

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>

29 Sunday -Group 1	10 Monday	11 Tuesday	12 Wednesday	13 Thursday	14 Friday	15 Saturday
9th Sunday of Pentecost St Panteleimon 9:00 Divine Liturgy Blessing of Cars			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, August 2, 2020 - Attendance 23 - Weekly Offering, \$1857 - Building Fund, \$205 - Needy Fund, \$108 - Icon Fund, \$700 - Monastery Outreach, \$70 -- Vigil Candles, \$204 - (Adv. Vigil payment, \$9) Lenten Food, \$18 - Total \$3160

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.

WEDNESDAY- our CCE class will continue its study of the Divine Liturgy. If you would like to join us online, let Fr Joseph know and he can give you sign-in information.

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 \$700 by Cathy Pervuznik and Bob Jr. We only need to raise an addition \$5100 to reach our goal. Work will begin in September and take about 5 months. Please keep our iconographer, Michal Kapeluck in your prayers.

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. 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 \$70. 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://holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/index.htm>

Monday	I Cor. 15:12-19	Matthew 21:18-22	Venerable George of Mt. Athos
Tuesday	I Cor. 15:29-38	Matthew 21:23-27	St Olaf, King of Norway
Wednesday	I Cor. 16:4-12	Matthew 21:28-32	Prince Tsotne of Georgia
Thursday	II Cor. 1:1-7	Matthew 21:43-46	St Arsenius of Georgia
Friday	I Cor. 1:18-24	John 19:6-11;13-20;25-28;30-35	Start of the Dormition Fast / Procession of the Cross
Saturday	Romans 15:30-33	Matthew 17:24-18:4	Blessed Basil of Moscow Fool for Christ
Sunday	I Cor. 4:9-16	Matthew 17:14-23	Holy Myrrh-bearer Salome

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.

WE HAVE A- signup sheet to determine how many workers we can count on IF we have a Fall Food Festival. If we have enough help, we will, if not, it will be very difficult for us to host one this year. Look for the Signup Sheet next Sunday. If you have any questions, talk to Nancy

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

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES-

Sean Walker, 8/12 Nancy Sabeh, 8/13 Barbara Vasko, 8/16 Michael Sterchak, 8/20 Dennis Harms, 8/23 Wally Perkins, 8/23 Lindsay Skidmore

Wally & Karen Perkins 8/28, Fr Joseph and Kathy Fester 8/31.

AUGUST MEMORIAL LIST

Newly Departed – George Nedelkov

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, Charles Fedoris, 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 (1 Year.)

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.

TODAY-at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy we will have a Memorial Service for the 1 Year of repose of Margie Stemler. Memory Eternal!

TODAY- we will continue the traditional blessing of cars will take place after Liturgy for Group 1.

July 26- Candle Intentions

Health

Bires, Alice - Scott & Sharon
Bires, Alice - Benjamin
Bires, Alice - Fr Will and Pani Ilena
Bires, Alice -Helen, David, Joseph
Bires, Alice -Wally
Bires, Alice - Cathy
Bires, Alice - Godchildren
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 - Virus Victims
Harms, Denny & Adrienne - Benjamin
Harms, Denny & Adrienne - M/M Basil Dixon & Daisy
Harms, Denny & Adrienne - M/M Luke Grysiak & Kona
Harms, Denny & Adrienne - Brother Steve-60th Birthday
Kiss, Marge - Lesa, Dorothy, Donna
Kocan, Nicki - Family
Perevuznik, Bob Jr. - Mom
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Emily, Rebecca, Tanner, Tyler
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Kelly, Lauren, Michael
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Perevuznik, Skidmore, Durmis & Peach Families
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - John E Stagon
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Marti Baran
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Fr Ed Pehanich
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Safe Travel, Emily, Tanner, Colleen
Perkins, Karen - McKenna
Sabeh, Nancy - Family
Sabeh, Nancy - Jacci Ford
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

Special Intentions

Alice Bires

Memory

Bires, Alice - Parents
Bires, Alice- Brother-in-law
Bires, Alice- Helen

Bires, Alice-Margie
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
Harms, Denny & Adrienne - Mother Pauline
Bozsik
Harms, Denny & Adrienne - Father Joseph
Bozsik
Harms, Denny & Adrienne - Rose & Elmer Harms
Kocan, Nicki - Mom, Dad & Brother
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - Dad
Perevuznik, Bob Jr - George Nedelkov
Perevuznik, Cathy - Husband Bob
Stagon, George & Barbara -Parents, George, Beatrice & Nicolas
Stagon, John Stagon Jr - Wife Anna
Stagon, John Stagon Jr - Father, Mother, Brothers
Sterchak, Cindy & Dave - Father Duke
Sterchak, Cindy & Dave - Brother Michael
Sterchak, Michael - Son Gary

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 Perevuznik
Bob Perevuznik, 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 - Updated 7.5.20

August 9 - Group 1
August 16 - Group 2
August 23 - Group 1
August 30 - Group 2
*TBD based on Covid cases

IMPORTANT AUGUST DATES-

AUGUST 9 – CAR BLESSING FOR GROUP 1

AUGUST 14 – START OF DORMITION FAST

AUGUST 18 – GREAT VESPERS FOR TRANSFIGURATION

AUGUST 19 – FESTAL LITURGY & BLESSING OF FRUIT

AUGUST 25 – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 27- GREAT VESPERS FOR DORMITION

AUGUST 28 – FESTAL LITURGY FOR DORMITION & BLESSING OF HERBS AND FLOWERS

AUGUST 12,26 – CCE CLASSES (note no CCE on August 19)

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. small men and women of prayer in the midst of the tumults of the world, our great



The Great-Martyr and Healer Panteleimon
Commemorated on July 27/August 9

The GreatMartyr and Healer Panteleimon was born in the city of Nikomedia into the family of the illustrious pagan Eustorgias, and he was named Pantoleon. His mother Ebbula was a christian. She wanted to raise her son in the Christian faith, but she died when the future greatmartyr was still a young lad. His father sent Pantoleon to a fine pagan school, at the completion of which the youth began to study the medical art at Nikomedia under the reknown physician Euphrosynos, and he came to the attention of the emperor Maximian (284-305), who wished to see him at court.

During this time there dwelt secretly at Nikomedia the Priest-Martyr presbyters Hermolaos, Hermippos and Hermocrates – survivors in the Nikomedia Church after the burning of 20,000 Christians in the year 303.

Saint Hermolaos saw Pantoleon time and again, when he came to their hideout. One time the presbyter summoned the youth to the hideout and spoke about the Christian faith. After this Pantoleon visited every day with the priestmartyr Hermolaos

One time the youth saw upon a street a dead child, bitten by a viper, which was still alongside. Pantoleon began to pray to the Lord Jesus Christ for the resuscitation of the dead child and for the death of the venomous reptile. He firmly resolved, that if his prayer were fulfilled, he would become a follower of Christ and accept Baptism. The child revived, and the viper shattered into pieces before the eyes of Pantoleon.

After this miracle Pantoleon was baptised by Saint Hermolaos with the name Panteleimon (meaning "all-merciful"). Conversing with Eustorgias, Saint Panteleimon prepared him for the acceptance of Christianity, and when the father beheld, how his son healed a blind man by invoking the Name of Jesus Christ, he then believed in Christ and was baptised together with the blind man restored to sight.

After the death of his father, Saint Panteleimon dedicated his life to the suffering, the sick, the misfortunate and the needy. He treated without charge all those who turned to him, healing them in the Name of Jesus Christ. He visited those held captive in prison – being usually Christians, who filled all the prisons, and he healed them of their wounds. In a short while accounts about the charitable physician spread throughout all the city. And forsaking the other

doctors, the inhabitants began to turn only to Saint Panteleimon.

The envious doctors made a denunciation to the emperor, that Saint Panteleimon was healing Christian prisoners. Maximian urged the saint to disprove the denunciation and offer sacrifice to idols, but Saint Panteleimon confessed himself a Christian and right in front of the eyes of the emperor he healed a paralytic in the Name of Jesus Christ. The ferocious Maximian executed the healed man who was glorifying Jesus Christ, and gave Saint Panteleimon over to fierce torture.

The Lord appeared to the saint and strengthened him before his sufferings. They suspended the GreatMartyr Panteleimon from a tree and tore at him with iron hooks, burned him with fire and then stretched him on the rack, threw him in boiling oil, and cast him into the sea with a stone about his neck. Throughout all these tortures the greatmartyr remained unhurt and with conviction he denounced the emperor.

During this time there was brought before the court of the pagans the Presbyters Hermolaos, Hermippos and Hermocrates. All three firmly confessed their faith in the Saviour and were beheaded (the account about them is located under 26 July).

By order of the emperor they threw the GreatMartyr Panteleimon to wild beasts for devouring at the circus. But the beasts lay at his feet and shoved at each other in trying to be touched by his hand. The spectators gathered

together and began to shout: "Great God of the Christians!" The enraged Maximian ordered the soldiers to stab with the sword anyone who glorified the Name of Christ, and to cut off the head of the GreatMartyr Panteleimon.

They led the saint to the place of execution and tied him to an olive tree. When the greatmartyr prayed, one of the soldiers struck him with a sword, but the sword became soft like wax, and inflicted no wound. The saint ended the prayer, and a Voice was heard, calling the passion-bearer by name and summoning him to the Heavenly Kingdom. Hearing the Voice from Heaven, the soldiers fell down on their knees before the holy martyr and begged forgiveness. The executioners refused to continue with the execution, but the GreatMartyr Panteleimon bid them to fulfill the command of the emperor, saying that otherwise they would have no share with him in the future life. The soldiers tearfully took their leave of the saint with a kiss.

When the saint was beheaded, the olive tree – to which the saint was tied, at the moment of his death was covered with fruit. Many that were present at the execution believed in Christ. The body of the saint – thrown into a bonfire – remained in the fire unharmed and was buried by christians (+ 305). The Great-Martyr Panteleimon's servants Lawrence, Bassos and Probios saw his execution and heard the Voice from Heaven. They recorded the account about the life, the sufferings and death of the holy greatmartyr.

The holy relics of the Great-Martyr Panteleimon were distributed in parts throughout all the Christian world: his venerable head is now located at the Russian Athonite monastery of the Great-Martyr Panteleimon.

The veneration of the holy martyr in the Russian Orthodox Church was already known in the XII Century. Prince Izyaslav – in Baptism Panteleimon – son of Saint Mstislav the Great, had an image of Saint Panteleimon on his helmet. Through the intercession of the saint he remained alive during a battle in the year 1151. On the day of memory of the GreatMartyr Panteleimon, Russian forces won two naval victories over the Swedes (in 1714 near Hanhauze and in 1720 near Grenham).

The Great-Martyr Panteleimon is venerated in the Orthodox Church as a mighty saint, the protector of soldiers. This aspect of his veneration is derived from his first name Pantoleon, which means "a lion in everything". His second name, Panteleimon – given him at Baptism, which means "all-merciful", reveals itself in the veneration of the greatmartyr as healer. The connection between these two patronages of the saint is readily apparent in that soldiers, receiving wounds more frequently than others, are more in need of a physician-healer. Wherefore Christians in waging spiritual warfare also have recourse to this saint with a petition to heal the wounds of the soul. The name of the holy Great-Martyr and Healer Panteleimon is invoked in the Sacrament of Anointing the Sick, at the Blessing of Water and in the Prayer for the Sick

The Priest Martyrs Hermolaus, Hermippos and Hermocrates, Clergy of Nicomedia



Commemorated on July 26/August 8

The The Priest Martyrs Hermolaus, Hermippos and Hermocrates, Clergy of Nicomedia

Priest-Martyrs Hermolaus, Hermippos and Hermocrates, Clergy of Nicomedia, were among the small number of those remaining alive after the burning of 20,000 Christians of the Nicomedia Church in the year 303 (Comm. 28 December), – done upon the orders of the emperor Maximian (284-305). They hid themselves in remote places and did not cease to teach pagans the Christian

faith. Often there passed by the house, in which Saint Hermolaus had concealed himself, the young pagan named Pantoleon (Holy GreatMartyr Panteleimon, Comm. 27 July). One time Saint Hermolaus chanced upon the youth and asked him to stop by for him at the house. In their conversation Saint Hermolaus began to explain to his guest the falseness, impiety and vanity of worshipping the pagan gods. From that day on Pantoleon began daily to visit Saint Hermolaus and received of him holy Baptism. When the trial of the holy GreatMartyr Panteleimon was being held, Saints Hermolaus, Hermippos and Hermocrates, were also arrested. The Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Saint Hermolaus on an evening and revealed to him, that on the following day he would suffer for Him and receive a martyr's crown. Saints Hermippos and Hermocrates were arrested and brought to trial after Saint Hermolaus. All three were given the chance to abjure from Christ and offer sacrifice to idols. But they resolutely refused, confessed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and were prepared gladly to die for Him. The pagans began to threaten the holy priests with torture and death. Suddenly a strong earthquake occurred, and the idols and pagan temple collapsed and shattered. A report was made about this to the emperor. The enraged Maximian gave the holy martyrs over to torture and pronounced upon them a sentence of death. Bravely enduring all the torments, the holy PriestMartyrs Hermolaus, Hermippos and Hermocrates were beheaded in about the year 305.