

# 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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#### UPCOMING SERVICES

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Martyr Arethas of Arabia Parish Council Blessing

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

FEAST OF THE GREAT MARTYR DEMETRIUS 9:30 Divine Liturgy

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

21<sup>ST</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Apostles Stachys, Amplias, and Urban of the 70 9:30 Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39 (6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke)

Tone 5; Liturgical Color: Gold

Mystery of Confession – Father is available to hear Confessions after every service

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

#### VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

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

#### RELOCATION UPDATE

The Allison Park Church is has accepted the offer of \$275,000 along with our properties for theirs at 2201 Duncan Avenue, Allison Park, PA 15101

As we are progressing towards closure of both properties, we are planning *clean up* and *moving* events on the North Side as we also are updating the North Hills property for our first Liturgy. (Estimates are being received for a couple projects in the NH.) Let's work together! Remember: Many Hands Make Light Work!

Dates Leading to the Relocation - The following tentative schedule has been put together as we head towards the North Hills:

- **♣ November \*17** tentative closing date
- ₩ Nov. 18 thru Dec. 2 At various times, minor construction and painting will be done in the North Hills. Please contact Fr. Dave to be added to this Construction Committee.
- **♣ December 3** Moving Morning (non-Liturgical
- **♣ December 3-4** Vespers and Last Liturgy on the NS with Met. Gregory performing the Deconsecration
- **♣ December 5-9** Moving Week (including iconostas)
- **♣ December 10** Moving Day (Liturgical Items) [please note the corrected dates for this weekend]
- **▼ December 11** First Liturgy in the North Hills What has been talked about for over a dozen years is happening! Save the dates above. Contact Fr. Dave or Larry Martin with dates that you can help!

#### May God continue to guide our journey! +++ +++ +++

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

# 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.

# NOVEMBER SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

9:30 Divine Liturgy; Parish Council Blessing

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

FEAST OF THE GREAT MARTYR DEMETRIUS 9:30 Divine Liturgy

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

9:30am Divine Liturgy

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

9:30am Divine Liturgy

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS 9:30 Divine Liturgy

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

9:30am Moleben of Thanksgiving

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

9:30am Divine Liturgy

MONDAY, NOV. 28 NATIVITY (PHILIP'S) FAST BEGINS 9:30am Moleben for the Nativity Fast

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# BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday) +++ +++ +++

\*\*\* Gertrude Hawk Christmas Candy Sale - orders are due by TOMORROW, November 7 (and the candy will be delivered the week of **December 5**). +++ +++ +++

\*\*\* Turkey Bingo Canceled - The decision was made to cancel the Turkey Bingo this year due to lack of stewards (volunteers) to run the event and to the amount if activity that is upcoming with the move to the North Hills.

\*\*\* Congratulations! to Don Gavulich and Carley and their families on the birth of Waylon David Gavulich born on 10/31 at 10:19 pm (7 lb 2 oz and 19 in). Welcome to our Parish Family! "Preserve her and this child which she has borne. Cover her with the shelter of thy wings from this day until her final end, through the prayers of the most Holy Theotokos and of all the saints. Amen" - from Prayers for a Woman on the First Day after Childbirth

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\*\*\* Welcome to the Newly-Baptized! Natasha Kretchek was baptized and initiated into the Orthodox faith Sunday, October 23. May God give strength to her as she begins her Christian life and bless her, her parents, God-Parents, and families! Many Years!

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# Sr. ACRY NEWS: Lots-O-Luck

Calendars – The National ACRY Lots-O-Luck Calendars are available. \$25 per ticket gets you a years worth of prizes totaling \$10,000!

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\* Youth Sunday to Return - On Sunday, November 20, Youth Sunday will return and continue on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. On these Sundays, we encourage the youth to come early and greet people as they come in, light candles, hold candles, read the Creed and Lord's Prayer, and pass out the bulletins. If any adult would like to organize this during the service, please let Father know

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\* Sunday School Teachers are needed. Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested in guiding our youth. Our Sunday School program this year will be on the first and third Sundays of the month, but we need more teachers. As of now we could have as many as 20 kids in our Sunday School...

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO	GOD
Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 130
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 116
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 154
Community Outreach:	\$ 95

Total Collections: \$496 Relocation Fund: \$0

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

#### **October Financial Report:**

General Stewardship = \$ 4055.72

(includes \$ 194.72 from online stewardship)

\*Expenses = \$ 6102.54 Net Deficit = \$ 2046.82

**Relocation Fund = \$ 546** 

**Capital Improvement Fund = \$95** 

Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 33
\*details listed on the church hall bulletin board

#### **Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Report:**

(September through last month)

General Stewardship = \$ 7221.44

\*Expenses = \$ 11,754.65 Net Deficit = \$ 4533.21

\*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; Lawrence Martin; Tim Martin; Melanie Shuster; John Radick; Kathy Schrmack; Eleanor Sanger; Patty Watson; Steve Brancho; Cindy Pavilonis

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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.

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**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.

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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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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

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# MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting monetary donations for the *International Orthodox Christian Charities* (*IOCC*). This agency, that is under the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, represents Orthodox Christians in North America and understands its work to include developing in Orthodox Christians a commitment to

philanthropy and global cooperative involvement in the work of the Orthodox Church. They have a yearly campaign called a "day of giving Sunday" before Thanksgiving. Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month!

# ORTHODOXY AROUND THE 'BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

\*\*\* Akathist Service to "The Mother of God, Healer of Cancer" One of the greatest sources of spiritual help is the Theotokos, the Mother of God. An Icon of the Mother of God, the Pantanassa ("Queen of All"), has been glorified through many wonderful healings of cancer. This Akathist Service is being offered so we may together implore the Mother of God to intercede before her Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, that those afflicted with cancer may be healed, whether physically or spiritually. God heals the soul and strengthens the weakened body. All are welcome!

The Pittsburgh Clergy Brotherhood has organized this

Monday, November 7 at 6:30pm. Locations are: Holy Cross (123 Gilkeson Road, Pittsburgh), Holy Trinity (985 Providence Blvd., Pittsburgh), Ss. Peter & Paul (200 Walnut St., Carnegie), and St. Nicholas (2110 Haymaker Road, Monroeville).

\*\* **CPR/AED Class** – St. Nicholas (903 Ann Street, Homestead) will host a CPR/AED Class on Saturday, **November 19**. Class will be at 8 am or 10 am. It will be limited to a total of 15 students. The cost is \$40 per person. The deadline to register is **November 9**. Call Michele at 412-389-4594 for more info.

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\*\*\* St Nicholas Charity Dinner sponsored by the Pittsburgh Deanery to benefit our Christ the Saviour Seminary will be on Sunday, December 11 at The Wooden Nickel (4006 Berger Lane, Monroeville, PA 15146). Doors open at 4:30 pm with a Buffett Dinner at 5:00. Adults - \$35; Teens - \$25; 12 and Under - Free (make checks payable to "Pittsburgh Deanery"). If anyone (or organization) would like to "sponsor a seminarian" (or part of their family), please see Father. Our parish has been asked to bring

3 baskets (minimum \$25 value) to be raffled off at the dinner. Come meet the seminarians, enjoy the fellowship, carol sing-a-long, and a special guest! Please order your tickets by Sunday, December 4.

\* Diocesan Website - Please visit our diocesan

website: www.acrod.org as it has been totally redone! A lot of nice improvements have been added.

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\* New Seminary Project – Plans are being finalized for the expansion of the Christ the Savior Education Center to be our new Diocesan Seminary! This is really exciting and more details will be shared as they come available

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\* Music Digitization Project - The Diocesan Carpatho Rusyn Heritage Working Group (DCRHWG) is excited to announce the release of Make a Joyful Sound Unto the Lord: Selections from the Divine Services of the Orthodox Church by Christ the Savior Cathedral Choir. This album is a part of the DCRHWG's music digitization project. Please contact Maria Korchak at acrodrusyn@gmail.com if you have Carpatho Rusyn Prostopinije/Plain Chant or ACROD Choral recordings that you would like digitized and uploaded onto music streaming platforms online. Follow future digital releases from the Diocesan Carpatho Rusyn Heritage Working Group by searching "ACROD Rusyn" on Spotify. DOES ANYONE HAVE RECORDINGS OF THE NORTH SIDE CHOIR OR OF ANY SERVICES FROM YEARS PAST?

#### SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20

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<sup>16</sup> yet who know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. <sup>17</sup> But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup> But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. <sup>19</sup> For I through the law died to the law,

that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

# The Rich Man and Lazarus

<sup>19</sup> "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. 20 And at his gate lay a poor man named Laz'arus, full of sores, <sup>21</sup> who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup> The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; <sup>23</sup> and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Laz'arus in his bosom. <sup>24</sup> And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Laz'arus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Laz'arus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm [gulf] has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' 27 And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup> But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' <sup>30</sup> And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup> He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead."

#### LIVING ORTHODOXY

# Thought For The Day: WHEN TO REPENT by Anthony M. Coniaris

"Come, for all is now ready. What is ready? The banquet. When is it ready? Now! It does not say "tomorrow" or "yesterday" but "Now": "All is ready." "Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is

the day of salvation" (2Cor.6:2). Now when you have a chance: come!

"We must work the works of Him who sent Me, while it is day; night comes when no one can work," said Jesus (John 9:4).

Today is not the first day of the rest of your life. It is not just one day in your life. **Today is the only day we have to come to the Lord and to work for Him**. The only time we have control over is the present now moment. All come. Judgment will not take place at the end of time. It will take place any day, for any day is the day we may suddenly die and find ourselves before our Maker. The *Parousia* is not only at the end of time. It has already begun. It is now.

"When should I repent?" someone asked.

"On the last day of your life," his friend replied.

"But I don't know which will be the last day of my life."

"Then repent now," said his friend.

No one gets to choose how he will die. Or when. We can only decide how we are going to live now. "The present is the point at which time touches eternity," said C.S. Lewis. The whole purpose of time is to allow us to come to God, to respond to his invitation to the banquet.

#### STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

# On Stewardship and the Orthodox Life 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) 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 Martyr Aretha And With Him 4299 Martyrs

Commemorated on November 6 / October 24

The Martyr Aretha and with him 4299 Martyrs suffered for the Lord Jesus Christ in the VI Century. Aretha was governor of the city of Negran in Arabia, the inhabitants of which were Christian. The Arabian (or Omirite) king, Dunaan, who was Jewish, decided to extirpate Christianity from the land, and he issued an edict that all followers of Christ were to be put to death. The inhabitants of Negran remained faithful to the Lord, and Dunaan came with a large army to

destroy the city. At the city-walls of Negran the king's heralds announced, that Dunaan would let live only those who renounced the Crucified Galileian and His Cross, as a "sign of malediction". Not daring to assault the Christian city by force, Dunaan resorted to a ruse, swearing an oath that he would not force the Christians into Judaism, but would merely impose a tribute-tax on Negran. The inhabitants of the city would not heed the advice of Saint Aretha [his name in Greek means "virtue", as if here literally to suggest that the people "would not heed the voice of virtue"], and putting their trust in Dunaan, they opened wide the city-gates.

The very next day Dunaan gave orders to start up an immense bon-fire and throw in it all the clergy of the Church of the city, so as to frighten all the rest of the Christians. Thus were burnt 427 men. The governor Aretha and the other chief men were thrown into prison. Then the oppressor sent out through the city his messengers, to convert the Christians to Judaism. And Dunaan himself conversed with those inhabitants brought forth from the prisons, saying: "I do not demand of you that ye should renounce the God of heaven and earth, nor do I want that ve should worship idols, but I want merely that ye do not believe in Jesus Christ, since the Crucified One was a man, and not God". The holy martyrs replied to this, that Jesus - is God the Word, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, Who for the salvation of mankind had become flesh from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary. "We shalt not abjure Christ, since that He is for us – Life, and death for Him – is the finding of Life", - declared the sufferers to Dunaan. And more than four thousand Christians - men, women, both the aged and children - from the city of Negran and surrounding villages accepted a martyr's death for Christ.

#### 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 in the church. 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\* +++ +++ +++

# 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... Renee, Matthew, Emily, Thomas, David, Donna, Gregory, Joshua, 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, 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, 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. +++ +++ +++

November Namedays:

Urban Family – Holy Disciple Urban of the 70 (11/13)

Makaela Kirish - Archangel Michael (11/21) Cindy Pavilonis - Saint Cyntianus (11/28) Matthew Mirilovich - Holy Apostle & Evangelist Matthew (11/29)

... May God grant them many and blessed years! +++ +++ +++

# November Birthdays:

Fr Joseph Birthisel (11/2), Subdeacon Ryan Ferko (11/4), Jason Shelpman, Jr (11/4), Nicholas Kubis (11/6), John Sharpless (11/13), Fr. James Blomeley (11/14), Cindy Pavilonis (11/14), 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), Paňi Peggy Teklinski (11/26), Victor Zerby (11/27), Paňi Ileana Bennett (11/28), Chi-Wing Chow (11/29), Liam Kovats (11/30) ... 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! +++ +++ +++

For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Tyler, Susan ...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magadalene, & St. John Maximovitch. +++ +++ +++

For those preparing for Marriage... Francis & Alexandra, Nicole & Dustin ...through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs. +++ +++ +++

#### November Anniversaries:

Doug & Elizabeth (Radomsky) Delaney (11/1) Thomas & Harmonie Torchia (11/12) ...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas +++ ++++++

For Pregnant Mothers... Erica (due in April), Lindsay ...through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St. Irene Chrysovalantou. +++ ++++++

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...* +Steven Fucsko, Sr (11/5), +Mary Ann Kirish (11/4), +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* 

**IOCC Thanksgiving Prayer for Those in Need** 

list is **NOT** limited to only Orthodox Christians.

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.

#### **FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH**

#### The Holy Greatmartyr Demetrios Of Soluneia

Commemorated on November 8 / October 26

Tropar (*Tone 3*) The entire world has found you to be a great champion in times of peril; for you put the heathen to flight, O victorious one. As you brought to naught the boasts of Lyaeus, and gave courage to Nestor in the stadium, in the same way, O Holy Great Martyr Demetrios, entreat Christ God, that He grant us great mercy.

Kondak (*Tone 2*) God, Who has given you invincible strength, Demetrios, has adorned the Church with the royal purple of the streams of your blood, and has kept your city unharmed, for you are its support.

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

Commemorated on November 21 / 8

Tropar (*Tone 4*) Commanders of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy beseech you, by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory, and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry to you: "Deliver us from all harm, for you are the commanders of the powers on high!"

Kondak (*Tone 2*) Commanders of God's armies and ministers of the divine glory, princes of the bodiless angels and guides of mankind, ask for what is good for us, and for great mercy, supreme commanders of the Bodiless Hosts.

# **DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE MONTH**



### 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.



# ONLINE BULLETIN BONUSES

#### Give As You've Been Given

It's an election season here in the US, and the campaign ads in the mail, on the radio, and on TV are coming hot and heavy, especially as our society continues to be so polarized by the "spirit of the age." And that spirit is the delusional notion that power is what we need to get justice. The current madness in our society all circles around the lie that "the bad guys" have power" and the "good guys" need to take that power back. What makes it so very foolish

is that it is so very childish.

But that's what happens to a society that has abandoned the solid foundation of Faith centered on the very Reason we exist. When God is abandoned or, worse yet, lesser gods are worshipped, society degenerates into the chaos we see before us now.

But what if there were a way of life that invites us to a different mindset and a different motivation? What if it wasn't power we needed, but generosity? What if we lived like all of life is a gift?

Look at our lesson today in Matthew 10:1,5-8: At that time, Jesus called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity. These twelve Jesus sent out, charging them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying, give without pay."

Jesus is sending out His disciples to do what He came to do in the first place: heal broken people. And the first and best healing is always the spiritual healing of a person. To set a person on the path of spiritual health through the taming of the passions; to learning, identifying, and naming the places of brokenness, struggle, and addiction in one's life. And then seeing those spiritual illnesses healed by the sober wisdom and gentle love of the Lord Who made us for Himself.

And the message the disciples were called to declare is a message of the Kingdom of God where my life and your life are ordered and prioritized by knowing God first and all other aspects of my life placed in the proper hierarchical order based on eternal wisdom, not the chaos of selfish desires for power or vain "self-expression." That foolish trap of celebrating my spiritual illnesses as "healthy

self-expression" or "I'm just trying to be true to myself" sets me on the dead-end path towards feeding my un-disciplined passions instead of training them to be my servants. This is the purpose of the Faith; to move my life away from addictive passions and towards the sober love of embracing reality.

And what motivates this true way of life? The revelation that all of life is a gift! We received our lives without paying for them and now we give expecting no payment in return. This personal spiritual freedom from expectations is the key to your own spiritual maturity and freedom. When you can set your mind to seeing all of life as a gift, then even the challenges in life become pathways to spiritual wisdom and freedom rather than catastrophes that destroy us. And once that turn has been made in your mind, no event in life can ever enslave you again. No wonder St. Isaac said, "This life has been given to you for repentance; do not waste it on vain pursuits."

This is the very heart of why we remember Sts Cosmas and Damian today in the Church (Old Calendar December 13). Their godly mother, St. Theodota, raised her sons to be very well-educated men, especially in the science of medicine of the day. And Sts. Cosmas and Damian went about their healing work expecting no pay for their medical services. These two brothers from Asia Minor, possibly twins, spent their lives serving others and healing diseases around the Roman province of Syria and left their support and livelihood up to God's grace. Their ministry in the 3rd century drew many to the Christian faith and they died peacefully and at rest.

Today, your thoughts will determine your life. Are you able to humbly accept the healing wisdom of the Church in the broken places in your life? Do you even know where those broken places are? Embrace the life of Orthodox living and watch as your thoughts become disciplined, and your desires become servants to you and all of life becomes a gift when you are finally

#### Orthodox on Purpose!

By Fr. Barnabas Powell \* November 01, 2022 \* Faith Encouraged Blog

Stewardship of Treasure Guide												
Week	Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?											
Weekly	eekly Beyond a Tithe   Tithe   Upper Range Givin				Giving	Middle Range Giving			Lower Range Giving			
Income	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
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