

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: @stjohneastpit
 Subdeacon Gary Grysiak, Cantor; Reader Justin Rosco, Choir Director;
 Robert Pervuznik, Jr., Parish Council President

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

11 Sunday	12 Monday	13 Tuesday	14 Wednesday	15 Thursday	16 Friday	17 Saturday
8:50 Memorial Service 9:00 Divine Liturgy Group 1 Take-out Spaghetti Dinners For Sale			Protection of the Theotokos 9am Divine Liturgy 7pm CCE CLASS FAST DAY		FAST DAY	5pm Great Vespers/Confessions

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, October 4, 2020 – Attendance 28 – Weekly Offering, \$1170 – Building Fund, \$202 – Needy Fund, \$123 – Vigil Candles, \$180 – PTA Gift for Ch.School Materials, \$200 – Spaghetti Dinner Seed Money, (\$65)– Diocesan Dues, \$72 Total \$1872

WEDNESDAY- our CCE class will continue its study of the Divine Liturgy. Everyone is welcome!

WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL!!!! – with contribution last week, we have reached our \$20,000 goal for Phase III of our Icon Project! However, donations

continue to be made and that is fine! Please keep our iconographer, Michael Kapeluck in your prayers.

THIS WEDNESDAY-we celebrate the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos. Liturgy begins at 9am and everyone is invited to worship!

MANY THANKS-to everyone keeping up with their weekly support of St. John's God bless you.

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://holotrinityorthodox.com/calendar/index.htm>

Monday	Phil 1:1-7	Luke 4:37-44	Eighty Martyrs of Byzantium
Tuesday	Phil 1:8-20	Luke 5:12-39	Hieromartyr Gregory of Armenia
Wednesday	Heb. 9:1-7	Luke 10:38-42;11:27-28	Feast of the Protection
Thursday	Phil 1:20-27	Luke 6:12-19	Ven Cassian, monk of Uglich
Friday	Phil 1:27-2:4	Luke 6:17-23	Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite
Saturday	I Cor 15:58-16:3	Luke 5:17-26	Hieromartyr Hierotheus of Athens
Sunday	II Cor 11:31-12:9	Luke 6:31-36	Martyr Charitina of Amisus

WITH THE RETURN-of the choir singing, when the choir is singing, **ONLY choir members will be permitted to be in the choir loft.** If you not a choir member, please find a pew in the nave of the church. Thank you for your consideration.

MANY THANKS- to all who helped yesterday with the Spaghetti Take-Out Dinners. We still have dinners available and you are invited to the hall to pick yours up for \$8. Take a couple home and let us do the cooking!

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS –Michael Kapeluck, our Iconographer, Thomas Planiczki, Josephine Sofelkanik, Michael Sterchak, John Edward Stagon, Kathryn Rogulin, Cathy Perevuznik, Wally Perkins, Fr Lawrence Barriger, Gina Marie Gaspard, Dannette Wargo, Aubrey Welch, Marti and Cathilynn Baran, Metropolitan Theodosius, Annie Weiland, Fr Daniel Prez (Joe Monde’s brother), Fr. George Livanos, Fr. Patrick Carpenter, 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.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS- Danette Wargo 10/11, Evonne Vojnovich 10/12, Cheryl Hosken 10/12, Pani Helen Hutnyan 10/14, Irene Dixon 10/15, Christopher Bebin 10/19, David Stagon 10/22, Ruthanne Barclay 10/26

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES- Paula and Frank Locante 10/11, Cathy and Tom Skidmore 10/26

OCTOBER DEPARTED – One Year, Donald Pollock- 10/13/19

Perpetual

Vera Kobasa, Anna Stagon, Rdr Douglas Laney, Anna Uram, Nicholas Kocan, John Kranik, Fr. John Hutnyan, Anne Rosco, John Dragish, Charles Grysiak, Frank Lapato, Mary Hospodor, Mary Sabol Sivack, George W. Stagon

John Fekete, Mary Povanda, Alex Marchak, Michael Uram, John Dragish, Michael Kasenchak, Andrew Jacobs, John Zvizdak, Gimitro Polevka, Julia Chernega, Charles Totin, Eva Slaby, Julia Tabak, Matthew Molchan, Katherine Kasenchak, George Odoxta, Frank Gregor, Margaret Popovich, Audrey J Sapicla, Andrew Kasenchak, Paul Jacobs, Frank Lapato, Mariann Case, Marian Babich

IF ANY OF YOU-have family members or even yourselves, who because of the economic disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and shutdown, are in need of some financial assistance, please let Fr. Joseph know, privately. We have a parish Needy Fund and we can help!

SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN’S

1. Only the Sycamore Street door will be used for entry and exit. Please park on Sycamore Street for your convenience.
2. All entrants be given a touchless temperature test. The CDC maximum safe human temperature is 100.4. If your temperature is above 100.4, you will be asked to return home. Please let us know if you have taken any fever reducing medication, like Tylenol in the morning before coming to church.
3. All entrants must wear a mask upon entering and during the church service. (The cantor is not required to wear a mask when singing.) There will be cloth masks available to those who do not have one. We encourage you to bring your own mask.
4. All entrants before entering the church will be asked to use the provided hand sanitizer after their temperature is taken.
5. Other than families that live together, please make every effort to be 6ft apart in the pews.

PLANNING AHEAD

October 10, 11 and 18 TAKE HOME SPAGETTI DINNERS (October 10) – 12-4

November 7 Nut-Roll Baking

December 12 Nut-Roll and Cookie Sales (Take out only)

September 27- Candle Intentions

Health

Bires, Alice - Scott & Sharon
Bires, Alice - Benjamin
Bires, Alice - Fr Will and Pani Iilena
Bires, Alice -Helen, David, Joseph
Bires, Alice -Wally
Bires, Alice - Happy Birthday, Karen
Bires, Alice - Cathy
Bires, Alice - John E Stagon
Bires, Alice - Annie Weiland
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Benjamin
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Luke & Alexis

Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Irene & Basil
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 - Anthony
Macchiaroli
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims
Kiss, Marge - Jim, Donna, Lesa, Dorothy

Kitsko Family - George Sabeh
Kitsko Family - Stacy Kitsko
Kitsko Family - Florence Caiazza
Kitsko Family - Family and Friends
Kocan, Nicki - Family
Perevuznik, Bob Jr. - Mom
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Emily, Rebecca,
Tanner, Tyler
Perevuznik, Bob Jr-Kelly, Lauren,
Michael
Perevuznik, Bob Jr-Perevuznik, Skimore,
Durmis, Poach Families
Perevuznik, Bob Jr-John E. Stagon
Perevuznik, Bob Jr- Marti Baran
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Sean Nelis
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Happy and Blessed
Birthday -Kelly
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Alexandra &
Marilyn
Sabeh, Nancy - Family
Stagon, George & Barbara - Fr. Matthew,
Pani Eleni, Seraphim, Luka, Harikila,
Xenia
Stagon, George & Barbara - Jeffery,
Nicole, Jillina Payton
Stagon, George & Barbara - Connie and
Tyler

Special Intentions

Alice Bires
Nancy Sabeh

Memory

Bires, Alice - Parents
Bires, Alice- Brother-in-law
Bires, Alice- Helen
Bires, Alice-Margie
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
Kocan, Nicki - Mom, Dad, Brother
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Dad
Perevuznik, Cathy - Husband Bob
Sabeh, Nancy - Mom-Anna Rosco
Stagon, George & Barb - Parents,
George, Beatrice, Nicholas
Stagon, George & Barb- Grandmother Anna
Stagon, George & Barb- V.Rev. John
Hutyan

Worship Groups During Pandemic GREEN Stage

GROUP 1

Marianne Allen and Bill Welch
Rebecca Barclay
Gloria Blake
Chris, Lisa and DJ Bebin
Diane Betz
Alice Bires
Karen and Wally Perkins

Bill and Eric Brancho
Eileen Buck
Bob and Sandy Carlisle
Marilyn Chuprinko
Jeffery and Nicole Durmis
Theresa, John Finke (and Teagan)
Gina Marie Gaspard
Debbie Grysiak
Janet, Irene, Basil Dixon and Benjamin Grysiak
Shirley Hart
Bob and Cheryl Hosken
David, Elyse, Roman, Mitchell, Zechariah and
Alexis Kalaluhi
Kathy Bechler
Ruthanne Barclay
Ernie Karlar
Connie Kimmel
Ron, Sonya, Alexis, Julianna Kitsko
Nancy Sabeh

GROUP 2

Nicki Kocan
Beth Kudravy
Paula Locante
Alexandra Maskaly
Rosemarie Micholov
Joe and Sharon Monde
Sean Nelis
Richard and Linda Novak
Michael O'Brien
Dina and Michael Panchura
Cathy Perevuznik
Bob Perevuznik, Jr.
Dolores Popovich and Ann Weiland
Sizemore Family
Cheryl Stagon
David Stagon
George Stagon
Mr. Stagon
Jeffery Stagon, Nicole, Jillina and Payton
Cindy Sterchak
Charles and Barbara Vasko
Joshua and Brittany Vasko and family
Sean, Kalina, Mila, and Malachi Walker
Mark Volk
Evonne Vojnovich and Thomas Cunningham
Ashley Yearger and Family

Worship Groups ONLY APPLY to Sunday Liturgy. For Saturday Vespers, Weekday Feastday Vespers and Weekday Feastal Liturgy, everyone is welcome to attend. Please remember to have a mask, use the Sycamore Street door, have your temperature taken and use the hand sanitizer

Worship Groups Calendar -

October 11 - Group 1
October 18 - Group 2
October 25 - Group 1
November 1- Group 2

THE FEAST OF THE PROTECTION- celebrates the appearance of the Mother of God at Blachernae in the tenth century. At the end of St. Andrei (Andrew of Constantinople) Yurodivyi's life, he, with his disciple St. Epiphanius, and a group of people, saw the Mother of God, St. John the Baptist, and several other saints and angels during a vigil in the Church of Blachernae, nearby the city gates. The Blachernae Palace church was where several of her relics were kept. The relics were her robe, veil, and part of her belt that had been transferred from Palestine during the fifth century.



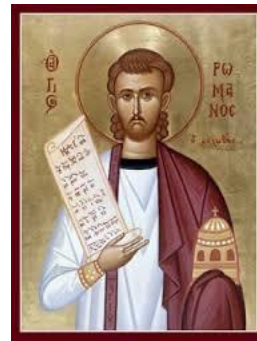
The Theotokos approached the center of the church, knelt down and remained in prayer for a long time. Her face was drowned in tears. Then she took her veil off and spread it over the people as a sign of protection. During the time, the people in the city were threatened by a barbarian invasion. After the appearance of the Mother of God, the danger was averted and the city was spared from bloodshed and suffering.

Two different events that took place four hundred years apart are combined in this one icon. Both events took place in the former Church of Blachernae in Constantinople.

The icon of the feast, Protection of the Mother of God, shows the Theotokos standing above the faithful with her arms outstretched in prayer and draped with a veil. On both sides of her are angels. On the lower right of most icons of this feast, are saints Andrew and his disciple Epiphanius who saw this vision of the Mother of God, with the twelve apostles, bishops, holy women, monks and martyrs, spreading her veil in protection over the congregation. St. Epiphanius is wearing a tunic under his cloak and gestures in astonishment at the miraculous appearance, while St. Andrew, Fool-for-Christ, is dressed only in a cloak.

Below the Theotokos, in the center of the icon, stands a young man with a halo, he is clothed in

a deacon's sticharion. In his left hand, he is holding an open scroll with the text of the Kontakion for Nativity in honor of the Mother of God. This is St. Romanus the Melodist, the famous hymnographer whose feast is also celebrated on the same day, October 1. He is with his choir attended by the Emperor Leo the Wise together with the Empress and the Patriarch of Constantinople.



ST ROMANUS-the Melodist was born in the fifth century in the Syrian city of Emesa of Jewish parents. After moving to Constantinople, he became a church sacristan in the temple of Hagia Sophia. The monk spent his nights alone at prayer in a field or in the

Blachernae church beyond the city.

Saint Romanus was not a talented reader or singer. Once, on the eve of the Nativity of Christ, he read the kathisma verses. He read so poorly that another reader had to take his place. The clergy ridiculed Romanus, which devastated him.

On the day of the Nativity, the Mother of God appeared to the grief-stricken youth in a vision while he was praying before her Kyriotissa icon. She gave him a scroll and commanded him to eat it. Thus was he given the gift of understanding, composition, and hymnography.

That evening at the all-night Vigil Saint Romanus sang, in a wondrous voice, his first Kontakion: "Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One..." All the hymns of Saint Romanus became known as kontakia, in reference to the Virgin's scroll. Saint Romanus was also the first to write in the form of the Oikos, which he incorporated into the all-night Vigil at his places of residence (In Greek, "oikos").

For his zealous service Saint Romanus was ordained as a deacon and became a teacher of song. Until his death, which occurred about the year 556, the hierodeacon Romanus the Melodist composed nearly a thousand hymns, many of which are still used by Christians to glorify the Lord.