



St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church



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

Father Dave Urban, *Pastor*

Very Reverend Father John Brancho, *Pastor Emeritus*

Subdeacon Ryan Ferko

Timothy Martin, *Reader*

Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*

Lawrence Martin, *Parish Council President*

www.facebook.com/pg/St-John-the-Baptist-Orthodox-Church-of-Northside-Pittsburgh-169297619784149

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SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the

7th Ecumenical Council (787)

Venerable Cosmas the Hymnographer (787)

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

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Hebrews 13:7-16 (*Holy Fathers*)

Gospel: Luke 7:11-16 (*3rd Sunday of Luke*)

John 17:1-13 (*Holy Fathers*)

Tone 3; Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Panachida for the newly departed

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

9-10:30am Church open for personal prayer

(*enter from the side door*)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

9:30 Morning Moleben (*Prayer Service*)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Martyr Charitina of Amisus (304)

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

Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16

Gospel: Luke 7:11-16 (*4th Sunday of Luke*)

Tone 4; Liturgical Color: **Gold**

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Our Cathedral's Online Services can be viewed

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

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"Nothing is more praised or loved by God
like a gentle, humble, and grateful soul."

+ St John Chrysostom

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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Ventilation in the church – Did you notice a few of the windows open the past few weeks even though it was cooler out? As we gather in community at the church, there are multiple recommended precautions that we are following. Because we do not have filtered forced air heat, we are going with the recommendation to have the ceiling fan on low and a few windows open to allow the air to not be stagnate.

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First-Aid Assistance – Is there a medical professional who could inspect and help us stock our First-Aid kits at the church? Please contact Father if you are able to be a steward with your talents.

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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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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.

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.

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Council President Change – As announced previously: *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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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship:	\$ 515
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 364
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 1215
Total Collections:	\$ 2094
Relocation Fund:	\$ 40

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; Tim Martin; Kathy Schrmack; Mirilovich Family; Olga Radick; Eleanor Sanger; 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 Tim Martin, Birthday Remembrance, Lawrence H. Martin and by Federated Hermes, In Memory of Anna Mae Gogal. May Their Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamjat!

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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.

LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

✕ November 8 - Feast of the Great Martyr Demetrius

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear members of our St. John's Northside family,

Glory be to Jesus Christ!

Please join me in thanking Matt Peifer for his many dedicated years of service as our Parish Council President. Matt has courageously led us through challenging times as we continue to balance our safety with re-opening our church in the post-COVID environment.

With Matt's resignation, I look forward to my stewardship to lead and serve our parish community. I am hopeful that all of you will take an active interest in expanding our Orthodox fellowship to new members of the community and to those who we may have not seen in awhile. We need to find ways to stay connected, especially during these times of safe-distancing and to support each other.

I am very interested in hearing from all of you on how we can move forward and how to make our church community flourish.

Yours in Orthodoxy,

Larry Martin

Parish Council President

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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.

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ORTHODOXY AROUND THE 'BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

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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.

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Young Adult (aged 18-40) Fall Retreat this year will be via Zoom on **Saturday, November 14th** from 9:30am – 12 Noon and 6:30 – 8:30pm. *Are you finding peace and joy in the middle of this storm? How do you block the noise How do you find stillness, peace, and even, joy?* The theme will be: "In Your Presence, There Is Fullness Of Joy". Presenters will be Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa, Very Rev. Fr. Stephen Loposky, Fr. Gregory Jensen, and Fr. Anastasios Athanasiou. Sign-up for FREE at <https://tinyurl.com/2020YAFallRetreat>. Visit www.acrod.org (middle of the page) for more information

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17th Annual Cookie Walk – “Virtually!”
Experience the “Virtual Walk” in the comfort of your own home! Order Cookies and Pay Online. Being held now through November 15. “No in-person orders.” Cookie Pickup: Saturday, December 12, 9 AM – 12 Noon at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall (220 Mansfield Blvd., Carnegie, PA.) For Questions, Contact: Rachel at 412-877-9878 OR Sherri at 412-874-4190! Sponsored by St. Matrona Ladies Society.

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

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Paul's Vindication of His Apostleship

¹¹ For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. ¹² For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹³ For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; ¹⁴ and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. ¹⁵ But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, ¹⁶ was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, ¹⁷ nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. ¹⁸ Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. ¹⁹ But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

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Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16 (Holy Fathers)

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. ⁹ Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. ¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹ For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹² So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³ Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp, and bear the abuse he endured. ¹⁴ For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. ¹⁵ Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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Gospel: Luke 7:11-16

Jesus Raises the Widow's Son at Nain

¹¹ Soon afterward he went to a city called Na'in, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹² As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. ¹³ And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." ¹⁴ And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." ¹⁵ And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. ¹⁶ Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

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Gospel: John 17:1-13 (Holy Fathers)

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

¹⁷ When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee, ² since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. ⁴ I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; ⁵ and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made.

⁶ "I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. ⁷ Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; ⁸ for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. ⁹ I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; ¹⁰ all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

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"When we look upon the holy Icons, our hearts should be overflowing with love for God and for the Saints, and we should prostrate ourselves to venerate them and kiss them devoutly."

+ St. Paisios of Mount Athos

FEAST DAY FEATURE

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council (787)

Today the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council under the holy Patriarch Tarasius (February 25). The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine Porphyrogenitos.

The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype (the person depicted). It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because “no man has seen God at any time” (John 1:18).

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

The Monk Kosma, Bishop of Maium, Author of Kanons

Commemorated on October 12

The Monk Kosma, Bishop of Maium, Author of Kanons, was a native of Jerusalem. He was raised by the parents of the Monk John of Damascus (Comm. 4 December) together with their son, and he received a fine education. When Saint Kosma came of age, he set out to one of the monasteries of Palestine, where he attained reknown for monastic exploits. During a time of persecution against holy icons the Monk Kosma, together with the Monk John, came forth for the defence of Orthodoxy. In the year 743 Kosma was made bishop of Maium. He died in old age (+ c. 787), leaving behind many canons for feastdays and a triode for four days of Holy Week.

"Evil walks in small steps. If it were to come all at once, we would not be deceived." +St. Paisios of Athos

ORTHODOX WORDS OF THE WEEK

Icon – pictorial representations of Biblical scenes from the life of Jesus Christ, historical events in the life of the Church, and portraits of the saints [*saints are images of Christ in His people*].

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Veneration - a way to show great respect and love for the holy. It is to treat something or someone with reverence, deep respect, and honor. *Veneration is distinct from worship, for worship is a total giving over of the self to be united with God, while veneration is showing delight for what God has done. There can be confusion because one may venerate what one worships as well as venerate others. Veneration is part of worship to the Orthodox faithful, but they show love and respect to more than the God they worship.*

PRAYER CORNER

*Our Parish Prayer List for
Special Intentions and Other Needs*

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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... Pani Kathy Dutko, Fr. Patrick, Stephen, Katie, Fr. George L., Brian, Douglas, Thomas, Dacia, James, Sean, Michael, Julia, Theresa, John, Susan, John, Alexandra D., Pañi 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.*

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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.*

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Patronal Feast Days (Name's Day):
(contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)

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Birthday Prayers for... Paula Watson (10/25), Doloris Bowser (10/26), Kaitlyn Duray (10/26), Fr. Mark Leasure (10/26), Mareena Shuster (10/29), Ryan Schrmack (10/30), Noah Winkler (10/31) ...*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!*

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For our Catechumens & Inquirers...
Dustin, Stephen, 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... Lauren & Corey, Ashley & Derek ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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Anniversary Prayers for...
...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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For Pregnant Mothers... Brittany (due in October), Elaine (November) ...*through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, & St. Irene Chrysovalantou.*

"It is not an external enemy we dread. Our foe is shut up within ourselves. An internal warfare is daily waged by us."
+St. John Cassian

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), 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*

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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.*

DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK

A Prayer in Front of an Icon of Christ

We bow in worship to Your most pure icon, O Good One, and ask You to forgive our sins, O Christ our God: for of Your own good will, You were please to ascend the Cross in the flesh, that You might free from slavery to the enemy those whom You had created. Therefore, we cry out to You: You have filled all things with joy, O our Saviour, for You cam to save the world. Amen.

A Prayer in Front of an Icon of the Theotokos

Make us worthy of mercy, O Theotokos, fountain of tenderness. Look upon us sinners and reveal your power as you always do, for we have put our hope in you. We cry to you, “Rejoice,” as Gabriel, the leader of the angels, once did. Amen.