



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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

22nd Sunday after Pentecost
 Synaxis of the Bodiless Powers (Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, Barachiel, and Jeremiel)
 Prayers offered for +Anna (Kostelnik) Winters (5-yr Anniversary)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 (THANKSGIVING)

9:30 am Moleben of Thanksgiving

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

23rd Sunday after Pentecost
 Venerable Paisius (Velichkovsky) (1794)
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
 Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10
 Gospel: Luke 10:25-37 (8th Sunday of Luke)
 Tone 6; Liturgical Color: **Purple**
 Additional offering requested for IOCC
 Nativity (Philip's) Fast Begins
 (also referred to as Advent or Filipovka)

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Future Services are listed on our online "Parish Calendar" which is continually updated at: www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar (Please ask Fr. Dave if you want a printed copy)

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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/

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Moleben of Thanksgiving – There is no better way to begin the day than giving Thanks to God. Let's gather this Thursday morning at 9:30 to begin Thanksgiving together in prayer. *(The Moleben service is roughly a half hour...)*

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The Nativity Fast begins next Sunday - The Fast runs for 40-days until the Eve of the Nativity on Monday, January 6. As in Great Lent, you should establish for yourself a rule of fasting and stick to it. It is often said that the Nativity Fast is so much more difficult because of the nature of society around us. We can enjoy the season with our extended family & friends and still keep the spirit of the Fast! Everyone should try, at a minimum, to keep Monday, Wednesday & Friday as fast days, no matter what is happening on the 'new calendar.' If you have questions, please talk with Father Dave.
Prepare the Manger of your Soul for the coming of the new borne Messiah!

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St Nicholas Charity Dinner - Due to circumstances beyond our control from the Country Club, the Pittsburgh Deanery St. Nicholas Dinner will be canceled this year. Keep in mind, the seminary still needs our help. On December 12th we will have a special

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.

BULLETIN IS OFFERED:

In memory of
 +George Huron

(60-year Anniversary)

May he be remembered in
 God's Memory forever!
 Eternal Memory!

collection on this day for the seminary. If you are unable to be at church on the 12th and would like to give, please See Tim Martin. (* If you have a suggestion for a new venue to consider for next year, please see Father Dave so we can pursue the opportunity for 2022.)

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Parish Council Meeting Highlights: Winter COVID measures

- ✘ Masks are now optional and we will continue to maintain safe 6' distance
- ✘ We will have the fans blowing out of cracked windows to keep air flowing

Our Safety and Security

- ✘ We will continue to lock the front door at about 9:45. Afterwards, only the side door on Holbrook will be unlocked. (This recommendation is from the police departments to churches and synagogues across the United States.) Please come to the church before the service begins so that you can be present for the opening blessing.

90th Anniversary Luncheon

- ✘ Planning for our 90th Anniversary celebration on October 9, 2022 has begun. For the luncheon, we are currently looking into PNC Park, the Friary, and Heinz Field. If you have suggestions, please talk with Gina Fall.

Winter Maintenance and Decorating Day

- ✘ On **December 11th** we will have our next maintenance day along with decorating for Christmas.

Relocation Update

- ✘ A relocation meeting is being planned for December 7th. More updates to come.
- ✘ Our current Relocation Fund balance is: \$57,316.

Fundraisers

- ✘ A couple ideas were suggested for adding additional fundraisers throughout the year: a pre-Lenten Bingo or a second garage sale. Too many issues were discovered with them. [But the ACRY will look into bringing back the spring Basket Raffle.]
- ✘ Please note that due to your generous stewardship to the parish, our fundraisers are not used to "pay our electric bills" but to give back to the community. Thank you for the percentage of your treasures that you offer back to God.

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Sr. ACRY NEWS: Lots-O-Luck Calendars – The National ACRY Lots-O-Luck Calendars are available. \$25 per ticket get's you a year's worth of prizes totaling \$10,000! Please see Theresa Sharpless for tickets.

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Spiritual Vitamin:

"Self-denial does not mean self-hatred, but the denial of selfishness."
 - Metropolitan Antonie Plămădeală

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship:	\$ 360
Candles/Eternal Lamp Stewardship:	\$ 132
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 318
Total Collections:	\$ 810
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 25
Relocation Fund:	\$ 80

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; for the health of the Pallant family; 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 in memory of the departed from the Pallant Family; and by Matthew Peifer in memory of +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)

Spiritual Vitamin:

"Remember that by your own power you will gain nothing. Always call upon the Lord Jesus Christ for help in all temptations. Then your praiseworthy attitude will be aided by God's might, which curtails all sin, all wiles of the demons."

Abbot Nikon Vorobiev



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 (2nd 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.

ORTHODOXY AROUND THE 'BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

Advent Retreat "Surprising Saints: Holy Peoples' Struggles and Triumphs Can Inspire Our Lives" will be presented by Matushka Valarie Zahirsky on **Saturday, December 11** from 10am to 1pm at St John the Baptist Orthodox Church (601 Boone Ave, Canonsburg, PA 15317). This is a free event but registration is required. RSVP by Dec. 6 at frdavidvernak@verizon.net or 201-704-6217.

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Cantor and Choir Director Positions – St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, Homestead, PA is in need of a fulltime cantor and choir director (filled by one person or two.) Please email Tom Pingor, Parish Council President, for more information and/or to submit your resume at tpingor@verizon.net.

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Spiritual Vitamin:

"Happiness is found within ourselves, and blessed is the man who has understood this."
+St. Nectarios of Aegina

VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

NATIVITY FAST BOOK SUGGESTION

THE RELIGION OF THE APOSTLES

by Fr. Stephen DeYoung

ISBN : 9781944967550

Father Dr. Stephen De Young traces the lineage of Orthodox Christianity back to the faith and witness of the apostles, which was rooted in a first-century Jewish worldview. *The Religion of the Apostles* presents the Orthodox Christian Church of today as a continuation of the religious life of the apostles, which in turn was a continuation of the life of the people of God since the beginning of creation. To purchased from Ancient Faith Publishing, visit:

store.ancientfaith.com/the-religion-of-the-apostles/

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Final Admonitions and Benediction

¹¹ See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. ¹⁴ But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither

circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷ Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

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Epistle: Hebrews 2:2-10 (Angels)

² For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, ⁴ while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his own will.

Exaltation through Abasement

⁵ For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶ It has been testified somewhere,

"What is man that thou art mindful of him,
or the son of man, that thou carest for him?"

⁷ Thou didst make him for a little while
lower than the angels,

thou hast crowned him with glory and honor,
⁸ putting everything in subjection under his feet."

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹ But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for every one.

¹⁰ For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering.

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Gospel: Luke 8:41-56

⁴¹ And there came a man named Ja'irus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, ⁴² for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. ⁴³ And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and could not be healed by any one, ⁴⁴ came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. ⁴⁵ And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" ⁴⁶ But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." ⁴⁷ And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. ⁴⁸ And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." ⁴⁹ While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." ⁵⁰ But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." ⁵¹ And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. ⁵² And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." ⁵³ And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. ⁵⁴ But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." ⁵⁵ And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. ⁵⁶ And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

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Gospel: Luke 10:16-21 (Angels)

¹⁶ "He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

The Return of the Seventy

¹⁷ The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!"

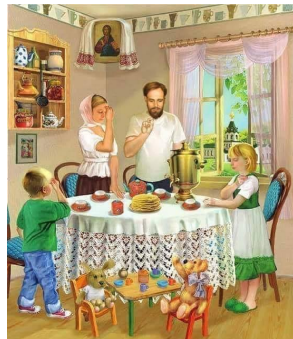
¹⁸ And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Jesus Rejoices

²¹ In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes; yea, Father, for such was thy gracious will.

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LIVING ORTHODOXY



"A great influence is exercised on the children by frequently taking them to church, by having them kiss the holy Cross, the Gospel, the icons, and by covering them with the veils. Likewise, at home frequently placing them under the icons, frequently signing them with the sign of the Cross, sprinkling them with holy water, and the burning of incense. Also by making the sign of the Cross over their cradle, as well as over their food, and everything connected with them, the blessing of a priest, the bringing into the house of icons from Church...

and in general everything from the Church, all of these things warm and nourish in a wondrous way the life of grace in the children and constitute always a most safe and impenetrable protection against the attacks of the invisible dark powers who everywhere are ready to penetrate their developing souls so as to infect them by their activity."

+St. Theophan the Recluse

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FEAST DAY FEATURE

The Celebration Of The Sobor (Assemblage) Of The Leader Of The Heavenly Hosts Michael, And The Other Heavenly Bodiless Hosts

Commemorated on November 21/8

The Celebration of the Sobor (Assemblage) of the Leader of the Heavenly Hosts Michael, and the Other Heavenly Bodiless Hosts was established at the beginning of the IV Century at the local Laodician Council, which occurred several years before the First Ecumenical Council. The Laodician Council by its 35th Canon condemned and renounced as heretical the worship of angels as creators and rulers of the world and it affirmed their proper Orthodox veneration. A feastday was established in November – the ninth month from March (with which month the year began in ancient times) – in accordance with the 9 Ranks of Angels. The eighth day of the month was decreed for the intended Sobor (Assemblage) of all the Heavenly Powers – in conjunction with the Day of the Dread Last-Judgment of God, which the holy fathers called the "Eighth Day", – since after this age in which the seven days [of Creation] have elapsed will come the "Eighth Day", – and then "shalt come the Son of Man in His Glory and all the holy Angels together with Him" (Mt. 25: 31).

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PRAYER CORNER

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

A Prayer For The Sick:

O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant *name(s)*. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver *him/her/them* from sickness and bitter pain. Heal *him/her/them* so that *he/she/they* may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.

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For the Health of... Dennis, Pañi Eleanor, Kasamanda, Robert, Gavin, Fr. Mark L., 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):

Makaela Kirish - Archangel Michael (11/21)
(contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)

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Birthday Prayers for... Fr Michael Rustick

(11/21), *Father's sister*, Suzanne Verbanick
(11/25), Stephen Brancho (11/26), Fr. Michael
Ellis (11/26), John Gaydos Sr. (11/26), Pañi
Peggy Teklinski (11/26), Victor Zerby (11/27)
...*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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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 PRAYER OF THE WEEK

**IOCC Thanksgiving Prayer
for Those in Need**

O Heavenly King, Comforter, who grants all
blessings, we thank You for Your abundant
grace and mercies. Help us to be good
stewards of Your treasury through the
ministry of IOCC. Help us to strip ourselves
of our earthly adornment, so that the poor
may be sufficiently clothed and fed. And, by
so loving our neighbor, adorn us with the
everlasting pearls of virtue instead. Where
there is suffering, help us to bring Your
mercy; where there is despair, Your hope.
Where there is war, allow us to present You
who are the Prince of Peace; where there is
pain, You who are the Comforter; Where
there is hatred, You who are Love; where
there is death and destruction; You who are
the Resurrection and Life. Daily guide our
work in and through IOCC so that we may
do all things, in every place and at all times,
for Your glory. 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 Mon. thru Fri. from
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

