

## "THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER" *Our Parish Weekly Bulletin*

*O Holy John, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptizer of the Lord, pray to God for us!*

### A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Glory to Jesus Christ! (*responded with: Glory 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! Please see Fr. Dave if you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy.

### UPCOMING SERVICES

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11** - *A day of strict-fasting*

FEAST OF THE BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Divine Liturgy and Panachida

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

ECCLESIASTICAL (LITURGICAL) NEW YEAR  
9:30 am Moleben for the New Year

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16-17**

9:00 am to 3:00 pm Garage Sale

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Prophet Zachariah and Elizabeth

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4; Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Tone 5; Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Panachida

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

\* **6:00 pm** Feast Day Vespers (*note the time change*)

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

9:30 am Moleben to the Holy Cross & Panachida

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**Calendar** - Future Services are updated online at:

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

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

**Live-Broadcast** - If you are unable to attend church services, please pray along with our Cathedral online:

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



### RELOCATION UPDATE

\* The Allison Park Church **did not accept** our counter offer given to them last week which our Parish Council proposed and unanimously passed:

*"After review of the August 11, 2022 inspection report, we are prepared to offer \$200,000 and our four North Side properties for the 2201 property. To justify the price reduction, we would have to address three major needs: the roof, HVAC (boiler, heat pump, and AC), and the electrical panel. The estimated cost of such repairs are estimated to be approximately \$115,000."*

**May God continue to guide our journey as we continue discussions with them.**

### BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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**Home Blessings** - Our Annual Home Blessings began last month after the Lesser Blessing of Water. Fr. Dave is looking forward to visiting every home this Fall. Please schedule with him today.

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\*\*\* **Garage Sale - September 16-17, 2022** - A sign up sheet is in the hall to offer to help before and during the sale. **More stewards and helpers are needed!** Also, flyers are in the hall ready to be placed around the community. (*Proceeds from the Garage Sale will go to offset some of the costs of our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon October 9<sup>th</sup>.*)

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**Romanian Food Festival** - Come and enjoy home made authentic Romanian food on Saturday (12-6) and Sunday (1-5), **September 17 and 18** at Saint Andrew the Apostle Romanian Orthodox Church (56 Glenn Way McKees Rocks, PA 15136). A sample of the foods will be: grilled pork sausages, roasted potatoes, cabbage salad, Carpathian cheese pastry, famous mititei (Romanian skinless sausage), crepes, Amandina cakes, beer and more

### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Father Dave Urban, *Pastor* +++ 2688 California Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa 15212  
[www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.com](http://www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.com) +++ 412-748-0148 (*Talk or Text*) +++ [OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com](mailto:OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com)

*This Bulletin Is Sponsored*  
In Memory of our departed Grandparents  
May their memory be eternal!

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\*\* **Godparent Sunday** - Our Annual Godparent Sunday celebration will be on for **Sunday, October 2 (new date)**. It is a day to honor them and to encourage the growth of this spiritual relationship. We need to keep the Spiritual bonds alive with our God-parents and God-children. Even more important, we need to keep our life united with our Lord, Jesus Christ. This unites us with one another.

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\*\*\* **The 4<sup>th</sup> Pittsburgh Deanery Family Picnic** will be held on **Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>** in Schenley Park at the Veterans Pavilion (*10345 Overlook Dr., Pittsburgh, PA*) from Noon (*after church*) to Dusk. 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!

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\* **90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon on Sunday, October 9** - Tickets will be \$30 per person (*child prices are being finalized*). Please sign up on the sheet in the hall or call 412-748-0148 and pre-pay Tim Martin.

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\*\* **Sunday School Teachers** are needed. Please contact Fr. Dave or a Parish Council Member if you are interested in guiding our youth. Sunday School will begin **Sunday, October 16**. God-Willing, we will have a large First Confession Class this year.

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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/acroddiocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese)

Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)

YouTube: [youtube.com/acroddiocese](https://youtube.com/acroddiocese)

**"Hawaiian" Iveron Icon** - In honor of the 15th Anniversary of the Appearance of the Wonderworking and Myrrhstreaming "Hawaiian" Iveron Icon of the Holy Theotokos, the Holy Image is being escorted throughout the United States in the Fall of 2022.

*The Wonderworking Icon was revealed to the World in October of 2007 on the Island of Oahu in Hawaii. This great blessing has visited thousands of churches throughout the world and has been venerated by millions of Christian faithful. She is a great blessing sent from God to His faithful servants.*

Friday, September 16

**Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery**

121 St. Elias Lane, Saxonburg, PA 16056

9:00am to 5:00pm

**Monastery of the Transfiguration**

321 Monastery Lane, Ellwood City, PA 16117-6531

6:30pm, Arrival of the Theotokos and Akathist

Saturday, September 17

**Saint Basil the Great Orthodox Church**

1449 Ridge Road, Belle Vernon, PA 15012

9:30am, Arrival of the Holy Icon and Divine Liturgy

**Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church**

601 Boone Avenue, Canonsburg, PA 15317

2:30pm, Arrival of the Holy Icon and Moleben

5:00pm departure to Ohio (see Fr Dave for the schedule)

Please visit [www.ohiia.org](http://www.ohiia.org) to learn more.

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\* **SJB Yearly Parish Meeting** will be on **Sunday, September 18** following the Divine Liturgy. **New Proposals** for the Meeting need to be submitted to **Larry Martin** or **Matt Peifer**. All proposals are much appreciated! Parish Council positions that will be open include Recording Secretary and Auditor. All Parish Council Members need to be active in the Mysteries of the Church as well as stewards of the church. This is the **3<sup>rd</sup> Official Notice** for the meeting.

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**Homestead Fall Festival** will be held on Friday and Saturday, **September 23 and 24** from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. in the parish hall (903 Ann Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15120).

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD	
Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 180
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 362
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 214
Community Outreach:	\$ 5
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$ 761</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 10</b>
<b>Relocation Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>

**August Financial Report:**  
**General Stewardship = \$ 3943.26**  
*(includes \$ 253.26 from online stewardship)*  
**\*Expenses = \$ 5901.55**  
**Net Deficit = \$ 1958.29**  
*\*details listed on the church hall bulletin board*  
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: **22**

**Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Report:**  
*(September through last month)*  
**General Stewardship = \$ 76,125**  
**\*Expenses = \$ 77,107**  
**Net Deficit = \$ 982**  
*\*details listed on the church hall bulletin board*  
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: **28**

**Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials** were offered last week by Nelson Family; Tim Martin; Melanie Shuster; Mary Jane Hudak; Pani Brancho; Chow Family; Patty Watson; Cindy Pavidonis

**The Eternal Lamp** was offered last week by Matthew Peifer In Memory Of his parents, +Jack and +Viola Peifer. May Their Memory Be Eternal!

**The Christ Cross** was offered last week by the Jedlicka Family In Memory Of +Donna Jedlicka. May Her Memory Be Eternal!

**Bulletin Sponsor** – If you wish to sponsor a bulletin In Honor of (nameday, birthday, anniversary, etc.) or In Memory of someone, please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule or by contacting Fr. Dave (email, text, or call). An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.

**On-Line Giving** is available from our parish website to donate to the: *General Stewardship Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and/or Relocation Fund.* 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 to Tim Martin, 2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143). If you miss coming to church for a week, online giving allows you another option to “catch up” on your weekly stewardship. You can also set up a recurring donation online. For our parish to continue it’s ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, your generosity and stewardship is needed.

**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

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Epistle:** *1 Corinthians 16:13-24*  
**Final Messages and Greetings**  
<sup>13</sup>Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. <sup>14</sup>Let all that you do be done in love. <sup>15</sup>Now, brethren, you know that the household of Steph’anas were the first converts in Acha’ia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; <sup>16</sup>I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. <sup>17</sup>I rejoice at the coming of Steph’anas and Fortuna’tus and Acha’icus, because they have made up for your absence; <sup>18</sup>for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. <sup>19</sup>The churches of Asia send greetings. Aq’uila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. <sup>20</sup>All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. <sup>21</sup>I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. <sup>22</sup>If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! <sup>23</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. <sup>24</sup>My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

**Gospel:** *Matthew 21:33-42*  
**The Parable of the Wicked Tenants**  
<sup>33</sup>“Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. <sup>34</sup>When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; <sup>35</sup>and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. <sup>37</sup>Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’”

**Feast Day Epistle:** *Acts 13:25-32*  
<sup>25</sup>And as John was finishing his course, he said, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.’ <sup>26</sup>“Brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you that fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. <sup>27</sup>For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets which are read every sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning him. <sup>28</sup>Though they could charge him with nothing deserving death, yet they asked Pilate to have him killed. <sup>29</sup>And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. <sup>30</sup>But God raised him from the dead; <sup>31</sup>and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. <sup>32</sup>And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers,

**Feast Day Gospel:** *Mark 6:14-30*  
**The Death of John the Baptist**  
<sup>14</sup>King Herod heard of it; for Jesus’ name had become known. Some said, “John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him.” <sup>15</sup>But others said, “It is Eli’jah.” And others said, “It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” <sup>16</sup>But when Herod heard of it he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.” <sup>17</sup>For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Hero’di-as, his brother Philip’s wife; because he had married her. <sup>18</sup>For John said to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” <sup>19</sup>And Hero’di-as had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, <sup>20</sup>for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. <sup>21</sup>But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee. <sup>22</sup>For when Hero’di-as’ daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will grant it.” <sup>23</sup>And he vowed to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.” <sup>24</sup>And she went out, and said to her mother, “What shall I ask?” And she said, “The head of John the baptizer.” <sup>25</sup>And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” <sup>26</sup>And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. <sup>27</sup>And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, <sup>28</sup>and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. <sup>29</sup>When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb. <sup>30</sup>The apostles returned to Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.



## LIVES OF THE SAINTS

### THE MARTYR ANASTASII

*Commemorated on Sept 11 / Aug 29*

The Martyr Anastasii, a Bulgarian, was born in 1774 in the Strumnitsk diocese, in the village of Radovicha. His parents gave him over to military studies. When the youth was 20 years old, he happened to be with his teacher in Soluneia (Thessalonika). The master wanted to sell some Turkish clothes without paying the customary duty-tax. He told his student to dress himself as a Turk and go into the city. The collectors of the duty-tax (haraje) stopped him and demanded the written receipt (teskere) of duty-tax payment. The youth answered that he was a Turk. Thereupon the collectors demanded him to recite the salutation with the Mahometan prayer. The youth became confused and quiet. They ordered him off to the commander, who in interrogating the martyr offered him to become Turkish. The youth refused, and they led him away to the chief tax-collector. The official tried at first to flatter, then to threaten the martyr, who owned up to his civil guilt, but would not agree to betray his holy faith. The tax-collector made this known to the mufti, who in turn answered: "Thou hast in one hand the sword, in the other the law; use what thou wishest". He knew, that by law the tax-collector ought to take the duty-tax from the youth, but then by judgement of the mufti he would not be a follower of Mahomet, armed with a sword. And having received such an answer, the commander of the haraje sent the youth to the local mullah together with five Turks, who were obliged to testify that the Christian had blasphemed the Mahometan faith. To the accusations of blasphemy against Mahomet by these witnesses, the youth honestly answered that he did not blaspheme him, but he would allow having shown disrespect to Mahometan customs. They subjected him to torture and condemned him to hanging. Along the way they continued to urge the martyr to renounce his faith, but bleeding and exhausted, he fell upon the wayside and died on 29 August 1794.

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## LIVING ORTHODOXY

### The Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Today we celebrate the last Feastday of the Orthodox Liturgical Year. The Feast of the Beheading of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist John. This is one of the feasts of the Church which is recorded in the Gospel of the Evangelist Mark chapter 6:14-30, which tells of Herod the King and Herodias, the wife of his brother Phillip and their daughter Salome.

As the story goes, Salome and her mother conspire to punish John the Baptist for condemning Herod's taking of his brother's wife, and cohabitating with her, forsaking his lawful wife, the daughter of the King, Arenas, which was forbidden by Jewish law. Salome convinces with her mother in this sinister plot and agrees to dance for Herod after which she asks for the head of John the Baptist.

Herod fearful of slaying a prophet but obliged to honor his promise had the prophet, whom he previously had followed beheaded, and the head brought on a charger, presented by Salome to her mother Herodias.

Salome, soon after, met a horrible death herself, being decapitated, and her parents Herod and Herodias, who continued to rule until the time of Jesus' trial, both were later exiled by the Roman Emperor Gaius Caligula, first to Gaul then to Spain.

This feastday is designated as a strict fast day of the Church because of the grief of Christians for the violent death of the Saint. On this day in many Orthodox nations, food served on round plates and knives, were not used in remembrance of the slaying of the great prophet. Also on this day, the names of soldiers who have died on the battlefield are commemorated by the Church.

With this Feastday, the Liturgical Cycle of the Church ends, beginning again on September 1st with the Ecclesiastical New Year. Let us remember the Baptist and Forerunner John who showed the way of the Lord, baptizing Jesus in the River Jordan. Through the Prayers of the Holy Prophet and Forerunner John, pray unto God for us!

*Source: [www.sthermansoca.org/spirituality/feast-st-john-beheading/](http://www.sthermansoca.org/spirituality/feast-st-john-beheading/)*

## 2022 Home Blessings

### How to prepare for your home blessing?

1. See Fr. Dave, email him (fr.sleepless@gmail.com), call or text him (412-748-0148) today with your preferred windows of time for him to visit.
2. Have a white cloth placed on the dining room or kitchen table, an icon and/or a cross, and a candle to be lit. (Fr Dave will provide the Holy Water for the blessing.)
3. Have a list of names of those who live in the home (including your pets) and a list of the departed members of your family and friends you wish to have prayed for during the service.
4. Have all TVs, radios, and cell phones turned off.
5. Have on the table anything to be blessed (such as an Icon, Cross, etc.).
6. Participation is important! Have everyone in the family gather around the table and join in the blessing. Invite neighbors and friends over to be a part of this beautiful tradition as well!
7. If you need to discuss a personal matter, this is a good time to do so!

### Home blessings will take place from August 14 through October 14

It would be ideal if he could come on a weekday between 8:30am and 3:30pm. IF this is not possible, certain evening, Saturday, and Sunday times will be available. Fr Dave looks forward to spending this time with your family!

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### Spiritual Vitamin:

#### TROPAR (Tone 2)

The remembrance of the Just is worthy of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you, O Forerunner; for it has shown that you are indeed more worthy of honor than the Prophets. You were found worthy to baptize the Lord Whom you foretold. Thereafter, you suffered for the truth and, rejoicing, also announced the good news to those in the abyss that God had appeared as man taking away the sins of the world and granting to all of us the abundance of mercy.

## PRAYER CORNER

**For the Health of...** Justin, Maria, Metropolitan Gregory, Gina, Joshua, George, John, Emily, Beverly, Kelly, Michelle, Paul, Kathleen, Joanne, Marie, Barbara, Brian, Kristina, Sean, Julia, Susan, 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 souls of the newly departed...

+Donna (Wetzel) Jedlicka (8/9),

+Peter Benyo, the Priest (8/8)

...*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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### A Prayer for Peace

Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of all people on the earth. Guide, I pray, all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice, prejudice, exploitation, conflict and war. Help us to put away mistrust, bitterness and hatred. Teach us to cease the storing and using of implements of war. Lead us to find peace, respect and freedom. Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of peace against ignorance, poverty, disease and oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony and friendship as brothers and sisters created in Your image, to Your honor and praise. Amen.

### A prayer for our Neighborhoods

by Archbishop Demetrios of America

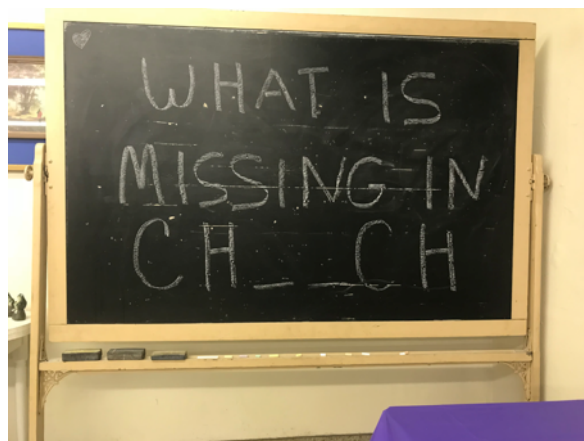
I pray to you, God, for the families of my neighborhood. Visit them. Throw their troubles out of them and bring hope. Make the daily cares that devour the heart disappear. Present solutions to life's problems. Settle the disturbed relationships among members of different families whom I know or do not 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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### ONLINE BULLETIN BONUSES

#### Spiritual Vitamin:

KONDAK (Tone 5) The glorious beheading of the Forerunner was part of God's saving plan that the coming of the Savior might be announced even to those in the abyss. Weep then, Herodias, that you asked for a wicked murder, because you loved neither God's law nor eternal life, but only the passing pleasure of life.



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### DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS

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#### The Jesus Prayer

(Inhale) O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
(Exhale) have mercy on me, a sinner!

(Repeat until your heart is calm...)

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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 from 8:30am to 3:00pm or by appointment.*

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

**Parish 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. He will pray with you and you will receive the Mystery of Holy Anointing (Unction) 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.

**Parishioners in “good standing”** are those Orthodox Christians who, as members of Saint John's Orthodox Church, strive to live according to the teachings of the Orthodox Church; participate in the life of the parish through regular attendance of services, regular reception of Holy Communion and periodic Holy Confession (*and receive these Mysteries no less than once a year*); if married, having been married in the Orthodox Church; and share their stewardship of their time, talents, and treasures which includes financially supporting the parish.

**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 Fr. Dave 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 Fr. Dave ASAP for more details (*before* arrangements are made for the hall). It is critical that marriages are blessed in our church.

**Church Funerals** – are provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual responsibilities and their stewardship. 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 SECOND 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 Special Intentions of...** His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. David S., Fr. Myron, Dcn. Michael L., Laura & family, Carlene, Georgia, Eleanor, Mark, Michaleana, Dorell, Donald, Susan, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our diocesan seminarians:* Nicholas, Dylan, Thomas, Samuel, Timothy,

Nicholas, Aydin, Subdeacon Seamus, Nicholas, *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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**September Namedays:**

*Pañi’s grandmother* Maria Alexa - Nativity of Mary (NC 9/9)  
Cora Dzacony - Martyr Coralia (9/14)  
Penelope Maruscak - Martyr Penelope (9/14)  
Maria Urban - Nativity of Mary (9/21)  
Sharon Peifer - Righteous Anna (9/22)  
Sophia Urban - Martyr Sophia (9/30)  
*...May God grant them many and blessed years!*

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**September Birthdays:**

Samuel Mainolfi (9/1), Dexter Torchia (9/1), Timothy Martin, Reader (9/2), Ruth Herbert (9/2), Ashley Wertz (9/2), Fr. Bob Teklinski (9/3), Danielle Yakemawiz (9/5), Pañi Deborah Zak (9/7), Tina Scherer (9/11), Pañi Andrea Cochran (9/14), Pañi Daria Lopusky (9/16), Cindy Morrison (9/17), Fr. Vincent Dranginis (9/19), Fr. Kenneth Ellis (9/19), Fr. Dave Urban (9/19), Fr. Matthew Moriak (9/20), Fr. David Smoley (9/20), Mark Martellotti (9/22), *Father’s brother-in-law*, Brian Verbanick, Sr (9/22), Margaret (Peggy) Rusnak (9/24), Fr. R. Michael Zak (9/24), AJ (Matolyak) Ferraz (9/26), Cora Loren Dzacony (9/28), Andrew Mirilovich (9/28), Shane Yakemawiz (9/28), Juliana Anton (9/29), Wendy Martellotti (9/29), Fr Dcn Art Steinstra (9/30)  
*...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...** Tyler, Susan  
*...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.*

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**For those preparing for Marriage...** Francis &

Alexandra, Nicole & Dustin ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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**September Anniversaries:**

Melanie & Michael Shuster (9/5/82)  
Marianne & Steven Kubis (9/6/14)  
*Glenn & Meghan (Pagley) Labas (9/6/08)*  
*Father’s sister*, Suzanne & Brian Verbanick (9/8/01)  
Barbara & Richard Gedid (9/17/83)  
Patricia & Louis Deluca (9/17)  
Thomas & Carol Lorenzi (9/19/70)  
Ken & Paula Watson (9/24)  
Charles & Allison Kretchek (9/26/15)  
John & Barbara Kirish (9/28/96)  
*...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas*

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**For Pregnant Mothers...** Caitlin (*due in September*), Mallory (*September*), Carly (*December*) ...*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. Dzacovsky 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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