

Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church





A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople 2688 California Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa 15212

ather Dave Urban, Pastor Very Reverend Father John Brancho, Pastor Emeritus

Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors

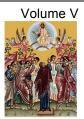
Matthew Peifer, Church Council President

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INDEED HE IS RISEN!



Liturgical Color: White

6th Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Man Born Blind

9:20 - Paschal Canon; 9:30 - Divine Liturgy Tone 5

Epistle: Acts 16: 16-34; Gospel: John 9: 1-38

THE CHURCH WILL REOPEN WITH A 25-PERSON LIMIT. MORE INFORMATION BELOW.. Panachida for +Darline Labas (40-day), +Philip Fall (40-day); Cemetery Grave Blessings at about 11:30

SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Our Cathedral's Online Schedule Of Services (www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/): Sunday 9 am Divine Liturgy

> Wednesday 7:15 am Leave-taking of Pascha: Resurrection Matins **6 pm** Feast Day Vespers

Thursday - 9am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord Saturday 6 pm Great Vespers

Monday	St. Epiphanius, bishop of Cyprus (403)	Acts 17:1-15	John 11:47-57
Tuesday	Virgin-martyr Glyceria at Heraclea (141)	Acts 17:19-28	John 12:19-36
* Wednesday	St. Isidore, fool-for-Christ, wonderworker of Rostov (1474)	Acts 18:22-28	John 12:36-47
Thursday	St. Isaiah, bishop and wonderworker of Rostov (1090)	Acts 1:1-12	Luke 24:36-53
* Friday	Venerable Theodore the Sanctified (368)	Acts 19:1-8	John 14:1-11
Saturday	Apostle Andronicus of the Seventy and Junia (1st c.)	Acts 20:7-12	John 14:10-21

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

No Kneeling in Prayer and Replace "O Heavenly King" with the Paschal Tropar (3 times)

May 31 – 7th Sunday of Pascha: The Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

9:15 – 3rd Hour; 9:30 – Divine Liturgy

Tone 6

Liturgical Color: White

Epistle: Acts 16: 16-34; Gospel: John 9: 1-38

THE CHURCH IS OPEN WITH A 25-PERSON LIMIT. RESERVATION DETAILS BELOW...

A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

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Christ Is Risen! (responded with: Indeed He Is Risen!) Christos Voskrese! (Voistinu Voskrese!)

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:

If you wish to sponsor a bulletin In Honor of (anniversary, birthday, etc.) or In Memory of someone, please do so by contacting Fr. Dave (email, text, or call). An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.

A LONG AWAITED ANNOUNCEMENT

Church to Reopen Sunday, May 24, 2020 -Following His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory's guidelines along with our Parish Council and CDC recommendations:

- Sunday Divine Liturgy Services Will Return With A 25-Person Limit.
- ✓ For Now, "Reservations" Can Be Made By Contacting Father Between Monday And Friday At NOON Via A Phone Call Or Text Message To 412-748-0148. (Do not email for this.) Father will send out a confirmation email when 25 is reached.
- If You Are Not Comfortable At This Time To Return To Church, We Understand But Please Let Father Know.
- A Facemask must be worn in the church.
- 6-feet distancing will be maintained (Certain pews are roped off, markings on the floor, etc...)

- √ The "curator desk" has been moved from the vestibule to the hall to allow for more room.
- Veneration of icons and the Holy Cross needs to be done with a reverent bow. (No kissing or touching)
- Candles should be lit with a lighter that you bring from home. (It is a pious Orthodox tradition to say your prayer (intention) when lighting your candle for the living and your candle for the departed.)
- ✓ For the time being, we will only have Sunday. morning services.
- "Youth Sunday", Coffee Social, and Church School will resume at a future date.

Our approach is fluid in that we are flexible to adjusting things as they are needed. Please also continue to pray along with the cathedral services when it is not your week. Through God's strength and guidance we will get through this together!

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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: Acts 16: 16- 34

Paul and Silas in Prison

¹⁶ As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." ¹⁸ And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; ²⁰ and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. ²¹ They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." ²² The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴ Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. 27 When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹ And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, ³⁰ and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. ³⁴ Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Paschal Greeting

(used instead of 'hello', before 'good morning', etc.)

Christ IS risen!

(responded with: Indeed He IS risen!)

Gospel: John 9: 1- 38

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

9 As he passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. ² And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am" (which means Sent). So he went

and washed and came back seeing. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." ¹⁰ They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Silo'am and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14 Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. 15 The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." 16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. 17 So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out

Spiritual Blindness

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

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PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Having flu-like symptoms? PLEASE KEEP FR. DAVE POSTED OF ANY ILLNESSES SO TO BE ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST!

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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Joanne Nelson; Tim Martin; Shuster Family; 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 +++++++



Candles in Church – During this time of COVID-19, if you wish for Father to light your weekly candles, please <u>text</u>, <u>email</u>, or <u>call</u> him with your intentions (for the living, departed, or other specific) by Saturday evening. Your candle donation should be mailed to Tim Martin.

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Cemetery Grave Blessings will be today, Sunday, May 24th. We will celebrate a Panachida (Memorial Service) at Church and then to the cemetery at 11:30.

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COVID-19 Relief Fund – Archbishop Elpidophoros of America has established a COVID-19 Relief Fund to assist **individuals** who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Please go to www.goarch.org/covid19relief to apply. If you would like to donate to the Relief Fund, please visit www.goarch.org/covid19/donate

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Calling All Graduates – Please notify Fr. Dave of your graduation information by **May 31**.

High School Students: your High School, any academic and/or athletic awards, and where you will attend in the Fall with your intended major in college (or undecided at this time)

Trade School, College, Graduate and Post-Graduate Students: where you went, your field of study, and degree you will earn.

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Instagram (SJB_Orthodox_Pittsburgh) – Our Parish now has an Instagram page! Father will post a picture before (or after) each service at the church.

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"20 seconds" of Prayer – Following the CDC recommendations, as you wash your hands, instead of singing your ABCs, pray! It takes roughly 20-seconds to pray *The Lord's Prayer*, sing pray *Hail Mary (twice)*, sing *You are truly deserving*, or say the *Jesus Prayer* (5 times).

Paschal Greeting in Church Slavonic:
Christos voskrese! (Voistinu voskrese!)
If greeted in a language you are unfamiliar with,
translate & respond in English (then learn the response)

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Our Stewardship Gifts To God	
Stewardship:	\$ 125
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 64
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 500
Parish House Offering:	\$ 200
Total Collections:	\$ 889
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 0
Relocation Fund:	\$ 0

Weekly Offerings to God – During this time, we request that all weekly donations be mailed to:

Tim Martin

2225 McAleer Road

Sewickley, PA 15143

For our parish to continue it's ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, we need your generosity to continue.

Praying with online services from your domestic-church - Sunday Liturgies at St. John's are now celebrated with a 25-person limit. This comes from the Protocol from our Metropolitan. We will pray for our parish and the world. PLEASE watch services online! Here are the words of Fr. Matthew Dutko concerning watching services online:

- "Wake up at the normal time that you always do on a Sunday. If you have kids, wake them up. Shower, get dressed in your Sunday finest and gather together in front of a computer screen.
- Light a candle and burn some incense [if you do not have any, contact Fr. Dave who can recommend online sites to order from]. When the Liturgy begins, pray and sing as you always do.
- Even though you will be in your home-church, don't let the distractions of being in your own home get in the way. For that hour or so, you will be with your parish family in prayer. I know it's not the same, but we will still be praying to our Lord, all together, all at the same time; just like we always do."

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Cathedral Live-Broadcast - Our diocese is blessed with the opportunity to watch our Cathedral's Divine Liturgy every Sunday at 9am (and other services). The best scenario is to attend the Divine Liturgy and receive the Eucharist, but with these current limitations, please take the time Sunday morning, Wednesday evening, and throughout the week to pray with our brothers and sisters via the *live broadcast* on the web. www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/

🍣 LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY 🝣

♣ Please Continue to Pray (and wash your hands)
 ♣ Sun. June 7 – Feast of Pentecost (Rusalja)

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Paschal Greeting in Greek:
Khristós anésti! (Alithós anésti!)

ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE

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Assembly of Bishops USA Announces COVID-19 Resource Center for Orthodox Christians - The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA announces a resource center for clergy and faithful during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Resource Center includes updated news from the various jurisdictions as well as practical guidelines and resources for families, ministry leaders, parish leadership, and everyone. The Center can be

accessed at www.assemblyofbishops.org/covid19 and will be updated regularly with new materials and expanded selections.

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Pysanky in June! Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Carnegie has rescheduled their 53rd Annual Ukrainian Easter Egg Sale to **Saturday, June 6** from 11am to 4pm. Pysanky, folk arts, food, basket raffles, food, door prizes and, of course, more food! It is not too early to put this on your calendar!

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- VIRTUAL Altar Boy Retreat June 28 - July 1
- VIRTUAL Young Women's Encounter will be June 28 - July 1
- 55 Days Till VIRTUAL Camp! Our Deanery Camping week is July 14-20.
- VIRTUAL Science & Nature Week will be Aug. 9-15 +++ +++ +++

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Paschal Greeting in Romanian: Hristos a înviat! (Adevărat a înviat!)

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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Anonymous Feelings of Gratitude:

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[Please share with Fr. Dave something that you are surprised that you became grateful for during our quarantine time. Anonymous inspirations will be shared in the bulletin. (Please see the: Fear Zone → Learning Zone → Growing Zone: "Where am I during COVID-19?" in the Pascha Bulletin.)]

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Source: www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar © 1996-2001 by translator Fr. S. Janos The Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles First-Teachers and Enlighteners of the Slavic Peoples, the Brothers Cyril and Methodius

Commemorated on May 24/11

The Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles First-Teachers and Enlighteners of the Slavic Peoples, the Brothers Cyril and Methodius came from an illustrious and pious family living in the Greek city of Soluneia (Thessalonika). Saint Methodius was the oldest of seven brothers, Saint Contantine (Cyril - was his monastic name) was the

youngest. Saint Methodius was at first in the military profession and was governor in one of the Slavic principalities dependent to the Byzantine empire probably Bulgaria, which made it possible for him to learn the Slavic language. Having dwelt there for about 10 years, Saint Methodius afterwards accepted monastic orders at one of the monasteries on Mount Olympos (Asia Minor). Saint Constantine from his early years distinguished himself by great aptitude and he studied together with the emperor Michael during that one's youth - under the finest teachers in Constantinople, among which were Photios, future Patriarch of Constantinople. Saint Constantine, having attained knowledge in all the sciences of his time and also many languages, also with particular diligence studied the works of Sainted Gregory the Theologian. Because of his keen mind and penetrating perception, Saint Constantine received the title "Philosopher" (wise). Upon the completion of his education, Saint Constantine accepted the dignity of priest and was appointed curator of the patriarchal library at the church of Saint Sophia, but he soon quit the capital and went off secretly to a monastery. Discovered there and having returned to Constantinople, he was appointed teacher of philosophy in the highest level of the Constantinople schools. The wisdom and strength of faith for the still rather young Constantine was so great, that he won the victory in a debate with the leader of the heretic-iconclasts Ananias. After this victory Constantine was sent by the emperor to dispute in a debate about the Holy Trinity with the Saracens (musselmans) and again he gained the victory. Having returned, Saint Constantine went off to his brother Saint Methodius on Olympos, spending the time in unceasing prayer and reading the works of the holy fathers.

The emperor soon summoned forth both of the holy brothers from the monastery and dispatched

> Paschal Greeting in Spanish: ¡Cristo ha resucitado! (¡En verdad ha resucitado!)

them to preach the Gospel to the Khazars. Along the way they stayed for some time in the city of Korsun,

making preparations for preaching. There the holy brothers in miraculous manner discovered the relics of the Priestmartyr Clement, Pope of Rome (Comm. 25 November). There also at Korsun Saint Constantine found a Gospel and Psalter written in "Russian letters" Slavonic], and a man speaking in Slavic, and he began to learn from this man to read and to speak in his language. After this, the holy brothers set off to the Khazars, where they

gained the victory in a debate with Jews and Moslems by preaching the Gospel teaching. On the way home the brothers again visited Korsun and, taking up the relics of Saint Clement there, they returned to Constantinople. Saint Constantine remained in the capital, but Saint Methodius received the hegumenate at the small Polychronion monastery - not far from Mount Olympos, where he pursued asceticism as before.

Soon there came to the emperor messengers from the Moravian prince Rostislav, otherwise pressured by German bishops – with a request to send teachers to Moravia, who would be able to preach in the vernacular Slavic tongue. The emperor summoned Saint Constantine and said to him: "It is necessary for thee to go thither, where it be better for thee that no one realise this". Saint Constantine prepared for the new task with fasting and prayer. With the help of his brother Saint Methodius and the students Gorazd, Clement, Savva, Naum and Angelyar he composed a Slavonic alphabet and translated into the Slavic tongue books - without which it would be impossible to celebrate Divine services: the Gospel, Epistles, Psalter and collected services. This occurred in the vear 863.

After completing the translation, the holy brothers set off to Moravia, where they were received with great honour, and they began to teach the Divineservices in the Slavic language. This aroused the malice of the German bishops, who celebrated Divineservices in the Moravian churches in the Latin language, and they rose up against the holy brothers, convinced that Divine-services must be done only in one of three languages: Hebrew, Greek or Latin. Saint Constantine answered them: "Ye recognise only three languages by which to give glory to God. But David sang: Come to the Lord, all nations, praise the Lord all peoples, let everything that hath breath praise the Lord! And in the Holy Gospel it says: Go teach all nations...". The German bishops were humiliated, but they became all the more bitter and sent off a complaint to Rome. The holy brothers were summoned to Rome for a decision on this question.

Taking with them the relics of Saint Clement Pope of Rome, Saints Constantine and Methodius set off to Rome. Knowing that the holy brothers were bringing along with them these relics, Pope Adrian met them along the way with his clergy. The holy brothers were greeted with honour, the pope of Rome gave permission for Divine-services in the Slavonic language, and the books translated by the brothers he ordered to be placed in Roman churches and to make liturgy in the Slavonic language.

At Rome Saint Constantine fell ill and, in a miraculous vision from the Lord advising of the nearness of death, he accepted the monastic schema-order with the name of Cyril (Kirill). 50 days after the accepting of the schema, on 14 February 869, Saint Cyril died at 42 years of age. In expiring to God, Saint Cyril commanded his brother Saint Methodius to continue with their common task – the enlightening of the Slavic peoples with the light of the true faith. Saint Methodius entreated the pope of Rome to send the body of his brother for burial in their native land, but the pope commanded the relics of Saint Cyril to be placed in the church of Saint Clement, where miracles began to occur from them.

After the death of Saint Cyril, the pope in fulfilling the request of the Slavic prince Kotsel, sent Saint Methodius to Pannonia, – having ordained him Archbishop of Moravia and Pannonia, on the ancient throne of the holy Disciple Andronikes. In Pannonia Saint Methodius together with his students continued to propagate Divine-services in books inscribed in the Slavonic language. This again aroused the wrath of the German bishops. They obtained an arrest and held a trial over Saint Methodius, who was sent in

chains to Swabia, where during the course of two and an half years he underwent many sufferings. Having been set free by order of the Pope of Rome, John VIII, and restored to the rule of his archdiocese, Saint Methodius continued to preach the Gospel among the Slavs. He baptised the Czech prince Borivoi and his spouse Liudmila (Comm. 16 September), and also one of the Polish princes. The German bishops started a persecution against the saint for a third time, – for not accepting the Roman teaching about the procession of the Holy Spirit from both the Father and from the Son. Saint Methodius was summoned to Rome, but he justified himself before the pope, and preserved in its purity the Orthodox teaching, and was sent off again to the capital of Moravia, Velehrad.

Here in the ensuing years of his life Saint Methodius with the help of two of his priest-students translated into the Slavonic language all the Old Testament except for the Book of Maccabbees, and even the Nomokanon (Rule of the holy fathers) and books of the holy fathers (Paterikon).

Sensing the nearness of death, Saint Methodius decreed one of his students – Gorazd, as worthy successor to himself. The sainted-bishop predicted the day of his death and he died on 6 April 885 at an age of about 60 years. The burial service of the saint was done in three languages – Slavonic, Greek and Latin. He was buried in the cathedral church of Velehrad.

Paschal Greeting in Italian: Cristo è risorto! (È veramente risorto!)

LIVING ORTHODOXY

Contemplatives in Confinement: 3 Lessons Learned While Battling Coronavirus

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written May 22, 2020 by Lynnette Horner https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/walkinganancientpath/author/lhorner/

I recently achieved the dubious honor of being the only person I know to contract Covid-19. Although mine would be classified a "mild" case—clear lungs, no ER visits, no hospitalization required—I wouldn't recommend the experience to anyone. If the flu is an uninvited guest that hangs around for three to five days, the coronavirus is a squatter that moves into your home and decides to ransack the place during an extended staycation of, oh, two or three weeks. I mostly sat around like a slug.

On the plus side, I now have some sort of immunity, although the experts don't know how long it will last.

My coronavirus experience occurred during the first two weeks of May, when most folks were sheltering at home in order to avoid people like me. Before the fever hit, I had been thinking about the lessons we're all learning during this pseudo-monastic experience of social isolation. My two weeks of Slug Life gave me time, in my more lucid moments, to think about a few of them

1. Gathering For Worship Is A Privilege.

I had understood this in a theoretical way. I've read stories of suffering Christians worshiping secretly in Nazi concentration camps, in Soviet gulags, and in Chinese prisons. Unlike them, I can still worship freely, with access to all kinds of Christian books, online services, and podcasts on Ancient Faith Radio.

But I dearly miss my brothers and sisters in Christ. Friends. Family. Familiar faces. Cute little toddlers

who won't stay still during the liturgy.

Two months is a long time without gathering together. Once this crisis passes and we are able to worship and pray in community again, I plan to wear waterproof mascara on that first special Sunday back at church. Tears will be shed.

I hope I will never forget this lesson. I hope I will never again take for granted the joy of corporate worship. I hope I won't grumble about parish responsibilities or getting up early on a Sunday morning.

The body of Christ, in the community of His Church, is truly a gift.



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

To Be Continued Next Week...

https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/walkinganancientpath/2 020/05/22/contemplatives-in-confinement-3-lessons-learned-while-battling-coronavirus/

Paschal Greeting in Arabic: El Messieh kahm! (Hakken kahm!)

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PRAYER CORNER

Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions & 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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For the Health of... Fr. George Livanos, Julia, Theresa, Lynn, Fr. Kenneth Ellis, Candice, Fr. Michael Rustick, Ella, Lexi, John, Susan, John, Alexandra D., Paňi Marie, Sonja, Anna Mae, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Lino, June, for all those battling viruses ...through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer.

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 Outreaches ...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): (please contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint) +++++++

Birthday Prayers for... Elias Mainolfi (5/24), Sean Watson (5/26), Alexander Hanchulak (5/27), Fr Jonathan Tobias (5/27), Michael Horbal (5/28), Melanie Shuster (5/30) ... 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 Mnohaya I Blahaya 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 those preparing for Marriage...
Lauren & Corey, Ashley & Derek
...through the prayers of Sts. Adrian &
Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.

Anniversary Prayers for... Fr Dave & Paňi Alexandra (5/25), Jim & Katherine Schrmack (5/26), Anthony & Donna Horbal (5/27) ... May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!

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For Pregnant Mothers... Faith (June), Mallory Ann (July) ...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... +Kimberly Young (5/17), Paňi +Patsy Joseph (5/14), +George Hutnyan, the Priest (5/12), +Darline Labas (4/13), +Philip Fall (4/9), and those who have passed from the coronavirus ... 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.

Paschal Greeting in Swahili:
Kristo amefufukka! (Kweli amefufukka!)



DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

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Evening Troparia of Thanksgiving

Now that the day has come to a close, I thank You, O Lord, and I ask that the evening with the night may be sinless; grant this to me, O Savior, and save me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Now that the day has passed, I glorify You, O Master, and I ask that the evening, with the night may be without offense; grant this to me, O Savior, and save me.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Now that the day has run its course, I praise You, O Holy One, and I ask that the evening with the night may be undisturbed; grant this to me, O Savior, and save me.





