The Weekly Forerunner

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

301 Struthers Liberty Rd
Campbell, OH 44405

FEBRUARY Bulletin Sponsor-OPEN

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, February 8
8:35 AM: Hours
9:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Social
11:00 AM: Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday, February 11
6:00 PM: Fire house training & meeting

Saturday, February 14
3:15-3:45 PM: Confessions by app't
4:00 PM: Vespers

Sunday, February 15
9:15-9:45 AM: Confessions by app't
9:35 AM: Hours
10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Monthly Panachida / Potluck Meatfare Social

Annual Meeting - Announcement #3

This is the third announcement concerning the Annual Meeting of St. John Orthodox Church to take place following Liturgy on Sunday, February 8 at 11:00 AM.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (Epistle)

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?or you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Luke 15:11-32 (Gospel)

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

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

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

Mrs. Mary Fredericks
648 Dumont Ave
Campbell, OH 44405

Matushka Helen Psinka
c/o Concordia Villa St. Joseph
1030 W State Street / Room 1B49
Baden, Pa, 15005

Mrs. Dorothy Shirilla
8362 Van Dr.
Poland, OH 44514

Joan Cross
97 Butler Street / Apt 1-rear
Brooklyn , NY 11201

Mildred Wilfong
153 Runnemede Dr
Boardman, OH 44512

Mrs. Audrey Chengelis
c/o Assumption Village
9802 Market Street / Room 132
North Lima, OH 44452

Emilia Yannitto
8017 Salinas Tr.
Boardman, OH 44512-5402

Mrs. Pauline Fesz
488 Harmony Lane
Campbell, OH 44405

George Horodnic, Sr.
c/o Briarfield Manor
461 South Canfield-Niles Rd / Room 101
Austintown, OH 44515

Mrs. Julia Simko-UPDATED
c/o Woodlands @ Hampton Woods
1525 E Western Reserve Rd /
Room 1101
Poland, OH 44514

Carol Ruff
2207 Birch Trail Blvd
Youngstown, OH 44515-4910

Sue Kennedy
593 Hyatt Ave
Campbell, OH 44405-1479

Ann Cvercko
1875 Mallard Land
North Lima, OH 44452

UPCOMING EVENTS—SAVE THE DATE !

FEBRUARY

- ◊ February 15: Meatfare Pot-luck Social. Bring your favorite meat dishes. (Last day to eat meat until Pascha).
- ◊ February 22: Cheesefare Social will be sponsored by Sisterhood (Last day of dairy until Pascha)- **UPDATED 2-8**
- ◊ February 23: Beginning of the Great Fast

FINAL JANUARY FINANCIALS

Expenses	$17,449.97
Income	$10,235.70
TOTAL	**-$7,214.27**
Weekly Tithe	$8,704.70
Weekly Candles	$484.00
Unneeded Gifts	$120.00
Rubric Books	$120.00
Fr. Andrew's Pension	$650.00
Altar Candles	$50.00
Tetrapod Candles	$50.00
Coffee Hour	$32.00
Monthly Flowers	$25.00
Monthly Charity: OCMC	$386.00

FEBRUARY

Reader Schedule
February 8– Dc. Jimmy Hryb
February 15-Proto. Dc David Gemmel
February 22– Natalia Simko

Charity Collection
OCMC - Cleveland Deanery

Social
February 8– Annual Meeting Social by officers
February 15– Meatfare Potluck
February 22– Sisterhood Social

FEBRUARY Candle & Bulletin Sponsors

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

Bulletin: OPEN
Wine: OPEN
Incense: **OPEN**
Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light: In memory of my Grandmother Justina Popodich—Given by AP Andrew B.
Altar Candles: In memory of His Eminence Metropolitan Orestes (Carpo-Russian) —Given by AP Andrew B
Tetrapod Candles: OPEN
St. Herman Candles: Commemorating all who participate in the maintenance of the church, the teachers, singers and those who participate in social events. Praying for everyone to love one another.
St. Panteleimon Icon Candles: OPEN
Protection Icon Candles: OPEN
St. John the Baptist Candles: OPEN
Monthly Flowers: In memory of my family and friends– Given by AP Andrew B

$50 per month	$30 per month	$25 per month
*Wine	*St. Herman candles	Incense
*Bulletin	*St. Panteleimon Icon candles	Flowers– **NEW UPDATED PRICE / DECREASED**
*Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light	*Protection Icon candles	
*Altar Candles	*St. John the Baptist candles	
*Tetrapod Candles		

FEBRUARY Celebrations

Birthday

2- Dorothy Shirilla
3- Sonia Tsvetkoff / David Dionisio
4- Nathaniel Bremer
5- Zoland Zile
6- Alex Zarynow / Karen Simko
10- Mat. Pauline Gemmel / Fr. Eli Bremer
11- Lidija Arvan / Marcy Kubancsek / Cindy Ferrick
12- Fr. James Gleason
13- Dc. James Hryb
14- Mat Ann Lardas
15- Martha Centofanti
16- Carol Ruff / Jo Ann Kalantzis / Deena Vansuch
17- Nadine Sabo
19- Shelly Nicoloff / Vitaly Muzyka
20- Julianna Kusinski
22- Joey Clark
24- Marc Elash
25- Sandra Bufalini / Robert Willison
26- Andy Basile / Pani Bernadette Zarynow
28- George J Rusnak

Anniversary

1-2020- His Grace Bishop Andrei of Cleveland
9-69 AP John Steffaro (Priestly ordination)
13- John & Maureen Koval
14-2004- The Most Blessed Tikhon Consecration as Bishop
28- Michael & Natalia Simko

Names Day

6-Dorothy Shirilla
8- Cindy Ferrick
28-Maureen Koval

ATTENDANCE: A Comparison - *JANUARY*	2025	2026
1st Week Publican		
Vespers	No Vespers	9
Lit. / Communion	40 / 28	30 / 23
Meeting of Lord– Vespers	7	22
Meeting of the Lord– Lit.	50 / 34 (it was a Sunday)	7 / 6
Theophany Liturgy		
2nd Week– Prodigal		
Vespers	5	
Lit. / Communion	38 / 22	
3rd Week– Meatfare		
Vespers	10	
Liturgy / Communion	49 / 33	
4th Week– Cheesefare		
Vespers	8	
Lit / Communion	50 / 30	
Forgiveness Vespers	43	
Clean Monday	26	
Clean Tuesday	16	
Clean Wednesday	27	
Clean Thursday	21	
Pre-Sanctified	31 / 17	
5th Week		
	No Record	No Record

OCA Representatives Participate in Feast of St. Nino in Georgia

On January 27, 2026, at the invitation of His Holiness Patriarch Ilia II, His Grace Bishop Gerasim of Fort Worth and Archpriest Daniel Andrejuk, Dean of the Saint Catherine's Representation Church in Moscow, represented His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon at the Feast of Saint Nino, Enlightener of Georgia in Tbilisi, Georgia.

His Grace and Father Daniel arrived in Georgia on Sunday, January 25, 2026, and were warmly received upon their arrival at the Tbilisi airport by representatives of the Georgian Orthodox Church.

On Monday, January 26, the delegation met with His Eminence Andria, Metropolitan of Gori and Ateni, and Archpriest Mikhail Botkoveli, the Secretary of His Holiness Patriarch Ilia II, together with Archpriest Andria Dzagmaitze, Press Secretary, and Archpriest Kakhaber Gogoshvili, for a series of discussions focused on the life of the Georgian Church, the Orthodox Church in America, and many areas of mutual interest and possible cooperation.

That evening, His Grace and Father Daniel attended the Vigil for the Feast of Saint Nino at the Sioni Cathedral in the center of the Old City, during which service the Cross of Saint Nino was brought out for veneration at the polyeleos and anointing.

On Tuesday, His Grace and Father Daniel concelebrated at the Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Saint Nino presided by His Eminence Nicholas, Metropolitan of Akhalkalaki, Kumurdo, and Kars, at the Sioni Cathedral where the Cross of Saint Nino is treasured. Bishops Michael of Tianeti and Grigol of Tsalka concelebrated at the Divine Liturgy together with Protopresbyter George Zviadadze and other Tbilisi area clergy. Bishop Gerasim preached the sermon while Father George translated his sermon.

During their visit, the delegation conveyed the greetings and fraternal love of His Beatitude to His Holiness, Patriarch Ilia II, and to the clergy and faithful of the Georgian Orthodox Church.

On Wednesday, January 28th, 2026, His Grace and Father Daniel were cordially received at the Tbilisi Theological Academy by Protopresbyter George Zviadadze, Rector of the Theological Academy. Father George discussed the efforts by His Holiness Patriarch Catholicos Ilia II during the Soviet period to reestablish the seminary and its expansion at the present to include about 35 students in PhD level programs. More discussion took place about coordinating their efforts with the theological institutions of the Orthodox Church in America. This concluded their visit and they departed Georgia.

St. Tikhon's Seminary Announces Upcoming Pilgrimage

Join Saint Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary's Rector, His Eminence Archbishop Michael, and Dean, Father John Parker, and embark on a pilgrimage that traces the life, ministry, and legacy of St. Nikolai Velimirović (1881–1956), who served the last five years of his life at St. Tikhon's Seminary as professor and rector. One of the most influential Serbian Orthodox theologians, writers, and spiritual leaders of the twentieth century, often called the "New Chrysostom," he was a tireless preacher, a gifted orator, and a prolific author whose life combined deep spiritual insight with great personal suffering.

Pilgrimage Details:

Dates: June 2–13, 2026

Group Size: 25–35 participants

Cost $3,500

The pilgrimage begins in Serbia, where St. Nikolai was born and carried out much of his pastoral, academic, and episcopal work. From Serbia, the journey continues into North Macedonia, where he spent part of his episcopal ministry. The pilgrimage then continues into Kosovo, the historic and spiritual heartland of the Serbian Orthodox Church. Home to treasured monasteries, including Dečani, Gračanica, and the Patriarchate of Peć, Kosovo offers essential context for understanding the spiritual and cultural world that shaped St. Nikolai's theological vision.

This journey provides an opportunity to encounter St. Nikolai's life in a living way, not through abstract admiration but through visits to the concrete places where he lived, prayed, taught, and endured trials. It invites pilgrims to enter more deeply into the historical and spiritual landscape that shaped one of Orthodoxy's great modern saints.

This pilgrimage is sponsored by St. Tikhon's Seminary, where St. Nikolai taught during his time in the United States. His witness continues to inspire the seminary's work of forming faithful clergy and lay leaders for the Orthodox Church.

ALTAR SOCIRTY

The Altar Society is collecting dues in the month of February. Please see Maureen Koval.

40-DAY REMEMBRANCE

February 15 – Ed Kusinski
February 22 – Joanne Biros

FEBRUARY Reposed List

1- Jane Sablak (2004) © / John Jay Truhan (2004) © / Helen Gozur (2006) © / Thomas Livosky (1951) ©
3- Ann Sature (2012) / 3- Nicholas Tsaknis (1952) © / Mary Lisko (1953) © / Mike Alesafis (1960) ©
4- Michael Livosky (2003) ©
6- Bessie Poullos (1961) ©
7- Rossetas Kallis (1958) ©
8- Joseph Durshaw (1972) © / Andrew Libertin (1985) © / Anna Graban (1937) © / Steve Hamanzi (1946) © / Maxim Berezoussky (1964) ©
9- George Cross (2020) © / George Kolesar (2025) ©
10- George Bobosh (1984) © / Steve Elash (1998) © / T. Rago (1924) © (no name) / Helen Holubanich (1924) © / Steve Stavridis (1935) ©
12- V. Rev. Nicholas Vansuch (1987) © / John Holibonich (2004) © / Theodore Kalos (1932) ©
13- Bishop Varlaam (2020) / Vera Kristian (1980) ©
14- Emmanuel Balale (1956) © / Bertha Ginnis (1961) © / John Macala (1963) © / Nicholas Angelides (1963) ©
15- Justina Popodich / George Billik (1998) © / John Timkovich (2004) ©
Thelmia Psaras (1930) © / Alfteria Jaetanis (1930) © / Anna Sirilla (1955) © / Mary Shirilla (1962) ©
16- Albert Bartek (1952) / Paul Cole (1997) © / John Stamatinas (1946) ©
16- Infant Klimis (1 hr old) (1956) © / Ann Leschinsky (1956) ©
17- Metropolitan Orestes (1977) / Myron Bilchik (1982) © / Emmanuel Balale (1956) © / Robert Fischer (1995) ©
18- Virginia Nosik (2004) © / George Caleris (1957) © / Paul Petruschak (2024)
19- Elizabeth Antas (1921) © / George Berezovsky (1922) © / Michael Voyis (1949) © / Ann Allshouse (1984) ©
20- Daniel Shirilla (1992) ©
21- Fr. Michael Shuster (2020)
22- Fr. Andrew Hutnyan (2004) / Manuel Smyrmios (1944) © / Carol Ann Feltovich (2016) © / Sub-deacon Wylie Meath (2024)
23- Rose Dobrovolski (1995) ©
24- Nicholas Andrew Shirilla (2012) © / Still born Volchko (1924) © / Eva Wolfe (1925) © Elizabeth Cvercko (1929) ©
25- Vasil Heib (1920) © / John Kotuka (1960) © / Veronica Shirilla (1995) © / Charlette Zenko (2024)
27- Steve Basala (1985) / Mike Kazonis (1950) ©
28- Mike Babiak (1922) ©
29- Milan Miller Batalo (1920) ©

PRAYER LIST

PARISHIONERS: Achiles Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / Joan Cross / Ann Cvercko / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / George Horodnic / Gianna Hryb / Elaine Johnston / Sue Kennedy / George Clark / Matushka Helen Psinka / Nadine Sabo / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko / Deborah Zelinsky

CLERGY: AP James Gleason (Fr.) / AP Michael Rustic / AP Emil Hutyan / Fr. Peter Simko / Fr. Bryan Crivella / Fr. Matthew Nyumu & his family and his faithful at the parish of St Makarios in the Metropolis of Nairobi, Kenya / Fr. Michael Dayang & his family & his parishioners at 3 Hierarchs parish in Cameroon / Fr. Raphael Stephano & his family and parishioners of his 2 mission communities in the Diocese of Western Tanzania

FAMILY & FRIENDS: Mary Ann Bozichovich (Kennedy) / Diane Caban (Sirilla) / George Caban (Sirilla) / Donna Chiarelli / Karen Debiec / Trudy Ellmore / Thomas Hull, Jr. / Ron Hryb / Paula Kennedy / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Kelly Marie Konya (Candle guy's daughter) / Ginny McCay (Fredericks) / Matushka Raisa (Nicoloff) / Conner (Sabo) Chris Quotap (Fr.) / Bob Smrek (Sirilla) / Matt Turner (Sirilla) / Emilia Yanitto / Catherine Zile (Fr.) / David (Willison) / Drew (Willison) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Richard (Tusinac) / Genna Koval & her unborn baby / Kelly and her unborn baby / Miranda & her unborn baby / Blaire & her newborn Baby Tatiana

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

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 around the world / Those suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and around the world.

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon Visits St. Vladimir's Seminary for the Feast of the Three Hierarchs

On Thursday and Friday, January 29–30, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon visited St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary for the celebration of the Feast of the Three Hierarchs, the patronal feast of the Seminary Chapel.

While at St. Vladimir's, His Beatitude presided at the liturgical services for the feast, chaired a special meeting of the Seminary's Board of Trustees, and participated in the 43rd Annual Alexander Schmemann Memorial Lecture. Traveling with His Beatitude was Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino, Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America.

On Thursday evening, His Beatitude presided at the festal Vigil, concelebrated by His Grace Bishop John of Worcester of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America and His Grace Bishop Vasily of San Francisco and the West. Bishop Vasily also served the Litya. Also concelebrating were Fr. Alessandro, Archpriest Alexander Rentel, Rector of the Three Hierarchs Chapel, together with clergy of the Seminary and visiting clergy.

The seminary mixed and male choirs sang the responses for the services, led by Dn. Harrison Russin and Mr. Zach Mandel.

On Friday morning, His Beatitude was welcomed to the Chapel by the hierarchs, clergy, seminarians, and faithful. Concelebrating at the Divine Liturgy were His Eminence Archbishop Michael of New York and New Jersey; Bishop John; His Grace Bishop Irinej of Eastern America of the Serbian Orthodox Church; His Grace Bishop Nikodhim of Boston and the Albanian Archdiocese; His Grace Bishop Benedict of Hartford and New England; and Bishop Vasily, along with numerous seminary and visiting clergy.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, His Beatitude addressed the Seminary community, offering his prayers and primatial blessing on the occasion of the Chapel's patronal feast.

That evening, St. Vladimir's Seminary hosted the 43rd Annual Alexander Schmemann Memorial Lecture, welcoming internationally renowned scholar Archpriest Andrew Louth, who delivered a lecture entitled "Shadows and Darkness in Patristic Theology." Before the lecture, Fr. Andrew was presented with an honorary doctorate by Dr. Ionut-Alexandru Todorie, Dean of St. Vladimir's Seminary.

Sunday of the Prodigal Son Commemorated on February 8

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24).

After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the lenten hymn "By the Waters of Babylon." It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today's Gospel.

Starting tomorrow, the weekday readings summarize the events of Holy Week. On Monday we read Saint Mark's account of the Entry into Jerusalem. On Tuesday we read how Judas went to the chief priests and offered to betray the Lord. On the night before His death Christ tells His disciples that one of them will betray Him. He also predicts that they will desert Him, and that Peter will deny Him three times. On Wednesday the Gospel describes how Judas betrayed the Savior with a kiss. Thursday's Gospel tells how Jesus was questioned by Pilate. On Friday we read the narrative of Christ's crucifixion and death.

LENTEN RETREAT

The Eastern Orthodox Clergy Association of Mahoning Valley invites you to a Lenten Retreat

"Acquiring the Mind of Christ"

WHEN: March 7th, 2026

WHERE:
St. John the Forerunner Greek Orthodox Church
4955 Glenwood Ave
Boardman, OH

From 11:00am-3:30pm & Lunch will be provided.

Join us as we welcome keynote speaker Archimandrite Sergius, Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery.

We are also blessed to have the Miraculous Icon of St. Anna present for veneration.

Families and children are welcome. Children and children's activities will be provided.

You must RSVP from the flier. It will be on bulletin board downstairs.