

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 Perevuznik, Jr., Parish Council President

ALL SERVICES STREAMED LIVE ON FB <https://www.facebook.com/joseph.fester>

21 Sunday -Group 2	22 Monday	23 Tuesday	24 Wednesday	25 Thursday	26 Friday	27 Saturday
All Saints of CR and NA 9:00 Divine Liturgy			7pm CCE Class on the Divine Liturgy			5pm Great Vespers and 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, June 14, 2020 - Attendance 32 - Weekly Offering, \$1960 - Building Fund, \$95 - Needy Fund, \$145 - Easter \$25 - Vigil Candles, \$189 - Vigil Lights lit prior week, (\$18)- Membership Dues, \$245 - Total \$2681**

**TODAY-**we have moved to the GREEN STAGE protocols in Allegheny County which means that groups larger than 25 can gather following all other COVID-19 safety protocols. With the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory we are combining our 4 worship groups into 2. Previous groups A and B are now Group 1 and Groups C and D are Group 2. We will alternate Groups for the next several weeks and then assess how things are working. Next week, Group 1 is invited to church.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY-**to all our parish fathers, grandfathers and godfathers. May God continue to richly bless you.

**MEMORY ETERNAL-** to all our departed fathers, grandfathers and godfathers. May their souls dwell with the blessed.

**WEDDING BANS-** Irene Grysiak will be united the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony to Basil Dixon on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at 3pm at St. John's.

**THIS WEDNESDAY-** our CCE class continues with the video presentations of Sister Vassa Larin on the Divine Liturgy. We will meet ONLINE. If you would like to join the class online, please give Fr. Joseph your email address and he will forward you the link to the class. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET and would like to participate, you may join the class in person. Please wear a mask. The class will originate in the church office not the hall. Please let Fr. Joseph know if you are coming in person. Again, this is for parishioners who don't have Internet, otherwise, see you online.

**MANY THANKS -**to everyone who helped with the church grounds cleanup yesterday. It is a blessing to have parishioners who take pride (in a good way) to keep our church looking beautiful. God bless you all.

**FRANK BETZ-** our Diane Betz's husband will be undergoing quadruple bypass heart surgery on Tuesday at Shadyside Hospital. Please continue to keep Frank and Diane in your prayers.

**MARTI BARAN-** will undergo surgery on Thursday as a followup from you injuries suffered when she was hit by a car. Please keep her in your prayers

*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 7:1-13	Matthew 9:36-10:8	St Columba of Iona
Tuesday	Romans 7:14-8:2	Matthew 10:9-15	All Saints of Siberia
Wednesday	Romans 8:2-13	Matthew 10:16-22	Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas
Thursday	Romans 8:22-27	Matthew 10:23-31	Venerable Onuphrius the Great
Friday	Romans 9:6-19	Matthew 10:32-36;11:1	St Anthimus, Metropolitan of Wallachia
Saturday	Romans 3:28-4:3	Matthew 7:24-8:4	Prophet Elisha
Sunday	Romans 5:1-10	Matthew 6:22-33	New Martyrs under the Turkish Yoke

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** –Thomas Planiczki, Josephine Sofelkanik, Michael Sterchak, John Edward Stagon, Kathryn Rogulin, Cathy Pervuznik, 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.

**June Birthdays and Anniversaries-** Adrienne Harms 6/22, Mitchell Leopold Kalaluhu 6/28, Gina Marie Gasper 6/29. Happy Anniversary to Justin and Amanda Rosco 6/27.

**June Memorials - Newly Departed:** Fr. Michael Psenechunk, Matushka Nadine Eskoff-Brown, Protospesbyter George Hutnyan, Archimandrite Elias (Bitar), Pani Patsy Joseph, Departed Fathers, Grandfathers, and Godfathers.

**Perpetual:** Michael & Pauline Sabo, Andrew & Susan Himchak, Elizabeth Babich, John & Helen Sabol Katherine Totin, Peter Regrut, Tekla Orange, Catherine Wilson, Mary Kattalia, Anna Wukich, Nicholas Chernega, John Kasenohak, Martha Sisak, Carol Sisco, Robert Dugan, Irene Holowaty-Mancak, Edward Chuprinko, and for all victims of the COVID-19 virus.

**JUST A REMINDER-** that Fr. Joseph has a new cell-phone number. **412-607-7039**. Please update your records.

**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!

**PLEASE-**continue to observe all of the necessary health and safety guidelines that are enforce by State and Federal agencies. Be safe. Be patient and be careful. It’s going to be this way for a good while longer and things won’t get back to normal until there is more testing, better treatment and a vaccine.

**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.
6. There will be no coffee hour until further notice.



**ON AUGUST 28, 2005** - Metropolitan Nicholas of the American Carpatho- Russian Orthodox Diocese of the USA (Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople) proclaimed that starting in 2006 the Second Sunday after Pentecost will be commemorated as the Synaxis (Gathering) of the Carpatho-Rusyn Saints of the Holy Orthodox Faith.

On the Orthodox Church calendar, the first Sunday after Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints of the Orthodox Church. The Kondak for that Sunday tells us: "The universe offers Thee the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of great creation, O Lord and Creator. Through the Theotokos and their prayers establish Thy Church in peace."

The Second Sunday after Pentecost is designated in some calendars as the Sunday of the Regional Saints. So it is appropriate that the Carpatho- Rusyn saints are commemorated on this day.

The twelve Saints who are remembered are:

1. **St. Maxim of Gorlich.** He was martyred in 1914 for his priestly witness against Austro-Hungarian oppression.
2. **St. Ludmilla.** Martyred in 926. She was the grandmother of King Wenceslaus.
3. **St. Procopius of Sazava.** He built several monasteries in the 11th century which subsequently became centers of Orthodox Christianity when the Church came under severe governmental opposition.
4. **St. Rostislav.** As prince of Moravia in the 9th century, SS Cyril and Methodius were encouraged to begin their missionary work with the Slavic people.
5. and 6. **St. Cyril** and his brother **St. Methodius** who established the Orthodox faith and were the first Orthodox witnesses to the Slav nations. They lived around the year 863.
7. **St. Wenceslaus.** The king of the Czech and Moravian lands known for his charity and promoting of Christianity among his subjects. He was killed in 929. He was the subject of the well-known (Christmas song "Good King Wenceslaus." Sometimes identified as Vagislav in martyrologies.
8. **St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre.** He was instrumental in evangelizing many in the early 20th century.
9. **St. Moses the Hungarian.** He was a slave for many years. He entered a monastery in the eleventh century. He endured much for his Christian faith while a slave.
10. **St. Gorazd.** He was the bishop of Moravia and Sleizska. During World War II, he harbored members of the resistance in the Orthodox cathedral in Prague. He was executed by the Nazi.
11. **St. Alexis of Khust.** He led many Carpathian people to the Orthodox faith about the same time as did St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre. He was persecuted by the Nazi during World War II.
12. **St. Ephrem of New Torzhok**

Over the next few weeks I will be exploring more about all of the Carpatho-Rusyn Saints, their lives and their service to the Carpatho-Rusyn People and the Orthodox Church.



## Glorified by the Church

*Persons recognized as saints and officially added to the Church Calendar*

**St. Alexander Hotovitzky**, Missionary to America, and Hieromartyr under the Bosheviks

**St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre**, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America, leader of ex-Uniates into Orthodoxy

**St. Anatole (Kamensky) of Irkutsk**, New Hieromartyr and Archbishop of Irkutsk

**St. Vasily (Basil) Martysz**, hieromartyr in Poland

**St. Bogolyub Gakovich of Chisholm**, missionary to America, and hieromartyr

under the Nazis

**St. Brendan the Voyager**, first Orthodox saint to set foot in North America, leader of short-lived 6th c. Irish monastic community in Canada

**St. Herman of Alaska**, Wonderworker of All America, first missionary to Alaska

**St. Innocent of Alaska**, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts, Apostle to America, missionary bishop to Alaska

**St. Yakov (Jacob) Netsvetov**, Enlightener and Baptizer of the Native Peoples of Alaska

**St. John Kochurov**, Missionary to America and First Hieromartyr under the Bolshevik Yoke

**St. John (Maximovitch) the Wonderworker**, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco

**St. Juvenaly of Alaska**, Missionary to Alaska and hieromartyr

**St. Mardarije (Uskokovic)**, Serbian Bishop of America and Canada

**St. Matej Stiyachic of Chisholm**, missionary to America, and hieromartyr under the Nazis

**St. Nikolai (Velimirovich)**, Bishop of Zhicha, rector of St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Wilkes Barre, PA.

**St. Peter the Aleut**, New Martyr of America

**St. Raphael (Hawaweeny)**, bishop of Brooklyn under Moscow Patriarchate

**St. Sebastian (Dabovich)**, Archimandrite, "Serbian Apostle to America"

**St. Seraphim (Samoylovich) of Uglich**, missionary in Alaska and hieromartyr under the Soviets

**St. Teofan Beatovich of Chisholm**, missionary in Minnesota, hieromonk and martyr under the Communists

**Patriarch St. Tikhon (Belavin) of Moscow**, Enlightener of North America, hieromartyr under the Bolsheviks in Russia

**St. Varnava (Barnabas Nastić), the New Confessor**, born in Gary, Indiana

## June 14- Candle Intentions

### Health

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 - Happy Anniversary, Justin & Amanda  
Churprinko, Marilyn - Paul, Sonya, Pierce, Shelby  
Churprinko, Marilyn - Rebecca & Matthew  
Churprinko, Marilyn - Niel, Barb, Bren  
Churprinko, Marilyn - Josie & Marti  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Benjamin  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Luke & Alexis  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Irene & Basil  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Janet  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Deborah - Happy Birthday  
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 - Bob Carlisle  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Kevin Henry  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Marti Baran  
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims  
Kiss, Margaret - Daughter Lisa  
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  
Stagon, John Jr. - John & Jessica  
Stagon, John Jr. - David, Linda, Johnny  
Stagon, John Jr. - David II, Christal & Weston

### Special Intentions

Alice Bires

### Memory

Babich, Sandy - Ron Babich  
Bires, Alice - Parents  
Bires, Alice- Brother-in-law  
Bires, Alice- Helen  
Bires, Alice- Margie  
Bires, Alice - Grandfathers  
Churprinko, Marilyn - Sister M Olivia VSC  
Churprinko, Marilyn - George Churprinko  
Churprinko, Marilyn - Ed Churprinko  
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  
Sabeh, Nancy - Family Members  
Stagon, George & Barbara - Mom and Dad  
Stagon, John Jr. - Wife Anna  
Stagon, John Jr. - Father, Mother, Brothers  
Stakel, Peggy - Parents Nick & Betty Babich

### Worship Groups During Pandemic Under GREEN Stage

#### GROUP 1

Marianne Allen and Bill Welch  
Rebecca Barclay  
Chris, Lisa and DJ Bebin  
Diane Betz  
Alice Bires  
Karen and Wally Perkins  
Bill and Eric Brancho  
Eileen Buck  
Bob and Sandy Carlisle  
Marilyn Churprinko  
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  
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 6.5.20

June 28 - Group 1  
July 5 - Group 2  
July 12 - Group 1  
July 19 - Group 2  
July 26 - Group 1

**STARTING THIS WEEKEND-** only the Sunday Divine Liturgy will be live streamed on the Internet. Since all other services are open to everyone there is no need to broadcast them.



The call of the disciples and their immediate obedience to Jesus is in itself miraculous. We are not given an explanation as to why they so completely submit themselves to Christ, but

they do. And though they leave the boat and their father to follow Christ, we know later in the Gospels they still have a boat to use and in John's Gospel are still clearly fishermen after the resurrection of Christ – so they aren't abandoning the profession completely, but now additionally follow Christ after being called.

The other version of the call of the disciples, found in the Gospel according to [St. Luke 5:1-11](#),

has Jesus performing a miracle in helping the disciple make a huge catch of fish and then they are called to follow Christ. In the Luke version the response of the disciples to Christ's call is explained by the miracle of the catch of fish.

Sister Katrina, a nun of New Skete wrote of the response of the fishermen after the miraculous catch of fish to follow Christ:

*“When we go to the depths with Christ, we learn who we really are – often by learning who we are not, and leaving that behind. It’s interesting that the choice Peter and his fishing partners make is to leave behind exactly what they thought they had been hoping for and working so hard for. They learned something about who they really were. When they realized who they really were, the amazing catch became just a smelly heap of dead fish.”*(Gospel Reflections, pps. 9-10)

Part of what Christians come to realize is that all the success in the world really does not amount to all that much when one considers that life on earth is relatively short when compared to the eternity of existence. We can pursue all the material wealth we want on earth, but it really is only borrowed goods and never permanently ours for when we die we do not take the material wealth with us. Our pursuit of the things of the earth proves to be a temporary illusion – a mirage on the sojourn through earth. For earth turns out not to be paradise but despite it offering us some oases along the way, still a desert compared to the paradise of God. (Taken from Fr. Ted Bobosh Blog)