

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/joseph.fester>

12 Sunday -Group 1	13 Monday	14 Tuesday	15 Wednesday	16 Thursday	17 Friday	18 Saturday
5th Sunday of Pentecost Ss Peter and Paul 9:00 Divine Liturgy			7pm CCE CLASS			12pm Yeagers Baptism (livestreamed) 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, July 5, 2020 - Attendance 16 - Weekly Offering, \$1221 - Building Fund, \$80 - Needy Fund, \$40 - Icon Fund Donation \$500 - Beeswax Candles, \$25 - Vigil Candles, \$189 - (Adv. Vigil payment, \$54) - Total \$2109

CONGRATULATIONS- to Sean, Kalina and Mila on the Baptism of Malachi. Many Years!

TODAY-After Liturgy, weather permitting, you are invited to have a cup of coffee outside at the Sycamore Street door. Please follow all safe distancing protocols.

OUR CCE-class on the study of the Divine Liturgy will resume this Wednesday at 7pm. It will be a remote class but if you don't have Internet you are welcome to come to the Church Office to participate.

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

WE ARE OFFICIALLY- announcing **Phase III of our Icon Project today.** This Phase will include the painting of the icon of the Communion of the Apostles on the back wall or High Place of the Altar. As you may recall, at our last Annual Meeting, we set aside a tithe (\$10,000) of the legacy gift of Mary Alice Cole to our parish. The parish council meeting last Tuesday set aside \$3,000 of the recent legacy gift of Don Pollock for the Icon Project. Many Thanks to Irene Grysiak Dixon for her \$500 donation to the Fund Thus, we have only to raise \$6,500 to complete the fundraising for this long-awaited beautification of St. John's. If you would like to contribute, please talk to Fr. Joseph. Our Iconographer, Michael Kapeluck will begin work on the project in mid-August.

WE HAVE BEEN TASKED-with a charity project to benefit the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery in Saxonburg, PA. by Metropolitan Gregory. Our Pittsburgh Deanery parishes will be collecting paper products for the Monastery during July and August. The exact list of needs will be sent to Father Joseph this coming week, so be on the alert and ready to offer your paper product donations. More information is forthcoming. Other deaneries in our diocese are doing similar projects.

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	Romans 16:17-24	Matthew 13:10-23	Synaxis of the 12 Apostles
Tuesday	I Cor. 1:1-9	Matthew 13:24-30	Sts Cosmas and Damian
Wednesday	I Cor. 2:9-3:8	Matthew 13:31-36	St Juvenal Protomartyr of Alaska
Thursday	I Cor. 3:18-23	Matthew 13:36-43	Martyr Hyacinth of Caesarea
Friday	I Cor. 4:4-8	Matthew 13:44-54	Ven. Andrew (Rublev) Iconographer
Saturday	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 9:18-26	Ven. Athanasius of Mt. Athos
Sunday	Romans 12:6-14	Matthew 9:1-8	6th Sunday of Pentecost

THIS SATURDAY-we will Baptize Lincoln Carl Yeagers into Christ. Due to the corona virus pandemic, participation will be limited to family, but the service will be livestreamed.

WITH THE INCREASE-in COVID cases in Allegheny County, we will be watching how this will impact our size of gatherings after this weekend. It looks like we may be pushed back to a maximum crowd size of 25. If we have to go back to 4 worship groups, I will notify you all this week but have listed our 4 Worship Groups in today's just in case.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS –Thomas Planiczki, Josephine Sofelkanik, Michael Sterchak, John Edward Stagon, Kathryn Rogulin, Cathy Perevuznik, Fr. Michael and Matushka Susanne Senyo, Wally Perkins, Fr Lawrence Barriger, Gina Marie Gaspard, Dannette Wargo, Pani Marie Brancho, Rose Hollis, Marti and Cathilynn Baran, Aubrey Welch, Fr Daniel Prez (Joe Monde's brother), Frank and Diane Betz, 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.

July Birthdays - Janet Grysiak 7/15 Paula Locante 7/15 Marylyn Chuprinko 7/17 Kalina Walker 7/18

Anniversaries –George & Barbara Stagon 7/23

Newly Departed – Gordon Danielson, Jr. Infant Novak, Matushka Nadine Eskoff-Brown

Perpetual -Harry Gezzer, George Makara, Anna Stagon, Elizabeth Sentipal, Betty Danielson, George Sentipal , Peter Babich , Margaret Suvak , John & Helen Petrovay

Protodeacon Gregory Hatrak, Mildred Lisak, John Regrut, John DiBattista, Joseph Sentipal, John Galanis, Frank Slaby, John Chernega, Anna Kupchak, Martha Durick, Hazel Hersak, Sophie Homoney, Mary Kranik, Anna Motto, John Popovich, Anna Sofelkanik, Mary Cvetnich, Paul Weidenhof, George Chernega, Andrew Kocan, Mary Mamrosa, Mildred Karman, Ronald Babich, Daria Petrykowski, Gertrude Kuzemka, Gloria, Kuzemka

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.



Daily Meditations ***The Feast day of Saints Peter and Paul*** ***June 29th, 2012***

On the 29th June/12th July of every year our Orthodox Church celebrates the feast day of Saints Peter and Paul. So important is this celebration in the Orthodox Church that it is marked by a preparatory fasting period – called the fast of the apostles – beginning from the Monday after Pentecost and lasting until the eve of the feast day of Sts Peter and Paul. Following the practise of the early Church, where the first Christians would commemorate departed saints by celebrating the Divine Eucharist on top of their tombs, we too, nearly two thousand years later follow that same tradition. We too continue to this day to celebrate the feast days of saints by celebrating the Divine Liturgy over the altar of the Church of the particular saint to which the Church is dedicated.

The reason for this is that the altar of every Church is said to be symbolic of saints' tombs in that every consecrated Church has relics of saints within the altar.

One may quite justifiably ask why these two apostles in particular are celebrated on the same day. Peter was one of the twelve whereas Paul was not. From the Biblical evidence that we have we know that Peter's ministerial outlook was very different from Paul's. At the council of Jerusalem (48AD), great problems had arisen in the Church from a large influx of Gentile converts and these saints had different opinions as to how they should be received. Yet we find that not only are they celebrated on the same day, but even icons of Sts Peter and Paul portray these two major apostles embracing each other.

Historically the reason why the Church combined the feast day of the two apostles into one was that they were both martyred in Rome and on the same day. There is a very ancient tradition which claims that they were both executed during Nero's persecution approximately in the year 68AD. For this reason, probably from the fourth century onwards the Church in Rome came to celebrate the feast day of these two apostles on the 29th June where they were martyred. By contrast, Constantinople celebrated this feast day several days after Christmas on the 28th December. However, we see that it was the Roman custom that has prevailed in the Church today, but the evidence does not reveal to us precisely when this came to be.

Theologically speaking, the reason why the feast day of these two apostles was combined into one was to show that even though their ministerial vision was not the same, yet both were necessary and even complemented each other. Even though the apostle Paul was not one of the twelve, he would claim, nevertheless that his ministry was considered equal if not superior to those ministers who had been appointed by Christ during His earthly ministry since he had suffered so much for Christ. During their lifetime, these two great apostles of our Church disagreed greatly as to how to receive new members into the newly established Christian faith. St Paul is said to have rebuked St Peter for duplicity in this matter. In Galatians 2.11, St Paul tells us of a disagreement he had with St Peter: "when Peter came to Antioch, I withstood him in the face because he was to be blamed."

Peter believed that new members firstly had to fulfil the requirements of the Jewish law by being circumcised before they could become Christians whereas Paul was totally opposed to this. What we can learn from this is that when the Church is ruled by the Holy Spirit tensions of this kind can be overcome.

In celebrating their feast day, let us glorify Him who glorified them and rejoice together with Sts Peter and Paul and sing:

"Rejoice O Peter the apostle, for you are the great friend of the Master, Christ our God. Rejoice well beloved Paul, preacher of the faith and doctor of the universe. Because of this, may you both intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls."

~Taken from Philip Kariatlis, Academic Secretary and Associate Lecturer, St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College, (Website of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia):

July 5- Candle Intentions

Health

Barclay, Rebecca - Marti Baran
Bires, Alice - Scott & Sharon
Bires, Alice - Benjamin
Bires, Alice - Fr Will and Pani Ilena
Bires, Alice - Helen, David, and Joseph
Bires, Alice - Wally
Bires, Alice - Grysiak Family
Bires, Alice - Marti Baran
Bires, Alice - Irene & Basil. God's Blessings
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Marti & Josie
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Irene & Basil Dixon
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Rebecca & Matthew
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Neil, Barb, Brenan
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Benjamin
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Luke & Alexis, Safe
Travel
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Irene & Basil, Blessed
Marriage
Grysiak, Gary - Janet
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 - Kevin Henry
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Wedding Guests Safe
Travel
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims
Kocan, Nicki- Lincoln Carl Yeagers
Locante, Paula - Irene & Basil Dixon
Locante, Paula - Patty Davis
Locante, Paula - Irene Locante
Locante, Paula - Keith McFarland
Locante, Paula - Family
Sabeh, Nancy - Health of 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
Stagon, George & Barbara - Irene & Basil Dixon
Stagon, John Jr. - John & Jessica
Stagon, John Jr. - David, Linda & Johnny
Stagon, John Jr. - David, II, Christal
Stagon, John Jr. - Great Grandson Weston Happy
1st Birthday
Yeagers, Ashley - Son, Lincoln Carl

Special Intentions

Alice Bires
Nancy Sabeh

Memory

Bires, Alice - Parents
Bires, Alice- Brother-in-law
Bires, Alice- Helen
Bires, Alice- Margie
Bires, Alice- Grandmother
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Ed
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Grandfather Andy Tesack
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
Locante, Paula - Uncle James Cecere
Locante, Paula - Parents Michael & Katherine
Sabo
Stagon, George & Barbara - Mom and Dad George
& Beatrice
Stagon, George & Barbara - Dad, Nicholas
Susich
Sterchak, Cindy & Dave - UNC

Worship Groups During Pandemic Under Yellow Order of 25 or less (Just in case)

GROUP A 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) Gloria Barclay, Gina
Marie Gaspard

GROUP B 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 C 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 Pervuznik Bob
Pervuznik, Jr. Dolores Popovich and Ann
Weiland Evonne Vojnovich and Thomas
Cunningham, Sizemore Family

GROUP D 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
Ashley Yeagers and children

Joshua and Brittany Vasko and family
Sean, Kalina, Mila, and Malachi Walker
Mark Volk
Evonne Vojnovich and Thomas Cunningham
Ashley Yeagers and children

Worship Groups During Pandemic Under 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 Pervuznik
Bob Pervuznik, 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

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 - Updated 7.5.20

July 19 - Group 2 or Group B*
July 26 - Group 1 or Group C*
August 2 - Group 1 or Group D*
*TBD based on Covid cases

From the Akathist to Saints Peter and Paul

Our Lord said of Himself: I am the Good Shepherd. To you the Chief Apostle Peter, He said: If you love Me, feed My sheep. And Peter said: Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. I am Jesus, He said to you, O Paul the Chief Apostle, and of you, our Lord said: This is My chosen instrument to carry My Name before the Gentiles. Jesus instructed those who were your fellow disciples as well as His apostles: As My Father sent Me, so have I sent you, go and make disciples of all nations. Since you have the same grace from your Master, as after our Lord the Great Pastor of all, shepherd us to salvation that we may call to you:

Rejoice, Saints Peter and Paul together with all the holy apostles.

Most glorious and praiseworthy disciples of the Lord, Chief Apostles Peter and Paul and all the apostles who reign as equals, you enlightened all the world with the Holy Faith, and with Christ you are destined to judge the entire universe. Glory and praise are due to you most properly not on earth but in Heaven, and though we are unworthy we pray that you accept the prayers we offer to you here and now. From all our troubles we ask you to save us by your worthy intercessions. Intercede before the righteous Judge Christ to be merciful to us at the Judgment Seat — that we may be saved, and thankfully praise our Savior God:
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.