

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church



100th Anniversary

THE FORERUNNER

St John the Baptist Orthodox Church - 211 Cable Avenue – East Pittsburgh, PA 15112
HIS EMINENCE, METROPOLITAN GREGORY OF NYSSA
 American Carpatho-Russian Diocese-Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople
 The Very Reverend Protopresbyter Joseph Fester Rectory: 412-824-0246
 Mobile: 412-607-7039 Email: protopresbyterjoseph@gmail.com Website: www.sjbeastpitt.org –
 Facebook: @stjohneastpitt
 Subdeacon Gary Grysiak, Cantor; Reader Justin Rosco, Choir Director; Ron Kitsko, Parish Council President

SUNDAY SERVICES STREAMED LIVE ON [FB https://www.facebook.com/stjohneastpitt](https://www.facebook.com/stjohneastpitt)

25 Sunday	26 Monday	27 Tuesday	28 Wednesday	29 Thursday	30 Friday	1 Saturday
PALM SUNDAY	HOLY MONDAY	HOLY TUESDAY	HOLY WEDNESDAY	HOLY THURSDAY	HOLY FRIDAY	HOLY SATURDAY
8:15 Ch School 9:00 Divine Liturgy	9am Presanctified Liturgy	9am Presanctified Liturgy	9am Presanctified Liturgy	9am Vespers Liturgy	9am Royal Hours	9am Reception of Thomas Cunningham, Vespers Liturgy and 15 OT Readings
6pm Bridegroom Matins	6pm Bridegroom Matins	6pm Bridegroom Matins	6pm Holy Unction	6pm Passion Gospels	Placing of the Shroud 6pm Great Vespers	8pm Nocturns, Procession, Paschal Matins
FAST	STRICT FAST	STRICT FAST	STRICT FAST	STRICT FAST	SCRICT FAST	STRICT FAST

WE SAY- to all who are with us today at St. John's for the first time, ***you are welcome here!*** We pray that you will consider making St. John's your spiritual home. Please join us after Liturgy downstairs for fellowship.

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD- Sometimes we miss a Sunday and the opportunity to offer our financial gift to the Lord. If we do, ***please catch up*** with your gifts. Whether we are here or not, our parish bills continue. Thanks, and God bless!

Sunday, April 18, 2021 – Attendance 36 – Weekly Offering, \$1067 – Building Fund, \$125 – Vigil Candles, \$171 – Advance Vigil, (\$15) – Patriarchal Pence, \$20 – Diocesan Dues, \$150 – Easter Flowers Advance, (\$200) – Easter Flowers, \$26 – Easter Candles, \$10 – Total \$1380

PLEASE REMEMBER-that if you have received your COVID-19 vaccines, you are allowed to come to church no matter which worship group you are in. We will still need to wear masks and practice social distancing until it is deemed safe to do otherwise.

PLEASE REMEMBER-to fill out your response form about our Church Beautification Project. We need your input.

NEXT SUNDAY – is Pascha! The blessing of Paschal Foods will be done in the church hall after the Paschal Liturgy.

EVERYONE- can come to all services going forward. This will be in effect unless Services during the weekdays and on Saturday are also open to both Groups , next Sunday, Palm Sunday, both groups.

O Master Who loves mankind, illuminate our hearts with the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our mind to understand the teachings of Your Gospel. Instill in us also the fear of Your blessed commandments, that we may overcome all carnal desires, entering upon a spiritual life and understanding and acting in all things according to Your holy will. For You are the enlightenment of our souls and bodies, O Christ God, and to You we give glory together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS - <http://holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/index.htm>

Monday	Isaiah 48:17-49:4	Genesis 27:1-41	Proverbs 19:16-25	Ven. Gregory the Sinaite
Tuesday	Isaiah 49:6-10	Genesis 31:3-16	Proverbs 21:3-21	St Govan of Cornwall
Wednesday	Isa. 41:4-14	Gen 43:26-31;45:1-16	Prov. 21:23-22:4	St Celestine, pope of Rome
Thursday	Isa. 65:8-16	Gen 46:1-7	Prov 23:15-24:5	Martyr Eupychius of Caesarea
Friday	Isa. 66:10-24	Gen 45:26-50:26	Prov 31:8-31	Prophetess Hulda
Saturday	Hebrews 12:28-13:8		John 11:1-45	Lazarus Saturday
Sunday	Philippians 4:4-9		John 12:1-18	Palm Sunday

HELP KIDS WITH CANCER?- by saving your pop tops from your aluminum cans and bring them to church. We will collect them and then deliver them to the Pittsburgh Ronald McDonald House. This will be an on-going effort. Any questions, talk to Rebecca Barclay who is spearheading this effort.

NO CONFESSIONS-will be heard, except in an emergency after Holy Wednesday. Please come when they are being heard or by appointment.

EASTER EGG HUNT- for the kids after Liturgy on Pascha. If you would like to donate any candy, please see Pani Kathy. We have plastic eggs, so all we need are the goodies.

WE HAVE A NEW BATCH- of Scrip Cards available. They include: 2 Dairy Queen, 11 Giant Eagle, Lowes, Rite Aid, Speedway, Texas Roadhouse, TGI Fridays, and Walmart/Sam's Club. If there are other cards you would like, please let Bob Pervuznik Jr. know and he will make sure to order them in the next order.

THIS WEEK-Holy Week, is the most important week of the year for Orthodox. And, for us, here at St. John's it is our week to journey with our Lord on His way to Calvary. It is our chance to enter, once again, into His saving Passion, His self-emptying Love for us. This love is beyond any human love but the Divine Love of God. It is our opportunity to experience that love as He goes to His voluntary and ever-memorial death. There can be no Resurrection without the Cross. We must all pass through the Cross to experience the new life. We do this during Holy Week with changing our daily lives, coming to the services of Holy Week, placing ourselves before the Love of God and with deep love, and even tears, express our grateful thanksgiving for all He has done for us. Let us meet Him starting tonight at 6pm.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS –Michael Kapeluck, our Iconographer, Thomas Planiczki, Josephine Sofelkanik, Michael Sterchak, John Edward Stagon, Kathryn Rogulin, Cathy Pervuznik, Wally Perkins, Gina Marie Gaspar, Dannette Wargo, Aubrey Welch, Marti and Cathilynn Baran, Annie Weiland, Fr Daniel Prez (Joe Monde’s brother), Fr. George Livanos, Fr. Patrick Carpenter, Fr Michael Hatrak, Fr Jason Delvitto, Michael O’Brien, Matushka Susanne Senyo, Zackery Schwenning- overseas deployment, Joseph Paul Cervo, all healthcare and frontline workers and for all sick with COVID-19 virus. *Please keep Father Joseph informed on changes to anyone’s health status so he can minister to them.*

April Birthdays

DeBorah Hutnyan 4/30 Cindy Sterchak 4/30

April Memorial List

Newly Departed: Rose Olson, Very Rev Dragoljub Malich.

Perpetual: John & Anna Sabo, Harry & Mary Tucker, Julia Wazso, Michael & Mary Suvak, John Kalita, John, Mary & George Sabol, Magdalena Sabol, George & Helen Kusik, Tom Planiczki, Michael Yakubik, Pauline Sabo. Robert Carlilse, Sr., John Zura, Anna Chokla, Anna Kokojko, John Hrenko, Sr., Michael Billi, Michael Kostik, Julia Wazso, Maria Muchaj, George Oleksuk, Pauline Yanko, Andrew Regrut, Anna Rela, Mary Regrut, Michael Tabak, John Zeba, William Floder, Xenia Marchak, Mary Harajda, John Uram, Marie Ziatyk, Nicholas Kosarich, Helen Kravec, John Geras, George Pervuznik, Nikolas Mukaj, William Weidenhof, William Geezer, Florence Slaby, John K Horsak, Stanley Majewski, Helen Evansky-Gabor, Henry Michael Beben, Andrew Kuzemka, Rose Fester, Mary Fedornock

Candle Intentions -4/11/21 Living

Bires, Alice - Various Intentions (10)
Carlisle, Bob & Sandy-Happy Birthday, Nectarious
Grysiak, Gary - Janet
Grysiak, Gary-Janet - John Stagon Jr.
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Benjamin
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Luke & Alexis
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Basil & Irene
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Deborah
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Burkett Family -
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Josie Sofelkanik
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Bob & Miryam Knutson
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Wally Perkins
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - John E. Stagon
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - John Stagon, Jr.
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - George Sabeh
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Anthony Macchiaroli
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Wally Perkins
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims
Harms, Adrienne & Dennis-Grandson Zackery-overseas deployment
Harms, Adrienne & Dennis, Son, John, new job, new life, new adventures
Kiss, Marge- Marylyn Chuprinko
Kocan, Nicki-Camile, Health of Family
Pervuznik, Bob Jr- Mom

Sabeh, Nancy-Family
Sabeh, Nancy-George
Stagon, George & Barb-Fr Matthew, Pani Eleni, & Children
Stagon, George & Barb-Jeff, Nicole, Jillina, Payton
Stagon, George & Barb-Connie, Tyler
Stagon Jr., John- David, Linda, Johnny
Stagon Jr., John- David II, Christal & Weston
Stagon Jr., John E Stagon & Jessica
Sterchak, Cindy & Dave-Don Wales
Weiland, Annie-Family

Memory

Carlisle, Bob & Sandy-Anthony Checchio
Carlisle, Bob & Sandy -August Futryk
Carlisle, Bob & Sandy- Robert Carlise, Sr.
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Mother, Helen
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Father, Charles
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Mother, Irene Barney
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Father, Edward Barney
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Metropolitan Nicholas
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims
Grysiak, Janet & Gary- Rose, Fr Joseph’s Sister
Harms, Adrienne & Dennis- Parents
Harms, Adrienne & Dennis - Rose Olson
Pervuznik, Cathy- Bob
Sabeh, Nancy-Ken Wagner
Stagon, George & Barb-Parents George, Beatrice, Nicholas
Stagon Jr., John -Wife, Ann
Stagon, Jr., John- Mother, Father, Brothers
Sterchak, Cindy & Dave- Mom, Margaret
Weiland, Annie-Louise & Harry
Weiland, Annie- Loved Ones
Weiland, Annie-Husband, Bob

SYMBOLS OF VICTORY- Today we hold high in our hands the palms and pussy willows as we greet our King, the Lord, Jesus Christ as he makes his triumphal entrance into the city of Jerusalem. His victory is not that of an earthly king, returning from battle but the King who will defeat the ultimate enemy, Death! There can be no greater victory than this. We rejoice and sing to him, “Hosanna in the Highest, Blessed is He Who Comes in the Name of the Lord.” The troparion for the Feast of Palm Sunday says it all for us:

O Christ our God, You confirmed the resurrection of all before the time of your Passion by raising Lazarus from the dead. Therefore, we as the children of Israel carry the symbols of victory and cry out to You, the Conqueror of death; “Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.

Hell has been put on notice. The Devil has been warned, his time of our slavery to death is coming to an end, once and for all. We will no longer live in fear of death but will live in the hope and surety of the Resurrection if we never fail to proclaim His Victory and live according to the new reality. The Devil will still try and trick us but he no longer has power, except for what we give him. But if we live for Christ and His Kingdom, then the Devil can no longer have power over us. This is the good news. This is the power that Christ gives to us. This is the grace of God for those who believe.

