



# 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*  
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## SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

*please wear masks as we follow the CDC guidelines*

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the  
 7th Ecumenical Council (787)  
 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Holy Apostle Philip of the 70 (1<sup>st</sup> C.)  
 Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16 (*Holy Fathers*)  
 2 Corinthians 9:6-11  
 Gospel: John 17:1-13 (*Holy Fathers*)  
 Luke 7:11-16 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke)

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Carpatho-Rusyn Day in North America

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Holy Apostle Luke  
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
 Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9  
 Gospel: Luke 7:11-16 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke)  
 Tone 2; Liturgical Color: **Gold**  
 Panachida +Viola Peifer (6-month),  
 +Jack Peifer (BD 10/29)  
 Additional offering requested for our  
 community outreach

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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)  
*(Please ask Fr. Dave if you want a printed copy)*

## BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped yesterday with our **Fall Maintenance Day!**

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**Turkey Bingo** for 2021 is CANCELLED as we err on the precautionous side with the current state of Covid.

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**SJB 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – Mark your digital calendars as we will celebrate with Met. Gregory on **Sunday, October 9, 2022.**

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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*

## 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.

### Spiritual Vitamin:

"in Paradise, each person will see the glory of God in accordance with the purity of the eyes of their soul. The degree of visibility will not be determined by God, but will depend on each person's purity."  
 Saint Paisios of Mount Athos

### OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship:	\$ 190
Candles/Eternal Lamp Stewardship:	\$ 232
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 297
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$ 719</b>
<b>Relocation Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 50</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, Kathy Schrmack, Lawrence Martin, Melanie Shuster, Mary Jane Hudak, 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 Tim Martin in memory of his father's

### 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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birthday, +Lawrence Martin; and by Matthew Peifer in memory of his parents, +Jack and +Viola Peifer. May Their Memory Be Eternal!

**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, and/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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**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/)

ORTHODOXY AROUND THE 'BURGH  
AND OUR DIOCESE

**17th Annual Cookie Walk** - Ss Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Carnegie. Order Cookies and Pay Online: **now thru Nov. 21** at [www.stmatronacookiewalk.com](http://www.stmatronacookiewalk.com). No in-person orders. Cookie Pick-up Saturday, December 11 from 9 AM – 12 noon at the Church Hall. Questions: Rachel at 412-877-9878 or Sherri at 412-874-4190

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**Dinner and Wine Paring** - Come enjoy a traditional family-style Middle Eastern feast with four wine pairings on **Sunday, November 14** at 5:30 pm at Khalil's Restaurant (4757 Baum Blvd, Pittsburgh, Pa 15213). Tickets are \$75 per person. Seating is limited. RSVP by Nov. 6 to reserve your space! Tickets & Sponsorships at: [www.ioc.org/pittsburgh](http://www.ioc.org/pittsburgh). For more info, contact Zelfa at [zkhalil@live.com](mailto:zkhalil@live.com) or 412.417.4706.

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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/acroddioocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddioocese)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
YouTube: [youtube.com/acroddioocese](https://youtube.com/acroddioocese)

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SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11**

<sup>6</sup>The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup>Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not

reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>As it is written,

"He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever."

<sup>10</sup>He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

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

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. <sup>13</sup>Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp, and bear the abuse he endured. <sup>14</sup>For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. <sup>15</sup>Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to

God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. <sup>16</sup>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**

<sup>11</sup>Soon afterward he went to a city called Na'in, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." <sup>14</sup>And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." <sup>15</sup>And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. <sup>16</sup>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**

<sup>17</sup>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, <sup>2</sup>since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; <sup>5</sup>and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the

glory which I had with thee before the world was made.

<sup>6</sup>"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. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; <sup>10</sup>all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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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*Spiritual Vitamin:*

“You have seen that in this life anyone, even our closest of kin, can abandon us. We all have our weaknesses and often hurt the people closest to us. They can turn their backs on us because of our rudeness, or they can forgive us but still be hurt. But the Lord and His Most Holy Mother ... Oh, how many times have we insulted God and the Most Holy Theotokos, but when we repent and turn to them in our hearts, they forgive us everything, never remembering our sins and evil deeds!”

Elder Thaddeus(Strabulovich) of Vitovnica  
Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives

**LIVING ORTHODOXY**

**8 Tips For The Upbringing of Children**

by St. Porfyrios of Kavsoakalyvia

1. Pray for your children during pregnancy.
2. Stop giving them advice unceasingly, rather talk to them through prayer.
3. Be examples for your children.
4. Teach your children to ask for God’s help in every situation.
5. When children make mistakes, talk to them seriously and firmly, not with anger.
6. Do not overprotect them, but teach them how to take care of themselves.
7. Raise your children in freedom.
8. Be holy, so that your children may be holy.

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**When It Comes To Halloween, The Orthodox Church Is Ambivalent.**

*By Father Jonathan Tobias*

On one hand, it doesn’t have much to say. It is a thoroughly Western, very un-Orthodox celebration. “Halloween” is the Eve of All Hallows (i.e., “saints”), or in more modern

English, “All Saints Day,” which is celebrated in Western Christendom on November 1 (the next day being All Souls Day).

For us Orthodox, “All Saints” -- the day that we celebrate the entire gathering of those deified because they loved the Lord with all their heart and their neighbors as themselves -- is celebrated on the Sunday after Pentecost, which is always in Summer.

There never was in Orthodoxy a tradition of celebrating monsters and devils the night before All Saints Sunday.

On the other hand, Orthodoxy is surprised at Halloween’s reveling in not only the Night, but also the Fright of the Night. Judging by the sheer popularity of horror in American culture, it seems that people really like to be scared. Maybe it’s like the thrill of a terror-filled rollercoaster.

Has ever anyone wondered why there ever was a wish for fear, for horror? Or was it, after all, a minimalization of the abject fear of subliminity, of enormity, of the mysterium tremendum. Is it but a defensive mechanism?

This thrill, though, covers a darker reality. Even all the cute little monsters and devils who come trooping up to the door for treats mask, in their semi-innocent cute-ness, a very hard truth.

The powers of evil -- the demonic -- inflict real and horrible and un-diminishable fear upon the human subconsciousness. And this fear spreads like a virus into every nook and cranny of the fallen human psyche and culture.

We in the evangelical Holy Tradition should mourn for this.

Orthodox Christianity proposes a very different response to the horror of the real demonic. Instead of fear and panic, it advises confidence and outrageous repugnance. “Perfect love casts out fear” (1 John 1.18). “We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us” (Romans 8.37).

When the Lord Himself confronted the demonic, there was no fear. There was no spectacle. Drama was minimized, if not avoided altogether. The Lord described these monsters and devils more as virulent infestations: “Lord of the Flies,” He called their chief. “Legion,” they once called themselves. There are no demonic names. There is no demonic bureaucracy, no "Goetia," no organized subterranean cult.

Authentic Orthodox exorcisms are never entertaining, never glamorous, never spectacular. No one wants to watch.

Contrary to popular opinion, Satan is not king in Hell -- he is, rather, its most confined denizen, bound and chained by Christ Himself. Depictions of Satan on a throne in Hell are simply errant and non-canonical.

The demonic and the entire antichrist spirit is being exorcised by the Ascended Lord: as they are scourged away, swarm by swarm, they are evicted from the world, never to return.

The Reigning Jesus Christ, Who is seated at the Right Hand of God the Father, will continue doing this until the Day of His Return.

Until then, light your fires outside on October 31st. Enjoy the autumnal revels. Wear pirate and princess costumes and duck for apples. Revel in the pumpkin spice and the leaves of Fall. Wander in the romantic

mist of the mingling of gardens and forests sighing for the echoing Past and calling forth of the everlasting Dawn. Be old and young.

Scorn the devils and monsters in contempt and revulsion. In the Name of the Risen and Ascended King, Jesus Christ of the Resurrection, the Son of God.

Trust in the Lord, and do not be afraid: “To my delight the night shall shine -- for the darkness shall never be dark with You, O Lord: with You, the night shall be bright as day, darkness and light one and the same” (Psalm 139.12).

Halloween is only a cartoon.

The Reigning King is real.

The only Real.

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**FEAST DAY FEATURE**

**COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL (787)**

*Commemorated after October 24/11*

The Seventh Ecumenical Council, convoked by the Empress Irene and met at Nicaea from September 24 to October 13, 787. Patriarch Tarasios presided. The council ended almost fifty years of iconoclast persecution and established the veneration of the holy icons as basic to the belief and spirituality of Christ's Church. As the Synaxarion says, "It was not simply the veneration of the holy images that the Fathers defended in these terms but, in fact, the very reality of the Incarnation of the Son of God." "The second Council of Nicaea is the seventh and last Ecumenical Council recognized by the Orthodox Church. This does not mean that



there may not be ecumenical Councils in the future although, in holding the seventh place, the Council of Nicaea has taken to itself the symbol of perfection and completion represented by this number in Holy Scripture (e.g. Gen. 2:1-3). It closes the era of the great dogmatic disputes which enabled the Church to describe, in definitions excluding all ambiguity, the bounds of the holy Orthodox Faith. From that time, every heresy that appears can be related to one or other of the errors that the Church, assembled in universal Councils, has anathematized from the first until the seventh Council of Nicaea." *from the Synaxarion*

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE HOLY DISCIPLE PHILIP FROM AMONGST THE SEVENTY  
Commemorated on October 24/11

The Holy Disciple Philip from amongst the Seventy (not to be confused with Saint Philip the Apostle from amongst the Twelve, the Commemoration of whom is on 14 November), was born in Palestine. He was married and had children.

After the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Twelve Apostles made him a deacon in the Jerusalem Church, and with the other six deacons they entrusted him to deal with the offerings of the faithful and attend to the concerns of the widowed, the orphaned and the needy. The eldest among the Seven First-Deacons was the holy Archdeacon Stephen. When a persecution began, and the Jews had stoned the First-Martyr Stephen, the Disciple

Philip departed from Jerusalem. He settled in Samaria, and there he successfully preached Christianity. Among the converts of the disciple was the noted magician Simon who, "having been baptised, did not leave from Philip" (Acts 8: 9-13).

At the command of an Angel of the Lord the disciple set out upon the road connecting Jerusalem with Gaza, and there he met a dignitary of the empress of Ethiopia, whom also he converted to Christianity (Acts 8: 26-39). The holy disciple Philip tirelessly preached the Word of God in many of the lands of the Near East adjoining Palestine. At Jerusalem the Apostles ordained him to the dignity of bishop and sent him to Lydia, where he baptised many. Saint Philip died in old age.

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Spiritual Vitamin:

“There is no greater love than that a man lays down his life for his neighbor. When you hear someone complaining and you struggle with yourself and do not answer him back with complaints; when you are hurt and bear it patiently, not looking for revenge; then you are laying down your life for your neighbor.”  
- Abba Poemen

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...** Sharon, Trona, Robert, Gavin, Fr. Mark L., Florin, Robert, 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 diocesan seminarians:* Nicholas, Dylan, Tom, Samuel, Timothy, Nicholas, Aydin *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Lawrence, Matthew, Timothy, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Jane, Mary Jane, Katherine, Kenneth, John, Wendy, Margaret, John, Patricia, 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):**  
Kenneth Parks - Venerable Cainnech (10/24)

*(contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)*

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**Birthday Prayers for...** Fr. Daniel Vaskalis (10/24), 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) ...*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 Magadalene, & 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...** ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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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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**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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\* 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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DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS 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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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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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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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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