

erSaint John the Baptist Orthodox Church



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

ather Dave Urban, Pastor

Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus

Timothy Martin, Reader

Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors

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Normal Fast Week **FEBRUARY 16th**



The Prodigal Son Returns!

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Epistle: Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.

9:15 – Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy

Tone 2

Liturgical Color: Gold

YOUTH Sunday; Blessing of Candles; 1-yr Panachida for +Jane Barrett & +Barbara Banofsky and Most Reverend Metropolitan Orestes P Chornock (2/17/77); Church School

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Annual Home Blessings Through February 26 Thursday, **February 20** – 9:30am Morning Moleben

Saturday, February 22 – 9:30am All Soul Saturday (Zadušna Subota) Divine Liturgy & Panachida (1st of 5)

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

Monday	Monk Isidor Pelusiotes (ca. 436)	1 John 2:18-3:10	Mark 11:1-11
Tuesday	Saint Theodosius, archbishop of Chernigov (1696)	1 John 3:11-20	Mark 14:10-42
* Wednesday	Venerable Bucolus, bishop of Smyrna (ca. 100)	1 John 3:21-4:6	Mark 14:43-15-1
Thursday	Venerable Luke of Mt. Steirion (953)	1 John 4:20-5:21	Mark 15:1-15
* Friday	Great-martyr Theodore Stratelates (319)	2 John 1:1-13	Mark 15:22-25, 33-41
Saturday	Martyr Nicephorus of Antioch (ca. 257)	1 Corinthians 10:23-28	Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36

* Let us imitate Christ & the Saints & Fast as they did!

Meatfare FEBRUARY 23rd FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY

The Last Judgement

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.

9:15 – Third Hour; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy

Tone 3

Liturgical Color: Gold

Add'l Collection for our Community Outreach; Pre-Lenten Breakfast; No Church School; Pirohi Sale +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

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:

For the health of Diane Pavilonis on her Birthday. Many Years!



PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Anonymous \$10,000 Donor – Thank You! Last week the parish received a generous \$10,000 anonymous donation to the General Funds of the Parish. May God grant you many years!

"When you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:3-4)

+++ +++ +++ Food Drive - For the month of February we will be collecting unexpired food and donations in order to make a delivery to St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry on Pittsburgh's South Side. Thank you in advance for your prayers and

offerings this month! The list of food items that they are looking for is available in the church hall or at: http://stmaryorthodoxchurch.net/stcyrilfoodpantry.html

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Pre-Lenten Breakfast AND Pirohi Sale on Meatfare Sunday will be immediately after the Divine Liturgy next Sunday (3/3). In the tradition of the Orthodox Church fasting calendar, next Sunday we say farewell to meat until Pascha (Easter). Fresh homemade pirohi will also be sold (while supplies last).



+++ +++ +++ All-Soul Saturdays (Zadušna Subota) -The All-Soul Saturday Liturgies with Panachidas for 2020 will be on February 22nd March 14th, March 21st, March 28th, April 6th,

and $\textbf{June}~\textbf{6}^{\text{th}}.$ 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 two candles (one for the living and one for the departed), 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.

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Viola Peifer; Tim Martin; Shuster Family; Eleanor Sanger; Mary Jane Hudak; Mirilovich Family; Michael Puhac; Joanne Nelson; Patty Watson; Mainolfi Family; Cindy Pavilonis; Margaret Rusnak

"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 Mother, Catherine. May Her Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamjat!

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Presanctified Liturgy TIME CHANGE – This year we will begin the Presanctified Liturgy at the Hampton Inn an hour earlier, at 6:00 pm (we will be eating an hour earlier and getting home an hour earlier). I encourage all of the faithful, especially parents to bring their kids, to this beautiful Lenten Service!

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"Clean Week" – Looking ahead to the first week of the Great Fast, also known as "clean week", there will be a service Monday through Thursday in the morning at the church. The Wednesday evening (6pm) Presanctified Liturgy will be at the Hampton Inn off of the Wexford exit of 79 (2622 Wexford Bayne Road, Sewickley, PA 15143).

Additional Services Updated – The Parish Calendar on our website has been updated with the additional services that will be offered throughout Great Lent.

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



Pill Bottle Collection – Our ACRY continues it's outreach to "Matthew 25: Ministries" who accepts donations of CLEAN AND EMPTY plastic medicine pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies to countries in need. PLEASE MAKE SURE THE LABEL IS REMOVED AND IT IS NOT STICKY. 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.



Home Blessing Update:

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8 homes (202 miles) and 11 scheduled Please talk with Fr Dave today to schedule yours. He is interested in visiting

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with EVERYONE this Theophany season. Please grab Father when he has his calendar (a.k.a. his phone) or email him to schedule.

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.

Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship: \$ 197
Candles/Eternal Lamp: \$ 163
Envelopes/Stewardship: \$ 952

Total Collections: \$1312
Capital Improvement Fund: \$ 150
Relocation Fund: \$ 430

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

February 23: Pre-Lenten Breakfast March 1: Open / Meatless Potluck March 8: Open / Meatless 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:

February 23: John Kirish March 1: Available to you March 8: 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!

+++ +++ +++ **Trimming our willows** – The buds are starting to appear on our pussywillow bushes and trees! Please

let Fr Dave know if you would like to join him in trimming them when the time comes...

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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/ to watch the www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/ to watch the live broadcast.

LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

- **▼ Thurs.**, Feb. 27 9:30am Morning Moleben
- Monday, March 2 the start of Great Lent –
 "CLEAN WEEK" Begins 9:30am The Great
 Canon of St. Andrew (I)
- ▼ Tuesday, March 3 9:30am The Great Canon of St. Andrew (II)
- Wednesday, March 4 9:30am The Great Canon of St. Andrew (III);
- **6 pm** Presanctified Liturgy at the Hampton Inn

ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK

We are in the **Lenten Triodion**, but what does that mean? (source: www.orthodoxwiki.org/) **TRIODION** – (Greek: Τριώδιον, *Triōdion*; Slavonic: Постнал Трїωдь, *Postnaya Triod*)

The **LENTEN TRIODION** is the service book of the Eastern Orthodox Church that provides the texts for the divine services for the pre-Lenten weeks of

preparation, Great Lent, and Holy Week. It is called the *triodion* because the canons appointed for Matins during this period are composed of three (3) odes each. The weeks of preparation (especially in the Sunday Gospel readings) serve to exercise the mind, whereas the fasting of Great Lent focuses on the body, and Holy Week's services exercise the spirit.

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"True education is in fact the saint. Without the saints there are no true teachers and educators. Nor is there true education without holiness. Without illumination there is no enlightenment. Holiness is holiness through divine light. True education and enlightenment is nothing other than the radiance of holiness; only the saints are truly illuminated. Holiness lives and breathes by light simultaneously shining and teaching. There is, therefore, an identity common to holiness and illumination."

+Venerable Justin (Popovic) of Serbia, "Orthodox Faith and Life in Christ"

ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

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"Orthodox Christian Perspectives on Prayer" will be presented at the 4th Annual St. Nicholas Symposium on **Saturday, February 22nd** from 2 to 4pm at 320 Munson Ave., McKees Rocks, PA. For more information, please call 412-331-1053 or visit www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.org.





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DIOCESE TO BEGIN A NEW FAMILY MINISTRY: "SPF50": Praying together and reading Scripture together are pillars of a Christ-centered Orthodox Christian family. While families may desire to have these activities in their home, they may not be sure how to start. SPF50 intends to help our families bridge that gap. SPF stands for "Scripture, Prayer, Family" and is designed to equip families to read the scriptures and pray together at home. With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory, the SPF50 team has produced the first installment of this ministry program which will be available beginning Sunday, February 23. Each issue will be available both in hard-copy and digital form. A section of the Diocesan website dedicated to SPF50 will also contain supplemental resources to help families get started and maintain participation.

Quality time with our Lord is hard to come by.

Quality time with your family is hard to come by.

SPF50 intends to help families have both.

Be on the lookout for more info in the next 2 weeks!

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Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan-Orthodox Service - The Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh is hosting the annual Sunday of Orthodoxy Service and Celebration on Sunday, March 8th at 4:30 pm at Holy

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Celebration on **Sunday, March 8**^{str} at 4:30 pm at Holy Trinity (985 Providence Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237). His Grace, Bishop John, will be the homilist. There will

be the annual Procession of the Holy Icons and a Pan-Orthodox Choir singing the responses. Come and celebrate Orthodoxy in Pittsburgh! "This is the Faith of the Apostles. This is the Faith of the Faith of the Faith of the Orthodox. This is the Faith which has established the Universe."

Young Adult Spring Retreat - "Engaging the non-religious with the Gospel of Jesus Christ" will be presented by Fr. Sergius Halvorsen (Assistant Professor of Homiletics and Rhetoric at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary) at Camp Nazareth from March 13-15. Open to Young Adults 19–35. Fee: \$75 (Scholarships available). For more information, email YoungAdultRetreats@gmail.com or see the flyer in the hall. Register at: tinyurl.com/spring2020youngadults.

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The Annual Diocesan Lenten Retreat: For All Orthodox Christians, Family, & Friends – Will take place on Saturday, March 28th from 9am–5pm at St Nicholas Orthodox Church (903 Ann

Street, Homestead, PA 15120). His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory will present "Orthodox Love - Agape" for the teens and adults. Fr. Dave Urban will present "Windows to Heaven – Icon of the Hospitality of Abraham & The Feasts Of The Church" for those aged 6-12. The schedule for the day is posted in the church hall. A Continental Breakfast and Light Lunch are included and the cost is covered by a Free Will Offering. (This is sponsored by the National ACRY.) The registration deadline is March 21st (You may sign up on the sheet in the Church Hall). Come Escape From The World For A Day and Be Spiritually Renewed!

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 6:12-20

Glorify God in Body and Spirit

12 "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. "And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. "Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one

flesh." ¹⁷ But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸ Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

The Parable of the Prodigal and His Brother

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he

divided his living between them. 13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants." ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best

robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; ²³ and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' ³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found."

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS



Righteous Simeon the God-Receiver and St. Anna the Prophetess

Commemorated on February 16/3

The glorious Prophet Simeon the Godreceiver (also Symeon) was present

when Jesus was brought into the temple as an infant (celebrated as the feast of the Presentation).

St. Simeon is described in Scripture (Luke 2:25-32) as a righteous man who was waiting to behold the Christ before he died. Holding Him in his arms, he uttered the prayer of praise which is known as the Prayer of Saint Simeon:

Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation, a Light to lighten the Gentiles,

the Glory of Your people Israel.

This prayer is used in many liturgical services.



Yesterday we celebrated the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple; today we honor the righteous Elder Symeon and Prophetess Anna, who prophesied concerning Him by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and were the first in Jerusalem to receive Him as the Messiah.

LIVING ORTHODOXY

SIX ACTION STEPS

For An Intentional And Joyful New Year

By Stacey Dorrance from www.filledwithless.com
#1 - Thank God For Our Blessings

#2 - Be Present #3 - Forgive & Show Mercy #4 – Simplify & Lighten Up continued from last week...

#5 - CREATE A BUDGET

Let's face it. We overspent in 2019!

Let's prepare a budget for 2020 and stick to it. "There is no dignity quite so impressive, and no independence quite so important as living within our

means." (Calvin Coolidge)

Let's be intentional about every dollar that we spend. We need to save for the future! There are very encouraging and practical podcasts dealing with the healthy stewardship of finances, like Dave Ramsey and others.

Let's make a plan to use the food in our cabinets and freezer. Before our next grocery shopping, let's do some meal planning.

This will help us spend in a purposeful and intentional manner

Next Week: #6 - BALANCE BETWEEN RELATIONSHIPS & TASKS

Why are vigil lamps lit before icons?

By +Saint Nikolai Velimirovich

- 1. Because our faith is light. Christ said: I am the light of the world (John 8:12). The light of the vigil lamp [candle] reminds us of that light by which Christ illumines our souls.
- 2. In order to remind us of the radiant character of the saint before whose icon we light the vigil lamp, for saints are called sons of light (John 12:36, Luke 16:8).
- 3. In order to serve as a reproach to us for our dark deeds, for our evil thoughts and desires, and in order



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to call us to the path of evangelical light; and so that we would more zealously try to fulfill the commandments of the Saviour: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works" (Matt. 5:16).

4. So that the vigil lamp would be our small sacrifice to God, Who gave Himself completely as a sacrifice for us, and as a small sign of our great gratitude and radiant love for Him from

Whom we ask in prayer for life, and health, and salvation and everything that only boundless heavenly love can bestow.

- 5. So that terror would strike the evil powers who sometimes assail us even at the time of prayer and lead away our thoughts from the Creator. The evil powers love the darkness and tremble at every light, especially at that which belongs to God and to those who please Him.
- 6. So that this light would rouse us to selflessness. Just as the oil and wick burn in the vigil lamp, submissive to our will, so let our souls also burn with the flame of love in all our sufferings, always being submissive to God's will.
- 7. In order to teach us that just as the vigil lamp cannot be lit without our hand, so too, our heart, our inward vigil lamp, cannot be lit without the holy fire of

God's grace, even if it were to be filled with all the virtues. All these virtues of ours are, after all, like combustible material, but the fire which ignites them proceeds from God.

8. In order to remind us that before anything else the Creator of the world created light, and after that everything else in order: And God said, let there be light: and there was light (Genesis 1:3). And it must be so also at the beginning of our spiritual life, so that before anything else the light of Christ's truth would shine within us. From this light of Christ's truth subsequently every good is created, springs up and grows in us.

May the Light of Christ illumine you as well!

"Whether it's a mirror or a cover from a tin can, unless the rays of the sun fall upon it, it won't shine.

The Saints were enlightened by the rays of the Grace of God, just as the stars receive light from the sun."

+St. Paisios of Mount Athos, Spiritual Counsels Vol. II Spiritual Awakening

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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.

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John Petrovich (2/18), Carly Anton (2/21), Barbara Kirish (2/22), Theresa Sharpless (2/22), Father's nephew, Brian Verbanick, Jr (2/22) ... 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, Susan ...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magadalene, and St. John Maximovitch.

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For the Health of... all children battling illness, Patricia, Paňi Eleanor, Fr. Michael Rustick, Lexi, Gabriella, Lindsay M., Kevin, Daniel, John, Susan, John, Alexandra D., Paňi Marie, Sonja, Anna Mae, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Lino, June ...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, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin our seminarians: 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, St. Cyril of the White Lake Food Pantry ...through the prayers of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker; St. John the Baptist; the Archangels Michael & Gabriel; and the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. +++ +++ +++

Patronal Feast Days (Name's Day):

Dolores Bowser - Virgin-martyr Dorothea (2/19) (contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)

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Birthday Prayers for... Diane Pavilonis,

W. Dylan Mushinsky (2/17), James Hanchulak (2/17),

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

For Pregnant Mothers... Mallory Ann, Caitlinn, Allison, Paňi Stacey, Paňi Ileana, Faith...through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, & 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 George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.

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For the souls of the newly departed... +Melanie Kurtz (1/25), +Robert Perevuznik, Sr. (1/21) +Father Michael Shuster (1/21), +George Rocknage (1/19) ... 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!

* 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.



DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

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Sticheron at Matins from the Lenten Triodion

Open to me the doors of repentance, O Life-Giver;

for my spirit hastens early towards Your holy temple, bearing the temple of my body all defiled; but in Your compassion purify me by Your gracious mercy. Amen.