



# 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](https://www.facebook.com/pg/St-John-the-Baptist-Orthodox-Church-of-Northside-Pittsburgh-169297619784149)

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## SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

*please wear masks as we follow the CDC guidelines*

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### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Afterfeast of the Exaltation of the Cross  
 Great-martyr Eustathius of Rome (118)  
 Panachida for Bishop +John R Martin (9/30/84),  
 +John Urban (40-day)

**12-Noon** Pittsburgh Deanery Picnic

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### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

FEAST OF THE CONCEPTION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
 9:30 am Akathist to St. John

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### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Martyr Callistratus of Carthage (304)  
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
 Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10  
 Gospel: Luke 5:1-11  
 Panachida +Leona (Smoley) Hawke (1-year)  
 Tone 7; Liturgical Color: **Gold**

**Church School Year Begins!**

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**Future Services** are listed on our online “Parish Calendar” which is continually updated at:

[www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar](http://www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar)

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**Live-Broadcast** – If you are unable to attend 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/)

## BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Pittsburgh Deanery Picnic** will be held **next week, Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>** in Schenley Park (10345 Overlook Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15207) at the Vietnam Veterans Shelter from **Noon (after church) to Dusk**. A food sign-up sheet is in the hall for pot-luck items that will be brought to the picnic. Opening prayers will be at **12:30** and live music starts at **2:00**. Plan to come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with our brothers and sisters from our sister Deanery Parishes. Get together with old friends and family! Make new friends! Come enjoy God’s creation in one of the best parks in Pittsburgh! *Here are directions from downtown:*

- from 376 E, take exit 72A onto Forbes Ave
- turn RIGHT onto Craft Ave
- turn LEFT onto Boulevard of the Allies
- go past St George Antiochian Orthodox Church
- in 0.5 miles, turn RIGHT onto Overlook Drive
- in 800 ft., the Vietnam Veterans’ Pavilion will be on your LEFT

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**Gertrude Hawk Christmas Candy Sale** - The booklets are in the church hall. Orders will be due by **November 8** and the candy will be delivered the week of **December 6**.

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### **Yearly Meeting Highlights:**

**Church School** – Our program will start **October 10**. We are still looking for additional teachers to complete the program. Please contact Fr. Dave or a Parish Council Member if you are interested.

## 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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**Turkey Bingo** – We are still tentatively scheduled to have the Turkey Bingo on Sunday, November 21 at 3pm. A decision will be made in mid-October.

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**90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** - We will have a celebration at the beginning of October 2022 for our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

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**Relocation** – The committee has not gotten together due to Covid and a couple other factors. Our vision is still to grow Orthodoxy in the northern corridor of Pittsburgh. Thoughts on property and community outreach in the northern corridor should be shared with Sharon Peifer, Larry Martin, or Fr. Dave.

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**Church Maintenance** – To modify the custodial needs around the church, we are going to have quarterly “maintenance days” (rather than only in December and prior to Holy Week). Our **Fall Church Maintenance Day** will be on **Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 9AM to 12-Noon(ish). Please plan to share the stewardship of your time and talents! Items on our maintenance list include: clearing our lot on Holbrook (we recently received a citation), the fence on Woodland (the suggestion was made to take it down as the fence is not even needed and it is merely aesthetical), the cabinets in kitchen (not to be worked on at the maintenance day), as well as a couple other items.

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**Stewardship** – The concept was discussed about the importance of treating the church as your home.

✂ After coffee social, clean up the area where you sat

✂ If you see coffee spilled elsewhere, wipe it up.

✂ When something runs out (i.e paper towels or toilet paper), learn where the extras are kept and replace them.

## **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.

✂ If you take the last one of something, bring some in the next time you are at the church.

This communal or shared approach towards general things at the church is healthiest for our parish community.

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**Congratulations** to our 2021-2022 **Parish Council**: President: Lawrence Martin; Vice-President: Matthew Peifer; Treasurer: Timothy Martin, Reader; Financial Secretary: Rich Mirilovich; Recording Secretary: Theresa Sharpless; Chief Auditor: Robert Fall; Auditors: Gina Fall, Mary Jane Hudak, Kathy Schrmack, and the 4<sup>th</sup> position is vacant at this time.

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**Thank You!** to those who have previously served on the Parish Council! Your time and talents helped in many ways! Thank you and may our Lord continue to bless you!

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**Thank You!** to our dedicated **Church Curators**: Theresa Sharpless, Kenneth Dzadovsky, Gina Fall, Robert Fall, Jane Gaydos, John Gaydos, Mary Jane Hudak, Wendy Martellotti, Lawrence Martin, Peggy Rusnak, Kathy Schrmack, John Sharpless, and Patricia Watson. Thank you for your stewardship to our parish! **Additional Curators are needed:** Our curator list has become shorter. If anyone is interested to be “on-the-door”, please see Theresa Sharpless.

## *Spiritual Vitamin:*

**Kondak for the Conception of St John (Tone 1)**

Rejoice with splendour, O great Zechariah and most glorious Elizabeth his spouse, in conceiving John the Forerunner as is meet, whom the archangel announced, rejoicing. O ye men, let us right worthily honour him as the initiate of the mystery of grace.

**2021 Home Blessings** – Please see Fr. Dave or email him today to schedule your Home Blessing.

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**Coat Drive** – Do you have a clean coat or two that you have not worn since before our last coat drive but it is still in good condition? We are now collecting clean coats and jackets to donate to the Neighborhood Resilience Project (NRP) [Formerly FOCUS Pittsburgh (who provide Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding, and Shelter to those who are in need)]. Please place your clean coat(s) on the coat rack in the hall

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**Speaking With Your Priest** - Please know you can call me anytime if there is something troubling you. It is not a sign of weakness to share something that may be heavy on your heart or mind. As a priest and Father to our parish, I am here for you. Please call if you need someone to listen or to pray with you. Every heart has a cross and you do not need to carry it alone. Please also call if you have an idea for the growth of our parish. I am praying for you and am grateful for your prayers. With love in Christ, *Fr. Dave*

**OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD**

Stewardship:	\$ 75
Candles/Eternal Lamp Stewardship:	\$ 139
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 434
Community Outreach:	\$ 170
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$ 818</b>
<b>Fundraising Acc't (Garage Sale):</b>	<b>\$ 75</b>
<b>Capital Improvement:</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>
<b>Relocation Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

*In faith that God provides:*

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written,

‘He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.’ – 2 Cor. 9:8-9

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

**The Eternal Lamp** was offered last week by Cindy Pavilonis in memory of her mother, +Anna Louise (Birthday Remembrance); and Matthew Peifer in memory of his parents, +Jack and +Viola Peifer. May Their Memory Be Eternal!

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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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**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE ‘BURGH  
AND OUR DIOCESE**

**28<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for Missions** – will be on **Sunday, October 10** at South Park Children’s Playground Shelter (Corrigan & Brownsville Rd., South Park, PA 15129) sponsored by the *Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh*. Registration is at NOON at South Park. Walk begins at 1pm. *(There may be a walk in Schenley Park as well. Please check with Fr. Dave.)* To offer a donation for this cause, please make checks payable to “*Holy Cross Mission Fund*” (\*please note the change). Your donation will be extremely helpful in carrying out this important and necessary work of the Church. For more info, visit [www.holycrosspgh.org/events](http://www.holycrosspgh.org/events), email [emmanuelmaginas@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelmaginas@gmail.com), or call 412-251-3207. Proceeds earmarked for an Orthodox Medical Clinic in Guatemala. To follow the blog of this mission, visit [www.TheWordFromGuatemala.com](http://www.TheWordFromGuatemala.com)

**Diocesan Parenting Workshop Series:  
“Raising Believing Children”**

at St. John’s Church, East Pittsburgh

**Saturday, October 16, 2021**

The Workshop is designed to help parents learn more about the “craft” of parenting and help them raise their children in the Faith. The Workshops focus on the ways parents can help their children stay faithful to Christ and His Church. The schedule includes presentations by Metropolitan Gregory and Fr. Stephen Loposky, moderated small group discussions, Q&A Sessions, and lunch. The Workshop is specifically for parents (of any age), but all are welcome to attend. In addition, the Workshop has a component for children ages 5-18 which includes its own curriculum and set of activities (focusing on the Story of Noah). To register for the Workshop, please visit the Parenting Workshop page on [www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org). Also, please let Fr Dave know by **October 1<sup>st</sup>** if you are interested. *The Series of Parenting Workshops began in 2019, continued in online form in 2020, and are now beginning again. The Parenting Workshops are an exciting and important endeavor. We know our parents and children face challenges in their lives of faith. His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory invites you to join him in support of our parents as our Diocese continues this initiative to help them in their parental vocation.*



**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)

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*Spiritual Vitamin:*

**Tropar for the Conception of St. John** (Tone 4)

Make merry, O barren woman, who before was unable to bear a child! For, lo! you have manifestly conceived the lamp of the Sun, who will enlighten the world which suffers from blindness. Dance you, O Zechariah, crying out with boldness: He who will be born is the prophet of the Most High!

**MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH**



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting donations for the **Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)**. The OCF is the official collegiate campus ministry program under the *Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA*. OCF is charged with connecting Orthodox college students (and those interested in the Orthodox Christian faith) to Christ and His Church.

The vision of the OCF is to be the loving presence of Christ and the Orthodox Church on college campuses; to be an integral part of students’ spiritual formation by challenging them to explore the Faith; and to inspire students to commit to living an Orthodox Christian way of life daily. This is accomplished via a growing network of on-campus OCF chapters let by talented students, clergy, and lay advisors, as well as through programs such as Reginald Retreats, College Conferences, Real Break, and the Summer Leadership Institute.

Visit [www.ocf.net](http://www.ocf.net) for more info. *Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month!*

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**SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Epistle:** Galatians 2:16-20 (Sunday after the Cross)

<sup>16</sup> Knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. <sup>17</sup> But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup> But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. <sup>19</sup> For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

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**Gospel:** Mark 8:34-9:1 (Sunday after the Cross)  
<sup>34</sup> And He called to Him the multitude with His disciples, and said to them, “If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? <sup>37</sup> For what can a man give in return for his life? <sup>38</sup> For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” 9 <sup>1</sup> And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.”  
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LIVING ORTHODOXY

**The problem of social media**  
*by Fr Demetrios Harper*  
“Modernity has perpetuated a mentality in every human being that we all have an imperative to speak and to correct others.  
This is rooted in the idea of a post enlightenment notion of moral autonomy, that each of us has the ground of morality in ourselves and that each of us functions as the arbiter of moral truth.”  
“In essence, what he's saying is that the problem that we're encountering today with social media, where everyone assumes that their opinion is correct and worthy of arguing, has its roots in the Enlightenment, where \*we\* become the ground of truth because man sees himself as morally autonomous (not accountable to anyone). What Fr Demetrios said is that Christians have to recover the ascetical understanding of obedience, which for a lay person (non-monastic) would be the assumption that \*their will\* (that is, what they want) is not necessarily correct and should not automatically be followed, but should be balanced by others more learned and experienced in the truth of a particular topic.” – *Fr. Tom Soroka*  
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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

**Holy Nobleborn Prince Oleg Romanovich Of Bryansk**  
*Commemorated on Oct 3 / Sep 20*  
Holy Nobleborn Prince Oleg Romanovich of Bryansk (in Baptism Leontii) was grandson of the holy Martyr-prince Michael of Chernigov. According to the chronicle histories it is known, that noble prince Oleg in 1274 together with his father, prince Roman Mikhailovich of Bryansk, participated in a war against Lithuania. After 1274 he resigned as prince and took monastic vows with the name Vasilii at the Bryansk Petropavlovsk monastery, built on his means. At this monastery the holy nobleborn prince died as a strict ascetic in about the year 1285 and was buried in the monastery church.

FEAST DAY FEATURE

**The Conception Of The Venerable Prophet, Forerunner And Baptist Of The Lord, John**  
*Commemorated on Oct 6 / Sep 23*  
The Conception of the Venerable Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The holy Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the Messiah would appear His Forerunner, who would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of His Forerunner. In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine lived the righteous priest Saint Zachariah and his wife Saint Elizabeth, assiduously observing the commandments of the Lord. The couple however had a misfortune: getting up in years they remained childless and they prayed unceasingly to God, that He should grant them a child. One time, when Saint Zachariah was in turn priest at the Temple of Jerusalem, he went during the time of Divine-services into the Sanctuary for making an incensing. Having gone in behind the Sanctuary veil, he beheld an Angel of God, standing at the right side of the incense altar. Saint Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear, but the Angel said to him: "Fear not, Zachariah, thine prayer is heard, and thy wife Elizabeth will bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John". But Righteous Zachariah did not believe the words of the heavenly messenger, and then the Angel said to him: "I – am Gabriel, that

standeth before God and am sent to announce this unto thee. But now, thou shalt be mute until the day of birth, since that thou hast not believed my words". Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and they were astonished, that he had not come out from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a blessing upon the people, but could not pronounce it since he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah explained by gestures that he was unable to speak, the people then understood that he had experienced a vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled, and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her barrenness, having given birth to the Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, named John.  
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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...** Gavin, Fr. Mark L., Florin, Robert, Anthony, Sheila, Annie, Katie, Lexi, Sophie, Douglas, Christopher, John, Joanne, Barbara, Brian, Kristina, Sean, Julia, Susan, John, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, and Roberta *...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...** His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. Photios, Fr. Theodore, Deacon Charles, Laura & family, Carlene, 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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**Birthday Prayers for...** Genevive Martellotti (10/3), Matthew Mirilovich (10/6), John Gaydos, III (10/7), Sophie Jesko (10/7) *...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, Marilynn, John *...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.*  
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**For those preparing for Marriage...** Nicole & Dustin *...through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*  
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**Anniversary Prayers for...** Brian & Rhonda Gogal (10/5), Chi-Wing & Deborah (Brancho) Chow (10/08), John & Jane Gaydos (10/9) *...May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*  
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**For the souls of the newly departed...** +Christopher Kurtz (10/3), +Lawrence Barriger, the Priest (10/2) *...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God’s Memory.*  
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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK

**A Prayer for College Students**  
Heavenly Father, please be with these students as they go where they do not know. As they seek to grow in knowledge, we ask that they grow in faith. As they start to conquer the world, we hope that they conquer their fears. As they strive to find their place, we pray that they find You. Please go where we cannot, protect when we cannot, give strength that we cannot, and bring them safely home. Amen.

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## PRAYER CORNER (CONTINUED)

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

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**For Pregnant Mothers...** Meredith (due in Dec)  
...through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the  
Virgin Mary, and 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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\* 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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### A prayer for our Neighborhoods

by Archbishop Demetrios of America

I pray to you, God, for the families of my  
neighborhood. Visit them. Throw their troubles out  
of them and bring hope. Make the daily cares that  
devour the heart disappear. Present solutions to  
life's problems. Settle the disturbed relationships  
among members of different families whom I know  
or do not know. O Lord, remind the people of our  
area that You exist, that You are a strong and loving  
Protector. Keep away, Lord, anything that causes  
the disappearance of peace from souls, and the  
escape of sleep from our eyes. Stay a little while  
more tonight in our neighborhood. Spread peace  
along with the night. Let the harshness of the day  
and its struggles not spread over the night. Amen.

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## SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Father is available to meet Monday thru Friday  
between 8:30am and 3:00pm **or** by appointment.

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**Online Community:** Please email Fr. Dave to receive  
the weekly bulletin via email.

**Phone Tree** – Please call Fr. Dave to be added.

**Emergency Sick Calls** – Please notify Fr Dave when  
you or a family member are going into the hospital or  
having a procedure so he can pray with you and you  
may receive the Anointing to be fully prepared.

**Mystery of Confession** – Opportunities are available  
after every service, most Saturdays during fasting  
periods from 11am to 1pm, OR by appointment.

**Holy Communion/Eucharist** – The reception of the  
Holy Eucharist is encouraged for all Orthodox  
Christians who have properly prepared themselves,  
with fasting from midnight on, regular Confession,  
and forgiveness for all people. Those who are not  
Orthodox may receive a *blessing* from the chalice.

**Lapsed Members** – You are always welcome home  
and we want you back! Generally speaking, sincere  
participation in the Mysteries of Confession,  
Communion, and regular attendance at the divine  
services are all that is required to begin parish life  
anew! See Fr. Dave for specific details.

**Baptisms** – Two God-parents are required, at least  
one of whom must be Orthodox by faith (and the  
other a practicing Christian). In the case of infants,  
the newly-baptized must have one name that is  
Christian in origin. Parents/grandparents/guardians  
must also promise to bring the child up in an  
Orthodox Christian way of life. Please consult Father  
for more details.

**Adult Chrismation** – New parishioners are always  
welcome! In the case of adults seeking entrance into  
the Church, a period of prescribed catechism will be  
established with Fr. Dave before administration of the  
Mysteries. An Orthodox Christian sponsor is also  
required.

**Marriages** – are only solemnized on Saturdays or  
Sundays. They are not performed during fasting  
periods and certain Feast Days. Please consult Father  
ASAP for more details (*before* arrangements are  
made for the hall).

**Church Funerals** – are provided for practicing  
Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual  
and financial obligations; otherwise burial is from the  
funeral home. The Church does not permit cremation.

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*“The cremation of bodies is not a Christian act. It is a  
custom of modern times. The body of a Christian has  
been sanctified with the Grace of the Holy Spirit, and  
as such may not be burned. God did not create our  
bodies for burning.”* - Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

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### A Prayer for our Diocesan Clergy

O Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of Your sheep,  
light the fire of ardent love in the hearts of all Your  
priests, that they may ever and in all things seek  
only Your glory. Remember especially, Lord, our  
Bishop (*name*), and our spiritual father (*name*), and  
all our diocesan clergy, who are laboring in Your  
vineyard for the salvation of all those whom You  
have entrusted to them. Make their lives as holy as  
the word they preach. Keep them from being  
discouraged. Hear their prayers for our salvation.  
Give them wisdom and courage to proclaim Your  
truth. Make them priests after Your own heart. For  
You are a merciful God Who loves us and to You  
we give glory, together with Your eternal Father  
and Your all-holy, good and life-giving- Spirit, now  
and ever and forever. Amen.

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