

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>

30 Sunday -Group 2	31 Monday	1 Tuesday	2 Wednesday	3 Thursday	4 Friday	5 Saturday
12th Sunday of Pentecost 9:00 Divine Liturgy Group2			7pm CCE CLASS		Fast	Memorial Saturday 9am Liturgy 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, August 23, 2020 - Attendance 32 - Weekly Offering, \$2162 - Building Fund, \$65 - Needy Fund, \$200 - Icon Fund, \$1005 - Monastery Outreach, \$235 - Vigil Candles, \$147 +\$36 paid from previous week. - Total \$3850

WEDNESDAY- our CCE class will continue its study of the Divine Liturgy.

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

THE SEMI-ANNUAL-statements are available for you to pick up at the card table outside. Get yours TODAY!!!

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. We are grateful for the additional donations of \$1005 last week from Christine Aankey and Gloria Blake and Kathy Rogulin.. We only need to raise an addition \$2245 to reach our goal. Work will begin in September and take about 5 months. Please keep our iconographer, Michal Kapeluck in your prayers.

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY-for donations to benefit the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery in Saxonburg, PA. 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. **USE YOUR BLUE ENVELOPE** (For Any Purpose) in your box of envelopes .If you have any questions, please see Fr. Joseph Last week we collected another \$235. Many Thanks.

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

Monday	II Cor. 8:7-15	Mark 3:6-12	St Christodoulos of Georgia
Tuesday	I Cor. 8;16-9;5	Mark 3:13-19	Martyr Andrew the General
Wednesday	II Cor. 9:12-10:7	Mark 3:20-27	Prophet Samuel
Thursday	II Cor. 10:7-18	Mark 3:28-35	Apostle Thaddeus of the Seventy
Friday	II Cor. 11:5-21	Mark 4:1-9	Martyr Gorazd of Prague
Saturday	I Cor. 2:6-9	Matt. 22:15-22	Leave-taking of the Dormition
Sunday	I Cor. 15;1-11	Matthew 21:33-42	St Serapion the Abbot in Georgia

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.

WE WELCOME BACK-our church choir today. CHOIR MEMBERS MAY COME TO SERVICES REGARDLESS OF WHAT GROUP THEY ARE IN. This is another step in normalization of church life here at St. John's. We still have to be careful and flexible depending on how the Pandemic proceeds. The choir will also sing next Sunday. If you have any questions, please talk to Fr. Joseph

CONFESSIONS-are heard after Vespers on Saturday or any Feast Day eve and by appointment at any time. If you haven't been to confession recently, now is a good time.

WE HAVE PIROHI-for sale. \$8 a dozen. Pick up a dozen or two for a great Friday meal. See Nancy who will help you get yours.

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, Marti and Cathilynn Baran, Aubrey Welch, Fr Daniel Prez (Joe Monde's brother), 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.

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES-

Fr Joseph and Kathy Fester 8/31.

AUGUST MEMORIAL LIST

Newly Departed – George Nedelkov, Matushka Anastasia Karlgut, Matushka Janet Mihalik

Perpetual William & Hermina Mallick, Mary Michalov, Edward Stagon, Charlie Babich, Charlene Cannon, Gary Sterchak, Susanna Hnat, Spero Gianutsos, Nicholas Babich, Nicholas Seminick, Charles Fedoris, Mary Jane Rubash, John Karman, John & Hazel Hersak, Anna Yakubik, Paul Marchak, Joseph & Barbara Balok

Harold Hosken, Lewis Volk Joseph Henry Brown, Martin Brown, Julia Ann Suvak, Mary Sutek, George Popovich, Anna Popovich, George Motto, John Karman, Vasil Plichta, George Harrison, Helen Molchan, Marie Povanda, Mary Drago, George Panchak, Eli Popovich, Infant Brancho, Nicholas Babich, George Morosini, Mary Rogulin, John Popovich, Linda Karlar, Ann Kocan, Helen Lelekas, Stephen Vukson, Archbishop Dmitri, Archpriest John Matusiak, Mark Kuzemka, Helen Lelekas, Margaret Stemler

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

September 11	Feast of Beheading of St John the Baptist
September 15	Parish Council Meeting
September 21	Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
September 13	Ordination of Dn Marc Winosky- Fr Prepelka here at St. John's
September 27	Feast of the Elevation of the Cross
October 11 and 18	TAKE HOME SPAGETTI DINNERS (Cooking October 10)
November 7	Nut-Roll Baking
December 11	Nut-Roll and Cookie Sales (Take out only)

August 23- Candle Intentions

Health

Bires, Alice - Scott & Sharon
Bires, Alice - Benjamin
Bires, Alice - Fr Will and Pani Ilena
Bires, Alice -Helen, David, Joseph
Bires, Alice -Happy Annv, Wally & Karen
Bires, Alice - Cathy
Bires, Alice - John E Stagon
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Neil, Barb & Bren
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Paul Sonja, Pierce, Shelby
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Rebecca & Matthew
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Sandy Babich
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Bob & Cheryl Hosken
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Benjamin
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Luke & Alexis
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Irene & Basil
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Deborah
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Burkett Family
Grysiak, Gary - Janet
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 - Ellen & Jason
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - Virus Victims
Grysiak, Janet & Gary - John & Grace Blessed
Engagement
Locante, Paula - Family
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, Weston
Sterchak, Cindy & Dave - Dad-Birthday

Special Intentions

Alice Bires

Memory

Bires, Alice - Parents
Bires, Alice- Brother-in-law
Bires, Alice- Helen
Bires, Alice-Margie
Chuprinko, Marilyn - Niece Grealine Chuprinko
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 & Nicholas
Sabeh, Nancy- Brother Fr. Michael
Stagon, John Jr - Wife Anna

Stagon, John Jr - Father, Mother, Brother
Stagon, John Jr - Mary Alice Cole

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 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 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 -

August 30 - Group 2
September 6- Group 1
September - 13 - Group 2
September -20 - Group 1

September 27- Groups 1 and 2 (FEAST DAY)

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Parish Council met in person and remotely on Tuesday, August 25. The following are the decision made at the meeting:

ONLINE GIVING-the council approved using the Tithe.ly online giving program which is also part of our present website. There is no cost to set up this program. There will be a button added to our website and linked to our Facebook page so people are able to contribute to St John's online. This action is a follow up from discussions at the last Annual Meeting.

CHURCH SCHOOL-the council approved the purchase of the Orthodoxjourneys.com education materials for this year's church school. Given the reality of the on-going pandemic, the Orthodox Journeys program can be used in-person, online or for homeschooling. It will also be employed for adult education. Many thanks to the PTA and to Sean Nelis for donating to this program.

PARKING LOT-the council agreed to seek bids as a preliminary step to see how much it would cost to repave our upper church parking lot.

As of July 31, St John's Account Balances are as follows:

Checking - \$1774.14
Savings - \$273,389.89
Script - \$2442.00
Savings Bond - \$23,500

Total - \$301,107.03

PARISH PLEDGE SYSTEM

As part of last year's Annual Meeting, we are working to transition from a "Dues" System to support our parish to a "Pledge" System. What exactly does this mean?

Currently, to be a member in good standing at St. John's, a person need only pay their annual parish dues and go to confession and communion here once a year. Another way to understand this is that these consist of our "Annual Minimum Financial and Spiritual Support." But, of course we all know that if we relied on these minimums we would be both spiritually and financially in big trouble. Thankfully we offer much more of ourselves to God than these minimums.

Thus moving from a "dues" to a "pledge" system is an outward expression of our inner desire to offer the first part, the best part of our lives, physical and spiritual, to God in grateful thanksgiving for all He has and does for us- not a minimum relationship with Him, but an open-ended and hopefully growing relationship with our God and in particular here at His Church in East Pittsburgh.

How do we practically move from a "dues system" to a "pledge system" of parish support? This is done with the introduction of the Pledge Card.

What is a Pledge Card and how does it work? We will explore this in next week's bulletin. Stay tuned.

If you have any question, contact Fr. Joseph.
