

“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.

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UPCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 #DormitionFast **VOL. XI**
Within the Feast of the Transfiguration
+Holy Martyress Susanna the Virgin
Blessing of Grapes and First-Fruits (and vegetables)
12-noon Moleben to the Theotokos

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27 #DormitionFast
6:00 pm 8th Day Prayers for Grant Cassian Carlisle
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, Pgh, PA 15222)

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 31
Within the Feast of the Dormition
12th Sunday after Pentecost; +Martyrs Florus & Laurus
9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Epistle: 1 Cor. 15:1-11; Gospel: Mat. 19:16-26
Tone 3; Liturgical Color: **Blue**
* *Liturgy Sermon Series Continues*
Blessing of Flowers and Herbs
International Overdose Awareness Day
12-noon Panachida (Memorial Service) for those
who died from an overdose

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
9:30 am Moleben to St. Nectarios with anointing

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

² If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

³ This is my defense to those who would examine me.

⁴ Do we not have the right to our food and drink? ⁵ Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? ⁶ Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? ⁷ Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk?

⁸ Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? ⁹ For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain.” Is it for oxen that God is concerned? ¹⁰ Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. ¹¹ If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? ¹² If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

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Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant
²³ “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; ²⁵ and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii;

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

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and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; ³³ and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

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PRAYER CORNER

For the Health of... Raymond John, Austin, Janet, Boyde, Maryellen, Carrie, David, Carol, Clifford, 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

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For the souls of the newly departed... +Millie (Amelia) Skaine (8/17), +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!*

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** **Congratulations!** to Kris and Caitlyn Carlisle and their families on the birth of Grant Cassian born on Aug. 20th at 6:24am (7lbs 7oz). Welcome to our Parish Family!

“Preserve her and this child which she has borne. Cover her with the shelter of thy wings from this day until her final end, through the prayers of the most Holy Theotokos and of all the saints. Amen” – from *Prayers for a Woman on the First Day after Childbirth*

* **#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 all services or by appointment).

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!

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** **Blessing of Flowers and Herbs** – After services on **Aug. 27, 28 & 31**, we will be Blessing Flowers & Herbs in honor of the Feast of the Dormition. Everyone is encouraged to bring some in from your yard, grocery store, or florist! *Life is full of blessings!*

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** **Greek Food Festival** – Holy Trinity will have their festival from **August 28 - 31** from 11am to 9pm (985 Providence Blvd., Pittsburgh). Visit their website for more information: www.HolyTrinityPgh.org

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*** **International Overdose Awareness Day** is a global event held on **August 31st** each year that aims to raise awareness of drug overdoses. At noon we will have a Panachida (Memorial Service) for those who have passed away from an overdose. All are encouraged to stay after coffee social and pray. We also encourage those who have friends or family members who struggle with addiction, as well as those who work in the field of recovery, to come and pray with us! On **Friday, Aug 29th**, there will be a service downtown at noon at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral inspired by this awareness day.

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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 190
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 218
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 960
Community Outreach:	\$ 50

Total Collections: \$ 1418
Capital Improvement Fund: \$ 305

Participating Souls at Sunday's Liturgy: 71
Sunday's Post-Coffee Social Moleben: 7
Monday – Feast Day Vespers: 6
Tuesday – Feast Day Liturgy: 5

Weekly Candle Intentions or Memorials were offered last week by the Nelson Family; Lawrence Martin; Tim Martin; Rich & Renee Mirilovich; Kathy Schrmack; Cindy Pavilonis

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*** 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*.

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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.*

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*** 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.**

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*** 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.*

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*** 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.

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*** 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!

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*** 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.*

***** Community Cook-Out** – On **Saturday, October 4** we will host a community Cook-Out and Open House from 11 am to 2 pm. We will invite our neighbors to join us at the church, meet our community, and see our parish. If you would like to be on the prep committee for this, please contact Larry or Fr. Dave.

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***** 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.

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**** SJB Family Parish Picnic** – Who will you invite to our Parish Picnic on **Sunday, September 7?** Everybody reach out to someone and invite them to our Annual Picnic at the Cabin in North Park. *Something new this year: the Divine Liturgy (weather pending) will be AT The Cabin!* Plan to bring a camping chair for Liturgy (picnic attire is appropriate for Liturgy on this occasion). For the luncheon, please sign up on the sheet found under the Coffee Social Sign Up Sheet in the hall so we know what people will be bringing (and what is still needed).

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**** Ancient Faith Singles Retreat** – An Orthodox Christian Singles Retreat (for ages 30+) is scheduled for January 15-18, 2026 at Antiochian Village in Bolivar, PA full of socializing, church services, speaker sessions, trivia, games, speed dating, and free time for relaxation and fellowship. More details are in the online bulletin section or at:

<https://www.ancientfaith.com/events/singles-retreat/>

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***** SJB Yearly Parish Meeting** will be on **Sunday, September 14th** following the Divine Liturgy. **New Proposals** for the meeting need to be submitted to *Larry Martin* or *Liz Radomsky* no later than September 7th. All proposals are much appreciated! This is the **1st Official Notice** for the meeting.

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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!

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***** Ride Share** – We were blessed to have a number of college students with us last week for our Student Blessing. When their schedules work out, they will need rides from Point Park, Duquesne, or Pitt. We have also received requests from a couple other people who are interested in getting a ride to the church. Please contact Fr. Dave or Larry if you would be able to bring your "neighbor" to the church.

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***** "Buy a Brick"** – Have you worked on a committee elsewhere on a "buy a brick" fundraiser? Please contact Fr. Dave or Larry as we would love your thoughts on a few questions.

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CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:

✂ *** **Perennial Flower Beds** – The design of our greenspace is underway! Cardboard and wood chips have been spread to begin prepping a couple areas for perennial flowers to be planted this fall.

✂ * **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!*

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Glory to God for All Things!

Through your generosity and dedication, all of this is coming together – one thing at a time!

Thank you! Many stewards keep coming to the church and working very hard to make improvements. May God grant you many years!

*** **Congratulations and God Bless** to Fr. Robert Teklinski. This past weekend he celebrated his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Holy Priesthood and he was elevated to wear the Gold Cross at Saturday's Anniversary Liturgy! May God be merciful to his servants Fr. Bob and Pañi Peggy and bless them and may He grant them peace!. Many Years! Mnohaja l'ita!

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*** **Ukrainian Food Festival** Ss Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Mansfield Ave, Carnegie) will have their Food Festival **Fri., Sept 12 & Sat., Sept. 13.** 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Pirohi, Holubki, Halushki, outdoor grill, Pastries, Vendors, Basket Raffle and much more! For more info call 412-527-5359 or visit www.orthodoxcarnegie.org/ukranianfoodfestival

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COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

Please sign up by the kitchen or by contacting Fr. Dave

Aug 31: _____?

Sept 7: _____ Parish Picnic Pot Luck
(please see the sign up sheet)

Sept 14 (Yearly Meeting): _____?

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE HOLY MARTYRESS SUSANNA THE VIRGIN

Commemorated on August 24 / 11

The Holy Martyress Susanna the Virgin was the daughter of Presbyter Gavinius and a niece of the Holy Pope of Rome Caius (283-296). She was raised in strict Christian piety and in her youthful years dedicated herself to God. The family of the saint occupied a position of kinship with the emperor Diocletian (284-305), to whom there reached reports about her virtue and beauty. Having decided to give Saint Susanna in marriage to his co-ruling emperor Maximian Hercules (284-305), the emperor sent to presbyter Gavinius his own kinsman the dignitary Claudius, and then his own brother Maximus. Both of them together with the wife of Claudius Prepedigna and her sons Alexander and Cythius – after conversation with the pious family accepted Baptism. Having learned of this, that the entire family of the imperial kinsfolk had been converted to Christianity, Diocletian sent them into exile. Soon they burned the martyrs at Ostia, not far from Rome, and threw the ashes into the sea. They took the holy virgin Susanna to the palace, and the empress was entrusted to persuade her to submit. But the empress, secretly a Christian, supported the martyress in her intention to preserve her virginity for the sake of the Lord. She explained to the emperor about the unwillingness of the virgin to enter into marriage with a pagan. Diocletian gave permission to his co-ruler to dishonour the holy virgin, but an Angel defended her. [here apparently is a lacuna] Macedonius began to urge the martyress to offer sacrifice to the idols. "I offer myself in sacrifice to my Lord", – she answered. Then Macedonius cut off the head of the martyress. The empress secretly buried the body of the saint; the room, where the murder occurred, was consecrated into a church by Holy Pope Caius. Soon the father of Saint Susanna – Presbyter Gavinius – accepted a martyr's end, as also in the year 296 did Sainted Caius.

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

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Tending to His garden – We are called, as Orthodox Christians, to care for God's creation – tending to His garden. There are many ways to do this including: living a minimalist life, recycling, and simply having a garden that gives back to the ecosystem. Patriarch Bartholemew is referred to as "the Green Patriarch" for his many efforts to care for the environment and should be an inspiration to all of us. At St John's, we are looking to add a perennial bee and butterfly flower garden adjacent to the church. If you have thoughts or ideas about this, please see Fr. Dave. The Gardening Guild is still in it's infancy, but work has begun! Over the next few weeks we will learn about a few Orthodox Saints connected to gardening along with information about some local (or native) perennial plant.

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Some Gardening Saints of the Orthodox Church:

The Holy Martyr Konon the Gardener

Commemorated on March 18 / 5



The Holy Martyr Konon the Gardener was born in Nazareth of Galilee, but he lived in the city of Mandona, where he occupied himself with gardening. He was a God-fearing man, sincere in heart, and without malice. The saint suffered for his faith in Christ under the emperor Decius (249-251). When they brought him to trial, he unwaveringly and firmly confessed his faith. The torturers drove nails into his feet and drove him afront a chariot, until the sufferer collapsed from exhaustion, with a prayer offering up his spirit to the Lord. Saint Conon Prayed to Christ and said to those persecuting him...



"As for me, may I Hymn and Glorify the Saviour in Eternity with all those whom you have given over to death for having invoked His Name... Lord... grant me rest with the Righteous who have done Thy Holy Will!"

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Saint Tryphon the Great Martyr,
Saint Kristo the Gardener of Albania
Saint Phocas the Gardener of Sinope (320)
Saint Prochorus the Gardener and Wonderworker of the Kievan Caves Monastery (1107)

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Highlighting a Native Perennial Plant of the Week

***Asclepias tuberosa* (Butterfly Milkweed)**

Beautiful orange flowers. Tolerates deer, drought, erosion, dry soil, shallow-rocky soil; host plant for monarch butterfly caterpillars.

Plant Type: Flower

Mature Height (in feet): 1-2.5'

Width/Spread: 1-2.5'

Estimated Growth Rate: Slow

Bloom Time: Summer

Bloom Color: Orange, Yellow

Sun/Shade Requirement: Full Sun

Soil Moisture Requirement: Dry-Medium

Soil Texture: Loam, shallow rocky

Planting Distance: 1-3'

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Upcoming plants...

***Carex cherokeensis* (Cherokee Sedge)**

***Liatris spicata* (Blazing Star)**

***Monarda bradburiana* (Eastern Beebalm)**

***Penstemon digitalis* (White Beardtongue)**

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A Prayer to the Theotokos

(Strive to pray this ten times a day during the Dormition Fast)

Hail Mary, full of grace, O Virgin Birth-giver of God, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have given birth to Christ, the Savior and deliverer of our souls.

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A Hymn to the Theotokos

You are truly deserving of glory, * O Birth-giver of God * The ever blessed and most pure mother of our God * More honorable than the Cherubim *
And beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim * Who as a virgin gave birth to God the Word * True Birth-giver of God, * we magnify you!

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ONLINE BONUSES



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THIRD HOUR
Please let Fr. Dave know if you are interested in reading or chanting the Third Hour at 9:15 am
Aug 31: _____?
Sept 7: _____?
Sept 14: _____?

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


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Random Tidbits... Father Dave is available to meet Monday thru Friday from 8:30am to 2:30pm OR by appointment... **Online Community:** Please email Fr. Dave to receive the weekly bulletin via email... **Parish Phone Tree:** Please call Fr. Dave to be added... **Emergency Sick Calls:** Please notify Fr Dave when you or a family member are going into the hospital or having a procedure. He will pray with you and you will receive the Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Anointing (Unction) to be fully prepared.

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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/. 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!*

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 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.
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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)
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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
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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
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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
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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)
SUNDAY, 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
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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
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ORTHODOX WORD OF THE WEEK
CREED A statement of belief. Creeds in their earlier forms were used by the apostles, and many are recorded in the NT (Eph 5: 14; 1Ti 3: 16; 2Ti 2: 11– 13). The Creed used throughout the CHURCH was adopted at the COUNCIL of Nicea in AD 325 and expanded at the Council of Constantinople in AD 381. This Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, commonly called the Nicene Creed, is used at baptisms, in the Divine Liturgy, and in personal daily prayers.
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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA ‘BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE
*** **Congratulations and God Bless** to Father Robert Teklinski. This weekend he celebrates his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Holy Priesthood and he was elevated to wear the Gold Cross at Saturday’s Anniversary Liturgy! May God be merciful to his servants Fr. Bob and Pañi Peggy and bless them; may He cause His countenance to shine upon them and have mercy on them, and may He grant them peace!. Many Years! Mnohaja l’ita!
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*** **Ukrainian Food Festival** Ss Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Mansfield Ave, Carnegie) will have their Food Festival **Fri., Sept 12 & Sat., Sept. 13.** 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Pirohi, Holubki, Halushki, outdoor grill, Pastries, Vendors, Basket Raffle and much more! For more info call 412-527-5359 or visit www.orthodoxcarnegie.org/ukranianfoodfestival

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ADDITIONAL BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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

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*** **Ancient Faith Singles Retreat** – Join us at Antiochian Village in Bolivar, PA, for a long weekend for Orthodox Christian singles (age 30 and up) full of socializing, church services, speaker sessions, trivia, games, speed dating, and free time for relaxation and fellowship. *Get out of your comfort zone and meet other singles from all over the country!*

When? January 15-18, 2026
Where? Antiochian Village Conference Center in Bolivar, PA
Who? 130+ Orthodox Christian singles
What's on the Schedule?

* Speed Dating: Break the ice and get to know your fellow retreat attendees! Whether you are extroverted or introverted, speed dating will give you the excuse to meet every other single in attendance.

* Trivia Night: Start studying, because at this year's singles retreat, we will host a trivia night with questions written by Ancient Faith staff and contributors! Get ready for a fun challenge and teamwork!

* Interactive, Speaker-Led Sessions: Hear from Drs. Mary and David Ford and Fr. Nick Belcher and engage in fruitful discussion on being single and Orthodox today.

* Film Screening of American Orthodox: Watch and discuss a brand new documentary about the lives of the early American saints arriving on the West Coast and their presence with us today.

* Church Services (of course!): We will worship together at Vespers and Matins each day and celebrate Divine Liturgy on Sunday. We will also serve a supplication service at the relics of St. Raphael of Brooklyn.

* And Much More: We will enjoy the beautiful grounds of Antiochian Village, eat our meals together in the

Cedars Dining Hall, and have free time to rest, pray, and fellowship with one another.
Who is Invited? If you are...
* a single (unmarried, divorced, widowed) man or woman,
* at least thirty years old,
* an Orthodox Christian,
* and living in the world (non-monastic):
YOU are invited!
<https://www.ancientfaith.com/events/singles-retreat/>


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* **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, 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!

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* **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!

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*  **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 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.

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

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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!

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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
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Speaking With Your Priest - Please know you can call me anytime if there is something troubling you. It is not a sign of weakness to share something that may be

heavy on your heart or mind. As a priest and Father to our parish, I am here for you. Please call if you need someone to listen or to pray with you. Every heart has a cross and you do not need to carry it alone. Please also call if you have an idea for the growth of our parish. I am praying for you and am grateful for your prayers. With love in Christ, Fr. Dave

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

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

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Calendar - Future Services are updated online at: www.orthodxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar
(Please see Fr. Dave if you want a printed copy)

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STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET



TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

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* **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.*

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* **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!*)

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

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ACRY NEWS

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* **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.

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

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

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On-Line Giving is available from our parish website to donate to the: General Stewardship Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and/or Relocation Fund. The best option is to come to church and give your offering to God in His Temple (2nd best is to mail it in to Tim Martin, 2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143). If you miss coming to church for a week, online giving allows you another option to "catch up" on your weekly stewardship. You can also set up a recurring donation online. For our parish to continue it's ministries,

outreach, and general bill paying, your generosity and stewardship is needed.

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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

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Bulletin Sponsor - If you wish to sponsor a bulletin *In Honor of* (nameday, birthday, anniversary, etc.) or *In Memory of* someone, please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule or by contacting Fr. Dave (email, text, or call). An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested. *Remember, sponsoring a bulletin in memory of someone does not replace having a Panachida (Memorial Service) for them.*

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Stewardship of Treasure Guide

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

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

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A Prayer of Stewardship

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

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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**

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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**

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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!

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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!**

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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.
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“The cremation of bodies is not a Christian act. It is a custom of modern times. The body of a Christian has been sanctified with the Grace of the Holy Spirit, and as such may not be burned. God did not create our bodies for burning.” - Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica
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The Jesus Prayer

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

(Repeat until your heart is calm...)
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PRAYER CORNER
Special Intentions – Did you ever wonder for what reasons would a person’s name go under “For the Special Intentions of...” on our Prayer Page? A special intention request is very diversified! It could be when one is under extreme job stress, struggling with spiritual issues, infertility, dealing with the loss of a loved one... the list goes on. As with the other lists on our page, one does not have to be Orthodox to be added.
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Prayer requests – During the Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy, prayers are said for the sick and those celebrating special occasions listed in the bulletin. If silent prayers are requested, they will be offered quietly at the Altar at all services. All those listed in the “Prayer Corner” are prayed for during the 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.
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Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions #
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A Prayer For The Sick: O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant(s) *name(s)*. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver *him/her/them* from sickness and bitter pain. Heal *him/her/them* so that *he/she/they* may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.
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For the 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*
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For the Special Intentions of... His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. Stephen B., Fr. Thomas B., Protodeacon Gregory B., Stephanie B, Kevin, Michael L., Laura & family, Carlene, Georgia, Stephen, David, Anastasia,

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.
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The Jesus Prayer

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

(Repeat until your heart is calm...)
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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.*

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*** Nameday, Birthday, and Anniversary Prayer List is
being reset** – *Our parish prayer list of key dates and
special occasions in our lives were reset back on 3/1/24.
If one of your special days is missing – please let Fr
Dave know ASAP. See Fr. Dave with any questions.*

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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!

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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!*

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For our Catechumens & Inquirers...

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

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

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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

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For Pregnant Mothers...

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

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***For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil
Authorities...*** Thomas R. Dzadovsky *...through the
prayers of St George, the Great-Martyr &
Wonderworker.*

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This is to be used for the special intentions of our
brothers and sisters in Christ and can be inserted as a
prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave
know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (*in the
case of answered prayers*) to our Parish List. The words of
the Gospel are true: it is good to pray for one another. Let
this be a place where we lay out our concerns and beg the
help of our brothers & sisters in Christ. *This prayer list is
NOT limited to only Orthodox Christians.*

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A Prayer for Peace

Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of
all people on the earth. Guide, I pray, all the
nations and their leaders in the ways of justice
and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice,
prejudice, exploitation, conflict and war. Help us
to put away mistrust, bitterness and hatred. Teach
us to cease the storing and using of implements of
war. Lead us to find peace, respect and freedom.
Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of
peace against ignorance, poverty, disease and
oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony
and friendship as brothers and sisters created in
Your image, to Your honor and praise. Amen.

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A prayer for our Neighborhoods by Archbishop Demetrios of America

I pray to you, God, for the families of my
neighborhood. Visit them. Throw their troubles out
of them and bring hope. Make the daily cares that
devour the heart disappear. Present solutions to
life's problems. Settle the disturbed relationships
among members of different families whom I know
or do not know. O Lord, remind the people of our
area that You exist, that You are a strong and loving
Protector. Keep away, Lord, anything that causes
the disappearance of peace from souls, and the
escape of sleep from our eyes. Stay a little while
more tonight in our neighborhood. Spread peace
along with the night. Let the harshness of the day
and its struggles not spread over the night. Amen.

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A Prayer for our Diocesan Clergy

O Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of Your
sheep, light the fire of ardent love in the hearts of
all Your priests, that they may ever and in all
things seek only Your glory. Remember
especially, Lord, our Bishop (*name*), and our
spiritual father (*name*), and all our diocesan
clergy, who are laboring in Your vineyard for the
salvation of all those whom You have entrusted
to them. Make their lives as holy as the word they
preach. Keep them from being discouraged. Hear
their prayers for our salvation. Give them wisdom
and courage to proclaim Your truth. Make them
priests after Your own heart. For You are a
merciful God Who loves us and to You we give
glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your
all-holy, good and life-giving- Spirit, now and
ever and forever. Amen.

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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.

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