

“THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER” *Our Parish Bulletin*  
O Holy John, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptizer of the Lord, pray to God for us!

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!  
**Glory be to Jesus Christ!** (*responded with: Glory be forever!*) Slava Isusu Christu! (*Slava na viki!*)  
We are happy that you have joined us today! It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning. We wish God’s Blessings to all who are with us today and pray that you come again soon! Please see Fr. Dave if you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy.

UPCOMING SERVICES

**SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2025 #APOSTLESFAST** VOL. XI  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
+St. Artemius of Verkola (1545)  
Reception of Raymond (John) Kilmer and Kathleen (Kathryn) Kilmer into the Orthodox Faith  
12-noon Feast Day Vespers  
**MONDAY, JULY 7 #APOSTLESFAST**  
FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy  
**Wednesday, July 9 #APOSTLESFAST**  
9:30 – 11:30 am church open for personal prayer  
**FRIDAY, JULY 11 #APOSTLESFAST**  
6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers  
**SATURDAY, JULY 12**  
FEAST OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL  
9:30am Festal Divine Liturgy  
**SUNDAY, JULY 13**  
9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Epistle: Romans 6:18-23  
Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13  
Tone 4; Liturgical Color: **Green**  
Monthly Memorial Panachida for +Frank Babin (7/3), +Andrew Kurtz (7/11/71), +John Kailyar (7/12/87), +Mary Hostinak (7/14), +Karen Babin (7/18), +Sonia Urban (7/19/20), +Andrew Gogal (7/21/18), +Anna Mae Gogal (7/22/20), +Martha Anton (7/28), +Ann Nimick (7/28/00), +Mary Pitto (7/31/91)

\*\*\* **Mystery of Confession** – Father is available to hear Confessions after every service or by appointment.  
\*\*\* = new news \*\* = 2<sup>nd</sup> time in the bulletin  
\* = at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in the bulletin

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* **The Holy Apostles’ Fast (Peter and Paul Fast)** This is one of the four fasting seasons of the Orthodox Christian year that culminates with our celebration of Saints Peter & Paul on July 12th. **One week remains. Apostles Fast** (by Fr. Ed Pehanich) The Apostles’ Fast began June 16. While many ignore this fast it has a very important purpose for us. St. Leo the Great in the 5<sup>th</sup> century wrote: “*After the Feast of Pentecost, fasting is especially necessary to purify our thoughts to render us worthy to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*” We engage in increased prayer and fasting in order to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, self-control. Need these in your life? Work at increased prayer and fasting during the weeks ahead.

\*\*\* **New Ministry Starting this Fall: Saints Spyridon and Nicodemus Prospora Bakers Ministry** – Prospora is the bread that is used during the Divine Liturgy for the Eucharist. In some parishes, the people bake all of the bread. In other parishes, the priest bakes the bread (as part of his prayer rule). We will start a hybrid of these two practices starting this fall. Please let Fr. Dave, Larry, or Liz know if you are interested in being a part of this ministry in our parish. A hands-on workshop will be held to kick it off. *Through the prayers of Saint Spyridon, Saint Nicodemus, and our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH  
Father Dave Urban, *Pastor* +++ 2201 Duncan Avenue, Allison Park, Pa 15101  
www.OrthodoxPittsburgh.com +++ 412-748-0148 (*Talk or Text*) +++ OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com

\*\*\* **Journey to Orthodoxy** – Congratulations and God’s choicest blessings to Raymond (John) Kilmer and Kathleen (Kathryn) Kilmer who were received into the Orthodox Faith and our parish family **this morning**. May God grant to His newly-illuminated servants, Raymond (John) and Kathleen (Kathryn), Many Years of Peace, Health, Happiness and Salvation! Blessings also to their sponsor, Elizabeth Radomsky. Many Years! Mnohaja L’ita!

\*\* **Garden Guild** – Do you have a ‘green’ thumb? Would you be interested in being a steward of your talents by joining the SJB Garden Guild? If so, please let Fr. Dave know ASAP as a meeting will be occurring very soon.

\*\* **Congratulations!** to Lindsay (Peifer) and Timothy Sikora and their families on the birth of **Khloe Kathryn** (5 lbs 8 oz) and **Nora Violet** (5 lbs 13 oz) born on June 16. 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 1<sup>st</sup> Day after Childbirth*

\* **A Note for Summer Travel** – Where we travel, whenever we go, we take our faith with us, for as it says in the Psalms, "God is with us!" Keeping that in mind, please remember when traveling over the weekends to plan ahead and check for the location of the nearest Orthodox Christian Church. The Orthodoxy in America web site, [www.OrthodoxyInAmerica.org](http://www.OrthodoxyInAmerica.org), is a great resource which has a multi-jurisdictional listing of all Orthodox parishes. Remember, "God is with us" always. Let’s not forget to invite Him!

COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

Please sign up by the kitchen or by contacting Fr. Dave  
July 13: \_\_\_\_\_?  
July 20: \_\_\_\_\_?  
July 27: \_\_\_\_\_?

THIS WEEK’S BULLETIN IS SPONSORED  
for the health of the newly-Illumined Raymond (John) Kilmer and Kathleen (Kathryn) Kilmer and their sponsor, Elizabeth Radomsky.  
May God grant them many years!

\* **ACRY Convention** – The 80<sup>th</sup> Senior and 40<sup>th</sup> Junior National ACRY Convention will be Labor Day weekend from **Aug 29 to Sep 1** at 7 Springs. For more information, visit <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/2025-acry-convention/items> or contact Alisha Zak at 724-554-8148 / [zak.alisha@gmail.com](mailto:zak.alisha@gmail.com).

\* **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 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!

\* **Third Hour** – If you would like to be in the rotation for chanting (or reading) the Third Hour prior to the Divine Liturgy (or have any questions), please see or contact Fr. Dave. *This does not need to be done by the Liturgy Chanter.*

THIRD HOUR

Please let Fr. Dave know if you are interested in reading or chanting the Third Hour at 9:15 am  
July 13: \_\_\_\_\_?  
July 20: \_\_\_\_\_?  
July 27: \_\_\_\_\_?

\* **Golf Anyone?** – Numerous churches will have their annual golf outings soon. If you are interested in being a part of a SJB foursome, please see Bob Fall. (*The East Pittsburgh deadline is July 20.*)

| OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD                       |                |
|--|----------------|
| Stewardship Offerings:                             | \$ 90          |
| Candle Stewardship:                                | \$ 29          |
| Envelope Stewardship:                              | \$ 330         |
| Community Outreach:                                | \$ 120         |
| <b>Total Collections:</b>                          | <b>\$ 569</b>  |
| <b>Capital Improvement Fund:</b>                   | <b>\$ 1000</b> |
| <i>Participating Souls at Sunday's Liturgy: 33</i> |                |

**Weekly Candle Intentions or Memorials** were offered last week by the Nelson Family; Rich & Renee Mirilovich; Mary Jane Hudak; Cindy Pavidonis; Melanie Piaeski

|  |  |
|--|--|
| + + + + +  |  |
| <b>June Financial Report:</b>                            |  |
| <b>General Stewardship = \$ 4649.64</b>                  |  |
| <i>(includes \$ 317.64 from online stewardship)</i>      |  |
| <b>*Expenses = \$ 5308.83</b>                            |  |
| <b>Net Deficit = \$ 658.83</b>                           |  |
| <b>Capital Improvement Fund = \$ 2281</b>                |  |
| Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 29                   |  |
| <i>*details listed on the church hall bulletin board</i> |  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| + + + + +                                    |  |
| <b>Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Report:</b> |  |
| <i>(September through last month)</i>        |  |
| <b>General Stewardship = \$ 72,119</b>       |  |
| <b>*Expenses = \$ 66,663</b>                 |  |
| <b>Net Gain = \$ 5,456</b>                   |  |
| Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 39       |  |

+ + + + +

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


- ✂ 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.

*The ministries of the church cannot happen without your dedication and support.*

+ + + + +


**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.

+ + + + +

\*  **Food Ministry at SJB** –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 or Gina Fall of this and they 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](http://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.

+ + + + +



This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, our additional collection will be for **Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM)** whose **mission** is to serve those who are incarcerated and their families, and provides resources, training and support to our ministry partners so that lives are transformed and God is glorified. **Core values:** Accept

that each person is made in the image and likeness of God; Love with compassion and respect; Integrity; Committed to excellence; Team-oriented

For more information on this organization, please visit: [www.theocpm.org](http://www.theocpm.org). *Thank you in advance for your prayers and offering this month!*

+ + + + +

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Epistle: Romans 6:18-23*

<sup>18</sup>and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

+ + + + +

**Spiritual Vitamins:**

**Truth Sets You Free**

"What is it which sets us free from sin?

Knowledge of the truth, of course!

This is what Jesus said to the Jews: *If you believe my word, you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*"

+Blessed Origen

+ + +

**Holiness Now Assures Eternal Life**

"Instead of the shame and death which you deserved before, you now have the hope of attaining holiness and eternal life. Note how Paul says that some things have already been given, while others are still hoped for, but that the former point to the latter. Thus if we can come to holiness now, we can be assured of obtaining eternal life in the future."

+St. John Chrysostom

+ + + + +

**Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13**

Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant

<sup>5</sup>As he entered Caper'na-um, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him <sup>6</sup>and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." <sup>7</sup>And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." <sup>8</sup>But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." <sup>10</sup>When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. <sup>11</sup>I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, <sup>12</sup>while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." <sup>13</sup>And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

+ + + + +

PRAYER CORNER

**For the Health of...**

Bilyana, Gregory, Denise, David, Michael, Andrea, Diane, Jeanette, Boyde, Mark, Michelle, Megan, Lindsay, Brian, Rhonda, Carlene, Jason, Bella, Barbara, Paul, Juliana, Fredrick, and Michael

*...through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer*

+ + + + +

**For the souls of the newly departed...**

*...May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God's Memory!*

+ + + + +

**Spiritual Vitamin:**

"A servant of the Lord stands bodily before men, but mentally he is knocking at the gates of heaven with prayer." +St. John of the Ladder

+ + + + +



## ONLINE BONUSES

+++ + + + + + + +



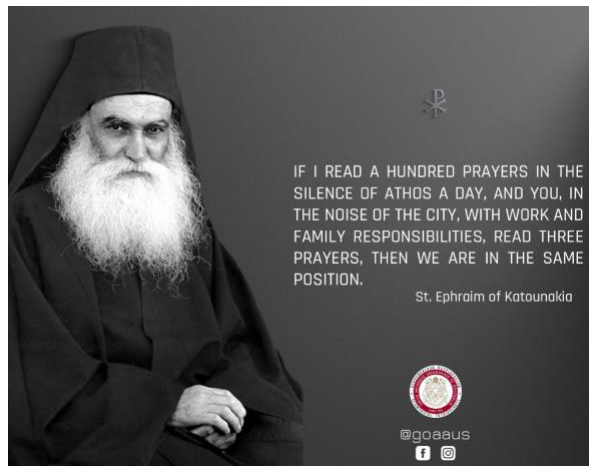
+++ + + + + + + +

### VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

Diocesan Website: [www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org)  
Camp Nazareth: [www.campnazareth.org](http://www.campnazareth.org)  
FB: [www.facebook.com/acroddioecese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddioecese)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
YouTube: [youtube.com/acroddioecese](https://youtube.com/acroddioecese)

+++ + + + + + + +

## LIVING THE ORTHODOX FAITH



+++ + + + + + + +

## LIVES OF THE SAINTS

### SAINTED TYKHON, BISHOP OF AMAPHUNTUM

Commemorated on June 16

Sainted Tykhon, Bishop of Amaphuntum, was born in the city Amaphuntum on the island of Cyprus. His parents raised their son in Christian piety, and

taught him the reading of Sacred books. There is an account extant, that the gift of wonderworking appeared in Saint Tykhon at a still quite youthful age.

His father was the owner of a bread bakery and he sent his son to distribute bread. The holy lad gave bread free to the needy. Learning about this, his father became angry, but the son answered, that he had read in the holy books, that "in giving to God one receiveth back an hundredfold". "I too, – said the youth, – gave to God the bread which was taken" and he persuaded his father to go to where the grain was stored. With astonishment the father saw that the granary which formerly was empty, was now filled to overflowing with wheat. From that time the father did not hinder his son from distributing bread to the needy.

A certain gardener brought from the vineyard the dried prunings of vines. Saint Tykhon gathered them, planted them in his garden and besought the Lord, that these branches might take root and yield salubrious fruit for the health of people. The Lord did so through the faith of the holy youth. The branches took root, and their fruit had a particular and very pleasant taste and was used during the lifetime of the saint and after his death for the wine in making the mystery of the Holy Eucharist.

They accepted the pious youth into the church clergy, made him a reader, and afterwards the bishop of Amaphuntum Memnon ordained him to the dignity of deacon. After the death of Bishop Memnon, Saint Tykhon by universal agreement was chosen as bishop of Amaphuntum. The ordination was headed by Sainted Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus (+ 403, Comm. 12 May).

Saint Tykhon laboured zealously for the eradication of the remnants of paganism on Cyprus – he destroyed an idolatrous temple and spread the Christian faith. The sainted-bishop was generous, his doors were open to all, and with love he listened to and fulfilled the request of each person who came to him. Fearing neither threats nor tortures, he firmly and fearlessly confessed his faith before pagans.

In the service to Sainted Tykhon it is pointed out, that he foresaw the time of his death, which occurred in the year 425.

The name of Sainted Tykhon of Amaphuntum was accorded great honour in Russia. In honour of the

saint, temples were constructed at Moscow, at Nizhni Novgorod, at Kazan and other cities. But the saint was particularly venerated in Voronezh diocese, where there were three archpastors in succession sharing the name with the Sainted-bishop of Amaphuntum: Sainted Tikhon I (Sokolov) (+ 1783, Comm. 13 August), Tikhon II (Yakubovsky, until 1785) and Tikhon III (Malinin, until 1788).

+++ + + + + + + +

## ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

**Christmas in July Vender and Craft Show – This Saturday, July 12** from 10 am to 4 pm - great food from Cafe' Nikolai - St. Nicholas Orthodox Church (903 Ann Street, Homestead, PA 15120)

+++ + + + + + + +

## STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET



TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES

++++ + + + + + + +

### PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

+++

\* **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.

+++

\* **Third Hour** – If you would like to be in the rotation for chanting (or reading) the Third Hour prior to the Divine Liturgy (or have any questions), please see or contact Fr. Dave. *This does not need to be done by the Liturgy Chanter.*

+++

\* **Coffee Social** – Did you know that 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!*)

+++

\* **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.

+++ + + + + + + +



ACRY NEWS

+++

\*\* **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 anyone over age 8, please contact Subdeacon Ryan Ferko.

+++

\*\* **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 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!

+++

**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.

+++ + + + + + + +

CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:

✱ \* **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!

+++

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!

+++ +++

**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.

+++ +++

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

+++ +++

**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.

+++ +++

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

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

+++ +++

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.

+++ +++

ADDITIONAL BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

+++ +++

“Code” for reading the bulletin:

\*\*\* = new news    \*\* = 2<sup>nd</sup> time in the bulletin

\* = at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in the bulletin

+++ +++

**Calling All Rusyn Writers & Readers!** – Last summer, the Carpatho-Rusyn Society launched its new online publication—[Our People](#). Through member stories, event announcements, book reviews, and more, *Our People* connects you to C-RS and Carpatho-Rusyn culture. Now, we’re asking for your help to keep this publication vibrant.

*Our People* is looking for **two volunteers** to join our team. One volunteer will write short, original stories for *Our People*, while the other will help us re-publish articles from the *New Rusyn Times* archives. If you have a little bit of writing experience, or know your way around a PDF, check out the volunteering details below.

- **1 Republishing Volunteer**
  - **Time Commitment:** 2-3 hours per week, fully remote.
  - **Role:** Transcribing articles from *New Rusyn Times* (and other archival sources) for republication on the C-RS website and in the C-RS email newsletter *Our People*.
  - **Expectations:** You will transcribe two articles per month.
  - **Qualifications:** Some experience with Adobe Acrobat, Microsoft Word, or similar programs. Basic proofreading skills. Experience need not be from your work history, but can come from other volunteer positions, community roles, or personal projects.
  - **Get Involved:** Send a note to Dani Stuchel ([dstuchel@c-rs.org](mailto:dstuchel@c-rs.org)), introducing yourself and your relevant experience.

- **1 Research & Writing Volunteer**

- **Time Commitment:** 3-5 hours per week, fully remote.
- **Role:** Creating short (500-700 word) articles on topics of interest to our members, to be included on the C-RS website and in the C-RS email newsletter *Our People*.
- **Expectations:** You will write two articles per month.
- **Preferred topics:** Carpatho-Rusyn history in Europe, Carpatho-Rusyn language and linguistics, contemporary art by Carpatho-Rusyns, Carpatho-Rusyn food history, contemporary life in Carpatho-Rusyn areas of Europe.
- **Qualifications:** Some experience with Internet-based research (finding reliable sources, tracking references, etc.) Some experience writing for a general audience. Some experience proofreading your own writing. Experience need not be from your work history, but can come from other volunteer positions, community roles, or personal projects.
- **Get Involved:** Send a note to Dani Stuchel ([dstuchel@c-rs.org](mailto:dstuchel@c-rs.org)), introducing yourself and your relevant experience. Propose 2-3 ideas for newsletter articles. No need to send a formal resume or cover letter.

+++ +++

\* **2025 Bob Perevuznik Sr. Memorial Golf Outing** - Will be on **Saturday, August 2** at Manor Valley Golf Course (2095 Denmark Manor Rd., Export, Pa 15632). Team scramble format – shotgun start: 8 a.m. Signup and payment deadline is July 20. Entry fee is \$100 which includes golf, cart, gift, coffee & donuts, hotdog, snacks, drink, buffet dinner, beer, & pop. Team cash prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Skill contests include: \$5,000 hole in one – beat the pro – Par 3 closest to pin – Longest drive – longest putt – Mulligans. There will also be a 50-50 raffle and prize auction. For more



information, contact Bob Perevuznik Jr. (412) 952-6962 / email [rpvuznik@gmail.com](mailto:rpvuznik@gmail.com) or Den harms (412) 667-2396 / [dwhalb200@aol.com](mailto:dwhalb200@aol.com)

+ + + + + + + + +

\* **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!**

+ + + + + + + + +

**AND Looking FURTHER Ahead...**

**Some 2025 dates of interest at St. John’s:**

- **Jun. 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. 29-Sep. 2** – ACRY Convention
- **Aug. 31** – Blessing of Flowers and Herbs
- **Sep. 7** – Parish Picnic at “The Cabin”

**Please, Save the Dates!**

+ + + + + + + + +

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

- ✂ 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*

+ + + + + + + + +

\* **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

+ + + + + + + + +

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

+ + + + + + + + +

\***Live-Broadcast** – If you are unable to attend church services, please pray along with our Cathedral online: [www.acrod.org/directories/cathedral//live/](http://www.acrod.org/directories/cathedral//live/)

+ + + + + + + + +

\***Calendar** - Future Services are updated online at: [www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar](http://www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar) (Please see Fr. Dave if you want a printed copy)

+ + + + + + + + +

**THIS MONTH’S SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY, JULY 6** *#APOSTLESFAST*

9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
12-noon Feast Day Vespers

**MONDAY, JULY 7** *#APOSTLESFAST*

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

**FRIDAY, JULY 11** *#APOSTLESFAST*

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers  
**SATURDAY, JULY 12**

FEAST OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL  
9:30am Festal Divine Liturgy  
+ + + +

**SUNDAY, JULY 13**

9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Monthly Memorial Panachida  
? Sr. ACRY meeting  
+ + + +

**SUNDAY, JULY 20**

9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Youth Sunday  
+ + + +

**SUNDAY, JULY 27**

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the  
First Six Ecumenical Councils  
9:15 am Third Hour

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 30**

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

**FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH**

**The Nativity Of The Holy Forerunner And Baptist Of The Lord, John:**

*Commemorated on July 7 / June 24*

The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The Gospel (Lk. 1: 57-80) relates that the righteous parents of Saint John the Baptist – the Priest Zachariah and Elizabeth, lived in the ancient city of Hebron, and reached old age being childless, since Elizabeth was barren. One time, Saint Zachariah was making Divine services at the Jerusalem Temple and saw the Archangel Gabriel, standing on the right side of the incense offertory. He predicted, that Saint Zachariah would father a son, who would announce the Saviour – the Messiah, awaited by the Old Testament Church. Zachariah was troubled, and fear fell upon him. He had doubts that in old age it was possible to have a son, and he asked for a sign. And it was given to him – it appeared at the same time as a chastisement for his unbelief: Zachariah was struck speechless until the time of the fulfillment of the archangel's words.

Saint Elizabeth came to be with child, and fearing derision over the lateness of her pregnancy, she kept it secret for five months, until there came visiting her distant relative the All-Blessed Virgin Mary, to share with her Her own joy. Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Holy Spirit, was the first to greet the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God. And together with her Saint John also – in the womb of his mother Righteous Elizabeth – did greet "with leaps as in song" the MostHoly Virgin Mary and the Son of God incarnated within Her.

It became time, and Saint Elizabeth gave birth to a son, and all the relatives and acquaintances rejoiced together with her. On the eighth day, in accord with the law of Moses, was made the circumcision. His mother named him John. Everyone was amazed, since no one in their family had been named such. When they asked Saint Zachariah about this, he motioned for a tablet and wrote on it: "John is his name" – and immediately the binding of his tongue at the prediction of the archangel

was unbound, and Saint Zachariah, at the prompting of the Holy Spirit, glorified God and pronounced the words of prophecy about the Advent-Coming into the world of the Messiah, and about his own son John – the Forerunner of the Lord.

After the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and the worship of the shepherds and the Magi, wicked king Herod gave orders to kill all the infants. Hearing about this, Saint Elizabeth fled into the wilderness and hid in a cave. Saint Zachariah as a priest was at Jerusalem and was doing his priestly service in the Temple. Herod sent soldiers to him to find out the abode of the infant John and his mother. Zachariah answered, that their whereabouts were unknown to him, and he was killed right there in the Temple. Righteous Elizabeth continued to live in the wilderness with her son and she died there. The lad John, protected by an Angel, dwelt in the wilderness until such time, when he came preaching about repentance and was himself vouchsafed worthy to baptise the Lord Who was come into the world.

+ + + + + + + + +

**The Holy, Glorious And All-Praised Leaders Of The Apostles, Peter And Paul**

*Commemorated on July 12 / June 29*

**The Holy Apostle Peter**

The son of Jonah and brother of Andrew the First-Called, of the tribe of Simeon and the town of Bethsaida, he was a fisherman and was at first called Simon, but the Lord was pleased to call him Cephas, or Peter (JN 1:42). He was the first of the disciples to give clear expression to his faith in the Lord Jesus, saying, "*Though art the Christ, the Son of the Living God.*" (MT 16:16) His love for the Lord was very strong and his faith in Him went from strength to strength. When the Lord was put on trial, Peter denied Him three times, but he needed only one look into the face of the Lord and Peter's soul was filled with shame and repentance. After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Peter became a fearless and powerful preacher of the Gospel. After his first sermon in Jerusalem, about 3,000 souls were converted to the Faith. He preached the Gospel throughout Palestine and Asia Minor, in Italy and in Illyria. Peter was condemned to death on the order of the wicked Emperor Nero. After installing Linus as Bishop of Rome and exhorting and encouraging the flock of

Christ there, Peter went to his death with joy. When he saw the cross before him, he asked the executioner to crucify him upside-down, because he felt himself to be unworthy to die in the same way as his Lord. And so, this great servant of the greatest Master went to his rest and received a crown of eternal glory!

**The Holy Apostle Paul**

Born in Tarsus and of the tribe of Benjamin, he was formerly called Saul and studied under the teacher Gamaliel. He was a Pharisee and fierce persecutor of Christians. Saul was wondrously converted to the Christian Faith by the Lord Himself, who appeared to him on the road to Damascus. He was baptized by the Apostle Ananias, named Paul and enrolled in the great work of the Apostles. He preached the Gospel everywhere with burning zeal, from the borders of Arabia to the land of Spain, among both the Jews and Gentiles (heathens) and receiving the title '*Apostle to the Gentiles*'. His fearful sufferings were matched only by his superhuman endurance. Through all the years of preaching, he hung from day to day like a thread between life and death. Filling his days and nights with toil and suffering for Christ, organizing the Church in many places and reaching a high level of perfection, he was able to say, "*It is not I who lives, but Christ who lives in me.*" (Galatians 2:20) Paul was brutally beheaded in Rome in the reign of Nero, at the same time as St. Peter.

+ + + + +

**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...*)

+ + + + +

**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.

+ + + + +

**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 Proskomedie (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...**

Michael, Sophia, Andrea, Diane, Jeanette, Boyde, Mark, Michelle, Megan, Lindsay, Brian, Rhonda, Carlene, Jason, Bella, David, Barbara, Paul, 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,

