



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

2688 California Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa 15212
412-748-0148, *Talk or Text*
OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com
www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.com
Instagram: SJB_Orthodox_Pittsburgh
Twitter: @SJB_OrthodoxPGH

UPCOMING SERVICES

90th Anniversary Weekend Celebration

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

4:00 pm. Metropolitan Gregory welcomed (with bread and salt) before Great Vespers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

17th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian
9:30am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with responses sung by the St. Nicholas Homestead Choir
12-noon Luncheon at Pittsburgh's Grand Hall at The Priory (614 Pressley St., Pgh, PA 15212)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

6:00 PM Feast Day Vespers

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

18th Sunday after Pentecost
Hieromartyr Dionysius
9:30am Divine Liturgy
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
Gospel: Luke 6:31-36 (2nd Sunday of Luke)
Tone 1; Liturgical Color: **Gold**
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Calendar - Future Services are updated online at:
www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar
(Please see Fr. Dave if you want a printed copy)

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

www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/

OCTOBER SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross
God Parent Sunday

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

4:00 pm. Metropolitan Gregory welcomed (with bread and salt) before Great Vespers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

9:30am Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE 7TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL (787)
FOUNDING OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY IN 1932
9:30am Divine Liturgy
11:30 am Baptism

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

9:30am Divine Liturgy

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Late Edition of "THE VOICE" Our Parish Monthly Newsletter

John the Baptist said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' (Jn 1:23)

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.

A Warm Welcome to His Eminence,
Metropolitan Gregory, who has joined us for
Great Vespers and the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
for our 90th Anniversary Weekend Celebration!

We are overjoyed to be visited by His Eminence!
We ask God's continued blessings for our
guiding shepherd and teacher.

Welcome, dear Master! Vitajte, Vladiko!



RELOCATION UPDATE

The Allison Park Church is willing to accept the offer of \$275,000 along with our properties for their property at

2201 Duncan Avenue, Allison Park, PA 15101

The next steps in this journey are to:

- * give them a list of what we will be taking from the North Side along with what we are willing to leave
- * finalize the contracts
- * have an inspection of our properties
- * set the closing dates

Glory to God, Slava Bohu, major progress has been accomplished!

May God continue to guide our journey!

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*As updates are available, they will be shared here.
Please contact Larry or Fr. Dave with any questions*

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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*This Bulletin is Sponsored
In Memory of +Michael Hudak
(Birthday Remembrance)
May his memory be eternal!*

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*** **Gertrude Hawk Christmas Candy Sale** - The booklets are in the church hall. Orders will be due by **November 7** and the candy will be delivered the week of **December 5**.

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Directions to the Priory:

- ✂ From California Avenue heading towards the city
 - ✂ Turn RIGHT to merge onto US-19 S toward downtown
 - ✂ Keep left to merge onto PA-65 S
 - ✂ Exit LEFT to merge onto I-279 N toward PA-28 N
 - ✂ Take Exit 1D on the RIGHT to merge onto PA-28 N toward East Ohio Street and Chestnut Street
 - ✂ Exit LEFT onto E Ohio Street
 - ✂ Turn LEFT onto E Ohio Street
 - ✂ Turn LEFT onto N Canal Street
 - ✂ Keep RIGHT onto N Canal Street
 - ✂ Turn RIGHT onto Cedar Avenue
 - ✂ Turn RIGHT onto Pressley Street and arrive.
- OR** just plug 614 Pressley Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212 into your GPS

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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 should begin next week, **Sunday, October 16** if we have the teachers. God-Willing, we will have a large First Confession Class this year. As of now we could have as many as 25 kids in our Sunday School...

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*** **Healthy Snacks** – The “grab-n-go” snack options for our coffee social are low. Please consider bringing in a box of something for everyone to share.

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*** **Altar Candles** – Thank you to the anonymous donor of new oil-filled candles that we began to use on the Altar this weekend. Your stewardship has blessed us all! May God Bless You!

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** **LAST CALL for Home Blessings** – Our Annual Home Blessings began in August 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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*** **Fall Maintenance Day** – This year we will not have a Fall Maintenance Day due to the stewardship of less than a handful of folks who overly dedicated themselves getting ready for our anniversary weekend. Thank you for your generous offering of your time, talents, and treasures towards our parish!

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** Yearly Meeting Highlights:

Attendance: 14 parishioners at the meeting.

- **Garage Sale:** Went well this year and more help is needed for events in the future.

- **90th Anniversary:** the weekend is not an internal event. “For those who came before us and for generations to come.” The deadline for the luncheon is Sunday, September 25. *(see details above)*

- **Sunday School:** Teachers are needed. Commitment from families are needed. A survey will be sent to parents with the following ideas/questions:

Would a different time slot *(weekday evening or Saturday)* be better through the week?

What about 2 Sundays each month (1st and 3rd)?

- **Diocesan Sobor:** 3 proposals to be presented at the Sobor were shared *(1. Robert’s Rules most be followed, 2. The use of Diocesan Tax ID number and online giving guidance, and 3. Reaffirm our Orthodox Faith and Christian Values in the world today)*. Each was approved by the parishioners.

- **Stewardship Needs:**

Additional Curators are needed to help “at the door”. Please contact Larry Martin for more info.

Turkey Bingo: Sharon will lead the event only if 11 stewards will offer their time for the event to happen.

December Maintenance and Decorating Morning: Saturday, December 10

Tree Removal: Someone will look into a tree cutter to cut and remove the fallen tree from a previous storm (unless someone from *within* could do it)

Mold Report: A majority of the church has mold. It will be treated soon. *[the 2-step treatment process is half done]*

- **Relocation:** Looking at the big picture, we need to look at the reality of our current facilities and make a new offer.

- **Election of the 2022-2023 Parish Council:** President: Lawrence Martin; Vice-President: Matthew Peifer; Treasurer: Timothy Martin, Reader; Financial Secretary: Rich Mirilovich; Recording Secretary: Elizabeth Radomsky; Chief Auditor: Robert Fall; Auditors: Gina Fall, Mary Jane Hudak, Kathy Schrmack, with the 4th and 5th positions left vacant.

- **Meeting Time:** 11:16 am to 12:20 pm

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

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*** **Front Step** – Thank you to the anonymous steward who repaired the front step that was breaking away. Your stewardship has blessed us all! May God Bless You!

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GARAGE SALE *** **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped in any way with this year’s garage sale! It was another beautiful year of helping out our community in this outreach! Our total collected this year so far is \$2,184 (our recent average has been \$2,239). Glory to God!

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** **Distinguished Diocesan Donors (DDD)** – We invite you to join with other St John’s faithful in giving to the annual DDD program. This program greatly supports our ministry at Camp Nazareth and other programs in our diocese. For more information, please get a brochure in the vestibule, see Larry Martin (our local ambassador) or Fr. Dave, or visit www.acrod.org/ministries/dddprogram/ Checks payable to: Distinguished Diocesan Donors can be mailed to: Diocesan Chancery, 312 Garfield St., Johnstown, PA 15906.

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** **Donors Requested** – As the Anniversary luncheon is here, the parish will cover the costs for the clergy and their families coming to the luncheon. If you would like to be a sponsor towards this, please see the curator *on the door*. We are also looking for donations towards the flowers that will be used to decorate the church and the banquet hall tables.

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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 Offerings:	\$ 110
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 150
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 55

Total Collections:	\$ 335
Relocation Fund:	\$ 20

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

September Financial Report:

General Stewardship = \$ 3165.72

(includes \$ 222.72 from online stewardship)

***Expenses = \$ 5652.11**

Net Deficit = \$ 2486.39

Relocation Fund = \$ 150

Capital Improvement Fund = \$ 95

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: **22**

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Nelson Family; Tim Martin; Melanie Shuster; Patty Watson; Cindy Pavilonis.

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“I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” - John 8:12

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The Eternal Lamp was offered last week in memory of the departed in Ukraine; and by John Gaydos, Jr. IMO his mother, +Catherine Gaydos. May Their Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamyat!

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The Christ Cross was offered last week in memory of the departed family, friends, and loved ones of St. John the Baptist – Eternal Memory!; and by Cindy Pavilonis for the health of Carter Christopher Knall – Many Years!

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The Theotokos Cross was offered last week for the health of the parishioners, family, friends, and loved ones of St. John the Baptist; and by Cindy Pavilonis for the health of Mallory, Jonathan, and Andrew Knall. Many Years!

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 (2nd 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.

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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.

VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH



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 for more info. *Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month!*

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

"Baptizing Culture" Conference – The Fellowship of St. Moses the Black Annual conference will be held from **October 14-16** with the above theme. Virtual conference is \$35. In-person conference (with 4 meals) is \$125. More information is at: www.mosetheblack.org/conferences/2022-conference/

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The **25th Diocesan Sobor** will be held in Johnstown from **October 16-19**. Please pray for a successful and worthwhile meeting!

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“From Death Unto Life: Building an Orthodox Pro-Life Movement in the Post-Roe Era” – On **Saturday, October 22**, as part of the “Light From The Church On The Hill Lecture Series”, St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church (601 Boone Ave., Canonsburg, PA) will offer Vespers at 6pm and a Talk (*title above*) led by Emily Wilkinson at 7pm. More information can be found at Orthodox Christians for Life www.oclife.org

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Fall Young Adult Retreat will be held on October 28-30 at Camp Nazareth. Pres. Dr. Jenny Haddad Mosher will present on “Feet First into the Faith”. Register online at: www.tinyurl.com/YAFall2022

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

¹⁶ What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”
¹⁷ Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you,
¹⁸ and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

⁷ Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

⁵ While the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennes’aret. ² And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴ And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” ⁵ And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.” ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, ⁷ they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” ⁹ For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zeb’edee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men.” ¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

ORTHODOX WORDS OF THE WEEK

Bishop – The bishop is the first and highest degree of the clergy in the Orthodox Church (*episkopos* in Greek, which means overseer).

Metropolitan – The title of archbishop or metropolitan may be granted to a senior bishop, usually one who is in charge of a large ecclesiastical jurisdiction. He may or may not have auxiliary bishops assisting him. In the Slavonic and Antiochian traditions, a metropolitan outranks an archbishop. The reverse is the situation in the Greek tradition.

LIVING ORTHODOXY

AN ORTHODOX BISHOP

EPISCOPAL MINISTRY

A bishop is the successor to the Apostles in the service and government of the Church. The bishop thus serves in place and as a type of Christ in the Church. No bishop in Orthodoxy is considered infallible. None has

any authority over or apart from his priests, deacons, and people or the other bishops. They have the responsibility of maintaining the unity of the Church throughout the world by insuring the truth and unity of the faith and practice of their diocese. The bishop represent his particular diocese to the other churches or dioceses, and represents the Universal Church to his own particular priests, deacons, and people.

In the Orthodox Church, from about the sixth century, it has been the rule that bishops are single men or widowers. Bishops are also usually in at least the first degree of monastic orders.

HOLY ORDERS

It is the belief of Orthodoxy that Christ is the only priest, pastor, and teacher of the Christian Church. He alone forgives sins and offers communion with God, His Father. Christ alone guides and rules his people. Christ remains with his Church as its living and unique head. Christ remains present and active in the Church through the Holy Spirit.

Through the Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Orders bishops give order to the Church. Bishops guarantee the continuity and unity of the Church from age to age and from place to place, that is, from the time of Christ and the apostles until the establishment of God’s Kingdom in eternity. Bishops receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to manifest Christ in the Spirit to men. Bishops are neither vicars, substitutes, nor representatives of Christ. It is Christ, through his chosen ministers, who acts as teacher, good shepherd, forgiver, and healer. It is Christ remitting sins, and curing the physical, mental, and spiritual ills of mankind. This is a mystery of the Church.

RULING BISHOP

A ruling bishop or diocesan bishop is responsible for and the head of all the parishes located in his a particular geographical territory, called a diocese or archdiocese. All authority of the lower orders of clergy is derived from the bishop. No divine services may be served in any Orthodox temple without the authorization of a bishop. Saint Ignatius the God-bearer of Antioch went so far as to state that "he who acts without the bishop's knowledge is in the devil's service." He may be called Bishop, Archbishop, Metropolitan, Metropolitan Archbishop or Patriarch.

Source: www.OrthodoxWiki.org

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

On Stewardship and the Orthodox Life

Part 95: Children and the Stewardship Life I

“for all of you are children of God, through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” (Galatians 3:26-27)
All children, all Christians, learn about their call to discipleship through Baptism. From the moment of reception into the Kingdom of God through Baptism and Holy Chrismation, growth begins. All of us have the opportunity to grow in Christ from the earliest of our days as Christians.

As children’s relationships with God are formed they begin to understand their responsibility to live as Jesus lived and to acknowledge God’s many gifts. God works through them while serving the poor, spreading the Good News, and taking care of everything God has given them. Therefore, as disciples, children, too, are stewards of everything God entrusts to them – that is, if the children are formed by parents who understand and carry out the responsibility to raise their children as good stewards.

Stewardship is based on the idea that all we have and all we are comes from God. In order to thank God for our many blessings, we must give back a portion of the time, talent and treasure that God has blessed us with. Stewardship is not a program that is handed to a child like an arithmetic book. Stewardship is not something to be learned. Stewardship is an attitude -- a way of life. Stewardship calls for us to share ourselves, to be a holy people, to step up and to take the risk of walking with Jesus Christ in His Holy Church.

We are all called to be disciples and caretakers of God’s many gifts. Stewardship is not about tithing, sacrificial giving or fund raising. Stewardship is about making personal decisions about how our lives and God’s expectations are meshed together. A child’s way of life in the future is formed early in that child’s young life. How many of our children are taught, usually by parents’ example, that most of life is about self-indulgence and display. How much of what is spent on toys, games and electronic media is necessary? Are these supplied without a hint of sacrificial use? Would the children be just as happy without? Or do we indulge our children by keeping up with the latest

fashion rages? Is our concern as parents about a child’s stewardship way of life as much as we are about the child “fitting in,” being “one of the crowd” and not standing out? Most children receive some money, for example, as birthday presents or as a standing allowance. How much time is spent in teaching the proper stewardship of that money?

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for November

Part 96: Children and the Stewardship Life II

“...for all of you are children of God, through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” (Galatians 3:26-27 NKJV)

It is an unfortunate situation that most people find themselves completely satisfied with enough to eat and drink, to wear, and to be entertained. Thus such people find that they must indulge in this pleasure and that, and accustom themselves to living up to (and often beyond) their income. The Christian steward, who sees all he or she has as a loan from God to be repaid, also sees that God has a higher goal for us than simple self-satisfaction.

Our children are very good watchers and listeners. They learn much more about how they will live in the future on their own from observing their parents than from a book or lecture. It is the duty of all Christians to properly use our time and money. Constantly indulging our children in their requests may be a reflection of constantly indulging ourselves in whatever pleasure we want. Children see that. Laziness or lack of discipline in an adult life is quickly picked

up on by the children. A “take it or leave it” attitude about life in the Church or the Church’s traditions and services becomes the child’s way in the future. The opposite can be true as well.

When I was twelve, I got the right to “own” my own paper route. The “route” was delivering 150 free shopping newspapers that ranged from 14 to 26 pages in size two times a week. The papers were delivered to our home in bundles on Tuesday and Friday for Wednesday and Saturday delivery. The papers were to be “folded” in the old-fashioned way, one at a time, placed into a cloth bag, and carried (or pulled on a wagon) to be delivered to 150 homes in the neighborhood. This was a total of 3-4 hours of work for each delivery, depending on size of paper, weather, etc. The supervisor, however, was always driving around checking on the deliveries. The pay? One dollar per delivery – two dollars per week. For a twelve-year-old in the 1960s this was a lot of money. What was I to do with it? Now that I was “employed,” my father said, I had to take my own offering to Sunday School. He used to give me a dime each Sunday. My contribution, he said, had to be at least 20 cents a week. I learned to take a quarter from “my” money.

In Sunday School I learned about putting on Christ, who gave Himself for the life of the world. I learned discipline from my father and my mother. I also learned stewardship.

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

The Holy Apostle And Evangelist John The Theologian

Commemorated on October 9 / September 26 and May 21/8

The holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle and Evangelist John (also John the Theologian or John the Divine) was one of the original twelve Apostles, and wrote the Gospel bearing his name; three canonical letters: I John, II John, and III John; and the Book of Revelation. His symbol is the eagle.

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FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

The Conception Of The Venerable Prophet, Forerunner And Baptist Of The Lord, John:

Commemorated on October 6 / September 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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The Protection (Pokrov) Of The Most-holy Mother Of God:

Commemorated on October 14/1

The Protection of the Mother of God is one of the most beloved feast days on the Orthodox calendar among the Slavic peoples, commemorated on October 1. The feast is celebrated additionally on October 28 in the Greek tradition.

The Russian word Pokrov (Πокров), like the Greek Skepi (Σκέπη), has a complex meaning. First of all, it refers to a cloak or shroud, but it also means protection or intercession. For this reason, the name of the feast is variously translated as the Veil of Our Lady, the Protecting Veil of the Theotokos, the Protection of the Theotokos, or the Intercession of the Theotokos.

The feast

The feast day celebrates the appearance of the Mother of God at Blachernae (Vlaherna) in the tenth century. At the end of St. Andrei (Andrew of Constantinople) Yurodivyi's life, he, with his disciple St. Epiphanius, and a group of people, saw the Mother of God, St. John the Baptist, and several other saints and angels during a vigil in the Church of Blachernae, nearby the city gates. The Blachernae Palace church was where several of her relics were kept. The relics were her robe, veil, and part of her belt that had been transferred from Palestine during the fifth century.

The Theotokos approached the center of the church, knelt down and remained in prayer for a long time. Her face was drowned in tears. Then she took her veil (cerement) off and spread it over the people as a sign of protection. During the time, the people in the city were threatened by a barbarian invasion. After the appearance of the Mother of God, the danger was averted and the city was spared from bloodshed and

suffering.

Celebration of the feast

The Protection is commemorated most fervently in Slavic churches, probably because St. Andrei was a Slav. The first celebration of the Theotokos's cerement in the Russian Orthodox Church dates back from the 12th century and today is celebrated throughout the Orthodox Church.

The feast day commemorating the miracle is celebrated with an All-Night Vigil, with many of the same elements as occur on Great Feasts of the Theotokos. However, this feast has no afterfeast.

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Commemoration Of The Holy Fathers Of The Seventh Ecumenical Council (787)

Commemorated after October 24/11

On the Sunday of the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, Nicea II, under the holy Patriarch Tarasius.

Lights on the earth

The Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils are honored by the Church because, based upon the preaching of the Apostles, they have established one faith for the Church. Guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and accepted by the Church, the Ecumenical Councils are the highest authority in the Church, infallible.

Commemoration

This feast is commemorated on October 11, if it is a Sunday. If October 11 is not a Sunday, the Slavic tradition uses the preceding Sunday when the eleventh falls before Thursday, and the next Sunday otherwise, the Greek practice will use the Sunday which follows October 11.

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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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... Matthew, Thomas, David, Donna, Gregory, Gina, Joshua, Michael, Karen, George, John, Beverly, Kelly, 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 Special Intentions of... His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. David S., Fr. Myron, Dcn. Michael L., Laura & family, Carlene, Georgia, Eleanora, Mark, Michaleana, Dorell, Donald, Susan, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Ameer, 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, Elizabeth, Rich, Robert, Gina, Jane, Mary Jane, Katherine, Theresa, 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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October Namedays:

John Kirish - Venerable John Kukuzelis the Singer (10/14)
Kenneth Parks - Venerable Cainnech (10/24)
...May God grant them many and blessed years!

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October Birthdays:

Genevive Martellotti (10/3), Matthew Mirilovich (10/6), John Gaydos, III (10/7), Sophie Jesko (10/7), *Father’s sister,* Melissa Dittmore (10/11), *Father’s mother,* Andrea Urban (10/11), Kevin Anton (10/12), Sheila Jesko (10/13), Frank Martellotti (10/15), Cameron Watson (10/17), Rhonda Gogal (10/19), Fr. Robert Buczak (10/20), Alyssa Duray (10/23), 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), Noah Winkler (10/31) *...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.*

October Anniversaries:

Rich & Renee Mirilovich (10/1)
Allen & Anastasia Dzambo (10/2)
Brian & Rhonda Gogal (10/5)
Chi-Wing & Deborah (Brancho) Chow (10/08)
John & Jane Gaydos (10/9)
Meredith & Ryan Blobner (10/12)
...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For Pregnant Mothers...

Carly (*due in December*), Erica (*April*)
...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...

+Anthony Joseph, the Priest (10/5)
...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.*

DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

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.



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.

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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 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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ONLINE BULLETIN BONUSES

“Man should likewise rise up with all his strength against sin and the devil, using as weapons the means indicated by the Lord, the Apostles and the holy fathers. For an Orthodox Christian, these weapons are: fasting, prayer, sobriety and humility. Without humility, nothing will be of any use, for those who are proud and sure of themselves do not receive the Lord's help, but inevitably fall into the various snares of the devil.”

+Abbot Nikon Vorobiev

Abbot Nikon Letters to Spiritual Children p.125

Stewardship of Treasure Guide

Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?

Weekly Income	Beyond a Tithe	Tithe	Upper Range Giving				Middle Range Giving				Lower Range Giving			
	15%	12%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%		
\$200	\$30	\$24	\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4	\$2		
\$300	\$45	\$36	\$30	\$27	\$24	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6	\$3		
\$400	\$60	\$48	\$40	\$36	\$32	\$28	\$24	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$8	\$4		
\$500	\$75	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$5		
\$600	\$90	\$72	\$60	\$54	\$48	\$42	\$36	\$30	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6		
\$700	\$105	\$84	\$70	\$63	\$56	\$49	\$42	\$35	\$28	\$21	\$14	\$7		
\$800	\$120	\$96	\$80	\$72	\$64	\$56	\$48	\$40	\$32	\$24	\$16	\$8		
\$900	\$135	\$108	\$90	\$81	\$72	\$63	\$54	\$45	\$36	\$27	\$18	\$9		
\$1,000	\$150	\$120	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$10		
\$1,100	\$165	\$132	\$110	\$99	\$88	\$77	\$66	\$55	\$44	\$33	\$22	\$11		
\$2,000	\$300	\$240	\$200	\$180	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$40	\$20		
\$3,000	\$450	\$360	\$300	\$270	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$150	\$120	\$90	\$60	\$30		

1. Find where YOU are on the chart (your weekly income/giving).
2. Move one block to the left to determine what GROW ONE% would be.

8 ST PORFYRIOS OF KAVSOKALYVIA TIPS FOR THE UPBRINGING OF CHILDREN

- 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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