



# 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*  
 Timothy Martin, *Reader*  
 Subdeacon Ryan Ferko  
 Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*  
 Lawrence Martin, *Parish Council President*  
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**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD,  
 TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH  
 AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS  
 BESTOWING LIFE!**

## SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

### SUNDAY, MAY 30

5<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Pascha; Sun. of the Samaritan Woman  
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
 Epistle: Acts 11:19-26, 29-30  
 Gospel: John 4:5-42  
 Panachida for departed faithful of the armed  
 forces, +Viola Peifer (40-day);  
 +Anna Spirnak (17-year)



### TUESDAY, JUNE 1

7:00 pm Akathist to St. Xenia & holy anointing

### THURSDAY, JUNE 3

9:30 am 9:30 am Morning Moleben

### SATURDAY, JUNE 5

9:30 am All Soul Liturgy & Panachida (5<sup>th</sup> of 5)

### SUNDAY, JUNE 6

6<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Pascha; Sun. of the Man Born Blind  
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
 Epistle: Acts 16:16-34; Gospel: John 9:1-38  
 Tone 5; Liturgical Color: **White**

## PASCHAL GREETING:

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

**Christ is risen!**

*(responded with: **Indeed He is risen!**)*

## BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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**Online Calendar** – Just a reminder that our “Parish Calendar” is continually updated on our website. Please plan your weeks ahead and come pray at church (and not just on Sundays).  
[www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar](http://www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar)

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**Akathist to St. Xenia with holy anointing** – This Akathist covers many topics. Within it, Orthodox Prayers are offered to Save a Marriage, for the Healing of Mental Illness, to Find a Spouse, a Home, or a Job! (*St Xenia is the patron saint for finding employment.*) Whether any of these areas are a concern for you or not, come and pray on **Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>** for those who it will benefit! (*She is remembered in the Church on February 6, June 6, and September 24*)

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*Monday's Spiritual Vitamin:*

“For a true Christian death is merely like a sleep until the day of resurrection, or like birth into a new life.” +Righteous John, Wonderworker of Kronstadt, *My Life in Christ* p.282

## A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

**Christ Is Risen!**

*(responded with: **Indeed, He Is Risen!**)*

**Christos Voskrese! (Voistinu Voskrese!)**

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.

## 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.

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*Tuesday's Spiritual Vitamin:*

“We all know that when we are offered a cure for an illness, it is stupid and foolish to say, "Wait! Let me be sick a little longer!" Anyone who delays the work of salvation does exactly that— with far more disastrous results.”

Fr. Jack Sparks, *Victory in the Unseen Warfare* p.47

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*Paschal Greeting in Romanian:*

Hristos a înviat! (*Adevărat a înviat!*)

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**Garden Blessing Season** – How's your garden coming along? It's time to get it blessed! (*The format of the blessing is similar to our annual home blessing.*) Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested.

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The Parish Council discussed having the garage sale return this year. Please begin bringing in items and placing them in the church hall behind the moveable bulletin board.

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**Live-Broadcast** – If you are unable to make it to church on Sunday morning, please pray along with our Cathedral's services online at **9:00 am**.

[www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/](http://www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/)

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*Paschal Greeting in Greek:*

Khristós anésti! (*Alithós anésti!*)

**Masks** – We will continue to follow the CDC guidelines. We are no longer asking for “mandatory masks” in the church.

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**Coffee Social** – Our coffee social has returned! We have coffee and individual packaged snacks available in the hall following the Divine Liturgy.

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**Palms and Pussywillows** – There are still a handful of blessed palms and pussywillows on the cardtable in the nave of the church. (They will be there until Pentecost.)

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**Parish Picnic** – A reminder that our Parish Picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup>**

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**Orthodoxy 101** – Although we are not having specific Orthodoxy 101 classes/discussions, we can continue to learn in other ways. As a reminder, we learn about our Faith through participating in our services (the Divine Liturgy along with Vespers, Molebens, Akathist, ...). Our bulletins are also a source of information and educational material. (Please consider reading a section of the bulletin each day of the week and reflect as you learn about our Faith.) Anytime you have a question, please reach out to Father Dave.

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*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)*

#### OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship:	\$ 100
Candles/Eternal Lamp Offerings:	\$ 115
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 730
Community Outreach:	\$ 100
Parish House offering:	\$ 300

**Total Collections:** \$ 1345  
**Relocation Fund:** \$ 0

*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 Nelson Family; Kirish Family; Tim Martin; Melanie Shuster; Mary Jane Hudak; Eleanor Sanger; Mirilovich Family; 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

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**Weekly Offerings to God** – During this time, if you are not yet coming to the church, we request that weekly donations be mailed to Tim Martin (2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143)



**On-Line Giving** is now available from our parish website! The best option is to come to church and give your offering to God in His Temple (2<sup>nd</sup> best is to mail it in). Now you can also donate from your home and set up a recurring donation to the:

- ✘ General Stewardship Fund,
- ✘ Capital Improvement Fund, or
- ✘ Relocation Fund.

If you miss coming to church for a week, this allows you another option to "catch up" on your weekly stewardship. For our parish to continue it's ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, we need your generosity to continue.

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**Last Week's Offerings** – The stewardship total offerings last week was omitted by mistake. The total was \$1354.

#### ORTHODOXY AROUND THE 'BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

##### SAVE THE DATES:

**Altar Boy Retreat** – Virtual on June 28 and 29

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**Young Women's Encounter (YWE)** – A "care package" is being prepared for all of the young women of our diocese aged 12 to 18. Please contact Father Dave for more information or visit: [www.acrod.org/ministries/youth/ywe/](http://www.acrod.org/ministries/youth/ywe/)

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**Deanery Picnic** – Our Pittsburgh Deanery Picnic will be Sunday, October 3 at Schenley Park

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

#### VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

#### SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Epistle:** Acts 11: 19– 26, 29– 30

##### The Church in Antioch

<sup>19</sup>Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none except Jews. <sup>20</sup>But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup>And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup>News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. <sup>23</sup>When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; <sup>24</sup>for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the

Lord. <sup>25</sup>So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; <sup>26</sup>and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians.

<sup>29</sup>And the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea; <sup>30</sup>and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

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**Gospel:** Mark 15:43–16:8

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

<sup>7</sup>There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

<sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Every one who drinks of this water will thirst again, <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say

that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but none said, "What do you wish?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" <sup>28</sup>So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people, <sup>29</sup>"Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" <sup>30</sup>They went out of the city and were coming to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples besought him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, "Has any one brought him food?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. <sup>36</sup>He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."



Wednesday's Spiritual Vitamin:  
"Fasting is wonderful, because it tramples our sins like a dirty weed, while it cultivates and raises truth like a flower."  
St. John Chrysostom

LIVING ORTHODOXY

**The Garden: *Tending the Garden of the Heart***  
Both my maternal grandfather and my mother were avid gardeners, so I grew up surrounded by the beauty of plants and flowers. The cottage garden is a distinct style of garden that is certainly my favorite. The use of traditional materials, in an informal design, together with dense plantings, and a mixture of ornamental and edible plants, is identified the world over as English in origin. The grandeur and formal structure, found in classical English estate gardens, has surrendered to homey and functional gardens that are filled with grace and charm. The massive plantings of perennials, annuals, vegetables, and plants and flowers of every size and color, display like nothing else, the variety of beauty that bespeaks God's creation. These gardens remind me of people, coming, as we do, in every size and color, all beautiful in our own special way. Some are like climbing roses, reaching to the heavens, and God's glory. Others are like creepers, hugging the ground, and covering large areas like a carpet of green. Some are like cactus, needing little water, while able to live in the ascetic splendor of an Egyptian desert. Others, like water lilies, display beautiful blooms, even while floating in squalid water. Like plants, we need watering and tending. For Christians, the Waters of Life can be found in baptism, where we are immersed in the Living Waters that bring us into life, standing us before the Creator, Who, like the gardener, tends to our needs, that we may grow and bloom to all our potential. As we tend to our own heart, we must make sure we have guarded ourselves against the weeds that would strangle us, and smother our full potential as children of God. We must make sure we avail

ourselves to the life sustaining food and water, that comes from God as His Uncreated Grace. And, as the Body of Christ, the Church, ("neither male nor female, Greek nor Jew") we will flower together, making up a garden of beautiful souls, basking in the Light of the Son of Righteousness. With love in the risen Lord, Abbot Tryphon

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

**The holy and glorious, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Great-martyr Photine (Svetlana), the Samaritan woman**  
*Commemorated on Mar 11 / Feb 26, Apr 2 / Mar 20, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha*

She was the Samaritan Woman who met Christ at Jacob's Well (John 4:5-42). She repented after a very gentle and wise conversation with Christ and went and told her townsmen that she had met the Christ, for which she is sometimes called the first to proclaim the Gospel of Christ. Tradition relates that the Apostles baptized her with the name "Photine" meaning "enlightened one." She converted her four sisters (Phota, Photis, Parasceva, and Cyriaca), and her sons (Victor and Joses), and all of them became tireless evangelists for Christ. After the martyrdom of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, she traveled to Carthage to proclaim the Gospel there. In 66 AD, she, with her Christian sisters and sons, all met martyrdom under the persecutions of Nero. She is also commemorated on the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman during the Paschal season.

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.

Thursday's Spiritual Vitamin:  
"As a man whose head is under water cannot inhale pure air, so a man whose thoughts are plunged into the cares of this world cannot absorb the sensations of that new world."  
Venerable Isaac the Syrian

**For the Health of...** Diane, Joseph, Erin, Thomas, Linda, Gary, Sandra, Joanne, Michael, Jerrod, Pamela, Barbara, John, Mary Jane M., Dale, Brian, Kristina, Fr. George L., Douglas, Sean, Julia, Susan, John, 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, Georgia, Eleanora, Mark, Michaleana, Dorell, Elizabeth, Donald, Susan, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our seminarians:* Dylan, Thomas, Nicholas, and Aydin *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Lawrence, Matthew, 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):** Tristan Bowser; Dustin Brozell - St. Dunstan (6/1) Eleanor Sanger – St. Helen (6/3) *(contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)*  
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**Birthday Prayers for...** Melanie Shuster (5/30), Anthony Jesko (Sr) (6/1), June Sefscik (6/1), Penelope Maruscak (6/5), Pañi Eleni Stagon (6/5) ...*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...**  
Susan, Marilyn, John ...*through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

Friday's Spiritual Vitamin:  
"We see the water of a river flowing uninterruptedly and passing away, and all that floats on its surface, rubbish or beams of trees, all pass by. Christian! So does our life. . .I was an infant, and that time has gone. I was an adolescent, and that too has passed. I was a young man, and that too is far behind me. The strong and mature man that I was is no more. My hair turns white, I succumb to age, but that too passes; I approach the end and will go the way of all flesh. I was born in order to die. I die that I may live. Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom!" +St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

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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 those preparing for Marriage...** Lexi & Patrick, Lauren & Corey ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*  
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**Anniversary Prayers for...** Dustin & Caitlin Brozell (6/1), Adam & Jean Zak (6/2) ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*  
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**For Pregnant Mothers...** Carley (*due in July*), Lindsay (*July*), Pañi Davina (*September*) ...*through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St. Irene Chrysovalantou.*  
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**For the souls of the newly departed...** +Viola Peifer (4/20) 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.*

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*Saturday's Spiritual Vitamin:*

“We all know that when we are offered a cure for an illness, it is stupid and foolish to say, "Wait!

Let me be sick a little longer!" Anyone who delays the work of salvation does exactly that— with far more disastrous results.”

Fr. Jack Sparks

Victory in the Unseen Warfare p.47

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Listen to Baba:

**When was the last time  
you were in church?**



**DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

**A prayer for Memorial Day**

Remember, O Lord, all of the men and women of our Armed Forces and Civil Authorities who offered their lives in defense of this great country and for our freedom. Grant them rest where the Light of Your Face shines and may their memory be eternal! Christ is Risen!

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*Paschal Greeting in Swahili:*

Kristo amefufukka! (*Kweli amefufukka!*)

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**An Orthodox Prayer for Mental Health**

O Master, Lord my God, in Whose hands is my destiny: Help me according to Your mercy, and leave me not to perish in my transgressions, nor allow me to follow them who place desires of the flesh over those of the spirit. I am Your creation; disdain not the work of Your hands. Turn not away; be compassionate and humiliate me not, neither scorn me, O Lord, as I am weak. I have fled unto You as my Protector and God. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You. Save me for Your mercy's sake, for I have cleaved unto You from my youth; let me who seeks You not be put to shame by being rejected by You for my unclean actions, unseemly thoughts, and unprofitable remembrances. Drive away from me every filthy thing and excess of evil. For You alone are holy, alone mighty, and alone immortal, in all things having unexcelled might, which, through You, is given to all that strive against the devil and the might of his armies. For unto You is due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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*Paschal Greeting in Italian:*

Cristo è risorto! (*È veramente risorto!*)

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*Paschal Greeting in Spanish:*

¡Cristo ha resucitado!

(*¡En verdad ha resucitado!*)

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**O SHINE, O SHINE, O NEW  
JERUSALEM: FOR THE GLORY OF  
THE LORD IS RISEN UPON YOU. O  
ZION, SING WITH JOY AND REJOICE.  
AND YOU, PURE MOTHER OF GOD,  
REJOICE IN THE RESURRECTION OF  
YOUR SON.**

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