

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>

19 Sunday -Group 2	20 Monday	21 Tuesday	22 Wednesday	23 Thursday	24 Friday	25 Saturday
6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost 9:00 Divine Liturgy		7pm Parish Council Meeting	7pm CCE CLASS			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 36 - Weekly Offering, \$1915 - Building Fund, \$300 - Needy Fund, \$130 - Beeswax Candles, \$623.91 - Vigil Candles, \$141 - (Adv. Vigil payment, \$9) Membership Dues, \$122 - Total \$3250.91**

**CONGRATULATIONS-** to Jacob and Ashley Yeagers on the Baptism of their son, Lincoln Carl. 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.

**PLEASE KEEP-** Bob Hosken in your prayers as he undergoes some medical tests this week.

**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. Because of the Coronavirus, we will be accepting financial donations so that we can go and buy the products at one time, thus reducing our exposure to the virus. If you have any questions, please see Fr. Joseph

*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	I Cor. 5:9-6:11	Matthew 13:54-58	Venerable Thomas of Mt. Maleon
Tuesday	I Cor. 6:20-7:12	Matthew 14:1-13	Holy Great-martyr Procopius
Wednesday	I Cor. 7:12-24	Matthew 14:35-15:11	Hieromartyr Pancratius
Thursday	I Cor. 7:24-35	Matthew 15:12-21	Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves
Friday	I Cor. 7:35-8:7	Matthew 15:29-31	Great-martyr Euphemia
Saturday	Romans 12:1-3	Matthew 10:37-11:1	Ven. John and Gabriel of Georgia
Sunday	Romans 15:1-7	Matthew 9:27-35	Fathers of First Six Ecum. Councils

**TODAY-**at the end of Liturgy we will offer a Memorial Service for the souls of Gordon Danielson, Jur and the Infant Novak (40<sup>th</sup> Day) and for Ronald Babich (1 Year). Eternal Memory!

**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.

**THE PARISH COUNCIL-** will have an online meeting on Tuesday at 7pm.

**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, especially Victor Danielson and Bob Hosken.

Please keep Father Joseph informed on changes to anyone’s health status so he can minister to them.

**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.



**Saint Sisoës the Great (+ 429)** was a solitary monk, pursuing asceticism in the Egyptian desert in a cave sanctified by the prayerful labors of his predecessor, Saint Anthony the Great (January 17). For his sixty years of labor in the desert, Saint Sisoës attained to sublime spiritual purity and he was granted the gift of wonderworking, so that by his prayers he once restored a dead child back to life.

Extremely strict with himself, Abba Sisoës was very merciful and compassionate to others, and he received everyone with love. To those who visited him, the saint first of all always taught humility. When one of the monks asked how he might attain to a constant remembrance of God, Saint

Sisoes remarked, “That is no great thing, my son, but it is a great thing to regard yourself as inferior to everyone else. This leads to the acquisition of humility.” Asked by the monks whether one year is sufficient for repentance if a brother sins, Abba Sisoes said, “I trust in the mercy of God that if such a man repents with all his heart, then God will accept his repentance in three days.”

When Saint Sisoes lay upon his deathbed, the disciples surrounding the Elder saw that his face shone like the sun. They asked the dying man what he saw. Abba Sisoes replied that he saw Saint Anthony, the prophets, and the apostles. His face increased in brightness, and he spoke with someone. The monks asked, “With whom are you speaking, Father?” He said that angels had come for his soul, and he was entreating them to give him a little more time for repentance. The monks said, “You have no need for repentance, Father.” Saint Sisoes said with great humility, “I do not think that I have even begun to repent.”

After these words the face of the holy abba shone so brightly that the brethren were not able to look upon him. Saint Sisoes told them that he saw the Lord Himself. Then there was a flash like lightning, and a fragrant odor, and Abba Sisoes departed to the Heavenly Kingdom

Those who attend the divine service of the Orthodox Church must bear in mind that its purpose is to prepare us for the joyful service of God in heaven; that in serving God with the body, it is still more necessary to serve God with the soul and a pure heart; that in hearing divine service they must learn to serve God as those saints served him, whose lives, and works of faith, hope and love, we hear of during the service; that God should, above all, be served in deed and truth, and not only by words and the tongue. - St. John of Kronstadt



## **July 12- Candle Intentions**

### **Health**

Bires, Alice - Scott & Sharon  
Bires, Alice - Benjamin  
Bires, Alice - Fr Will and Pani Illena  
Bires, Alice - Helen, David, and Joseph  
Bires, Alice -Wally  
Bires, Alice - Happy Birthday Brayden  
Bires, Alice - God Children  
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Paul, Sonya, Pierce, Shelby  
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Marti & Josie  
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Rebecca & Matthew  
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Neil, Barb, Brenan  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Benjamin  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Luke & Alexis  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Irene & Basil, Blessed Marriage  
Grysiak, Gary - Janet- Blessed Birthday  
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 - Fr John & Loukia Dixon  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims  
Kiss, Marge - Lisa, Dorothy, Donna  
Sabeh, Nancy - Safe trip, Ron & Alexis  
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  
Stagon, John Jr. - John & Jessica  
Stagon, John Jr. - David, Linda & Johnny  
Stagon, John Jr. - David, II, Christal

### **Special Intentions**

Alice Bires

### **Memory**

Bires, Alice - Parents  
Bires, Alice- Brother-in-law  
Bires, Alice- Helen  
Bires, Alice-Margie  
Bires, Alice- Grandmother  
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  
Stagon, George & Barbara -Parents, George,  
Beatrice & Nicolas

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

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**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 26 - Group 1 or Group C\*  
August 2 - Group 1 or Group D\*  
August 9 - Group 2 or Group A  
\*TBD based on Covid cases

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**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