

“THE VOICE” *Our Periodic Parish 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)”



CHRIST IS RISEN!

*Christ is Risen From The Dead, Trampling
Down Death By Death and To Those In The
Tombs Bestowing Life!*

INDEED HE IS RISEN!

FEAST OF FEASTS!

APRIL 20th

NO FASTING!



BRIGHT WEEK

HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

Greet everyone with
“CHRIST IS RISEN!”
& say it before

good morning and goodnight!

UPCOMING SERVICES

BRIGHT WEEK: A FAST FREE Week! Let us Imitate
Christ & the Saints and Feast (*in moderation*)!

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***There is no kneeling in prayer for 50 days
(until Pentecost) and omit the prayer***

“O Heavenly King” as we anticipate the Holy Spirit

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MONDAY, APRIL 21 #BRIGHTWEEK

9:30 am Paschal Liturgy with Gospel Procession

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23 #BRIGHTWEEK

6:00 pm Akathist to the Holy Resurrection of Christ

6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting (*All are welcome
to come and listen to the discussions at the meeting*)

FRIDAY, APRIL 25 #BRIGHTWEEK

9:30 am Paschal Divine Liturgy

11:00 am Bacon Breakfast (*See Father Dave*)

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SUNDAY, APRIL 27 #THOMASUNDAY

9:15 am Paschal Canon; 9:30 pm Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20; Gospel: John 20:19-31

Liturgical Color: **White**

Breaking of the Artos

Monthly Memorial Panachida

12:00 pm Blessing of Graves

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SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

1 In the first book, O The-oph’ilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. ⁴And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me, ⁵for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

The Ascension of Jesus

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samar’ia and to the end of the earth.”

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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; Readers: Kris Carlisle, Nicholas Ditmore, & Timothy Martin 412-748-0148, *Talk or Text*

Stephen Brancho, Subdeacon Ryan Ferko, & John Radick, *Cantors*

Lawrence Martin, *Parish Council President*

www.facebook.com/pg/St-John-the-Baptist-Orthodox-Church-Allison-Park

2201 Duncan Avenue, Allison Park, Pa 15101

www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.com

OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com

Instagram: SJB_Orthodox_Pittsburgh

Twitter: @SJB_OrthodoxPGH

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

Christ is risen! (*responded with: **Indeed He is risen!***) Christos voskrese! (*Voistinu voskrese!*)

We are happy that you have joined us today! It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning.

We wish God’s Blessings to all who are with us today and hope you come again soon!

Please see Fr. Dave if you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy.

PASCHAL GREETING:

(*use instead of ‘hello’, before ‘good morning’, etc.*)

Christ is risen!

(*responded with: **Indeed He is risen!***)

Gospel: John 1:1-17

The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God; ³all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

⁹The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not.

¹¹He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. ¹⁵(John bore witness to him, and cried, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.’”) ¹⁶And from his fulness have we all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

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Paschal Greeting in Church Slavonic:

Christos voskrese! (*Voistinu voskrese!*)

*If greeted in a language you are unfamiliar with,
translate, respond in English, then learn the response*

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

www.acrod.org/directories/cathedral/live/

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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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***Mystery of Confession** – Father is available to hear Confessions after every service or by appointment.

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** **Paschal Notes** – The prayer to the Holy Spirit, “O Heavenly King”, is **not said** at home or in church during this season until the Feast of the Decent of the Holy Spirit: Pentecost. Instead we say or sing the Paschal Tropar, “Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down...” (*three times*) until the Feast of Ascension. For 40 days from Pascha (Easter) until Ascension, we greet each other by saying, “Christ is risen!” and respond with “Indeed, He is risen!”. (*Some translations use “Truly, He is risen!”*.) We can also adjust our before and after meal prayers. During the 50 days from Pascha to Pentecost, we **do not kneel or make prostrations** in church in keeping with the joyful and festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost that Sunday evening.

**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING
DOWN DEATH BY DEATH AND UPON THOSE IN
THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE!**

*** **Bacon Breakfast** – What is the Bacon Breakfast listed on Bright Friday? Last year after the Friday Paschal Liturgy, all those in attendance went out for breakfast to a diner. Being Friday of Bright Week – there was no fasting, so we jokingly called it the Bright Friday Bacon Breakfast. Come join us this year as we start a fun tradition!

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*** **UPDATED Faith Night with Mp. Gregory** - Faith Night at PNC Park will be on **Saturday, May 10** as the Pittsburgh Pirates play the Atlanta Braves at 4:05pm. Plan to stay after the game to hear how faith is important to the players and coach of the Pittsburgh Pirates. This year, Metropolitan Gregory will be joining us at the ballpark! (**Also on Sunday, May 11 for our first Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in Allison Park**). We only have 50 seats reserved in Section 322 (*rows U,V,W,X*) at \$20 per seat (this includes a \$1 donation to the Capital Improvement Fund). All Tickets Must Be Prepaid and it is 1st come - 1st serve. Reservations and payments need to be made to Cindy Pavilonis no later than **April 30**. (Get your tickets today! We will be extending this to other parishes soon!) Let’s go BUCS!

PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Dear Fellow Parishioners,
Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*

It is truly a blessing to see our parish growing as we celebrate Pascha with the sound of our children filling our church with song and activities. May the hope and joy of our Risen Christ fill your heart as you continue your spiritual journey with your parish family.

Wishing you Many Years and a Blessed Pascha!
Larry Martin, *SJB Parish Council President*

*** **THANK YOU** to everyone who brought something in for our Pot-Luck Paschal Meal or helped in anyway preparing over the past few weeks for the Feast of Feasts!

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** **Blessing of Graves** – Our annual grave blessings at the N.S. cemeteries will be on **April 27**. We will celebrate a Panachida after Liturgy and then head to the North Side after the coffee social. *** *If your loved ones are not at one of the two cemeteries on the North Side, please schedule a time with Fr. Dave to meet (if possible) before the Feast of Ascension.*

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*** **Clergy Convocation** - Fr. Dave will be at Camp Nazareth from **Monday thru Thursday, April 28 – May 1** for our Diocesan Clergy Convocation. In case of a pastoral emergency, since cell reception is poor at the camp, either call the camp (724-662-4840), Fr. John Touloumes (412-366-8700), or Fr. John Mikita (412-366-4647). For general questions, please call and leave Fr Dave a voicemail, text, or email.

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*** **Calling All Graduates** – Please notify Fr. Dave of your graduation information by **May 11**. Graduate Sunday will be at the end of May or early June High School Students: *your High School, any academic and/or athletic awards, and where you will attend in the Fall with your intended major in college (or undecided at this time).* Trade School, College, Graduate and Post-Graduate Students: *where you went, your field of study, and degree you will earn.*

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Paschal Greeting in Greek:
Khristós anésti! (*Alithós anésti!*)

** **Congratulations!** to Mallory and Jonathan Knoll who were blessed with the birth of Levi Edward on March 8 (7lb 9oz 20 ¼”). Many Years!

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* **Welcome to the Newly-Baptized! Patrick Dean Wertz** was baptized and initiated into the Orthodox faith. May God give strength to him as he begins his Christian life and bless him, his parents, God-Parents, and families! Many Years!

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* **Congratulations!** to Lindsay & AJ and their families on the birth of **Avalise Marie Matolyak-Ferraz** born on March 26, 2025 (7 lb 6 oz). Welcome to our Parish Family! Many Years!

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*** **Annual Church Picnic** – “The Cabin” in North Park is booked for **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025** for our end of summer picnic. **Please Save The Date!**

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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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Paschal Greeting in Romanian:
Hristos a înviat! (*Adevărat a înviat!*)

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“Code” for reading the bulletin:
*** = new news ** = 2nd time in the bulletin
* = at least the 3rd time in the bulletin

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ACRY PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*

On behalf of Chapter 42 of the National ACRY, I would like to wish all of you a blessed Pascha! After working to grow closer in Christ during the Lenten season, may you all rejoice and celebrate with both family and friends alike. I look forward to seeing everyone at Liturgy on this Feast of Feasts. As always, the mission of the ACRY at St. John the Baptist continues to focus on fellowship and outreach both within the parish as well as the local community.

Yours in the Risen Lord,
Sub-Deacon Ryan Ferko, *Sr. ACRY President*

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ACRY NEWS

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*** **Sr. ACRY Meeting** – The next ACRY meeting will be scheduled soon! In the meantime, please contact Subdeacon Ryan Ferko with any questions about the organization.

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*** **Restarting the Jr. ACRY** – Are you (or your child) between the ages of 8 and 18? Let’s restart our Jr. ACRY! This year’s Annual Convention will be hosted by Homestead and will be held at Seven Spring on Labor Day Weekend. Please see Nick Ditmore, Reader, or Subdeacon Ryan Ferko if you (or your child) are interested in being a part of the Jr. ACRY. Let’s have some representation at this year’s convention!

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*** **LAST CALL for the Collection Project** - It's about that time for spring cleaning! If you have any **books, DVDs, or puzzles** that you can pass on, our Sr. ACRY is collecting them to bring to low income assisted living facilities in the area. (*A bin is in the vestibule.*) We want to freshen up their activity areas, and it will freshen up your home space at the same time - win, win! Thank you so much for your donations!

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AND Looking FURTHER Ahead...

Some 2025 dates of interest at St. John's:

- **April 20** – Pascha, the Feast of Feasts
- **April 20-26** – Fast Free Week
- **April 27** – Cemetery Grave Blessings
- **May 6** – Feast of St. George
- **May 14** – Feast of Mid-Pentecost
- **May 29** – Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord
- **May/Jun. ???** – Graduate Sunday
- **May 30-Jun. 1** – Family Camp at Camp Nazareth
- **Jun. 1** – Family Day at CN
- Jun. 7 – 3rd Finding of the Head of St. John
- **Jun. 7** – 5th All Soul's Saturday
- **Jun. 8** – Feast of Pentecost
- **Jun. 8-14** – Fast Free Week
- **Jul. 16** – Apostles' Fast begins
- Jul. 7 – Feast of the Nativity of St John
- Jul. 12 – Feast of Saints Peter and Paul
- **July 20-26** – Pgh Deanery Camping Week at CN
- Aug. 2 – Feast of the Holy Prophet Elias
- **Aug. 3** – Blessing of Chariots
- **Aug. 10** – Blessing of Students and Teachers
- **Aug. 10-13** - Science & Nature Camp (age 8-18) at CN
- Aug. 14 – Dormition Fast Begins, Lesser Blessing of Water, and Home Blessings Begin
- Aug. 19 – Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Blessing of Fruit and Vegetables
- **Aug. 24** – Blessing of Fruit and Vegetables
- Aug. 28 – Feast of the Dormition and Blessing of Flowers and Herbs
- **Aug. 31** – Blessing of Flowers and Herbs
- **Sep. 7** – Parish Picnic at "The Cabin"

Please, Save the Dates!

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**ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH
AND OUR DIOCESE**

**** Bright Bites** – Join the Pittsburgh IOCC for a night of fellowship and celebration of Pascha around the world with Greek, Italian, and Middle Eastern hors d'oeuvres, as well as red and white wines, for *Bright Bites: Food & Fellowship* on **Sunday, April 27** from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at Stamoolis Brothers (2020 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Tickets are \$35. RSVP by April 22 to Alexis Cross at 412-780-2790 or azkcross@hotmail.com (walk in guests are also welcome).

**** Pittsburgh Marathon - Walk or Run with Team IOCC** - Help change lives around the world! Join us on **Saturday, May 3** at the Pittsburgh Marathon Weekend. Choose a Race as a Solo Participant or Form Your Own Team! (5K, 4-Mile Fitness Challenge, Kids Marathon, Pet Walk, Toddler Trot, Champions Mile) Sign up now at ioccc.org/pgh. Questions? Contact Dean Stambolis at DeanStambolis@verizon.net or 412.874.9572.

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*** Make plans to go to Camp Nazareth in 2025!**

- ✦ May 2-4 - Sts. Joachim & Anna Seniors Retreat (age 55 and over)
- ✦ May 30 - June 1 - Family Camp
- ✦ June 1 - Family Day
- ✦ July 20-26 - Pgh Deanery Camping Week
- ✦ Aug 10-13 - Science & Nature Camp (ages 8-18)
- ✦ October 10-12 – CN Alumni Weekend
- ✦ Oct 31-Nov 2 - Young Adult Retreat (ages 18-35)
- ✦ November 7-9 - Fall Encounter (ages 8-18)

*Please, Save the Dates and head to
339 Pew Road, Mercer, PA 16137*

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***** 2025 Sts. Joachim and Anna "Senior" Retreat**
Our Diocese is pleased to announce its sixth annual Sts. Joachim and Anna "Senior" Retreat which will take place at Camp Nazareth Retreat and Conference Center in Mercer, PA from **May 2-4**. The Retreat will feature keynote addresses by Very Rev. Nicholas Ferencz. [[Fr. Nik's biography here](#)] His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory is inviting all our Diocesan "Seniors", ages 55 and over, to join him for fellowship, prayer, and fun. The Theme of the Retreat – **Matthew 22: The BIG Questions We should ALL want to Talk about and Answer!** The schedule will include worship, fellowship, learning, fun, time for reflection and relaxation, time spent with our Diocesan Hierarchy, and great activities! Online Registration is now open through **Friday, April 25**. Visit 2025SeniorRetreat.org to register for the event this week. Visit campnazareth.org for more information. You may also call (724-662-4840) or email the Camp at campnazareth@acrod.org for more information.

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*Paschal Greeting in Italian:
Cristo è risorto! (È veramente risorto!)*

***** Camp Nazareth Family Camp 2025: Friday, May 30 – Sunday, June 1** Our Diocese is pleased to announce its 11th annual Family Camp at Camp Nazareth in conjunction with Family Day. The event is exactly what it sounds like. Families "camping" together in the Camp cabins and participating in a weekend of services, games, discussions, activities and challenges that are all designed to help families deepen their relationship with God and with one another. This year's theme – *The "Puzzle" that is Your Family... Discovering why God has put us Together!* Our families were given by God. He has joined the "pieces" of our family's "puzzle" together. Come discover what all the "pieces" mean to your family and what they mean to a world in need of your family! The schedule includes time to pray together, have fun together, relax together and learn together. In addition, kids and parents will also have their own activities and discussions separate from one another as well. This year's Keynote Speaker for the adults is Rev. Timothy Paproski, our parish priest at St. Nicholas Church in Warren, OH. This year's leader for the kids is Pani Hailey Paproski. We are excited to have both of them as part of this year's Family Camp! Each year we have a wonderful time together! Come, be a part of it! Don't miss out on this opportunity for you and your family in the beautiful environment of the Camp! Space is limited, so be sure to register soon! Online Registration is NOW OPEN! Visit the following link to register: [2025 Family Camp](http://2025FamilyCamp.org). Visit campnazareth.org for more information.

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*** Registration is Open!** You can now register your child (aged 8-18) for Camp Nazareth this summer. Don't delay! Early Bird special runs until May 1. If financial assistance is needed, please let Fr. Dave know. Let's get our kids to camp! If you have any questions – please see Nick Ditmore or Fr. Dave.

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VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE
Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org
Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org
FB: www.facebook.com/acroddioocese
Twitter: twitter.com/acroddnews
YouTube: youtube.com/acroddioocese

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET



TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES

***** STEWARD**, translated from the Greek word *oikonomos*, means a caretaker, a faithful manager of all of God's gifts. As Stewards, each of us are called upon to respond to God's gifts through offering our gifts of time, talent and treasure. This is our form of supporting our parish and it leaves us with the question, "How will I respond to God's gifts this year?" Our gifts represent who we are and how we care about God and His Church. How can we live with the framework of being a caretaker of the blessings God gives us?

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

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***** Grass Maintenance** – Please contact Fr. Dave if you are interested in being a part of a rotation of folks who will maintain the grass throughout the summer.

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***** Third Hour** – Prior to upcoming Liturgies, we will be chanting the Paschal Canon. After Ascension, we will return to chanting (or reading) the Third Hour (starting at about 9:15). If you would like to be in the rotation for this, please let Fr. Dave know.

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***** Ride Share** – We have received a couple requests from people who are interested in getting a ride to the church. Please contact Fr. Dave or Larry if you would be willing to bring someone to the church.

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COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

Please sign up by the kitchen or by contacting Fr. Dave
April 27: _____?
May 4: _____?
May 11: _____ Sr ACRY

***** Did you know...** we have about 30 active families at SJB. If each family committed to one Sunday a year for the coffee social – that takes care of more than half the year! Please consider signing up in advance to host the coffee social (*you are more than welcome to combine with someone else if you wish!*)

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*Paschal Greeting in Spanish:
¡Cristo ha resucitado!
(¡En verdad ha resucitado!)*

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CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:

✘ *** **The Big Dig: French Drain and Regrading of our side and back property** – Our next big endeavor is preventing future water from coming into the church. Beginning in May, a French Drain will be added along the front of the church. Also, the side grass area and the “courtyard” in the back will be regraded to prevent water from seeping in through the block. The Capital Improvement Project will cost about \$35,000. Any donation towards this will be greatly appreciated as we try and stay above water!

✘ * **Multi-Purpose Room Update** – The latest inside room to be updated is the Multi-Purpose Room. It is now prepared and ready to hold a meeting, Church School class, have music lessons, hold our Lending Library and Gift-shop, or play Ping-Pong.

✘ * **Church Proper** – Not much has changed in the nave of the church. Most focus of late has been on electrical upgrades, the kitchen, and the hall. *The building committee and Parish Council continue to discuss our plan of action going forward with work in the church proper. Please be patient with us! Also, remember that for a project like the one that we are undertaking, work goes top down so the ceiling and walls will be done before the floor. As mentioned, please be patient with us!*

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Glory to God for All Things!

Through your generosity and dedication, all of this is coming together – one thing at a time! **Thank you!** Many stewards keep coming to the church and working very hard to make improvements. May God grant you many years!




Joining the ACRY – If you would like to become a part of our philanthropic organization of the ACRY (*American Carpatho-Russian Youth*), which is open to all ages, please contact Subdeacon Ryan Ferko.

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Why Should I Join the Local ACRY?

The ACRY is an Orthodox Christian family fellowship dedicated to the purpose of encouraging spiritual growth through charitable and apostolic missionary works, prayer and fellowship for the Glory of God and the building up of the Church and our Diocese. The local ACRY focuses on outreach to the community in various forms and fellowship within. This could be a fundraiser or family event at the church grounds to introduce people to our parish, or the volunteering of our time to help support a community event. In addition to these, the ACRY has the opportunity to branch out and meet other members of our diocesan ACRY community through deanery and nation events and partake in outreach at a broader level.

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*  **New Food Ministry at Church** – *Contact Fr. Dave if you would like to lead this stewardship opportunity.* When someone in our community cannot get to the grocery store or make their own meals (after a major surgery, a new baby, or for any other reason is in need), this program will help allow us to help them! Here is an example: *Someone has a major surgery and will not be able to cook for themselves for 2 weeks. They notify Fr. Dave of this and he sets up an account for them on this website. Someone else from the parish decides to make a big pot of soup and freeze some for the one in need. They can then either deliver the food to their house or bring it to the church on Sunday and someone else will deliver it that week.* The idea is this: that through our stewardship we will help each other out when we are able to! Please visit: www.MealTrain.com to learn more about it. Here are some basic terms from their website:

- ✦ **Meal Train:** Organized meal giving around a significant life event. One meal from one person per day.
- ✦ **Organizer:** The person who sets up the meal train.
- ✦ **Recipient:** Those who will receive the meals.
- ✦ **Participant/Giver:** The person who will make and take a meal.

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings: \$ 620
Candle Stewardship: \$ 108
Envelope Stewardship: \$ 1278

Total Collections: \$ 2016
Capital Improvement Fund: \$ 190

Participating Souls at Sunday Liturgy: 68
Sunday Matins: 6
Monday Matins: 6
Tuesday Matins: 12
Wednesday Mystery of Holy Anointing: 27
Thursday Vespereal Liturgy: 6
Thursday Matins: 16
Friday Royal Hours: 6
Friday Burial Vespers: 42
Saturday Vespereal Liturgy: 7

Weekly Candle Intentions or Memorials were offered last week by the Nelson Family; Lawrence Martin; Tim Martin; Stacy Dzambo; Fred and Juliana Anton; Rich and Renee Mirilovich ; Cindy Pavidonis

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The **Eternal Lamp** was offered last week by Cindy Pavidonis in memory of +Joseph P. Huron; and by Matthew Peifer IMO his parents. May Their Memory Be Eternal! Christ is risen!

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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. *Remember, sponsoring a bulletin in memory of someone does not replace having a Panachida (Memorial Service) for them.*

Giving at the Church – The opportunities to give your stewardship treasures at SJB are:

- ✘ hand your offering to the curator who sits at the desk in the vestibule (to the right after you enter),
- ✘ drop your offering in one of multiple baskets around the church, or
- ✘ place your offering in the box in the candle stand after saying your prayers when lighting 2 candles.

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*Paschal Greeting in Swahili:
Kristo amefufukka! (Kweli amefufukka!)*

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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 (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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Stewardship of Treasure Guide													
Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?													
Weekly Income	Beyond a Tithe 15%	Tithe 12%	Tithe 10%	Upper Range Giving 9%	8%	7%	Middle Range Giving 6%	5%	4%	Lower Range Giving 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.

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2024-25 SJB PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Lawrence Martin
Vice-President: Elizabeth Radomsky
Treasurer: Timothy Martin, Reader
Financial Secretary: Rich Mirilovich
Recording Secretary: Gina Fall
Chief Auditor: Robert Fall
Auditors: Subdeacon Ryan Ferko,
John Kirish, Kimberly Opsitos,
Matthew Opsitos, and Kathy Schrmack

+++ +++ +++

*Paschal Greeting in Arabic:
El Messieh kahm! (Hakken kahm!)*

+++ +++ +++

SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Father is available to meet Monday thru Friday from 8:30am to 3:30pm 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 prepared or not of the Orthodox Faith may receive a blessing from the chalice.

How to receive - Please remember the following helpful hints aimed at helping to preserve the solemnity and safety of the Holy Mystery. Anyone wearing lipstick should remove it before receiving. Be sure to offer your baptismal name to the priest before receiving. Please take great care that the red cloth held by the acolytes (servers) is fully under your chin (you should not hold it), then use the centuries-old practice of receiving: please fully open your mouth, tilt your head back, receive the Holy Gifts, wait until They are securely in your mouth and so that none of the holy and precious Body and Blood of Christ is accidentally spilled. Thank you for your cooperation, and may God have mercy on us all!

Lapsed Members – You are always welcome home and we want you to come back! Generally speaking, sincere and regular participation in the Sunday Divine Liturgy and in the Mysteries of Confession and Communion 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 the 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.

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

The Jesus Prayer

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

(Repeat until your heart is calm...)

SPIRITUAL VITAMIN

“He says: I was dead, and behold, I am alive for, evermore, amen; and you also will be alive forever. This is the meaning of the words of Him Who arose: I am the first and the last; I am He that lives and was dead for you, for your redemption from death, and I; that is: I conquered your death by My innocent death for your sake, and behold, I am also forever and will sit with My Father on His throne; I was not separated from Him, even though I was on earth accomplishing My great work for you who are subject to sin and death.

Therefore, do you also, My followers, work and struggle against sin and do righteous deeds, and where I am, there shall My servant be also—that is, in the eternal Kingdom.” +St. John of Kronstadt, Homily on Pascha

Paschal Greeting in Gaelic:
Taw creest ereen! (Taw shay ereen guhdyne!)

PRAYER CORNER

PASCHAL COMMEMORATIONS

Processional Candles (At Vespers & Matins):
For The Health of Jeannette
Censer (Kadilo) Incense:
For Safe Travels For The Real Break Group
Censer (Kadilo) Charcoal:
In Memory Of The Departed From St. John’s
Graveside Candles:
IMO +Stephen & +Anastasia Gaydos & Family
Vesperal Litiya Loaves:
IMO +Viola Peifer
Vesperal Litiya Wheat:
IMO +Eleanor Sanger
Vesperal Litiya Wine:
IMO +Peter & +Katherine Silon
Priest’s Paschal Candle:
IMO Departed Family Ancestors
Prosphoran (Eucharistic Bread):
IMO +John & +Catherine Gaydos
Pascha Bulletin:
For The Health Of The Gaydos Family

2 Altar Vigil Candles:
IMO Departed From The Hudak Family
2 Tetrapod Candles:
For The Health Of The Hudak Family
Altar Flowers:
For The Health Of The Mirilovich Family
Tetrapod Flowers:
For The Health Of Our Parish Family
+++ +++ +++

Special Intentions – Did you ever wonder for what reasons would a person’s name go under “For the Special Intentions of...” on our Prayer Page? A special intention request is very diversified! It could be when one is under extreme job stress, struggling with spiritual issues, infertility, dealing with the loss of a loved one... the list goes on. As with the other lists on our page, one does not have to be Orthodox to be added.

Prayer requests – During the Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy, prayers are said for the sick and those celebrating special occasions listed in the bulletin. If silent prayers are requested, they will be offered quietly at the Altar at all services. All those listed in the “Prayer Corner” are prayed for during the Proskomedia (Preparation of the Bread and Wine for Communion). Prayer requests will remain for (about) 40 days unless requested otherwise. Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (in the case of answered prayers) to our prayer list.

Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions *
+++ +++ +++
A Prayer For The Sick: O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant(s) 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.

+++ +++ +++
For the Health of... Annette, Mark, Michelle, Megan, Lindsay, Christine, Brian, Rhonda, Patrick, Melanie, Carlene, Jason, Bella, Daniel, David, Barbara, Paul, Robert, Kelly, Juliana, Fredrick, and Michael ...through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer

For the Special Intentions of...
His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. Stephen B., Fr. Thomas B., Protodeacon Gregory B., Stephanie B, Kevin, Michael L., Laura & family, Carlene, Georgia, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin, David, Donna, George, *our diocesan seminarians:* Joshua H, Dcn Peter S, Nicolas W., Alexander H., *and our Parish Council and Curators:* Lawrence, Subdeacon Ryan, Timothy, Rich, Elizabeth, Robert, Gina, John, Mary Jane, Katherine, Kenneth 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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**** Nameday, Birthday, and Anniversary Prayer List is being reset*** – *Our parish prayer list of key dates and special occasions in our lives were reset back on 3/1/24. If one of your special days is missing – please let Fr Dave know ASAP. See Fr. Dave with any questions.*

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April Namedays:
Bonnie Carlisle – St. Mary of Egypt
Pañi’s brother Florin Popescu and *Pañi’s mother* Liliana Popescu – Palm (Flowery) Sunday
Subdeacon Ryan Ferko – St. Thomas Sunday
Thomas Lorenzi – St. Thomas Sunday
...May God grant them many and blessed years!
+++ ++ +
April Birthdays:
Sonia Kretchek (4/1), Tristan Bowser (4/5), Bryce Blobner (4/10), Rich Mirilovich (4/13), Kris Carlisle, Reader (4/14), Melanie Paieski (4/14), *Father’s Uncle* Dan Urban (4/15), *Father’s Father* Dave Urban (4/15), John Kirish (4/18), *Father’s Brother-In-Law* Christopher Ditmore (4/19), Dr. Lawrence Martin (4/20), Max Anton (4/22), Donald J. Gavulich (4/23/19), Fred Anton (4/24), Fr Peter Paproski (4/24), Donna Tongel (4/24), Fr Jonathan Bannon (4/29), Maryhelen Hoffman (4/29), Sharon Peifer (4/29) *...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...
Raymond, Kathryn, Maxwell, Barbara, Tyler *...through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.*
+++ ++ +
For those preparing for Marriage... Nicholas & Cassie, Allison & Michael *...through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*
+++ ++ +
April Anniversaries:
...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas
+++ ++ +
For Pregnant Mothers...
Lindsay (*due in June*), Caitlin (*August*) *...through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Theotokos, and St. Irene Chrysovalantou.*
+++ ++ +
For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadovsky *...through the prayers of St George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*
+++ ++ +
For the souls of the newly departed...

+Cheryl Marcy (4/20), +Thomas Jackson (4/17), +Joseph P. Huron (4/12), +Pani Donna Smoley (4/11), +Kenneth Parks (3/31), +Peter Mercurio (3/28), +Dn. Robert Conjelko (3/26), +Janet Riding (3/19), +Gary Fall (3/14)
...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God’s Memory!
+++ ++ +
* 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.*
+++ ++ +

Paschal Greeting in French:
Le Christ est ressuscité!
(*En verite il est ressuscité!*)

DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS FOR BRIGHT WEEK

The Paschal Hours is sung for all the Hours, Compline, Midnight Office, Prayers after Communion, and Private Devotions (*Morning and Evening Prayers*) for all of Bright (*Renewal*) Week. (It is also sung on the leave-taking of Pascha, the eve of Ascension)
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PASCHAL HOURS *When said privately at home*
Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us. Amen.
Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs bestowing life. (*3 times*)

The Resurrection Prayer (Kievan Tone 6 samohlasen)
Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, * let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, * the only sinless one. * We venerate your Cross, O Christ, * and we praise and glorify your holy Resurrection, * for You are our God, * and we know no other than You: * we call on your Name. * Come, all you faithful, * let us venerate Christ's holy Resurrection. * For behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. * Let us ever bless the Lord, * praising his Resurrection, * for by enduring the Cross for us, *** He has destroyed death by death. (*3 times*)
Hypakoe (Ipakoje) of Pascha (Tone 4 Samopodoben)
Before the dawn Mary came with the women * and found the stone rolled away from the tomb.* And they heard from the angel: * “He abides in life everlasting. * Why seek Him among the dead as if He were a man? * Behold the burial shroud! * Go and proclaim to the world: * ‘That the Lord is risen and has conquered death.’ * For He is the Son of God, *** and He is the Savior of mankind!”

Kondak of Pascha (Tone 8)
You descended into the grave, O Immortal One; * yet You destroyed the power of death. * As Conqueror, You arose, O Christ God, * saying to the myrrh-bearing women: "Rejoice," * granting peace to your apostles *** and offering resurrection to the fallen.

Tropar of the Paschal Office (Tone 8)
When your Body was in the tomb and your Soul was in hell, * when You were in paradise with the thief, * You were at the same time, O Christ, as God upon your throne *** with the Father and the Spirit, infinite and filling all things. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

O Christ, your tomb, the fount of our resurrection * is indeed a giver of life more splendid than Paradise *** and more radiant than any royal chamber.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Hail, holy and divine dwelling of the Most High, * for through you, O Theotokos, * joy has been given to those who cry out: *** “Blessed are you among women, O Lady most pure!”

Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, always now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
O shine, O shine, O new Jerusalem: * for the Glory of the Lord is risen upon you. * O Zion, sing with joy and rejoice. * And you, pure Mother of God, *** rejoice in the Resurrection of your Son.

Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*) O Lord, bless us!
Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

[When the Paschal Hours is said in place of Compline or Evening Prayers, we insert the following Prayer of St. Basil the Great prior to the last “Christ is risen”
Blessed are you Lord, Master almighty, who made the day light with the light of the sun and the night radiant with the rays of fire; who have granted us to pass through the length of the day and to draw near the beginnings of the night. Hear our supplication and that of all your people. And pardoning all of us our offences, voluntary and involuntary, accept our evening entreaties and send down the multitude of your rich mercy and acts of compassion on your inheritance. Wall us about with your holy Angels; arm us with the arms of justice; fence us with the rampart of your truth; guard us by your power; deliver us from every misfortune and from every trick of the adversary. Grant us also that both the present day with the coming night and all the days of our life may be perfect, holy, peaceful, sinless, without stumbling, without dreams, through the intercessions of the All-holy Theotokos and of all the Saints who have been well-pleasing to you since time began. For Yours it is to have mercy on us and to save us, O our God, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.]

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs bestowing life. (*3 times*)

ONLINE BONUSES

PATRIARCHAL ENCYCLICAL FOR HOLY PASCHA
+ BARTHOLOMEW
By God’s Mercy
Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and
Ecumenical Patriarch
To the Plenitude of the Church:
May the Grace, Peace and Mercy of Christ Risen in
Glory be with you All

Most honorable brother Hierarchs,
Dearly beloved children,
By God’s mercy and strength, we have journeyed through prayer and fasting across the ocean of Holy and Great Lent, finally reaching the splendid feast of Pascha, and we praise the Lord of glory, who descended to the depths of Hades and “achieved the entrance for all to Paradise” through His raising from the dead. The Resurrection is not the remembrance of an event from the past, but the “good change” of our existence, “another birth, an alternate life, a different kind of living, the transformation of our very being.”[1] And in the Risen Christ, the entire creation is renewed together with humanity. When we chant in the 3rd Ode of the Paschal Canon, that “Now everything is filled with light—heaven, earth, and all things beneath the earth; therefore, let all creation celebrate the resurrection of Christ, in which everything has been established,” we proclaim that the universe is founded on and filled with unfading light. The phrases “before Christ” and “after Christ” ring true not only for the history of the human race, but also for the sake of all creation. The Lord’s raising from the dead constitutes the nucleus of the Gospel, the stable point of reference for all the books of the New Testament, as well as for the liturgical life and devotion of the Orthodox Christians. Indeed, the words “Christ is Risen!” summarize the theology of the Church. The experience of the abolition of the dominion of death is a source of ineffable joy, “free from the bonds of this world.” “All things are filled with joy upon receiving the taste of resurrection.” The resurrection is an explosion “of great joy” and permeates the entire life, ethos and pastoral ministry of the church as the foretaste of the fullness of life, knowledge and life of the eternal kingdom of the Father,

Son, and Holy Spirit. Orthodox faith and pessimism are contradictory phenomena. Pascha is for us a feast of freedom and victory over alienating forces; it is the churchification of our existence, an invitation to collaborate for the transfiguration of the world. The history of the Church is rendered “a great Pascha” as the journey toward “the liberation in glory of the children of God” (Rom. 8.21). The experience of resurrection reveals the center and eschatological dimension of freedom in Christ. Biblical references to the Savior’s resurrection demonstrate the power of our freedom as believers; it is in this freedom alone that the “great miracle” is manifested, which remains inaccessible to every oppression. “The mystery of salvation belongs to those who desire it freely, not to those who are tyrannized against their will.”[2] Accepting the divine gift as a “transition” of the believer toward Christ is the voluntary existential response to the loving and saving “transition” of the Risen Lord toward humankind. For “without me, you cannot do anything” (Jn 15.5). The mystery of the Lord’s resurrection to this day continues to shatter the positivistic certainties of those who deny God as “the denial of human will,” as well as the advocates of “the fallacy of self-fulfillment without God” and the admirers of the contemporary “man-god.” The future does not belong to those imprisoned in a self-sufficient, stifling and narrow earthly existence. There is no authentic freedom without resurrection, without the perspective of eternity. For the Holy Great Church of Christ, one source of such resurrectional joy is also found this year in the common celebration of Easter by the entire Christian world, along with the commemoration of the 1700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea, which condemned the heresy of Arius, who “diminished within the Trinity the one Son and Word of God,” and which established the way of calculating the date for the feast of our Savior’s resurrection. The Council of Nicaea inaugurates a new age in the conciliar history of the Church, the transition from the local to the ecumenical synodal level. As we know, the First Ecumenical Council introduced the non-biblical term “homousios (of one essence)” to the Symbol of Faith, albeit with a clear soteriological reference, which remains the essential characteristic of church doctrines.

In this sense, the celebrations of this great anniversary are not a return to the past, inasmuch as the “spirit of Nicaea” exists unspoiled in the life of the Church, whose unity is associated with the correct understanding and development of its conciliar identity. Discussion on the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea reminds us of the common Christian archetypes and the meaning behind the struggle against the perversion of our spotless faith, encouraging us to turn toward the depth and essence of Church tradition. The joint celebration this year of the “most holy day of Pascha” highlights the timeliness of the subject, the solution of which not only expresses the respect of Christianity for the decrees of the Council of Nicaea, but also the awareness that “there should be no differentiation in such sacred matters.” With these sentiments, filled with the light and joy of the Resurrection, while proclaiming “Christ is Risen!” with jubilation, let us honor the chosen and holy day of Pascha with a heartfelt confession of our faith in the Redeemer, who trampled down death by death and granted life to all people and all creation, through our faithfulness to the sacred traditions of the Great Church as well as through sincere love for our neighbor, for the glorification by us all of the heavenly name of the Lord. At the Phanar, Holy Pascha 2025
+ Bartholomew of Constantinople
Fervent supplicant for you all to the Risen Lord
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LIVING THE ORTHODOX FAITH

Paschal Greetings from Around the World

The **Paschal greeting** is a custom among Orthodox Christians, consisting of a greeting and response. Instead of "hello" or its equivalent, one is to greet another person with "Christ is Risen!". The response is "Truly, He is risen!" (or "Indeed, He is risen!"). This greeting is used during liturgical services and informally at other times, starting with the [feast of Pascha](#) and lasting until [Ascension](#) – the period known as the *Paschal season* or *Paschaltide*. In practice, this greeting is typically used only with people that one already knows are Orthodox. In some cultures (for example in Russia), it was also customary to exchange a triple kiss after the greeting. Orthodox Christians often compile lists of the greeting in various

languages, as it is used around the world, and these are sometimes recited in church or in other formal settings as an act of Orthodox unity across languages and cultures.

Language	Greeting	Response
Aleut:	Khristus anahgrecum!	Alhecum anahgrecum!
Aleut:	Khris-tusax agla-gikux!	Agangu-lakan agla-gikux!
Albanian:	Krishti U Ngjall!	Vertet U Ngjall!
Alutuq:	Khris-tusaq ung-uixtuq!	Pijii-nuq ung-uixtuq!
Amharic:	Kristos tenestwal!	Bergit tenestwal!
Anglo-Saxon:	Crist aras!	Crist sodhlice aras!
Arabic:	El Messieh kahn!	Hakken kahn!
Armenian:	Kristos haryav ee merelotz!	Orhnial eh harootyunuh kristosee!
Athabaskan:	Xristosi banuytashtch'ey!	Gheli banuytashtch'ey!
Bulgarian:	Hristos voskrese!	Vo istina voskrese!
Byelorussian:	Khrystos uvaskros!	Saprawdy uvaskros!
Chinese:	Helisituosi fuhuole!	Queshi fuhuole!
Coptic:	Pchristos aftooun!	Alethos aftooun!
Czech:	Vstal z mrtvých Kristus!	Vpravdě vstal z mrtvých!
Danish:	Kristus er opstanden!	Ja, sandelig opstanden!
Dutch:	Christus is opgestaan!	Ja, hij is waarlijk opgestaan!
English:	Christ is risen!	Indeed He is risen!
Eritrean-Tigre:	Christos tensiou!	Bahake tensiou!
Esperanto:	Kristo levigis!	Vere levigis!
Estonian:	Kristus on üles tõusnud!	Ta on tõesti üles tõusnud!
Ethiopian:	Christos t'ensah em' muhtan!	Exai' ab-her eokala!
Finnish:	Kristus nousi kuolleista!	Totisesti nousi!

Language	Greeting	Response
French:	Le Christ est réssuscité!	En verite il est réssuscité!
Gaelic:	Taw creest ereen!	Taw shay ereen guhdyne!
Georgian:	Kriste aghsdga!	Cheshmaritad aghsdga!
German:	Christus ist auferstanden!	Wahrlich Er ist auferstanden!
Greek:	Christos anesti!	Alithos anesti!
Hawaiian:	Ua ala hou 'o Kristo!	Ua ala 'I 'o no 'oia!
Hebrew:	Ha Masheeha houh quam!	Be emet quam!
Hungarian:	Krisztus feltamadt!	Valoban feltamadt!
Ibo (Nigeria):	Jesu Kristi ebiliwo!	Ezia o' biliwo!
Indian (Malayalam):	Christu uyirthezhunnettu!	Theerchayayum uyirthezhunnettu!
Indonesian:	Kristus telah bangkit!	Benar dia telah bangkit!
Italian:	Cristo e' risorto!	Veramente e' risorto!
Japanese:	Harisutos Fukkatsu!	Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!
Javanese:	Kristus sampun wungu!	Tuhu sampun wungu!
Korean:	Kristo gesso!	Buhar ha sho nay!
Latin:	Christus resurrexit!	Vere resurrexit!
Latvian:	Kristus ir augsham sales!	Teyasham ir augsham sales vinsch!
Lugandan:	Kristo ajukkide!	Amajim ajukkide!
Norwegian:	Christus er oppstanden!	Sandelig han er oppstanden!
Polish:	Khristus zmartwyckwstal!	Zaprawde zmartwyckwstal!
Portuguese:	Cristo ressuscitou!	Em verdade ressuscitou!
Romanian:	Hristos a inviat!	Adevărat a înviat!
Russian:	Khristos voskrese!	Voistinu voskrese!

Language	Greeting	Response
Sanskrit:	Kristo'pastitaha!	Satvam upastitaha!
Serbian:	Hristos vaskrse!	Vaistunu vaskrse!
Slovak:	Christos vstal z mŕtvych!	Vpravde vstal z mŕtvych!
Spanish:	Cristo ha resucitado!	En verdad ha resucitado!
Swahili:	Kristo amefufukka!	Kweli amefufukka!
Swedish:	Kristus är uppstånden!	Han är sannerligen uppstånden!
Syriac:	M'shee ho dkom!	Ha koo qam!
Tlingit:	Krisdos kuḡ wudigút!	X'éiga kuḡ wudigút!
Turkish:	Hristos diril - di!	Hakikaten diril - di!
Ugandan:	Kristo ajukkide!	Kweli ajukkide!
Ukrainian:	Khristos voskres!	Voistinu voskres!
Welsh:	Atgyfododd Crist!	Atgyfododd yn wir!
Yupik:	Xris-tusaq Ung-uixtuq!	Iluumun Ung-uixtuq!
Zulu:	UKristu uvukile!	Ngempela uvukile!
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ADDITIONAL BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)
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 * **Random Tidbits**... Father Dave is available to meet Monday thru Friday from 8:30am to 2:30pm 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 (Sacrament) of Holy Anointing (Unction) to be fully prepared.
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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

The Monk George, Metropolitan Of Mytilene,
 Commemorated on April 20/7

The Monk George, Metropolitan of Mytilene, from his youth led a monastic manner of life, having become especially accomplished in the virtue of wise-humility. In the reign of Leo the Isaurian (716-741) the saint underwent persecution from the iconoclasts and received the appellation Confessor.

During the years of the reign of the emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitos (780-797) Saint George was elevated onto the archbishopal cathedra of the city of Mytilene, situated on the island of Lesbos. The life of the saint was radiant with prudence and purity and resembled Angelic life. He possessed a gift of wonderworking, cast out unclean spirits and healed incurable diseases. The saint distinguished himself by compassion, and generously he helped all the needy. Towards the end of his life – in the year 815, during the reign of the iconoclast Leo the Armenian (813-820), the holy archpastor was banished and sent to Chersonesus, where he died after the year 820. In the hour of his death over the city of Mytilene there shone a bright star in the heavens.

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting donations for the **Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC)**. This is the organization that puts out the Coin Boxes that we have been using through the Great Fast. Please bring in your coin boxes on Pascha. (There will also be an additional offering requested on our regular last Sunday of the month.) *“Let them do good, that they may be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share” (1 Tim 6:18)*

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LIVING OUR FAITH

We Are Always Going Towards Pascha
By Janice Bidwell

Great Lent came and went, and I’m still traveling toward Pascha at a steady lumbering pace. My life is a series of peaks and valleys between the seasons, but my route never varies. This rhythm is unchanging, and yet different each year. This is the path I travelled as a child, and now I’m on this same Paschal path of my ancestors with my own children. The century is new, but the ancient pattern is timeless.

As we conclude this Paschal celebration it’s time for me to store away the Easter decorations, but I must keep my Paschal spirit right at the center of my heart. The pace and beauty of Holy Week brightens my faith, and keeping this light bright throughout the year is the focus of my journey toward God. The seed of Pascha is now planted in my soul, but I must nourish this seedling throughout the year. The joy of the Christ’s Resurrection is the central theme of Christianity, and of our life as a family. Our life extends beyond today; our journey is toward eternal life. . .

“The center, the day, that gives meaning to all days and therefore to all time, is that yearly commemoration of Christ’s Resurrection at Easter. This is always the end and the beginning. We are always living after Easter, and we are always going toward Easter” (Alexander Schmemmann, Easter in the Liturgical Year, 1963).

Living every day on a journey toward forever Easter is unnatural in the world today. It was unnatural for me as a child, and it’s unnatural for my children today. The rays of light which feed this Paschal seed help it grow deeper roots all year long, when it’s exposed to this steady light. Life within the Orthodox Church is also life at home, and Pascha does not end as I exit the doors of the church. My children must see the joy of Pascha live on within me and within our Orthodox community. This is the hope of our Faith and our hope as a family on this journey toward Easter. From Sunday to Sunday throughout the year the light of Pascha must shine, and each Sunday is a little Easter as we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ.

A Living Spirit of Pascha

The joy of Pascha is there hiding within the smaller points of everyday living. It’s not in the wrapping of the package, but throughout the inside of life. If every moment of my life is a movement toward forever Easter, then I must be conscious of each movement reflecting this joy of Christ’s Resurrection. Every minute is a gift (even if some moments I would rather exchange), and seeing this joy is a central theme of life from Pascha to Pascha. Capturing the energy of Pascha within the smaller moments of my life passes this spirit of Orthodox living along through the generations and extends beyond the church on Holy Pascha, to each moment of living in the world.

“The only real thing, especially in the child’s world, which the child accepts easily, is precisely joy. We have made our Christianity so adult, so serious, so sad, so solemn that we have almost emptied it of that joy. Yet Christ Himself said, ‘Unless you become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of God,’ To become as a child in Christ’s terms means to be capable of that spiritual joy of which an adult is almost completely incapable” (Alexander Schmemmann, Easter in the Liturgical Year, 1963).

As I experience the presence of God in the shadows of my life, I nourish this Paschal brightness. The seed of Pascha rests in the soul and continues growing throughout the seasons with this steady light. Sharing and nourishing the Paschal seed is seeing this brightness every day, even on cloudy stormy days. Reflecting this light towards my family guides us along the lumbering path toward Easter, and seeing this brightness in the world reflects my love for others and for God. The reflection of this light of God’s love is the spirit of Orthodoxy I learned from the generations of Orthodox Christians in my family, and is also the tradition within the broader community of the Orthodox Church. Love within the heart of one, moves the hearts of others all around. Going toward Easter, is going toward a loving God shining in the light of the world.

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FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH

KONDAK HYMNS OF THE FEASTS:

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Coming Soon...

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ONLINE PRAYER CORNER

Special Intentions – Did you ever wonder for what reasons would a person’s name go under “For the Special Intentions of...” on our Prayer Page? A special intention request is very diversified! It could be when one is under extreme job stress, struggling with spiritual issues, infertility, dealing with the loss of a loved one... the list goes on. As with the other lists on our page, one does not have to be Orthodox to be added.

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Prayer requests – During the Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy, prayers are said for the sick and those celebrating special occasions listed in the bulletin. If silent prayers are requested, they will be offered quietly at the Altar at all services. All those listed in the “Prayer Corner” are prayed for during the Proskomedia (Preparation of the Bread and Wine for Communion). Prayer requests will remain for (about) 40 days unless requested otherwise. Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (in the case of answered prayers) to our prayer list.

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Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions *

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A Prayer For The Sick: O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant(s) *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. Stephen B., Fr. Thomas B., Protodeacon Gregory B., Stephanie B, Kevin, Michael L., Laura & family, Carlene, Georgia, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin, David, Donna, George, *our diocesan seminarians:* Den Peter S, Nicolas W., Seamus M., Samuel L., Nicholas L., Alexander H., *and our Parish Council and Curators:* Lawrence, Subdeacon Ryan, Timothy, Rich, Elizabeth, Robert, Gina, John, Mary Jane, Katherine, Kenneth 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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** NAMEDAY, BIRTHDAY, and Anniversary Prayer List is being reset – Our parish prayer list of key dates and special occasions in our lives were reset back on 3/1/24. If one of your special days is missing – please let Fr Dave know ASAP. See Fr. Dave with any questions.*

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April Namedays:

Bonnie Carlisle – St. Mary of Egypt
Pañi’s brother Florin Popescu and *Pañi’s mother* Liliana Popescu – Palm (Flowery) Sunday
Subdeacon Ryan Ferko – St. Thomas Sunday
Thomas Lorenzi – St. Thomas Sunday
...*May God grant them many and blessed years!*

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April Birthdays:

Sonia Kretchek (4/1), Tristan Bowser (4/5), Bryce Blobner (4/10), Rich Mirilovich (4/13), Kris Carlisle, Reader (4/14), Melanie Paieski (4/14), *Father’s Uncle* Dan Urban (4/15), *Father’s Father* Dave Urban (4/15), John Kirish (4/18), *Father’s Brother-In-Law* Christopher Ditmore (4/19), Dr. Lawrence Martin (4/20), Max Anton (4/22), Donald J. Gavulich (4/23/19), Fred Anton (4/24), Fr Peter Paproski (4/24), Donna Tongel (4/24), Fr Jonathan Bannon (4/29), Maryhelen Hoffman (4/29), Sharon Peifer (4/29)

...*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...

Raymond, Kathryn, Maxwell, Barbara, Tyler ...*through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, & St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Nicholas & Cassie, Allison & Michael ...*through the prayers of Sis. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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April Anniversaries:

...*through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas*

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For Pregnant Mothers...

Lindsay (*due in June*), Caitlin (*August*) ...*through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Theotokos, and St. Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadovsky ...*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.*

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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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.

A Prayer of Stewardship

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the good steward, who redeemed Adam and Eve of their failed stewardship by offering Yourself for the life of the world. You did teach us in the feeding of the multitudes that whatever we give to God is returned to us multiplied. You did praise those good and faithful servants in the parable of the talents who returned to the Master their gifts. So help us to learn the joy of stewardship, remembering that everything we have comes from You and belongs to You. We know, Lord, that we often live in fear of the future and insecurity. Help us to remember the lilies of the field and so to trust in Your providence. Grant to us a cheerful and generous spirit. Enkindle in the hearts of all Your people a zealous love for You. For You are the Good Steward, and to You we give thanks, praise and glory, together with Your Father and Your all holy good and life-giving Spirit now and ever and onto the ages of ages. Amen.

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