😰 St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church 🚕 A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Father Dave Urban. Pastor 2688 California Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa 15212 Verv Reverend Father John Brancho. Pastor Emeritus 412-748-0148. Talk or Text

Subdeacon Ryan Ferko Timothy Martin, Reader Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, Cantors Lawrence Martin, Parish Council President

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SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

19th Sunday after Pentecost Martyr Charitina of Amisus (304) $9:15 - 3^{rd}$ Hour: 9:30 - Divine LituravEpistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9 Gospel: Luke 6:31-36 (2nd Sunday of Luke) Tone 2; Liturgical Color: Gold Panachida for Archon +Richard Radick (30vear), +Rosemary Jordanoff (1-vear), +Robert Spirnak (40-day), and the newly departed **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20**

9-10:30am Church open for personal praver (enter from the side door)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

9:30 Morning Moleben (Prayer Service)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

88th Anniversary of the founding of our parish in 1932 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council (787) 20th Sunday after Pentecost Martyr Charitina of Amisus (304) 9:15 – 3rd Hour; 9:30 – Divine Liturgy Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16 (Holy Fathers) Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel: John 17:1-13 (Holy Fathers) Luke 7:11-16 (3rd Sunday of Luke) Tone 3; Liturgical Color: Gold +++ +++ +++ Our Cathedral's Online Services can be viewed

at: www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com

Instagram: SJB Orthodox Pittsburgh

www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.com

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wed.) +++ +++ +++

Palms and Pussywillows - As we gather again in community at the church, there are plenty of blessed palms and pussywillows from earlier in the year for everyone to take home.

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Council President Change - As announced last week: Matt Peifer has decided to step down as President of our Parish Council. THANK YOU Matt for your years of dedication in that role! Larry Martin, our previous Vice-President, has agreed to step into the role as Parish Council President.

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Distinguished Diocesan Donors (DDD) - We invite you to join with other St John's faithful in giving to the annual DDD program. This program greatly supports our ministry at Camp Nazareth and other programs in our diocese. (This year, DDD is basically the only source of income for Camp Nazareth.) For more information, please get a brochure in the vestibule, visit www.acrod.org/ministries/dddprogram/, or see Larry Martin (our local ambassador) or Fr. Dave.

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Gertrude Hawk Christmas Candy - Order forms for our Christmas Candy Sale are in the Church Hall. Orders due by 11/8 with delivery 12/7. Please see Tim Martin with any questions. +++ +++ +++

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! 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 again soon! If you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy, please see Fr. Dave.

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

| Stewardship: Candles/Eternal Lamp: Envelopes/Stewardship: | \$ \$ \$ | 60 45 215 |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| Total Collections: | \$ | 320 |
| Capital Improvement: | \$ | 85 |
| Relocation Fund: | \$ | 20 |
| We must give in trust that God will use it to produce fruit: "He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your sowing (resources) and increase the harvest of your righteousness (benevolence)." - 2 Cor. 9:10 | | |

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Joanne Nelson; Shuster Family; Mary Jane Hudak; Cindy Pavilonis; Michael Puhac; Olga Radick; Eleanor Sanger; Patty Watson:

"I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness. but will have the light of life." - John 8:12

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Weekly Offerings to God - During this time, if you are not coming to the church, we request that all weekly donations be mailed to Tim Martin

(2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143) For our parish to continue it's ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, we need your generosity to continue.

+++ +++ +++ LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

♥ October 26 – Carpatho-Rusyn Day in North America

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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 signing up on the sheet in the church hall or by contacting Fr. Dave (email, text, or call). An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.

ORTHODOXY AROUND THE 'BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

Calling all Diocesan Youth Ages 5-18 (K-12th grade) To Come be a part of the second... THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES When: Sunday, October 25, 2020 The Event is Free-of-Charge.

Over 100 youth from 14 States and nearly 40 parishes attended the first "Vine and Branches" event in September. Come strengthen your faith and connect with peers around the Diocese. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be together with His Eminence, our priests, and one another, and be encouraged in your faith. Registration is quick and easy at:

http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event ?llr=oblwu7zab&oeidk=a07ehc4mpz868710e94

Registration closes on Thursday, 10/22.

The schedule includes time for a message from the Metropolitan, games to help us get to know each other, activities on the theme of The Vine and the Branches, entertainment from around the Diocese (special quest appearances!), and time just to see and talk with one another. Youth will be together for part of the Event, as well as in smaller "breakout rooms" grouped by age. Youth Ages 5-12 will be online from 6pm-**7:30pm**. Youth Ages 13-18 will be online from 6pm-6:30pm AND 7:45pm-8:45pm. Once you register for the event, a full schedule and the links to join the Event will be sent to you. His Eminence is looking forward to seeing all of you!!



SPF50 (Scripture, Prayer, Family): **A Diocese Family Ministry** - The 3rd Issue of SPF50 is available! If you did not start with us on March 1, consider joining now. Make a commitment to reading Scripture and Praying together with your family. (Don't forget to fill out the Commitment Card and return it to Fr. Dave.) Visit the Diocesan SPF50 web page at www.acrod.org/ministries/acrod-family/spf50 to find out more about SPF50 and how to help your family read Scripture and Pray together at home.



Visit <u>www.acrod.org</u> (middle of the page) for more information

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VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org FB: www.facebook.com/acroddiocese Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews YouTube: youtube.com/acroddiocese

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SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9

³¹ The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. ³² At Damascus, the governor under King Ar'etas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, ³³ but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

Paul's Visions and Revelations

12 I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven-whether in the body or out of the body I do not know. God knows.³ And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise-whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—⁴ and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.⁵ On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶ Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me.⁷ And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸ Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; ⁹ but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

³¹ And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. ³⁶ Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

"Only God is good by nature, but with God's help man can become good through careful attention to his way of life. He transforms himself into what he is not when his soul, by devoting its attention to true delight, unites itself to God, in so far as its energized power desires this. For it is written: 'Be good and merciful as is your Father in heaven' (cf Luke 6:36; Matt. 5:48)." +St Diadochos of Photiki

LIVING ORTHODOXY

SAINT TITLES

The holy ones of the Orthodox Church have various customary **saint titles** with which they are commemorated on the Church Calendar and in divine services.

The following list explains the references:

- **Confessor**: one who has suffered for the faith but not martyred outright
- Hiero-confessor: one who has suffered for the faith, but not martyred, who is also a clergyman.
- Enlightener of N. or Illuminator of N.: the saint who first brought the faith to a people or region, or who did major work of evangelization there as a missionary

- Equal-to-the-Apostles: one whose work greatly built up the Church, whether through direct missionary work or through assisting the Church's place in society
- Fool-for-Christ: a saint known for his apparent, yet holy, insanity
- **God-bearer**: one who bears God within himself and is aflame in heart with love for Him
- **Great-martyr**: one who was martyred for the faith and suffered torture
- **Hieromartyr**: a martyr who is also a clergyman
- Martyr: one who has died for the faith
- **Merciful**: one known for charitable work, especially serving the poor
- Myrrh-bearer: one of the women who were present at Christ's passion and went to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus
- Myrrh-streaming, Myrrh-gusher, or Myroblete: the relics of the saint exude holy and sweet-smelling (and often miraculous) oil
- **New-martyr**: a martyr often bearing the same name as a more ancient martyr, but usually more recent in the Church's history
- **Passion-bearer**: one who faced his death in a Christ-like manner
- **Protomartyr**: the first martyr in a given region
- **Right-believing**: an epithet used for sainted secular rulers
- Righteous: a holy person under the Old Covenant (Old Testament Israel) but also sometimes used for married saints of the New Covenant (the Church); *righteous* may also used as a translation for the Greek *hosios*, which is usually translated as "venerable."
- Unmercenary: a saint who refused to take payment for healing, especially in serving the poor
- Venerable: a monastic saint
- Venerable-martyr: a martyred monastic
- Virgin-martyr: an unmarried, non-monastic, chaste female martyr
- Wonderworker: a saint renowned for performing miracles, also called "miracleworker"

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

The Holy Martyress Charitina *Commemorated on October 18/5*

Lived in the 3rd century during the reign of the Emperor Diocletian; a reign that saw the bloodiest period of Christian persecution. Orphaned at an early age, St. Charitina was adopted by a Roman merchant Claudius. St. Charitina was meek, humble, and obedient and spent her life in fasting, prayer, and study. By her example, she converted to Christianity. When the governor of the region, Dometius, heard of this, however, she was brough to trial. Refusing to show fear. St. Charitina firmly answered the charges brought against her. When she was accused of "deluding other" by bringing them to a dishonorable faith, St. Charitina calmly replied that she leads those in error to the way of truth thus bringing them to the Lord. Found guilty, she was forced to endure a series of brutal tortures, shielded by God but surrendering her soul before her final torture in 304 AD.

"One cannot wage a battle if one does not acknowledge the existence of an enemy; and the Church's testi-mony is clear, that whether or not one acknowledges that foe, whether or not one elects to fight in the battle, the foe remains real and never ceases in his attacks against us. So our choice is not "to fight or not to fight," to acknowledge the demons or not to admit of their reality; our choice is to fight or to be overcome." - Bishop Irenei Steenberg, *The Beginnings of a Life of Prayer*, p.33

ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK

Akedia (in Latin, *accidie*) is literally fatigue or exhaustion, but in technical usage refers to the spiritual and physical lethargy. The reference in Psalm 90 (91 MT) to the "demon of noonday" is traditionally identified as akedia. It can take the form of listlessness, dispersion of thoughts, or being inattentively immersed in useless activity "Why does the Lord command us to love our enemies and to pray for them? Not for their sake, but for ours!
For as long as we bear grudges, as long as we dwell on how someone offended us, we will have no peace."
Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica, *Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives*, p.68

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... Justin, Katie, Brian, Douglas, Thomas, Dacia, James, Sean, Michael, Julia, Theresa, John, Susan, John, Alexandra D., Paňi Marie, 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, Susan, 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): Kenneth Parks - Venerable Cainnech (10/24) (contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint) +++ +++ +++

Birthday Prayers for... Rhonda Gogal (10/19), Fr. Robert Buczak (10/20), Alyssa Duray (10/23), Fr. Daniel Vaskalis (10/24) ... May God allow them to grow in peace and love all the days of their lives and may He grant them many and

For our Catechumens & Inquirers...

Dustin, Stephen, 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... ...May God fill them with His grace that they may

continue to live in unity with Him! +++ +++++

For Pregnant Mothers... Brittany (due in October), Elaine (November) ...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 and Trevor Meegan ...through the prayers of St George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.

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For the souls of the newly departed... +George Puhac (10/6), +Paul, +Sylvia Louise, +Dorothy, +Leona (Smoley) Hawke (9/25), +Natalie, +Donald, +Robert Spirnak (9/10), 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

* 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. <u>Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make</u> <u>additions or subtractions (*in the case of* <u>answered prayers</u>) 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. <u>This prayer list is</u> **NOT** limited to only Orthodox Christians.</u>

"Work hard to have good thoughts and goodwill towards friends *and* enemies and you will see what good fruit you and everyone around you will receive." - Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica,

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK

A Prayer for Enemies

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who did command us to love our enemies, and those who defame and injure us, and to pray for them and forgive them; Who Yourself did pray for Your enemies who crucified You: Grant us, we pray, the spirit of Christian reconciliation and meekness, that we may heartily forgive every injury and be reconciled with our enemies. Grant us to overcome the malevolence and offences of people with Christian meekness and true love of our neighbor. We further beseech You, O Lord, to grant to our enemies true peace and forgiveness of sins; do not allow them to leave this life without true faith and sincere conversion. And help us repay evil with goodness, and to remain safe from the temptations of the devil and from all the perils which threaten us, in the form of visible and invisible enemies. Amen.