

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>

6 Sunday	7 Monday	8 Tuesday	9 Wednesday	10 Thursday	11 Friday	12 Saturday
9:00 Divine Liturgy Group 1			7pm ZOOM CCE Class Cookie Drop off	Cookie Drop Off		11-4 Food Festival 5pm ONLINE VESPERS
FAST DAY	FAST DAY	FAST DAY	FAST DAY	FAST DAY	FAST DAY	FAST DAY

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, November 29, 2020 – Attendance 31 – Weekly Offering, \$1461 – Building Fund, \$140 – Vigil Candles, \$210 – Nut Roll Sales, \$195 – Beeswax Candles, \$322.50 – Charcoal & Vigil Sale, \$60 – Membership Dues, \$388 – Needy Fund, \$200 – Total \$2976.50 – November Online Donations \$630.96

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

COOKIE DROP OFF-this Wednesday and Thursday. Please give Fr. Joseph a call when you are planning to drop off your tasty creations.

WE NEED HELP- this coming Saturday starting at 9am to help set up and prepare food for the Food Festival which starts at 11am till 4pm. Please be sure to have a mask. Hand sanitizer will be provided. Any questions, see Nancy or Alice.

AS YOU KNOW-Allegheny County has issued a voluntary STAY AT HOME order. People are asked to not gather in groups, wear masks and limit their travel only to essential trips. With the large spike in cases and the inevitable family gatherings during the holidays in the county and in conjunction with the parish council, I am making the following adjustments to our worship schedule until the end of December.

1. Great Vespers on Saturdays until January via FB.
2. CCE classes will be virtual and via Zoom.
4. We will suspend Fellowship Hour until January.
5. We will suspend Church School until January. Lessons will be sent to families with children.
6. As of now, we are still planning to have the December 12 Food Sale but strict mask wearing, gloves and social distancing will be in effect for workers. All orders will be take-out and guests will be asked to wait in their cars after placing their orders and orders will be put in the car trunks. We should expect that potential sales will be down because of the Stay At Home order, but, we will do our best, safely.
7. Worship Groups 1 and 2 are still in effect during this period. As in the past, we are grateful to God

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	1 Tim 5:1-10	Luke 17:20-25	Greatmartyr Catherine of Alexandria
Tuesday	1 Tim 5:11-21	Luke 17:26-37	Hieromartyr Clement of Rome
Wednesday	1 Tim 5:22-6:11	Luke 18:15-17,26-30	St Innocent, Bishop of Irkutsk
Thursday	1 Tim 6:17-21	Luke 18:31-34	Greatmartyr James the Persian
Friday	2 Tim 1:1-2,8-18	Luke 19:12-28	St Oda, virgin of Brabant (Neth.)
Saturday	Gal 5:22-6:2	Luke 10:19-21	St Brendan of Birr (Celtic/British)
Sunday	1 Cor 4:9-16	John 1:35-51	Holy Apostle Andrew-First Called

WEDNESDAY CCE CLASS-will be via ZOOM. Fr Joseph will send out the ZOOM link on Monday.

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 Gaspard, 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, 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.

December Birthdays

Beth Kudravy 12/3 Benjamin Grysiak 12/3 Jeffrey Stagon 12/9 Margie Kiss 12/10 Brian White Jr. 12/10 Robert Carlisle 12/13 Logan Grguric 12/14 Kaye Sabo 12/21 Linda Novak 12/21 Andrew Kocan Jr. 12/22 Josephine Sofelkanik 12/23 Cathy Skidmore 12/26

December Memorials

Newly Departed, Patriarch Irieji, Metropolitan Maximos (40th Day), August Futryk

Perpetual: Anna Gaydos, John Tovtin, Michael Toth, John Hopta, Mary and Peter Rozkov, Ann Planiczki, Stephen Bergel, Beatrice Stagon, John Stagon Sr. Maksym and Theresa Periak, Michael Barovian, Michael Chernega,

Walter Futryk, Barbara Hreha, Mary Zeba, Victoria Gezzer, Julia Harrison, Frank Kurtz, Anna Bench, John Evashavik, Alex Kosarich, Steve Bunga, Mary Tucker, Mary Mutmasky, James Toth, John Ivanco, George Drago, Marie Johnson, Michael Povanda, Stanley Lunio, Michael Kranik, Catherine Jacobs, Helen Youshack, Mildred Ruzanic, Mary Kolesar, John Sapida, John Miholovich, Olga Yonkavich, Mary Suvak, Georgetta Salapac, John P Dugan, Andrew Popovich, John Zura, Rosemary Durmis, Dean Lester Hough

OUR CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENTS-are spearheading a charitable outreach to collect warm winter clothing for the homeless and needy. What a wonderful expression of love and I know that all of us will support this effort. We will also accept cash donations so warm clothing can be purchased. What types of clothing? Coats, Sweaters, Socks, Mufflers, Knit Hats. Bins for your clothing donations will be set up in the Church Hall. All collected clothes will be donated to Light of Life Mission. For information about this organization, here is the link: <https://give.lightoflife.org/for/lol/full>. If you have any questions, please talk to Juliana Kitsko.

IF YOU ORDERED NUT ROLLS-etc, please pick them up today. They are in the church fridge.

THE 2021 WALL CALENDARS-have arrived. Pick up your copy in the church hall today.

WREATHS across AMERICA-is a nationwide program that purchases fresh wreaths for a veteran's grave in the North Huntington Cemetery. All wreaths will be placed during a ceremony on Saturday, December 19, 2020. You can order a wreath online at www.wreathscrossamerica.org/PA0435P A order form will be part of Sunday's bulletin also.

Protocol No. 41/2020

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear Beloved Faithful Clergy and Laity of our God-Protected Diocese,

It is hard to believe that this month marks the eighth anniversary of my Consecration and Enthronement as your Hierarch. It has been a very strange year with the arrival of the Coronavirus early in 2020. The pandemic has turned our lives upside down. Several of our Clergy and many of our Laity have been exposed and sickened. Unfortunately we also lost many wonderful people of our Diocese and beyond. May their memories be eternal!

From the very beginning as God fearing people we have been praying for the Lord's help. In all of our Divine Liturgies additional petitions and prayers have been offered. And yet the struggle continues around the world. I believe we must intensify our prayers. If we are feeling like we are sinking because we are overwhelmed in our home life, work life, school life or even our social life (including social media and technology) we must be like Peter. He was walking on the water towards Jesus and when he became distracted by the winds and waves and today the virus, he began to sink. Peter cried out, "Lord, save me!" (Matthew 14:30) and Jesus Christ reached down and pulled him out the stormy sea.

As we once again enter the Season of the Nativity Fast, I ask you, actually I plead with you, the good faithful people of our Diocese, to join me on a journey to meet the new born King. During these 40 days leading to the Nativity of our Lord let us increase our efforts in church attendance, in prayer, in fasting, in scriptural reading, in almsgiving, in repentance and confession, in receiving the Eucharist. This is who we are as active Orthodox Christians.

In the last five years, I have challenged everyone, Clergy and Laity, to offer a special prayer for peace and stillness during evening prayers. This year the prayer will be about the Coronavirus. The text of these prayers will be provided to the Clergy for distribution. Each household should have sufficient copies so that each young person that can read has one by their bed to use nightly and those who are too young to read may say the prayer with their parents before they go to bed. Of course, all the adults should also participate.

To assist with this challenge, a special web page has been created on the Diocesan Website, Prayer Against the Coronavirus, which contains downloadable texts of the special prayer. Other postings will be made on various social media outlets to encourage maximum exposure and participation.

With all of us united in prayer and laboring for relief from this pestilence this Nativity Fasting Season, I am convinced that we will help to protect our lives and those of others throughout the world from the pandemic.

Working in His Vineyard with much love,

+Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa

2020 Nativity Fast Prayer Challenge: -Prayer For Deliverance From The Corona Virus

This year, just like last five years, during the Nativity season, Metropolitan Gregory has offered a challenge to all of the clergy and faithful and especially the youth and young adults of the Diocese to strengthen their spiritual lives. In the past the challenge has been a specific call to prayer for peace and stillness. This year the prayer will be about the Coronavirus. It seems, more than ever, that we need to increase our prayer life so that we can have the strength to overcome the many struggles we have faced during as we battle the deadly pandemic.

And **the challenge** is: [To offer a special prayer for deliverance From the Corona Virus during evening prayers.](#)

During the Litany of Fervent Supplication at each Divine Liturgy a special petition is also to be included. The text of these prayers are included below. Each household should have sufficient copies so that each young person that can read has one by their bed to use nightly and those who are too young to read may say this prayer together with their parents before they go to bed. Of course all adults should join the challenge as well so that all together our prayers will reach our Lord's ears.

**Candle Intentions-
Health**

Bires, Alice - Scott & Sharon
Bires, Alice - Benjamin
Bires, Alice - Fr Will, Pani Iilena & Children
Bires, Alice -Helen, David, Joseph
Bires, Alice -Wally
Bires, Alice - George
Bires, Alice - Annie Weiland
Bires, Alice - Abigail and unborn child
Chuprinko, Marilyn-Neil, Barb, Bren
Chuprinko, Marilyn-Paul, Sonja, Pierce, Shelby
Chuprinko, Marilyn-Rebecca & Matthew
Chuprinko, Marilyn-Covid Patients
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Luke & Alexis
Grysiak, Gary - Janet
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Benjamin, Happy Birthday
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 - Anthony Macchiaroli
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - President-elect Joe Biden
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Metropolitan Gregory
Kiss, Marge - Jim, Lesa, Donna, Dorothy
Kitsko, Ron, Alexis, Juliana - Happy Birthday Sonya
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - Mom
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - Emily, Rebecca, Tanner, Tyler
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - Kelly, Lauren, Michael
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - Perevuznik, Skidmore, Durmis, Poach Families
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - John E Stagon
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - Annie Weiland
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - St John's Parish Council
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - Fr Joseph & Pani Kathy
Perevuznik Jr, Bob - All Frontline Workers
Skidmore Family - Don McDonnell
Skidmore Family - Tina McDonnell
Skidmore Family - Gloria Ulokovic
Skidmore Family - Gloria & Wayne Poach
Skidmore Family - Cathy Perevuznik
Skidmore Family - John E Stagon
Skidmore Family - Covid 19 Patients
Sabeh, Nancy- Family
Sabeh, Nancy - Family
Sabeh, Nancy - Happy Birthday, Ron
Sabeh Nancy - Happy Birthday, Sonya
Sabeh, Nancy - George

Sabey, Nancy - Annie Weiland
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 Jr., John -John & Jessica
Stagon, Jr. John-David II, Christal, Weston
Stagon, Jr. John David, Linda, Johnny

Special Intentions

Alice Bires
Skidmore Family

Memory

Bires, Alice - Parents
Bires, Alice- Brother-in-law
Bires, Alice- Helen
Bires, Alice-Margie
Chuprinko, Marilyn-Dad, Joseph Tesack
Chuprinko, Marilyn-Ed
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 - Michael Burkett
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Christine PrestoGeorge
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Gladys Stephens
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Archon Orestes Mihaly
Perevuznik Jr, Bob -Dad
Perevuznik, Cathy - Bob
Skidmore Family - Cathy Perevuznik
Sabeh, Nancy - Nephew,Vladimir
Stagon, George & Barb- Parents, George, Beatrice, Nicholas
Stagon Jr, John - Wife Ann
Stagon Jr, John - Father, Mother, Brothers