



The Weekly Forerunner

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

301 Struthers Liberty Rd

Campbell, OH 44405

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest



JULY BULLETIN SPONSOR

In memory of Joanie Puharich Kovach – Given by Michael Kovach & Robert Puharich Families

Liturgical & Events Schedule **TWO-WEEK EDITION**

Sunday, June 30

9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Social by Simko Family

Sunday, July 7

9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Social by Kennedy Family
(Divine Liturgy served by AP John Zdinak)

Wednesday, July 10

6:00 PM: Fire Department Meeting

Friday, July 12

4-10 PM: Campbell Summer Fest @ Roosevelt Park

Saturday, July 13

Noon – 10 PM: Campbell Summer Fest (Noon is parade)

6:00 PM: Vespers / Confessions

Sunday, July 14

9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Monthly Panachida / Social by Kovach Family / Council Meeting

Noon-10 PM: Campbell Summer Fest (Huge fireworks @ close of event)

Matthew 4:18-23 (Gospel)

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

Romans 2:10-16 (Epistle)

but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

2024 - COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nancy Tusinac (President)

Phone- 724-456-7366

Melenie Rusnak (Vice-President)

Phone- 330-398-3700

Cindy Ferrick (Treasurer)

Phone 330-531-1119

Joann Sirilla (Financial Secretary)

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Sub-deacon Dr. Donald Tamulouis (Council)

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Natalia Simko (Council) (Cemetery issues)

Phone- 330-980-3033

Linda Livosky (Council) (Kitchen issues)

Phone- 330-402-6573

Maintenance Issues:

Michael Simko - 330-565-0084

Michael Centofanti - 330-544-3518

JUNE Special Monthly Charity

St. Theodosius Collection

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

<https://www.stjohnthebaptist-campbell.org/>

padrebartek@gmail.com

PLEASE KEEP OUR ELDERS OF THE CHURCH & SHUT-INS IN YOUR PRAYERS– UPDATED 5-8-24

Send a “Thinking of You” card or remember their Birthday with a card. If anyone needs to be added, please contact Fr. Andrew.

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon Celebrates Holy Pentecost

On Saturday, June 22, and Sunday, June 23, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon celebrated services for the Great Feast of Pentecost at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Washington, DC. Concelebrating with His Beatitude were cathedral associate priests Archpriest George Kokhno and Archpriest Valery Shemchuk. The responses were sung by the cathedral choir under the direction of Mr. Kevin Basil Fritts.

On the eve of the feast, His Beatitude presided at the Festal Vigil. On the morning of the feast, His Beatitude presided at the celebration of the hierarchical Divine Liturgy which was followed by the Vespers of Pentecost with Kneeling Prayers.

During the Liturgy, His Beatitude delivered the homily in which he encouraged the faithful to reorient their lives toward godliness and the eternal kingdom of Christ in their own personal Pentecost.

Following the Vespers of Pentecost, festive greetings were exchanged, and a luncheon was held in the church hall. *You can read His Beatitude’s sermon on Page 6.*

PRAYER LIST– Updated 6-20-24

PARISHIONERS: Achilles Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / Donna Chiarelli / Helen Colaluca / Joan Cross / Ann Cvercko / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / George Horodnic / Anthony Jesko, Jr. / Paula Kennedy / Sue Kennedy / George Kolesar / Barbara Kolesar / Matushka Helen Psinka / Mary Jane Puskas / Carol Ruff / Kenny Ruff / Sub-deacon Vladimir Rusnak / Joanna Shepelevich / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko / Emilia Yannitto / Andy Zenko / Marion Zwinski

HIERARCHS & CLERGY: Archbishop Benjamin / Archbishop Nathaniel / AP James Gleason (Fr.) / AP Emil Hutyan / AP Vladimir Demshuk / Fr. Matthew Nyumu & his family & parish

FAMILY & FRIENDS: Chrissy (Fr.) / David (Willison) / Dominic (Centofanti) / Ellen (Clark) / Genna & her un-born baby (Koval) / Melinda Dubiec (Fr.) / Trudy Ellmore (Fr.) / John Galpin (Fr.) / Bruce Harris (Sabo) / Karen (Gemmel) / Katie (Garrity) / Basil Glovinsky (Fr.) / Ellen (Kessler) / Paul (Kolesar) / Karen (Vansuch) / Kathy (Kolesar) / Malakai (Kolesar) / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Andrew LaChard (Jesko) / Jonathan Leso (Fr.) / Mea (Mahan) / Mary (Mahan) / Pauline Meath (Fr.) / Matushka Raissa (Nicoloff) / Eugene (Pallai) / Teri Petroff (Fr.) / Chris Quotap (Fr.) / William Romanchak (Fr.) / Julia Shirilla / Bob Smrek (Sirilla) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Johanna (Tusinac) / Richard (Tusinac) / Brian (Shirilla) / Joseph (Vansuch) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Paula (Voytilla) / Mary Ann Bozichovich (Kennedy) / Patty Bozichovich (Vansuch) / Drew (Willison) / Ron Zenko / Catherine Zile (Fr.) / Brenna & her unborn baby (Fr.)

MILITARY FAMILY & FRIENDS: Cory Deaton (Fr.) / Alena Grabavoy (Fr.) / Liam Garrity (Zelinsky)

MISCELLANEOUS: Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Diocese of Aleppo) & Archbishop John (Archdiocese of Aleppo) still being held captive & Metropolitan Arseny imprisoned / The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers

Synaxis of the Saints of North America / Commemorated on July 7

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ.

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant

Gregory I. Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America.

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. Saint Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, Saint Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were Saint Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and Saint Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic **Con't Pg 7**

JULY Candle & Bulletin Sponsors

NOTE: If anything is missing from the Sponsorships please contact Fr. Andrew ASAP

- Bulletin:** In memory of Joanie Puharich Kovach– Given by Michael Kovach & Robert Puharich Families
Wine: In honor of our mother & Baba, Julia Simko on her 90th B-day– Given by Cheryl & Bill Dubos & Family
Incense: In memory of Steve Sveda– Given by Mr. & Mrs. George Kolesar
Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light: In honor of our mother & Baba Julia Simko– Given by Cheryl & Bill Dubos & Family vercko
Altar Candles: In memory of Ruth Libertin– Given by Reader Nicholas & Monica Vansuch / In honor of Reader Nicholas & Monica Vansuch’s wedding anniversary– Given by Reader Nicholas & Monica Vansuch / In memory of Andrew Cvercko on the 7th anniversary of repose on July 3rd– Given by Ann Cvercko
Tetrapod Candles: In memory of Robert Kennedy’s 30th anniversary of repose on July 10th & Eugene Kennedy on July 3rd– Given by Debiec & Kennedy Families
St. Herman Candles: Commemorating all who participate in maintenance of the church, the teachers, singers & those who participate in social events. Praying for everyone to love one another.
St. Panteleimon Icon Candles: In memory of my family & friends– Given by AP Andrew Bartek
Protection Icon Candles: In memory of AP John Psinka– Given by AP Andrew Bartek
St. John the Baptist Candles: In honor of George Kolesar on his 87th B-day- Given by Barbara Kolesar
Flowers: In memory of my father, Robert Fredericks, on his 94th B-day– Given by Sherrie Fredericks

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>\$50 per month</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wine *Bulletin *Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light *Altar Candles *Tetrapod Candles | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>\$30 per month</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *St. Herman candles *St. Panteleimon Icon candles *Protection Icon candles *St. John the Baptist candles | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>\$25 per month</u></p> <p>Incense</p> <p>Flowers - \$50 for 2 weeks at a time– Updated</p> |
|--|--|---|

ATTENDANCE: A Comparison - <i>JUNE</i>	2023	2024
1st week		
Vespers	No Record	7
Divine Liturgy	No Record	62 / 38
2nd week		
Vespers	32 (picnic)	7
Divine Liturgy	57 / 40	65 / 43
3rd week		
Ascension Vesper	10	17
Ascension Liturgy	15	18
Vespers	7	6
D.L. (Fathers Day)	70 / 47	52 / 35
4th week		
Vespers (Pentecost)	10	5
D. L. (Pentecost)	72 / 50	54 / 43
Kneeling Prayers		21
5th week		
Vespers	8	
D.L	70 / 44	

JUNE FINANCIALS	
Expenses	\$14,601.03
Income	\$12,279.00
TOTAL	-\$2,322.03
Weekly Tithe	\$10,933
Weekly Candles	\$471
Altar Candles	\$100
Icon Screen / Eternal Light	\$50
Wine	\$50
Bulletin	\$50
Unneeded Gifts	\$545
Protection Candles	\$30
Pascha offering	\$50
Misc Donation	\$60
Monthly Charity: St. Vladimir’s Camp	\$1,717

2nd Annual Picnic
Saturday, August 17
 Plans for our 2nd Annual Picnic are underway. Donations of side dishes will be needed. Fire responders & their vehicles will be blessed.
 Watch for further info.

Reposed List for JULY

- 1- Veronica Graban (1998) ©
- 1- Ann Zastany Crowi (2019) ©
- 1- Mike Smyrnios (1960) ©
- 2- Vasil Fecik (1921) ©
- 3- Andrew Cvercko (2017) ©
- 3- John Kaschak (1920) ©
- 4- Alice Sutko (2020)
- 4- Helen Arvan Kusmanov (2013) ©
- 4- Anna Gozur (1957) ©
- 5- George Hostal (2001) ©
- 5- George Vavlas (1945) ©
- 5- Andrew Harvischak (1951) ©
- 6- Steve Sveda (1928) ©
- 6- Nick Galouzis (1961) ©
- 7- Luba Raseta (1929) ©
- 8- Marian Shepelevich (2020)
- 9- Mary Zanos (1926) ©
- 10- Anna Roman (1926) ©
- 10- Robert Kennedy (1994) ©
- 10- Pete George (1939) ©
- 10- Nick Despetarich (1959) ©
- 12- Anna Berdy (1980) ©
- 12- Ruth Libertin (2008) ©
- 12- John Bolescak (1926) ©
- 13- Marilyn Fasiline (1972) ©
- 13- John Borsic (1987) ©
- 13- Andrew Holubauich (1930) ©
- 14- Edward Gorol (1961) ©
- 15- Catherine Harvischak (1977) ©
- 15- Floyd Dweesy (1985) ©
- 15- Mary Sykola (2005) ©
- 16- Mary Macala (1971) ©
- 16- Julian Marsteler (1920) ©
- 17- Mary Bartek (1984)
- 17- Eleanor Graban (1986) ©
- 17- Elizabeth Zelena (1991) ©
- 18- Steve Paroh (1979) ©
- 18- Still Born Cmur (1923) ©
- 19- Helen Bohish (1988) ©
- 19- Helen Livosky (2015) ©
- 19- Mary Balak (1925) ©
- 19- Mike Olsavsky (1931) ©
- 19- Margaret Bilehik (1955) ©
- 19- Walter Litzie (2023)
- 20- Joseph Sirilla, Sr (1979) ©
- 20- Fr. Dc. John Youhas (2012)
- 20- Anna Zavada Bartek (1924)
- 20- Nicholas Papas (1949) ©
- 20- Maria Karas (1956) ©
- 21- Anna Tsagros (1929) ©
- 22- Elizabeth Zilena (1985) ©
- 22- Mary Kennedy (2000) ©
- 22- Stephen Kalafut (1956) ©
- 22- William Petrosky (2020) ©
- 23- George Patzakis (1961) ©
- 25- Walter Lee Wilfong (2007) ©
- 25- John Konik (2009) ©
- 26- Faith Simko (2016) ©
- 26- John Poulas (1925) ©
- 26- Catherine Pavlos (1949) ©
- 26- Charles Xenakis (1960) ©
- 27- Ignatius Sosnowchik (1973) ©
- 27- Frank Zwinski (2013) ©
- 27- Christ Samjos (1930) ©
- 27- Panagiotis Sarris (1953) ©
- 28- Stella Graban Kurtiak (2013) ©
- 28- A.P. John Psinka (1996)
- 29- MaryAnn Such (1972) ©
- 30- Anna Krut (1924) ©
- 30- Sophia Oshelski (1959) ©

***Thank you to all who helped with the
beginning of Church
basement organizing.
You are very much appreciated!***

Cindy F
Nancy T
Sherrie F
Steve S
Michael S
David K
Beth L
David D
Tracy Z
Lydia A
Eli A
Nick V
Monica V
Linda L
Fr. Andrew



Traveling to Mogadore for Primalial Divine Liturgy with His Beatitude, Met. Tikhon

Are you interested in attending Divine Liturgy in Mogadore with His Beatitude, Met. Tikhon?

A 15 passenger van(s) is available.
Cost: approximately \$20-30 per person. Banquet
Tickets \$40. Banquet following Liturgy.

There is a sign-up sheet at the candle desk.



Sermon on the Great Feast of Pentecost by His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Today is the glorious day of Pentecost, the consummation of the entire Paschal movement. On Holy Thursday night, the night on which he was given up, the Lord told us that he was going away so that he could send another Comforter, and today, that other Comforter arrives in a great rush of wind.

Today, the Holy Spirit who rested on the Lord Jesus during the days of his flesh, who sits forever enthroned together with the Father and the Son from before the ages—today, this Spirit is sent and descends to be enthroned upon each of the disciples of the Christ, upon all who are gathered in the Upper Room.

The Spirit descends in tongues like flame, and each who receives him becomes like a candle or lamp. Lit by the spiritual fire of divine energy, the apostles are no longer hidden in the Cenacle, but rather they go into the streets to spread the light and warmth of the Gospel, sharing it with all who would receive it.

Thus, in the words of St. Gregory Palamas, “the Lord, in his all-surpassing love for mankind, showed at Pentecost that his disciples were partakers, fathers, and ministers of everlasting light and life.” The same saint says that the fire of Pentecost, “the grace of the Holy Spirit, is handed down through all generations and enlightens all who obey their spiritual shepherds and teachers,” the heirs to the apostolic ministry.

Pentecost, in this way, is not so-much a one-time event—“the birthday of the Church” as it is popularly known—but the ongoing state of the Church in this final age of this passing world.

St. Paul refers to Christians as those “upon whom the end of the ages has come.” This meeting with the end of the ages is what happens through our personal encounter with the grace of Pentecost through the mysteries of baptism and chrismation. When we are baptized, we die so that we may live; when we are chrismated, we are sealed as those who are called to live, not for this world, but for the world to come. From the time of our entrance into the Church—from the time we receive the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit—our life becomes eschatological, oriented not towards this perishing world, but toward the eternal kingdom of Christ. This is the gift, grace, and joy of Pentecost.

And because of this, we cannot help but use the occasion of this feast to ask ourselves: do we truly live in accordance with our calling?

Do we truly lead our lives striving toward the finish line, faithfully running the race of godliness? Or do we compete mainly for world accomplishments, recognition, and satisfaction?

We have been made into thrones for the Spirit of God himself; and yet, how often do we offer pride of place in our lives to some other spirit?

Are we lights for the world, sharing the illumination and joy of the Gospel with all around us, or have we retreated back under a bed or a bushel, hiding our great gift?

Is our treasure in heaven, or are we always building bigger barns?

I do not ask these questions in order to turn a feast day into a somber occasion; rather, we must constantly ask ourselves these questions “so that our joy may be full,” to cite once again Our Lord’s farewell discourse.

All the blessedness of the Gospel, all the blessedness of God, is a single blessedness: “blessed is the kingdom.” Thus, there is no true joy without truth, and there is no encounter with truth apart from honesty and repentance.

Therefore, if we truly wish to know the joy of Pentecost today, then we should use the present feast as a happy occasion to inspire a recommitment to our own personal Pentecost—our own baptism and chrismation, our own entrance into the Church.

Everything necessary for our salvation was given to us at that moment, as Sts. Ignatius and Callistus Xanthopoulos teach. All light, all happiness, all holiness—it can be ours, if we strive to live in accordance with the abundant grace of the Spirit, the saving Gospel of Christ, the sacred purity of the Father.

As St. John Chrysostom says, “For at the time of our baptism our soul shines forth more brightly than the sun because it has been cleansed by the Spirit. . . . Similarly, when a soul has been purified” of everything worldly that tries to drag us down after baptism, “and has become brighter than the sun, it receives rays from the glory of the Spirit which illumine its own innate glory.”

Therefore, rejoicing this day in the gift of the Spirit given at Pentecost, bestowed on us at our entrance into the Church, we nevertheless strive always to acquire that Spirit, as St. Seraphim of Sarov teaches.

Thus, turning away from all worldly illusions and temptations, we aspire to go from grace to grace, living for the age to come, hastening with joyful step toward the light that never sets, the glory of the kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



Celebrations in July

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Julia Smiko
- 11 Joan Cross
- 12 Pauline Fesz
- 15 His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon
- 17 Jonah Bremer, Kathleen Jesko
- 19 David Konik
- 23 Mat. Helen Psinka
- 30 Mat. Christine Hryb, Maureen Koval

ANNIVERSARY

- 3 Bob & Elizabeth Willison
- 8 Nick & Monica Vansuch
- 12 Thomas & Balaci Kristian
- 13 Marcus & Marcia Kubancsek
- 19 Thomas & Deborah Zelinsky
- 24 Frank & Lori Batura
- 25 Andy & Michelle Basile
- 27 Dennis & Kim Konik, Ken & Lynn Krause
- 28 30 James & Sandra Bufalini

NAMES DAY

- 31- AB Benjamin of San Francisco

SAVE THE DATE CITY OF CAMPBELL SUMMER FEST 2024

(This is the city's 4th of July celebration)

This year the Summer fest will be on:

Friday, July 12th– 4-10pm

Saturday, July 13– Noon-10pm (with a parade at noon)

Sunday, July 14– Noon to 10pm (with huge fireworks display at the close of the festivities)

There will be:

Chinese Auction	50/ 50 Raffle
Cake wheel	Rides
DJ Chico	Food
Games	& More

There will be live music on Saturday evening, July 13th by the: "Candace Campana"

St. of North America con't pg 3

tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive Saint Alexis

Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

Saint Tikhon (Bellavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent, Saint Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

Saint Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. Saint Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at Saint Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, Saint Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to Saint Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. Saint Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was "How to expand the mission." Guidelines and directions for missionary activity, and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In the twentieth century, in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, countless men, women, and children received the crown of martyrdom rather than renounce Christ. Saints John Kochurov (October 31) and Alexander Hotovitzky (December 4 and August 7) both served the Church in North America before going back to Russia. Saint John became the first clergyman to be martyred in Russia on October 31, 1917 in Saint Petersburg. Saint Alexander Hotovitzky, who served in America until 1914, was killed in 1937.

In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that

40 DAY REMBRANCE

July 21– Suzanne / Ronald (Thomas) Moore)

AOB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PRAYS FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD

The Assembly of Bishops Executive Committee was held at the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America on June 4, 2024.

The meeting began with a financial report followed by the approval of new board members for Orthodox Christian Prison Ministries (“OCPM”), Orthodox Christian Fellowship (“OCF”), and Orthodox Volunteer Corps (“OVC”).

The Executive Committee then agreed to designate Sunday of Orthodoxy as “Assembly of Bishops Sunday” in order to celebrate the good work of the Assembly with Orthodox Christians nationwide. Each year there will be a Pan-Orthodox encyclical issued to all the Orthodox parishes in the country.

The Hierarchs then reviewed the proposed agenda for the upcoming annual meeting of the Assembly of Bishops in Atlanta from September 28th – October 1st. They also received updates on the Inter-Parish Associations, the Accessibility Ministry, as well as other programs in common.

During their meeting, the Executive Committee lamented the violence and divisions that have affected Ukraine and Gaza. As peacemakers, intercessors for healing and reconciliation, they encourage the whole of humanity to metanoia, to repentance and spiritual conversion, returning to the ways of forgiveness, compassion, peace, and love as taught by Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Finally, on behalf of the entire Assembly of Bishops, the members of the Executive Committee extend their sincere wishes for a blessed Paschal season and Pentecost!

Holy Pentecost: Feast of the Diocesan Cathedral

The feast of Holy Pentecost was celebrated on Sunday, June 23 by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest at the Diocesan Cathedral, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago, IL. This weekend is the Altar Feast of the Diocesan Cathedral named in honor of the Holy Trinity.

The Archbishop served the festal vigil the night before, Saturday, June 22. Celebrating with the Archbishop was Priest Alexander Koranda, Cathedral Dean, Archpriest Tarasiy Maxim, Archpriest Herman Kincaid, Protodeacon Thomas Keith and Deacon Sampson Nash.

The following day, the Archbishop was greeted by Fr. Alexander and Fr. Tarasiy, and celebrated the Divine Liturgy for Pentecost. Following the Divine Liturgy, the Vespers of Pentecost took place. Those in attendance enjoyed a festive meal following the service.

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon to lead 20th Anniversary Services for the Tikhvin Icon

A memo was sent from the desk of the Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest on June 18, to the clergy of the Midwest Diocese in regards to the upcoming feast of the Tikhvin Icon of the Mother of God on June 25 and June 26.

In this memo His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest announced that the Diocese of the Midwest will have the honor of hosting His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop of Washington and Metropolitan of All America and Canada, for this important feast in the life of the diocese.

“As you are aware, next week (June 25-26), we will commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Transfer of the Icon of the Mother of God of Tikhvin from Chicago to its original home at Holly Dormition Monastery, Tikhvin, Russia. This celebration will be led by His Beatitude Metropolitan TIKHON.”

The Archbishop also announced that a number of the bishops of the Orthodox Church in America will be attending this significant event.

“It is my sincere hope that you will be in attendance as we honor the Theotokos, Sovereign Lady and Queen of our God-protected Diocese. I am grateful that you have been encouraging the faithful of your communities to also participate in this special moment of prayer and celebration.”

St. Tikhon’s Midwest Seminarians Offer Prayers for Cleveland Cathedral

On June 14, the diocesan seminarians of St. Tikhon’s Orthodox Theological Seminary gathered together to offer their prayers for the St. Theodosius Cathedral community, whose temple recently suffered damage from a fire.

The seminarians gathered together under Igumen Sophrony of St Tikhon’s monastic brotherhood, who served the moleben to St. Theodosius of Chernigov before the saint’s relics in the monastery’s chapel that is also dedicated to him. Those gathered asked St. Theodosius for his intercessions in the repair and recovery of Cathedral in Cleveland. Joining the diocesan seminarians were other first year students from various dioceses as well as the Deacon Sampson Nash, of St Gregory of Nyssa in Columbus, OH, who teaches the first year Ethics course during the special summer intensive term.