

"THE WEEKLY FORERUNNER" *Our Parish Bulletin*

O Holy John, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptizer of the Lord, pray to God for us!

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

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, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

VOL. XI

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

+Martyr Nestor (306)

Monthly Memorial (Panachida) for +Stephen Fucsko, Jr. (3-year), +Mary Ann Kirish (3-yr), +William Sanders (10-yr), +Olga Radick (5-yr), +Richard Radick (35-yr), +Irving Liberman (1-yr), +John Potoski (33-yr), +Donald Bodnar, Sr (5-yr), +Mark Bodnar (5-yr), +Francis (Smoley) Zatorsky (6-yr), +Sandra Hricak (2-yr), the Priest, +Protopresbyter John Gido (4-yr), +Kelly Leone (6-yr), +Justine Kailyar (49-yr), the Priest, +Protopresbyter Michael Hanas (29-yr), +Nancy Horvath (7-yr)

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

9:15 am Third Hour

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Tone 6; Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: Luke 8:41-56 (*7th Sunday of Luke*)

Youth Sunday

Church School

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

6:00 pm Moleben to St. Nectarios with Anointing

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL

MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS

9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

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BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** **New Bulletin Format** – As previously mentioned, Vestal Publishing will no longer be offering their weekly bulletin covers. Fr. Dave has finished repurposing the old covers. Today begins experimentation with a different format! For those who read the bulletin from their phones, PLEASE contact Fr. Dave with feedback on this format.

*** **Journey to Orthodoxy** – Congratulations and God's choicest blessings to Maxwell (Thaddeus) Anton who was received into the Orthodox Faith and our parish family on Sunday afternoon, November 2. May God grant to His newly-illuminated servant, Maxwell (Thaddeus), Many Years of Peace, Health, Happiness and Salvation! Blessings also to his sponsor, Timothy Martin, Reader. Many Years! Mnohaya L'ita!

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*** **Church School Participation** – Our Youth Ministry Leader, Kathy S., will be the main contact for parents to update the teachers on whether their kids will be at class. Our next lesson on 11/16 will cover the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. **Parents** – please update Kathy ASAP.

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*** The **St Nicholas Charity Dinner Luncheon**, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Deanery to benefit our Christ the Saviour Seminary, is a bit different this year moving to a Saturday and up to lunch time, but with the same great food! It will be on **SATURDAY, December 6** at the Bulgarian-Macedonian Hall - BMNECC that is handicap accessible (449 West Eighth Ave., West Homestead, PA 15120). Doors open at **12:30 pm** with a Buffett LUNCHEON at **1:00 pm**. Menu from the Cooked Goose includes: Roast Beef, Stuffed Chicken Breast with Gravy, Vegetable Lasagna, Mashed Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Green Beans Almandine, and Rolls with Butter. Ticket prices are: Adults: \$40; Teens 13-18: \$30; Ages 5-12: \$15; Up to Age 4: Free (*checks payable to "Pittsburgh Deanery"*). If anyone (or organization) would like to "sponsor a seminarian" (or part of their family), please see Father. (*Our seminarians and their families are invited to come for free. Your donation would help cover this expense.*) There will also be a "Rusyn Auction". Our parish has been asked to bring 3 baskets (*each around a \$25 value*) to be raffled off at the dinner. Come enjoy the fellowship, meet the seminarians, enjoy the carol sing-a-long, meet a special guest, and keep this tradition alive! **Order your tickets by Sunday, November 30.** See Fr. Dave for tickets (or would anyone be willing to handle our tickets?)

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*** **Chair Lift** – As discussed at the yearly meeting, a chair lift will be installed from the vestibule to the hall. The cost will be \$6,700 and paid for by an anonymous donor. Installation will occur before Nativity.

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** **RJT Concert** – The **Rankin Jr Tamburitians** will have their Annual Concert this **Saturday, November 15** at 4:00 pm at the Turtle Creek Elementary Steam Academy (126 Monroeville Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145). Guest groups for the concert will be the Slavjane Carpatho-Rusyn Group and the St. Nick's Serbian Group. A dinner dance reception will follow immediately after at the Rankin Croatian Home (236 Fourth Ave., Rankin, PA 15104). An a la carte dinner will be offered. Music will be provided by Orkestar Zabava for your listening and dancing pleasure.

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*** **Liturgy Sermon Series Complete** – Today (11/9) we finished our walk through the Divine Liturgy. I pray that this has not only been educational but has helped you grow in your Orthodox Faith. I enjoyed this and pray that you did as well! - Fr. Dave

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** **Christmas Candy Sale** – We are selling Christmas Candy as a winter fundraiser. Brochures are on the table leading into the hall. Orders are due to Tim Martin, Reader, by **November 30**. Orders can be picked up after December 14. *The monies raised from this go into our Fundraising Account which is mainly used for our parish community outreach to help those who are in need.*

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*** **Winter Maintenance and Decorating Morning** - On **Saturday, December 13** our periodic parish maintenance morning will return! All are asked to come and help repair some little things, do a deep cleaning, and decorate for Christmas. Please sign up on the sheet in the hall if you are able to offer stewardship of your time that morning.

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** **St. Matrona Cookie Walk** – The 22nd Annual event will be held on **Saturday, December 13**, from 10 AM to 2 PM (or until sold out) at Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church (220 Mansfield Blvd, Carnegie). Most cookies sold by the pound. No online orders. Rumor has it you should go quite early to get in line! Please contact Fr. Dave for more info.

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** **Initiation of the Catechumen** - On Sunday, October 26, Hekuran was enrolled into the catechumenate. He begins his next step in becoming a member of the Orthodox Church. Let us continue to keep Hekuran in our personal prayers! Many Years!

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** **Pop Can Tab Collection** – Join the National Jr. ACRY in supporting the Ronald McDonald House. A collection bin for *Can Tabs* has been placed in the vestibule near the bin for repurposed Greeting Cards. During the next year, please help fill the container with your pop can tabs.

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COFFEE SOCIAL STEWARDS

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

Nov 16: _____ Sr. ACRY
Nov 23: _____
Nov 30: _____

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*** **A new approach to the Coffee Social:** 4 people bring 1 item each. A modified sign-up sheet is now available. *(If someone wants to host the entire event, that is still an option – just sign your name through all 4 boxes.)* Also, the Kitchen Crew, led by Liz, will be the “point person” for signing up or any questions.

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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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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship Offerings:	\$ 285
Candle Stewardship:	\$ 64
Envelope Stewardship:	\$ 403
Total Collections:	\$ 752
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 0
<i>Participating Souls at Sunday's Liturgy:44</i>	

Weekly Candle Intentions or Memorials were offered last week by the Nelson Family; Tim Martin; Mary Jane Hudak; Rich & Renee Mirilovich ; Melanie Paieski; Cindy Pavilonis

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The **Christ Candle Cross** was offered last week in memory of departed from the Varhala Family. May Their Memory Be Eternal!

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The **Theotokos Candle Cross** was offered last week anonymously for the health of Ernie and Maryann. Many Years!

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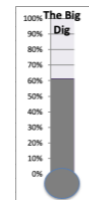
The **Eternal Lamp** was offered last week anonymously in memory of the departed founders and benefactors of St. John the Baptist. May Their Memory Be Eternal!

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Financial Reports	October	Fiscal Year
General Stewardship	\$ 4062.05	\$ 8,972
* Expenses	\$ 6727.36	\$ 12,102
Yield +/-	- \$ 2665.31	- \$ 3,130
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 1388.00	\$ 2907
<i>Sunday Participation Average</i>	44	43

**details listed on the bulletin board in the church hall*

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* **The Big Dig Update** – Through the end of October, \$28,930 has been collected towards our \$45,000 expense from the recent excavation project. All of your additional generosity is greatly appreciated! May God bless you! Many Years!

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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.

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.

CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

Here is a brief update from the past few weeks:

- ✠ *** A **Temporary Sidewalk** has been modified and updated which wraps from the double doors in the middle around to the back of the church (ending at the shed). The 2' pavers were found online for free and the stewardship of members of the construction crew installed them.
- ✠ ** **Temporary Flooring** has been added between the Solea and the start of the pews in the nave of the church. This "dresses up" this area until the ceiling and walls are finished (*plan still being finalized*). When the day comes to do the floor in the nave, this laminate can be re-used elsewhere (i.e. offices downstairs). The cost is less than \$1,000. Thank you and God's blessings to members of the Construction Crew who worked on this project. Many Years!
- ✠ ** **Outside Green Space** – Recently, a gardening specialist and Landscape Architect came to the church and shared their expertise for creating a Perennial Pollinator Garden. Due to the costs involved in their proposals, at this time we will leave the space as is.

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Glory to God for All Things!

Through your generosity and dedication, everything 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!

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SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Final Admonitions and Benediction

¹¹ See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. ¹⁴ But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷ Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

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Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

Jesus Heals the Gerasene Demoniac

²⁶ Then they arrived at the country of the Ger'asenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ And as he stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." ²⁹ For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him,

"What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³² Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

³⁴ When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. ³⁶ And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Ger'asenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

THE MONK NESTOR THE CHRONICLER

Commemorated on November 9 / October 27

The Monk Nestor the Chronicler was born at Kiev in 1050. He came in his youth to the Monk Theodosii (Feodosii, + 1074, Comm. 3 May) and became a novice. The Monk Nestor took monastic vows under the successor to the Monk Theodosii, the hegumen Stephen, and under him was ordained monk-deacon.

Concerning his lofty spiritual life it says that, amidst the number of other monastic fathers he participated in the casting out of a devil from Nikita the Hermit (afterwards a Novgorod Sainted-hierarchy, Comm. 31 January), having become fascinated by the Hebrew wisdom of the Old Testament. The Monk Nestor deeply appreciated true knowledge, conjoined with humility and penitence. "Great is the benefit of book learning, – said he, – for books point out and teach us the way to repentance, since from the words of books we discover wisdom and temperance. This is the stream, watering the universe, from which springs wisdom. In books is a boundless depth, by them we are comforted in sorrows, and they are a bridle for moderation. If thou do enter diligently into the books of wisdom, thou then shalt discover great benefit for thy soul. Wherefore that one who readeth books, doth converse with God or the saints".

In the monastery the Monk Nestor had the obedience of being the chronicler. In the 1080's he wrote the "Account about the Life and Perishing of the Blessed PassionBearers Boris and Gleb" in connection with the transfer of the relics of the saints to Vyshgorod in the year 1072 (Comm. 2 May). In the 1080's the Monk Nestor also compiled the Life of the Monk Theodosii of Pechersk. And in 1091 on the eve of the altar-feast of the Pechersk monastery, he was entrusted by the hegumen John to dig up out of the ground, for transfer to the church, the holy relics of the Monk Theodosii (Uncovering Relics, Comm. 14 August).

The chief work in the life of the monk Nestor was the compiling in the years 1112-1113 of the "Tale of Bygone Years" ("Povest' Vremmenykh Let"). "Here is the tale of years gone by, from whence the Russian land came to be, who at Kiev started first to be prince and from whither the Russian land is arrayed" – so with the very first line the Monk Nestor specifies his purpose.

His is an extraordinarily wide circle of sources: of prior Russian chronicle accounts and sayings, monastery records, the Byzantine Chronicles of John Malalos and George Amartolos, various historical collections, the accounts of the boyar-elder Ian Vyshatich and of tradesmen and soldiers, of journeymen and of those who knew – all set together by him with an unified and strict Church point of view. This permitted the Monk Nestor to write his history of Russia as an inclusive part of world history – the history of the salvation of the human race.

The monk-patriot expounds the history of the Russian Church in the significant moments of its historical settings. He speaks about the first mentioning of the Russian nation in historical sources – in the year 866, during the time of the holy Patriarch of Constantinople Photios; he narrates about the creation of the Slavonic alphabet and writing by the holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Cyril and Methodius; and about the Baptism of holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Ol'ga at Constantinople. The chronicle of the Monk Nestor has preserved for us an account about the first Orthodox church in Kiev (under the year 945), about the confessors deed of the holy Varangian Martyrs (under the year 983), about the "testing of the faiths" by the holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Vladimir (year 986) and the "Baptism of Rus'" (the year 988). We are indebted to the first Russian Church historian for accounts about the first metropolitans of the Russian Church, about the emergence of the Pechersk monastery, and about its founders and ascetics. The times in which the Monk Nestor lived were not easy for the Russian land and the Russian Church. Rus' lay torn asunder by princely feuds; the steppe Polovetsian nomads laid waste both city and village with plundering raids, they snatched off Russian people into slavery, and burnt churches and monasteries. The Monk Nestor was an eyewitness to the devastation of the Pechersk monastery in the year 1096. In the chronicle is given a theologically thought out patriotic history. The spiritual depth, historical fidelity and patriotism of the "Tale of Bygone Years" [in English otherwise also known as "The Russian Primary Chronicle"] establish it among the ranks of significant creations of world literature.

The Monk Nestor died in about the year 1114, having left to the Pechersk monk-chroniclers the continuation of his great work. His successors in the writing of the chronicles were: the hegumen Syl'vestr, adding on contemporary accounts to the "Tale of Bygone Years"; the hegumen Moisei (Moses) Vydubitsky lengthened it to the year 1200; and finally, the hegumen Lavrentii, having written in the year 1377 the most ancient of our surviving copies that preserve the "Tale" of the Monk Nestor (this copy is known as the "Lavrentian Chronicle"). The hagiographic tradition of the Pechersk ascetics was continued by Sainted Simon, Bishop of Vladimir (+ 1226, Comm. 10 May), the compiler of the "Kievo-Pechersk Paterikon". Narrating the events connected with the lives of the holy saints of God, Saint Simon often quotes, from among other sources, the Chronicles of the Monk Nestor.

The Monk Nestor was buried in the Nearer Caves of the Monk Antonii of Pechersk. The Church also honours his memory together with the Sobor (Assemblage) of the holy Fathers of the Nearer Caves on 28 September and on the 2nd Sunday of Great Lent when is celebrated the Sobor of all the Kievo-Pechersk Fathers. His works have many times been published [in English also as "The Russian Primary Chronicle"].

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PRAYER CORNER

For the Health of...

Christopher, Brian, Ernie, Maryann, Anna, Liliana, Melanie, Carrie, Lindsay, Jason, 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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November Namedays:

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

Makaela Kirish - Archangel Michael (11/21)

Cindy Pavilonis - Saint Cyntianus (11/28)

Matthew Mirilovich - Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (11/29)

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

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November Birthdays:

Fr Joseph Birthisel (11/2), Subdeacon Ryan Ferko (11/4/85), Matt Opsitos (11/4), Jason Shelpman, Jr (11/4), Nicholas Kubis (11/6), Deborah Harris (11/8), Caitlin Carlisle (11/9), Michael Fischer (11/11), Dustin Kovats (11/12), Fr. James Blomeley (11/14), Cindy Pavilonis (11/14), Kim Opsitos (11/21),

Fr Michael Rustick (11/21), *Father's sister*, Suzanne Verbanick (11/25), Stephen Brancho (11/26),

Fr. Michael Ellis (11/26/75), Pañi Peggy Teklinski (11/26), Victor Zerby (11/27), Pañi Ileana Bennett (11/28), Chi-Wing Chow (11/29), Liam Kovats (11/30)

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

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November Anniversaries:

Doug & Elizabeth (Radomsky) Delaney (11/1)

Thomas & Harmonie (Scherer) Torchia (11/12/11)

Alisha and Aaron Zak (11/15/15)

...through the prayers of St. Nicholas Planas

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For the souls of the newly departed...

+Carlene Smith (10/18)

...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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IOCC Thanksgiving Prayer for Those in Need

O Heavenly King, Comforter, who grants all blessings, we thank You for Your abundant grace and mercies. Help us to be good stewards of Your treasury through the ministry of IOCC. Help us to strip ourselves of our earthly adornment, so that the poor may be sufficiently clothed and fed. And, by so loving our neighbor, adorn us with the everlasting pearls of virtue instead. Where there is suffering, help us to bring Your mercy; where there is despair, Your hope. Where there is war, allow us to present You who are the Prince of Peace; where there is pain, You who are the Comforter; Where there is hatred, You who are Love; where there is death and destruction; You who are the Resurrection and Life. Daily guide our work in and through IOCC so that we may do all things, in every place and at all times, for Your glory. Amen.

ONLINE BONUSES

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*** **New Bulletin Format** – As previously mentioned, Vestal Publishing will no longer be offering their weekly bulletin covers. Fr. Dave has finished repurposing the old covers. Today begins experimentation with a different format! For those who read the bulletin from their phones, PLEASE contact Fr. Dave with feedback on this format.

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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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ADDITIONAL BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wednesday)

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* **Free ACRY Annuals** – Feel free to take a past edition of the Diocesan Yearbook, the ACRY Annual. They are on the ledge in the vestibule by the window.

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

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Calendar - Future Services are updated online at:

www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar

(Please see Fr. Dave if you want a printed copy)

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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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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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2025-26 SJB PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Larry Martin
Vice-President: Liz Radomsky
Treasurer: Tim Martin, Reader
Financial Secretary: Rich Mirilovich
Recording Secretary: Gina Fall
Chief Auditor: Bob Fall
Auditors: Mary Jane Hudak, Ray Kilmer, Kim Opsitos, Matt Opsitos, and Kathy Schrmack

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THIS MONTH'S SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Church School

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

FEAST OF THE GREAT MARTYR DEMETRIUS

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Monthly Memorial (Panachida)

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Youth Sunday
Church School

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

6:00 pm Moleben to St. Nectarios with Anointing
6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting *(All are welcome to come and listen to the discussions at the meeting)*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

6:30 pm Feast Day Vespers

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

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

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 - IOCC SUNDAY

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

6:30 pm Moleben of Thanksgiving

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28 #NativityFast

NATIVITY FAST BEGINS (PHILIP'S FAST / FILIPOVKA)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30 #NativityFast

9:15 am Third Hour; 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Church School

12-noon Moleben for the Nativity Fast

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AND Looking *FURTHER* Ahead...

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

- Dec 4 – Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos
- **Dec 6** – St. Nicholas Charity ~~Dinner~~ Luncheon Banquet to benefit Christ the Savior Seminary
- **Dec 13** – Decorating and Maintenance Morning
- Dec 19 - Feast of St. Nicholas

Please, Save the Dates!

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STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET



TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

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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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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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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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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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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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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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Stewardship of Treasure Guide

Weekly offering to God through the Sunday Offertory - Will you take a step up?

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

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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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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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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ONLINE PRAYER CORNER

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

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

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Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions

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 The Sick: O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant(s) *name(s)*. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver *him/her/them* from sickness and bitter pain. Heal *him/her/them* so that *he/she/they* may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us.

Amen.

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For the Special Intentions of...

His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. Stephen B., Fr. Thomas B., Protodeacon Gregory

B., Stephanie B, Kevin, Michael L., Laura & family, 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, Dcn Maximus C, Alexander H, Monk David M, Nicholas C, John B, John F, Bradley S, Clay

W, and our *Parish Council and Curators*: Lawrence, Subdeacon Ryan, Timothy, Rich, Elizabeth, Robert, Gina, John, Kimberly, Matthew, 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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November Namedays:

Urban Family – Holy Disciple Urban of the 70 (11/13)
Makaela Kirish - Archangel Michael (11/21)
Cindy Pavilonis - Saint Cyntianus (11/28)
Matthew Mirilovich - Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (11/29)

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

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November Birthdays:

Fr Joseph BIRTHISL (11/2), Subdeacon Ryan FERKO (11/4/85), Matt OPSITOS (11/4), Jason SHELPMAN, Jr (11/4), Nicholas KUBIS (11/6), Deborah HARRIS (11/8), Caitlin CARLISLE (11/9), Michael FISCHER (11/11), Dustin KOVATS (11/12), Fr. James BLOMELEY (11/14), Cindy PAVILONIS (11/14), Kim OPSITOS (11/21),

Fr Michael RUSTICK (11/21), *Father's sister*, Suzanne VERBANICK (11/25), Stephen BRANCHO (11/26), Fr. Michael ELLIS (11/26/75), Pañi Peggy TEKLINSKI (11/26), Victor ZERBY (11/27), Pañi Ileana BENNETT (11/28), Chi-Wing CHOW (11/29), Liam KOVATS (11/30)

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

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For our Catechumens & Inquirers...

Hekuran, 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, Nicholas & Camile

...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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November Anniversaries:

Doug & Elizabeth (Radomsky) Delaney (11/1)
Thomas & Harmonie (Scherer) Torchia (11/12/11)
Alisha and Aaron Zak (11/15/15)

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

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For Pregnant Mothers...

Carley (due in November), Morgan (due in 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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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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