.com)

#1 - Thank God For Our Blessings

#2 - Be Present

*continued from last week...*

#### #3 - FORGIVE & SHOW MERCY

Unforgiveness is a terrible, destructive poison to our systems and the community in which we live and breathe.

In the Lord's Prayer, we ask God to, "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against

us." The measure we receive is the measure we give. There is no mercy waiting for us if we do not freely pour out mercy to others.

The Golden Rule, set by Christ Himself, teaches us to "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." (Luke 6:31 & Matt. 7:12). We certainly want to be forgiven by others. We are called to lead the way.

Let's cultivate forgiveness and continually offer mercy foremost with our spouse and family members. It will blossom our marriage and add a dimension of depth and intimacy to all our relationships.

*Next Week: #4 – SIMPLIFY & LIGHTEN UP*

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### THE MEANING OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH'S MEMORIAL SERVICES

#### BOILED WHEAT (KOLYVA / COLIVA)

The boiled wheat is offered because man is also a seed and like a fruit from the earth. Like a seed he is placed in the earth now, and he will be raised up and blossom forth again by God's power.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY SERVICE

The 3<sup>rd</sup> day service is celebrated for the reason that the reposed one received his being through the Trinity, and having been translated, he hopes to be changed back to the ancient beauty in which man was first made before the fall, or one better [at the resurrection].

#### 9<sup>th</sup> DAY SERVICE

The 9<sup>th</sup> day service is celebrated that his spirit may dwell together with the holy spirits, the angels, since it is immaterial as is their nature. They are ranked according to nine orders, and in three trinities they proclaim and praise God in Trinity.

#### 40<sup>th</sup> DAY SERVICE

The 40<sup>th</sup> day service is celebrated in the memory of the Savior's Ascension 40 days after His Resurrection and that the reposed one, when he is resurrected, may be taken up in the clouds to meet the Judge, our Savior and Master, and thus be with Him forever (1Thes. 4:17).



#### 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, AND 12-MONTH SERVICES

Now the third, sixth, and ninth months are also celebrated--to proclaim the Trinity, the God of all and His glory, and on behalf of the deceased. For by the Trinity a man is fashioned, and when he is loosed from the body he returns to Him, and by the Trinity he hopes for the resurrection. And thus we also perform memorials at the end of the [first] year because we proclaim the Trinity, and the [12-month-] year is divided into four trinities. Additionally, the end of the year is celebrated because it is the consummation, and our God the Trinity is the Life of all and the cause of being, and He shall be the restoration of all and the renewal of human nature.

#### ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR THE DEAD

Each year [thereafter] the relatives observe the memorial of the departed [on the anniversary and on All Soul Saturdays] to demonstrate that he lives and is immortal of soul and he shall be restored when the Creator raises up his body. And the offering of Boiled Wheat (Kolyva) bears witness that, as Christ died according to the flesh and was raised up and lives, thus, we too, as St. Paul says, "shall be raised up and live in Him."

(Excerpts from On The End of Our Life, by St. Symeon of Thessaloniki translated by George Gabriel)

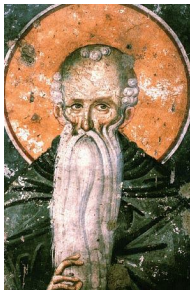
"Death mightily moves a sinner to repentance." +St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

# LIVES OF THE SAINTS

## The Monk Euthymios the Great

*Commemorated on Feb. 2 / Jan. 20*

The Monk Euthymios the Great was born to Paul and Dionysia, who were illustrious people and pious Christians, Armenia. They prayed long to have a child. At a young age, Euthymius's father died, leaving him to his mother who then helped him fulfill what had long been the plan for whatever child had been given to them: to join monastic orders.



– he said, – work much, in order to feed themselves and their families, and besides this, they give alms and offer sacrifice to God, then all the more so ought we as monks to work, so as to avoid idleness and not be nourished by the work of strangers". The abba demanded, that the monks keep silence in church during Divine-services and at meals. He did not allow young monks, wishing to fast more than others of the brethren, to follow their own will, but them to partake of all the food at meals with france, not having over-eaten.

He went on to become a great monk of his time. The monk commanded young monastics to tackle bodily labour with an inner thought of God. "If laymen,

The Monk Euthymios died on 20 January in the year 473 at the age of 97 years.

[illegible]

## 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 our Catechumens & Inquirers...***

Dustin, Stephen, Daniel, Susan ...*through  
the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St.  
Mary Magdalene, and St. John  
Maximovitch.*

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

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### ***Anniversary Prayers for... Cynthia &***

Jeffrey Morrison (2/5) ...May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!

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***For Pregnant Mothers...*** Mallory Ann, Caitlinn,  
Allison, Pañi Stacey, Pañi Ileana, Faith...*through the  
prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, &  
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... +Melanie Kurtz (1/25), +Robert Pervuznik, Sr. (1/21) +Father Michael Shuster (1/21), +George Rocknage (1/19), +Edward Pehanich, Sr. (12/30), +Stelian Popescu (12/30) ...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May their Memory in God be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamyat!***

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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.*

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## DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

### ***A Prayer for the Departed***

O God of spirits and of all flesh, You have trampled death and broken the power of Satan and have granted life to your world. O Lord, rest the soul(s) of your departed servant(s) **N.N.**, in a serene, luxuriant and peaceful place where all pain and sorrow and lamentation are absent. As a gracious God Who loves mankind, forgive all transgressions committed by **him (her, them)** by word or deed or thought, for there is no one who lives and does not sin.

You alone are without sin, Your truth is truth in eternity and Your word is truth.

For You, O Christ our God, are the resurrection, life and repose of Your servant(s) **N.N.**, who **has (have)** departed this life, and we give glory to You and to Your eternal Father and to Your most-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, both now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.