

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

UPCOMING SERVICES

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025** VOL. XI  
9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
+Holy Disciples from the 70: Prochorus, Nikanor,  
Timon and Parmenas  
\* *Liturgy Sermon Series: Trisagion*  
Lesser Blessing of Water and of Honey  
Monthly Memorial Panachida for +*Joseph Olas, The Priest (58-year), +Cecilia Urban (2-yr), +John Hriecenak, The Priest (25-yr), +Anna Louise Pavilonis (17-yr), +Elizabeth Wertz (9-yr), +Paul Herbert, The Priest (9-yr), +John Setar (72-yr), +Peter E Molchany, The Priest (35-yr), +Todd DeMarco (41-yr), +Helen Kailyar (27-yr), +Infant John Setar (105-yr), +Mary Setar (14-yr)*  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14** #*DormitionFast*  
FEAST OF THE PROCESSION OF THE CROSS (in 1164)  
Dormition Fast begins  
Home Blessings begin  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 16** #*DormitionFast*  
6:30 pm Paraklis to the Theotokos  
+++  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 17** #*DormitionFast*  
10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
+The Seven Youths of Ephesus  
9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Youth Sunday  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16  
Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23  
Tone 1; Liturgical Color: **Blue**  
\* *Liturgy Sermon Series Continues*  
Blessing of Students (*with backpacks*) and Teachers  
12-noon Moleben to the Theotokos  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 18** #*DormitionFast*  
6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers & Blessing of Grapes  
and First-Fruits (and vegetables)  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 19** #*DormitionFast*  
FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION  
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Grapes  
and First-Fruits (and vegetables)

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.

+++ +++ +++  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 21** #*DormitionFast*  
9:30 – 11:30 am church open for personal prayer  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 22** #*DormitionFast*  
Possible 6:30 pm Paraklis to the Theotokos  
+++ +++ +++

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17*  
9 For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building. 10 According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. 11 For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— 13 each man’s work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. 14 If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. 15 If any man’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. 16 Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? 17 If any one destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and that temple you are.

+++

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

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34

Jesus Walks on the Water  
22 Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. 25 And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out for fear. 27 But immediately he spoke to them, saying, “Take heart, it is I; have no fear.” 28 And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water.” 29 He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; 30 but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “O man of little faith, why did you doubt?” 32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”  
Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret  
34 And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennes’aret.

+++ +++ +++

PRAYER CORNER

**For the Health of...** Carol, Clifford, Shawn, Gregory, Boyde, 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...**  
+David Russel (8/2), +Mark Zerby (7/28), +Linda Lippert (7/16) ...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May they be Eternal in God’s Memory!*

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* **New School Year Blessing** – We will have additional prayers next **Sunday, August 17**, for students and teachers who are heading back to school. *If you are leaving for college prior to 8/17, please let Fr. Dave know.* Parents – please do not forget to have your kids bring their backpacks and place them on the front pew.

+++ +++ +++

\* **McKeesport’s International Village** will be on **August 12-14** from 3 to 9 pm at Renziehausen Park (3580 Tulip Dr., McKeesport, PA 15132). Admission is \$2 at the gate with numerous food booths and performances each night. More information can be found on their website: [www.internationalvillage.info/](http://www.internationalvillage.info/) or by asking Fr. Dave, Maria, or Sophia

+++ +++ +++

\*\*\* **Trek4Missions** - Please join us for the annual OCMC Trek4Missions held from **Aug 10 to Sep 14!** *This event is the Orthodox Christian Mission Center's largest virtual fundraiser that challenges participants to be physically active while raising awareness and financial support for our mission work to unite the world to Jesus Christ and His Church. If anyone is interested in spearheading and leading our local team (The Pittsburgh Forerunners), please contact Fr. Dave. The Trek4Missions is an opportunity for individuals and parish communities to unite and demonstrate our commitment to Christ's Great Commission “to make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). Plan to walk, run, ride your bike, and more to show your support for Christ's call to each of us. Everyone who registers will receive a free Trek4Missions t-shirt! There are no fees to register.*

+++ +++ +++

\*\*\* **Home Blessings** – Our Annual Home Blessings begin on **August 14** after the Lesser Blessing of Water was called for. Fr. Dave is looking forward to visiting every home this Aug, Sept, or Oct. **Schedule with Fr. Dave today.**



+++ +++ +++  
#**DORMITION FAST** – This is our lead-in to the great Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. This 2-week Fast (*from August 14-27*) is one of the four fasting periods of the year when we are called to a special time of increasing our prayer, fasting, and charity. Increase your prayer by coming to confession (offered after any of the services and on).  
*BOOK SUGGESTION: Mary, Worthy of All Praise: Reflections on the Virgin Mary.* This book shares meditations on the Paraklis Service for each day during the Dormition Fast. It can be found (at least) on Amazon (ISBN # 9781888212716) where you can get a used copy for less than \$10.  
O Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

+++ +++ +++  
\*\*\* **The Blessing of the First Fruits** – Following the Vespers or Divine Liturgy on **Monday, Aug 18, Tuesday, Aug 19, and Sunday, Aug 24**, we will bless our ‘first fruits’ from our gardens (*or from the grocery store*). **Everyone** is encouraged to bring in a bowl, basket, or bushel of fruits and/or vegetables!

+++ +++ +++  
\* **Calling All Church School Teachers** – Please contact Kathy Schrmack (*Youth Ministry Leader*) or Fr. Dave if you are interested in being a teacher in the upcoming year’s Church School Program. We need to have 3 different class levels made available to the children of the parish. *A meeting will be held after coffee social on a Sunday in August.*

+++ +++ +++  
\* **Church School Registration** – We are looking for all parents of children age 5 through 18 to register their child(ren) for this year’s Church School Program. Forms are in the vestibule. Please see Kathy Schrmack (*Youth Ministry Leader*) or Fr. Dave with any questions.

+++ +++ +++  
\*\*\* **Online Course** – Starting **August 24**, the St. Athanasius College will offer an Enrichment Course Titled *Reproductive Rights: Navigating the ethics laws and realities of abortion*. Details about the course and registration are found in the online section *additional bulletin board announcements*.

+++ +++ +++  
\*\* **Parish Council Meeting Highlights** – Here are a few notes from this past week’s meeting / discussion:  
- The **Excavation Project** had unforeseeable issues pop up which will cost \$10,000 additional than expected. Total cost of the project is now \$45,000 [*since the meeting, the project has been completed!*]  
- Having a Capital Campaign **Fundraiser** of “buying a brick” for a walkway around the church  
- **Uber Fund** – As school is around the corner, donations are accepted at the curator desk to support our Uber Fund to help college kids get to our church  
- **Community Cook-Out** – we will host an Open House on **Saturday, October 4** from 11 am to 2 pm as we invite our neighbors to join us at the church, meet us, and see our parish  
- The **Triennial Diocesan Sobor** will be in October - Larry, Bob, Gina, and Fr. Dave will go on behalf of the parish  
- Youth Ministry – **Church School** Teachers and Registration were discussed  
- **Church Picnic** – this year, weather pending, we will have Liturgy outside at the Cabin in North Park prior to our annual picnic – more details coming  
- **Yearly Meeting** will be **Sunday, September 14**  
Remember - Anyone is welcome to come and hear the discussions about our parish!

+++ +++ +++  
\* **August: A Month of Special Blessings!** – Live the Orthodox Faith and plan ahead for the many special blessings that are offered in August:  
August 1, 2, & 3: Blessing of Chariots (Vehicles)  
August 10: Lesser Blessing of Water and of Honey  
**August 14:** Home Blessings Begin  
**August 17:** Blessing of Students & Teachers  
**August 18, 19 & 24:** Blessing of the First-Fruits (and vegetables)  
**August 27, 28 & 31:** Blessing of Flowers & Herbs  
*Life is full of blessings! Orthodoxy is awesome!*  
*Let’s focus on the blessings in our lives!*

+++ +++ +++  
**COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS**  
*Please sign up by the kitchen or by contacting Fr. Dave*  
\* Aug 17: Sr. ACRY  
\* Aug 24: Judy Figura  
Aug 31: \_\_\_\_?  
\* *meatless during the fast*

OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD	
Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 110
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 50
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 973
Community Outreach:	\$ 25
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$ 1158</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 2810</b>
<i>Participating Souls at Sunday’s Liturgy: 33</i>	

+++ +++ +++  
**Weekly Candle Intentions or Memorials** were offered last week by the Nelson Family; Lawrence Martin; Juliana & Fred Anton; Kathy Schrmack; Melanie Paieski; Cindy Pavilonis


+++ +++ +++  
**July Financial Report:**  
**General Stewardship = \$ 3270.43**  
*(includes \$ 446.43 from online stewardship)*  
**\*Expenses = \$ 8841.06**  
**Net Deficit = \$ 5570.63**  
**Capital Improvement Fund = \$ 2019**  
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 38  
*\*details listed on the church hall bulletin board*


+++ +++ +++  
**Fiscal Year-to-Date Financial Report:**  
*(September through last month)*  
**General Stewardship = \$ 75,389**  
**\*Expenses = \$ 75,504**  
**Net Deficit = \$ 115**  
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 39

+++ +++ +++  
\*\*\* **End of Fiscal Year Stewardship Reminder** – August is the last month of our fiscal calendar. Our stewardship to God is our personal giving of our Time, Talent, and Treasure. Stewardship is not financial alone, but it is part of it. If you are behind in your giving to the church, August is a good month to get caught up so our financials are accurate for next month’s yearly meeting. **Here are a couple things to ponder...** How often do you give to the church? Do you stay caught up when you are not at church each week? How much do you budget for your offering? \$10 a week? \$100 a month? Do you give 10% back to God from the blessings you have received? Let’s get caught up so our fiscal year end is not *in the red*.

+++ +++ +++  
**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.*

+++ +++ +++  
**VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE**  
Diocesan Website: [www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org)  
Camp Nazareth: [www.campnazareth.org](http://www.campnazareth.org)  
FB: [www.facebook.com/acroddiocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
YouTube: [youtube.com/acroddiocese](https://youtube.com/acroddiocese)

+++ +++ +++  
**COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY**  
  
\*\*\* This month, through the efforts of our Sr. ACRY, we will be collecting donations for the ***Distinguished Diocesan Donors (DDD) Program***. “The Distinguished Diocesan Donors program strives to provide the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese with the necessary resources to bring a resurgence of life and an abundance of growth to its apostolates and ministries.” **For more information**, visit [www.acrod.org/ministries/dddprogram/](http://www.acrod.org/ministries/dddprogram/). We ask that you make an additional offering by the end of the month for this outreach effort. *Thank you in advance for your prayers and offerings this month!*

+++ +++ +++  
  
\*\*\* **COAT DRIVE** Do you have a clean coat or two that you have not worn since before our last coat drive but it is still in good condition? We are now collecting clean coats and jackets to donate to the Neighborhood Resilience Project (NRP) [*Formerly FOCUS Pittsburgh (who provide Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding, and Shelter to those who are in need)*]. Please place your clean coat(s) on the coat rack in the downstairs hallway this month.

+++ +++ +++  
+++ +++ +++



## 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/acroddioocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddioocese)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
YouTube: [youtube.com/acroddioocese](https://youtube.com/acroddioocese)

### CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

*Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:*  
✧ \*\* **Phase 2 Complete** – Our French Drain and Excavation project is completed! The dry wells and regrading is finished. The cost for the total project was \$45,000. Additional donations to the Capital Improvement Fund are much appreciated!  
✧ \* **Church Proper** – Not much has changed in the nave of the church, BUT other work has been done. 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!

\* **Liturgy Sermon Series** – For a number of the next Sundays, Fr. Dave will break down the Liturgy answering some questions of *why we do what we do*. Each week he will focus on a certain part of the service. The “homily” will occur prior to that part of the service. Come – learn about our Faith!

### THIRD HOUR

*Please let Fr. Dave know if you are interested in reading or chanting the Third Hour at 9:15 am*

Aug 10:	_____?
Aug 17:	_____?
Aug 24:	_____?

**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.

## THIS MONTH'S SERVICE SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers  
Blessing of Chariots (Vehicles)

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

FEAST OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIAS  
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy  
Blessing of Chariots (Vehicles)

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Annual Blessing of Chariots (*Cars, Trucks, Boats, Bicycles, and other modes of transportation*)

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

9:30 – 11:30 am church open for personal prayer

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Monthly Memorial Panachida for +*Joseph Olas, The Priest (58-year)*, +*Cecilia Urban (2-yr)*, +*John Hriecenak, The Priest (25-yr)*, +*Anna Louise Pavilonis (17-yr)*, +*Elizabeth Wertz (9-yr)*, +*Paul Herbert, The Priest (9-yr)*, +*John Setar (72-yr)*, +*Peter E Molchany, The Priest (35-yr)*, +*Todd DeMarco (41-yr)*, +*Helen Kailyar (27-yr)*, +*Infant John Setar (105-yr)*, +*Mary Setar (14-yr)*

Lesser Blessing of Water and of Honey

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14 #DormitionFast

FEAST OF THE PROCESSION OF THE CROSS (in 1164)  
Dormition Fast begins  
Home Blessings begin

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 16 #DormitionFast

6:30 pm Paraklis to the Theotokos

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 #DormitionFast

9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Youth Sunday  
Blessing of Students (*with backpacks*) and Teachers  
12-noon Moleben to the Theotokos

### MONDAY, AUGUST 18 #DormitionFast

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers & Blessing of Grapes and First-Fruits (and vegetables)

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 19 #DormitionFast

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION  
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Grapes and First-Fruits (and vegetables)

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 21 #DormitionFast

9:30 – 11:30 am church open for personal prayer

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 22 #DormitionFast

*Possible* 6:30 pm Paraklis to the Theotokos

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 #DormitionFast

9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Blessing of Grapes and First-Fruits (and vegetables)  
12-noon Moleben to the Theotokos

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27 #DormitionFast

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers  
Blessing of Flowers and Herbs

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

FEAST OF THE DORMITION  
9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy  
Blessing of Flowers and Herbs

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

12-Noon Overdose Awareness Prayer Service at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral (325 Oliver Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222)

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

9:15 am Third Hour  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
Blessing of Flowers and Herbs  
International Overdose Awareness Day  
12-noon Panachida (Memorial Service) for those who died from an overdose

## 2025 Home Blessings

### *How to prepare for your home blessing?*

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

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

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

LIVING THE ORTHODOX FAITH

“Orthodoxy is not an ideology; it is a way of life, founded upon faith that has been articulated in doctrine so that it may be preserved and passed down by the faithful.” – Fr. Andrew Steven Damick

+++ +++ +++

The Order for Reading the Gospel Lectionary by Season

St. Matthew

- Pentecost season through the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross
- Theme
  - Being a Christian is more than living life having the 10 Commandments as a checklist

St. Luke

- Holy Cross season (starting in September) through Zachaeus Sunday
- Theme
  - Anticipation and Fulfillment of Jesus Christ
  - Very bright and artistic book

St. Mark

- Lenten season (in the spring)
- Notes
  - Written to be read in one sitting (was read within one Divine Liturgy in the Ancient Church)
  - written as a narrative – a non-fiction story

St. John

- Paschal season to Pentecost

Read more at:  
<https://orthodoxwiki.org/Lectionary>

+++ +++ +++

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE HOLY DISCIPLES FROM THE 70: PROCHORUS, NIKANOR, TIMON AND PARMENAS

Commemorated on August 10 / July 28

The Holy Disciples from the 70: Prochorus, Nikanor, Timon and Parmenas were of the first deacons in the Church of Christ.

In the book of the Acts of the Apostles (6: 1-6) it relates, that at Jerusalem the twelve apostles chose seven men: Stephen, Philip, Prochorus, Nikanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicholas, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, and established them to serve as deacons.

Holy Church makes their memory in common on 28 July, although they died at various times and in various places.

Saint Prochorus at first accompanied the first-ranked Apostle Peter and was made by him bishop in the city of Nikomedia. After the Falling-Asleep (Dormition or Uspenie) of the Most Holy Mother of God, Prochorus was a companion and co-worker of the holy Apostle John the Theologian and together with him was banished to the island of Patmos. There he wrote down the Revelation of God, – revealed to the holy Apostle John, about the final fate of the world (Apocalypse). Upon returning to Nikomedia, Saint Prochorus converted pagans to Christ in the city of Antioch and there accepted a martyr's end.

Saint Nikanor suffered on that day when the holy First-Martyr Stephen and many other Christians were killed by stoning.

Saint Timon was established by the Apostles as bishop of the city of Bastoria in Arabia and suffered from the Jews and pagans for preaching the Gospel. He was thrown into a furnace, but by the power of God he came out of it unharmed. The tradition of the Roman Church says, that Saint Timon died by crucifixion on a cross.

Saint Parmenas zealously preached Christ in Macedonia. He died from sickness befalling him. There exists also the opinion, that Saint Parmenas suffered under Trajan (98-117) in the final year of his reign, having accepted a martyr's end.

+++ +++ +++

ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK

The **Apostolos** is the [liturgical book](#) containing the various Apostolic Readings as are appointed by the [lectionary](#).

An *apostolos* or *epistle* is a writing directed or sent to a person or group of persons, usually a letter and a very formal, often didactic and elegant one. The letters from [Apostles](#) to Christians in the [New Testament](#) are often referred to as epistles.

+++ +++ +++

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET



TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES

+++ +++ +++

PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

+++

\* **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.

+++ +++ +++

**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 Schmack

++ + ++ + ++ +

**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%	12%	10%	Tithe 9%	8%	7%	Upper Range Giving 6%		Middle Range Giving 5%		Lower Range Giving 4%		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

++ + ++ + ++ +

\*\*\* **Online Course** – Starting **August 24**, the St. Athanasius College will offer an Enrichment Course Titled *Reproductive Rights: Navigating the ethics laws and realities of abortion*. Details about the course and registration are found in the online section *additional bulletin board announcements*.

**Description**

Welcome to our 5-week course on **Reproductive Rights: Navigating the Ethics, Laws, and Realities of Abortion**, taught by Fr. Adam Roberts. This course will explore the complex and multifaceted topic of reproductive rights, focusing on ethical, legal, and personal dimensions, with particular attention to how these issues intersect with Orthodox Christian

perspectives. Each class will cover the themes listed below through guided discussion and reflection on the episodes of “In The Name of Choice,” an award-winning documentary directed by Fr. Adam. The documentary is available to watch for free on YouTube by searching the title.

**Course Modules**

- Class 1: Extremism & Violence, episodes 1 & 2
- Class 2: Trapped & Shamed, episodes 3 & 4
- Class 3: Support & Decisions, episodes 5 & 6
- Class 4: Care & Commonsense, episodes 7 & 8
- Class 5: The Funnel of Choice, episode 9

**Course Details**

Dates/Times: August 24th, 2025, Sundays at 7pm Central Time

Length of course: 5 weeks

Class length: ~60 minutes per class

Prerequisite: Open to all people, no prerequisites

Required reading materials: none

<https://courses.bothanddesign.com/courses/reproductive-rights-navigating-the-ethics-laws-and-realities-of-abortion/>

++ + ++ + ++ +


\* **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!

++ + ++ + ++ +

\* **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.* \*\*\* Coming to the workshop is not a commitment going forward. Anyone is welcome to come and check it out!

++ + ++ + ++ +

\*  **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.

++ + ++ + ++ +

\* **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:**

- Aug. 14 – Dormition Fast Begins and Home Blessings Begin
- **Aug. 17** – Blessing of Students and Teachers
- 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. 1** – 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!**

- ✂ 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)*

+++ +++ +

**FEAST DAY FEATURES OF THE MONTH**

**The Holy Prophet Elias (Ilias or Elijah)**

*Commemorated on August 2 / July 20*



We bless vehicles in honor of the Feast of the Holy Prophet Elias who was carried to heaven in a fiery chariot (*see 2 Kings chapter 2 in the Old Testament*). **Annual Blessing of Chariots** – Fr Dave will bless vehicles after the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, August 4**

+++ +++ +

**The Procession (Carrying-forth) of the Venerable Wood of the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord**

*Commemorated on August 14/1*



"By reason of the sicknesses, often everywhere occurring in August, from of old (~1164), customarily it was done at Constantinople to carry out the Venerable Wood of the Cross along the roads and streets for the sanctifying of places and for the driving away of sicknesses. On the eve of the Feast, carrying it out from the imperial treasury, they placed it upon the Holy Table [Altar] of the Great Church (Hagia Sophia – the Wisdom of God). From this feastday up to the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God, making litija throughout all the city, they then placed it forth for all the people to venerate." (*1897 Greek Orologion*) In the Russian Church this feast is combined also with a remembrance of **the Baptism of Rus'**, on August 1, 988. In the "Account about the making of services in the holy catholic and apostolic great church of the Dormition", compiled in 1627 by order of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' Philaret, there is provided suchlike an explanation of the feast: *"And on the day of the procession of the Venerable Cross there occurs a church-procession for the Lesser Sanctification of Water and for the enlightenment of the people, throughout all the towns and places".*



Together with the Blessing of Waters, there is made a **Blessing of Honey** (i.e. first-honey for the Saviour: "Saviour of the Water", "Saviour Moisture"). And from this day the newly harvested honey is blessed and tasted. *The origin is that in some climates, such as in Ukraine, the hives are ready to be "robbed" at this time of the year.* **Bring your honey to be blessed on Sunday, August 11**

+++ +++ +

**The Transfiguration Of Our Lord God And Saviour Jesus Christ**

*Commemorated on August 19/6*



"The Christian practice to bless the fruits in church can be traced back to Apostolic times. There is a Prayer of

Thanksgiving for the new fruits in the work of St. Hippolytus, *the Apostolic Tradition*, composed in about 220. St. Hippolytus mentions the following fruits usually blessed: grapes, figs, pomegranates, pears, mulberries, peaches, and almonds. The sixth Ecumenical Council, celebrated in Constantinople (680-681), prescribed that the new “wheat and grapes” were to be blessed in church on the feast of the Holy Transfiguration (canon 28).” **We will bless our grapes and ‘first fruits’ from our gardens** (or purchased from the grocery store) **after Vespers on August 18, after Liturgy on August 19, and after the Liturgy the Sunday after the Feast Day.** Everyone is encouraged to bring in a bowl, basket, or bushel of fruits and/or vegetables!

+++ +++ +

**The "Falling-Asleep" ("Dormition" or "Uspenie") Of The Theotokos, Our Most-Holy Lady Mother Of God And Ever-Virgin Mary**

*Commemorated on August 28/15*

Holy Tradition tells us that all the Apostles, with the exception of St. Thomas, were transported mystically to Jerusalem in order to be with the Mother of God – the Theotokos – as she reposed, and to be present at her burial. When the Apostle Thomas arrived the next day, the Apostles opened the tomb so that he could kiss her farewell. As the tomb was opened, the body of the Most Pure Virgin was missing, and the cave was filled with flowers and the sweet fragrance of Paradise. This was a sure sign of her great purity and holiness to the faithful. Therefore as part of our celebration of the Dormition, we will **bless flowers and fragrant herbs** after **Vespers on August 27, after Liturgy on August 28, and after the Liturgy the Sunday after the Feast Day.** – and the faithful traditionally keep them in their homes. The herbs, used as natural medicine, are blessed in commemoration of the numerous healings and the extraordinary grace bestowed on the pilgrims at the blessed tomb of the Mother of God. **Everyone is encouraged to bring in a bouquet or basket of flowers and/or herbs from your garden or the store to be blessed!**

+++ +++ +

**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 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...**  
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,

Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin, David, Donna, George, *our diocesan seminarians:* Dcn Peter S, Alexander H, Joshua H, Bradley S, *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.

+++    +++    +++  
**\* 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.

+++    +++    +++  
**August Namedays:**  
Lawrence Martin - Blessed Laurence (8/23)  
Father’s sister, Suzanne Verbanick – Holy Martyress Susanna (8/24)  
Pañi Alexandra Urban - Saint Alexander (8/30 NC)  
...May God grant them many and blessed years!

+++    +++    +++  
**August Birthdays:**  
Sharon Dzadony (8/2), Bobby Paieski (8/03), Steven Anton (8/4), Joseph Mainolfi, Jr. (8/4), Nicholas Dzambo (8/5), John Gaydos Jr. (8/6), Rylie Winkler (8/7), Isabelle Opsitos (8/8), Matthew Opsitos (Jr.) (8/8), Kathleen Benedetti Anton (8/9), Michael Tongel (8/11), Lindsay Matolyak-Ferraz (8/12), Jim Schrmack (8/12), Jane Gaydos (8/13), Robert Paganico (8/13), Craig Bowser (8/16), *Fr. Paul Herbert’s son-in-law*, Ernest Pido (8/20), Maria Urban (8/21), Sophia Urban (8/21), Everly Torchia (8/22), Igumen Patrick (8/23), Renee Mirilovich (8/24), Judith Figura (8/27), Fr. Michael Kabel (8/27), Meredith Blobner (8/28), Adam Zak (8/28), Lucillia Mainolfi (8/29), Claudia (Herbert) Pido (8/29), Kyle Jozwiskowski (8/30)

...May God allow them to grow in peace and love all the days of their lives and may He grant them many and blessed years!

+++    +++    +++  
**For our Catechumens & Inquirers...**

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.  
+++    +++    +++  
**August Anniversaries:**  
Robert & Gina Fall (8/6)  
Ben & Tina Scherer (8/7)  
Kris & Caitlin Carlisle (8/6)  
Nick & Jane Sarandou (8/21)  
Sharon & Ryan Dzadony (8/25)  
...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas  
+++    +++    +++

**For Pregnant Mothers...**  
Caitlin (due in August), Morgan (January)  
...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.  
+++    +++    +++

# 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.



### 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.

### 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.

An Orthodox Prayer Before A Journey  
O Lord Jesus Christ *my/our* God, be *my/our* Companion, guide and protector during *my/our* journey. Keep *me/us* from all danger, misfortune and temptation. By Your divine power grant *me/us* a peaceful and successful journey and safe arrival. In You *I/we* place *my/our* hope and trust and You *I/we* praise, honor and glorify, together with Your Father and Holy Spirit now and forever and unto ages of ages. Amen.