The Weekly Forerunner

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

301 Struthers Liberty Rd
Campbell, OH 44405

JULY Bulletin Sponsor–
In memory of Steve Sveda– Given by Barbara Kolesar

Liturgical & Events Schedule
TWO WEEK EDITION

Sunday, June 28
9:15-9:45 AM: Confessions by app't
9:35 AM: Hours
10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Monthly Panachida / Social

Sunday, July 5
9:35 AM: Hours
10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Social (Mitred AP John Adamcio will serve Liturgy)

Week of the July 6th: food & hall prep our fund-raiser. Please see Sherrie or Tashie.

Wednesday, July 8
6:00 PM: Fire meeting & Training

Saturday, July 11
7:00 AM: final food prep
11:00 AM: all workers not in kitchen to report
Noon-6 PM: Festival of Food Fundraiser (There will be a sheet given of the times of the events of the day that day)
6:00 PM: Vespers

Sunday, July 12
9:15-9:45 AM: Confessions by app't
9:35 AM: Hours
10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Social

Big Boy Steam Engine

The world's largest operating steam locomotive, built between 1941 and 1944 is scheduled to stop in Struthers about 11:30 AM Sunday, July 12. Thousands are expected to attend this special event.

Due to this fact, downtown Struthers will be closed all morning. When you come to church that day, please find an alternate route.

Metropolitan Tikhon Writes to Metropolitan Onufriy Following Attack on Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra

His Beatitude Metropolitan Onufriy
Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine
Ukraineвулиця Лаврська, 15
Київ, 01015 UKRAINE

Your Beatitude, dear brother and concelebrant in the Lord's Mysteries,

Christ is in our midst!

It is with profound sorrow that I learned of the recent attack on the Holy Dormition Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra and the danger and suffering inflicted upon this sacred monastery, which is sacred to all Orthodox Christians throughout the world.

On behalf of the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, I extend to Your Beatitude, to the flock entrusted to your pastoral care, and to all the people of Ukraine, our heartfelt prayers and fraternal support. The Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra is one of the great spiritual treasures of the Orthodox world, sanctified by the prayers and witness of countless saints. Any act of violence directed against such a holy place is a cause of grief and indignation for Orthodox Christians everywhere.

Since the outbreak of this devastating war, the Orthodox Church in America has consistently prayed and labored for peace, condemning violence, bloodshed, and the suffering inflicted upon innocent people. We condemn the continued military attacks of the Russian Federation upon the sovereign territory of Ukraine, which have brought immeasurable suffering to countless innocent people and have now further endangered and damaged the sacred Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra itself. We pray that these hostilities may cease without delay and that a just and lasting peace may soon be restored.

Your Beatitude, we know the great weight you carry in shepherding your beloved flock through this time of pain, beset by sorrows on every side. Be assured that you are not forgotten in our prayers. May the saints whose relics rest in the Caves of Kyiv intercede for your suffering people, and may the God of all consolation grant peace speedily to His afflicted servants, "for the peace of the whole world, for the ***Con't next pg***

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
9800Market Street / Room 1402
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
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

Metro. Letter con't from pg 1

welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all."

With fraternal love in Christ,
+TIKHON
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

Romans 6:18-23 (Epistle, Sunday June 29)

And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 8:5-13 (Gospel)

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John Commemorated on June 24

The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The Gospel (Luke. 1: 5) relates that the righteous parents of Saint John the Baptist, the Priest Zachariah and Elizabeth (September 5), lived in the ***Con't Next Pg***

JULY Candle & Bulletin Sponsors

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

Bulletin: In memory of Steve Sveda– Given by Barbara Kolesar
Wine: In memory of Frank & Marion Zwinski- Given by family
Incense: In memory of my family and friends– Given by AP Andrew Bartek
Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light: In memory of my husband George Kolesar– Given by Barbara Kolesar / In memory of my husband Andrew Cvercko– Given by Ann Cvercko
Altar Candles: In memory of my dad Harry Sveda– Given by Barbara Kolesar
Tetrapod Candles: In memory of my family & friends– Given by AP Andrew Bartek
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.– Given by Anonymous
St. Panteleimon Icon Candles: In celebration of Sue Kennedy's 93rd Birthday– Given by Children & Grand children
Protection Icon Candles: Im memory of the Ruff Family– Given by Carol Ruff / In honor of my Son Eugene Kennedy– Given by Sue Kennedy
St. John the Baptist Candles: In memory of my mom Jennie Rudiah– Given by Sue Kennedy
Monthly Flowers: In memory husband Kurtis Shunk – Given by Mrs. Athanasia-Trudy Shunk-Ellmore

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

Nativity con't from previous pg

ancient city of Hebron. They reached old age without having children, since Elizabeth was barren. Once, Saint Zachariah was serving in the Temple at Jerusalem and saw the Archangel Gabriel, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. He predicted that Saint Zachariah would father a son, who would announce the Savior, the Messiah, awaited by the Old Testament Church. Zachariah was troubled, and fear fell upon him. He had doubts that in old age it was possible to have a son, and he asked for a sign. It was given to him, and it was also a chastisement for his unbelief. Zachariah was struck speechless until the time of the fulfillment of the archangel's words.

Saint Elizabeth came to be with child, and fearing derision at being pregnant so late in life, she kept it secret for five months. Then her relative, the Virgin Mary, came to share with her Her own joy. Elizabeth, "filled with the Holy Spirit," was the first to greet the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God. Saint John leaped in his mother's womb at the visit of the Most Holy Virgin Mary and the Son of God incarnate within Her.

Soon Saint Elizabeth gave birth to a son, and all the relatives and acquaintances rejoiced together with her. On the eighth day, in accordance with the Law of Moses, he was circumcised and was called John. Everyone was amazed, since no one in the family had this name. When they asked Saint Zachariah about this, he motioned for a tablet and wrote on it: "His name is John." Immediately his tongue was loosed, and Saint Zachariah glorified God. He also prophesied about the Coming into the world of the Messiah, and of his own son John, the Forerunner of the Lord (Luke. 1: 68-79).

After the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and the worship of the shepherds and the Magi, wicked king Herod gave orders to kill all male infants. Hearing about this, Saint Elizabeth fled into the wilderness and hid in a cave. Saint Zachariah was at Jerusalem and was doing his priestly service in the Temple. Herod sent soldiers to him to find out the abode of the infant John and his mother. Zachariah answered that their whereabouts were unknown to him, and he was killed right there in the Temple. Righteous Elizabeth continued to live in the wilderness with her son and she died there. The child John, protected by an angel, dwelt in the wilderness until the time when he came preaching repentance, and was accounted worthy to baptize the Lord.

Matthew 8:28-9:1 (Gospel, Sunday July 5)

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region. So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.

JULY Celebrations

Birthday

28- Vincent Cavaliere-June
1- Julia Simko
3- Eugene Kennedy
4- Stephen Holly / Georgiana Lukehart
5- Pani Stacey Mihaly
11- Joan Cross
12- Pauline Fesz / Justin Stokley / Joe Stokely / Ann Kristian
14- Nicole Marianni
15- His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon
17- Jonah Bremer / Kathleen Jesko
19- David Konik / Adam Rusnak / Diane Marie Ruff
23- Mat. Helen Psinka
30- Mat. Christine Hryb / Maureen Koval / Gabreille Kalantzis / Ann Bufalini

Anniversary

29-2021- His Grace Bishop Gerasim of Forth Worth June
3- Bob & Elizabeth Willison (94)
6- Ron & Mary Luthern (69)
8- Nick & Monica Vansuch (72)
13- Marcus & Marcia Kubancsek (03)
24- Frank & Lori Batura
25- Andy & Michelle Basile (92)
27- Dennis & Kim Konik / Ken & Lynn Krause
30- James & Sandra Bufalini

Names Day

29- Pauline Fesz / Mat. Pauline Gemmel– June
10- His Grace Nikodhim of Boston & the Albanian Archdiocese
17- Tony Jesko, Jr. / Tony Jesko, Sr.
20- Eli Arvan / Lynn Polewan
24- Matushka Christine Hryb / Elaine Johnston
26- Jacob Hryb
31- AB Benjamin of San Francisco & the West

ATTENDANCE: A Comparison - *JUNE*	2025	2026
1st– All SAints		
Vespers	6	7
Liturgy / Communion	56 /37	34 / 28
2nd Week– N. Am. S.		
Vespers	9	7
Liturgy / Communion	50 / 36	44 ./ 34
3rd Week– 3rd Sunday		
Vespers	5	8
Liturgy / Communion Nativity Vespers St. John Nativity Liturgy	58 / 30 9 7 / 6	45 / 28 20 18 / 12
4th Week – 4th Sunday		
Vespers	No Vespers	
Liturgy / Communion Peter & Paul Vespers Peter & Paul Liturgy	59 / 29 No Record Canceled	
5th–		
No 5th Week in June		

The Holy Glorious and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul / Commemorated on June 29

Sermon of Saint Augustine, Bishop of Hippo

Today the Holy Church piously remembers the sufferings of the Holy Glorious and All-Praised Apostles Peter and Paul.

Saint Peter, the fervent follower of Jesus Christ, for the profound confession of His Divinity: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God," was deemed worthy by the Savior to hear in answer, "Blessed art thou, Simon ... I tell thee, that thou art Peter [Petrus], and on this stone [petra] I build My Church" (Mt.16:16-18). On "this stone" [petra], is on that which thou sayest: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God" it is on this thy confession I build My Church. Wherefore the "thou art Peter": it is from the "stone" [petra] that Peter [Petrus] is, and not from Peter [Petrus] that the "stone" [petra] is, just as the Christian is from Christ, and not Christ from the Christian. Do you want to know, from what sort of "rock" [petra] the Apostle Peter [Petrus] was named? Hear the Apostle Paul: "Brethren, I do not want ye to be ignorant," says the Apostle of Christ, "how all our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and all were baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ" (1 Cor.10: 1-4)....

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the final days of His earthly life, in the days of His mission to the race of man, chose from among the disciples His twelve Apostles to preach the Word of God. Among them, the Apostle Peter for his fiery ardor was vouchsafed to occupy the first place (Mt.10:2) and to be as it were the representative person for all the Church. Therefore it is said to him, preferentially, after the confession: "I will give unto thee the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in the heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth: shall be loosed in heaven" (Mt.16: 19). Therefore it was not one man, but rather the One Universal Church, that received these "keys" and the right "to bind and loosen." And that it was actually the ***Con't Pg 6***

JULY Reposed List / © Parishioner

1- Veronica Graban (1998) © / Ann Zastany Crowi (2019) © / Mike Smyrnios (1960) ©
2- Vasil Fecik (1921) ©
3- Andrew Cvercko (2017) © / John Kaschak (1920) © / Jenny Rudiak
4- Alice Sutko (2020) / Helen Arvan Kusmanov (2013) © / Anna Gozur (1957) ©
5- George Hostal (2001) © / George Vavlas (1945) © / Andrew Harvischak (1951) ©
6- Steve Sveda (1928) © / Nick Galouzis (1961) ©
7- Luba Raseta (1929) ©
8- Marian Shepelevich (2020)
9- Mary Zanios (1926) ©
10- Anna Roman (1926) © / Robert Kennedy (1994) © / Pete George (1939) © / Nick Despetarich (1959) ©
11- Ruth Libertin (2008) ©
12- Anna Berdy (1980) © / John Bolescak (1926) ©
13- Marilyn Fasiline (1972) © / John Borsic (1987) © / Andrew Holubauich (1930) ©
14- Edward Gorol (1961) ©
15- Catherine Harvischak (1977) © / Floyd Dweesy (1985) © / Mary Sykola (2005) © / Betty Ewenish (2024)
16- Mary Macala (1971) © / Julian Marsteler (1920) ©
17- Mary Bartek (1984) / Eleanor Graban (1986) © / Elizabeth Zelena (1991) ©
18- Steve Paroh (1979) © / Still Born Cmur (1923) ©
19- Helen Bohish (1988) © / Helen LIvosky (2015) © / Mary Balak (1925) © / Mike Olsavsky (1931) ©
19- Margaret Bilehik (1955) © / Walter Litzie (2023)
20- Joseph Sirilla, Sr (1979) © / Fr. Dc. John Youhas (2012) / Anna Zavada Bartek (1924) / Nicholas Papas (1949) © / Maria Karas (1956) ©
21- Anna Tsagros (1929) © / Maria Michaels (2024)
22- Elizabeth Zilena (1985) © / Mary Kennedy (2000) © / Stephen Kalafut (1956) © / William Petrosky (2020) © / George Vansuch (1996) ©
23- George Patzakis (1961) ©
25- Walter Lee Wilfong (2007) © / John Konik (2009) ©
26- Faith Simko (2016) © / John Poulas (1925) © / Catherine Pavlos (1949) © / Charles Xenakis (1960) ©
27- Ignatius Sosnowchik (1973) © / Frank Zwinski (2013) © / Christ Samjos (1930) © /
Panagiotis Sarris (1953) © / William Romanchek, Jr (2024)
28- Stella Graban Kurtiak (2013) © / A.P. John Psinka (1996)
29- MaryAnn Such (1972) © / Andy Zenko (2024) ©
30- Anna Krut (1924) © / Sophia Oshelski (1959) ©

Romans 10:1-10 (Epistle, Sunday July 5)

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Social Schedule: JUNE / JULY

June 28 - Sisterhood
July 5– O Club
July 12– Sisterhood
July 19– Council
July 26– Open

Vacation

Fr. Andrew will be on vacation from June 28th following Liturgy and returning Monday July 6th.

Please contact Proto. Dc David if there is an emergency.

If it is an extreme emergency, contact Fr. Andrew

JUNE CHARITY

St. Vladimir Seminary

PRAYER LIST

PARISHIONERS: Achiles Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / Joan Cross / Ann Cvercko / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / George Horodnic / Gianna Hryb / Sue Kennedy / Matushka Helen Psinka / Nadine Sabo / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko / Reader Nick Vansuch / Mildred Wilfong

CLERGY: Fr. Basil Duesenberry / Fr. Andrew Gall / AP James Gleason (Fr.) / AP Emil Hutyan / AP Michael Rustic / Fr. Peter Simko / Fr. Theophanes Kamau & family & parishioners at St. Joachim & Anna in Nairobi, Kenya

FAMILY & FRIENDS: Mat. Melanie Adamcio / Mary Ann Bozichovich (Kennedy) / Diane Caban (Sirilla) / George Caban (Sirilla) / Donna Chiarelli / Karen Debiec / Erin (Willison) / Thomas Hull, Jr. / Ron Hryb / Paula Kennedy / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Ginny McCay (Fredericks) / Matushka Raisa (Nicoloff) / Conner (Sabo) Chris Quotap (Fr.) / Bob Smrek (Sirilla) / Matt Turner (Sirilla) / Emilia Yanitto / David (Willison) / Drew (Willison) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Richard (Tusinac) / Miranda & her unborn baby / Lindsey & her unborn baby

MILITARY FAMILY & FRIENDS: Cory Deaton (Fr.) / Alena Grabavoy (Fr.) / Kyle Grabovoy (Fr.) / Liam Garrity (Zelinsky) / Kenneth (Simko) / Brandon Rader (Middle East)

MISCELLANEOUS: The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers around the world / Those suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and around the world.

St Peter & Paul con't from pg 4

Church that received this right, and not exclusively a single person, turn your attention to another place of the Scriptures, where the same Lord says to all His Apostles, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit" and further after this, "Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them: and whose soever sins ye retain, are retained" (John 20: 22-23); or: "whatsoever ye bind upon the earth, shall be bound in Heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth, shall be loosened in heaven" (Mt.18:18). Thus, it is the Church that binds, the Church that loosens; the Church, built upon the foundational cornerstone, Jesus Christ Himself (Eph 2:20), doth bind and loosen. Let both the binding and the loosening be feared: the loosening, in order not to fall under this again; the binding, in order not to remain forever in this condition. Therefore "Iniquities ensnare a man, and everyone is bound in the chains of his own sins," says Wisdom (Prov 5:22); and except for Holy Church nowhere is it possible to receive the loosening.

After His Resurrection the Lord entrusted the Apostle Peter to shepherd His spiritual flock not because, that among the disciples only Peter alone was pre-deserved to shepherd the flock of Christ, but Christ addresses Himself chiefly to Peter because, that Peter was first among the Apostles and as such the representative of the Church; besides which, having turned in this instance to Peter alone, as to the top Apostle, Christ by this confirms the unity of the Church. "Simon of John" -- says the Lord to Peter -- "lovest thou Me?" -- and the Apostle answered: "Yea, Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee"; and a second time it was thus asked, and a second time he thus answered; being asked a third time, seeing that as it were not believed, he was saddened. But how is it possible for him not to believe That One, Who knew his heart? And wherefore then Peter answered: "Lord, Thou knowest all; Thou knowest that I love Thee." "And sayeth Jesus to him" all three times "Feed My sheep" (John 20:15-17).

Besides this, the triple appealing of the Savior to Peter and the triple confession of Peter before the Lord had a particular beneficial purpose for the Apostle. That one, to whom was given "the keys of the kingdom" and the right "to bind and to loose," bound himself thrice by fear and cowardice (Mt.26:69-75), and the Lord thrice loosens him by His appeal and in turn by his confession of strong love. And to shepherd literally the flock of Christ was acquired by all the Apostles and their successors. "Take heed, therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock," the Apostle Paul urges church presbyters, "over which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood" (Acts 20:28); and the Apostle Peter to the elders: "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof not by constraint, but willingly: not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind: neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when is appeared the Prince of pastors, ye will receive unfading crowns of glory" (1 Pet. 5:2-4).

It is remarkable that Christ, having said to Peter: "Feed My sheep," did not say: "Feed thy sheep," but rather to feed, good servant, the sheep of the Lord. "Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Cor.1:13). "Feed My sheep". Wherefore "wolfish robbers, wolfish oppressors, deceitful teachers and mercenaries, not being concerned about the flock" (Mt.7:15; Acts 20:29; 2 Pet 2:1; John 10:12), having plundered a strange flock and making of the spoils as though it be of their own particular gain, they think that they feed their flock. Such are not good pastors, as pastors of the Lord. "The good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep" (John 10:11), entrusted to Him by the chief Shepherd Himself (1 Pet 5:4). And the Apostle Peter, true to his calling, gave his soul for the very flock of Christ, having sealed his ***Con't pg 9***

Donations Sought for July Fundraiser

As you can see from the flyer on page 8 of the bulletin, ng a major fundraiser is scheduled for the week after the 4th of July. Donations are needed to off set the cost of the event.

This ***Festival of Foods*** has the potential to be a big event and will be a vital infusion of funds to our budget. Everyone's help is needed to make it successful. The week prior, the Parish Council will be asking for help to prepare food and the hall.

All hands will be needed the day of the event as well. When you are asked, please say YES!

Please post it to your social media and tell your family and friends.

Donations are also needed to help cover the:

- Interactive games
- Bounce House
- Money to defray the costs of the food
- Money to defray the cost of the entertainment
- Money to defray the cost of the police
- Money to defray the cost of the beer & wine

Nancy Tusinic is in charge of the Bake Sale .

Anything anyone can do will be for the Glory of God.

Thank you in advance from Father Andrew and the Committee and the Church Council.

Strong Parish Support Fuels Early Registration for First Clergy Wives Retreat

Clergy wives from across the Orthodox Church in America are registering for the 2026 Office of Pastoral Life Clergy Wives Retreat, "Come Away and Rest," which will be held July 27–30, 2026, at Antiochian Village Conference and Retreat Center in Bolivar, PA.

With less than three weeks remaining before registration closes, 25 clergy wives have already signed up for this first Orthodox Church in America-wide, in-person gathering of its kind. The early registrations reflect broad representation across the Church, with participants from a range of dioceses, ages, life stages, and ministry settings, including wives of parish priests, retired clergy, and clergy widows.

Reflecting on the early registrants, Matushka Carrie Foley, Director of Clergy Wives Ministry said, "We are excited to see the response. With such a wide range of ages and experiences represented, the stage will be set for rich conversation and organic mentorship."

The office of Pastoral Life is encouraging parish councils to help make attendance possible for clergy wives who wish to come. Supporting registration and travel expenses is a concrete way for parishes to care for their clergy families and to affirm the vital role clergy wives play in parish life. Some registrants have been sponsored by a family in their parish, while others signed up only after being approached by a parish council member who let them know the funds were already allocated.

This was the case for Matushka Ruth Lopez, whose husband graduated from St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary this May. The Lopezes and their four young children arrived at their first parish assignment two weeks ago. "I was so touched and overjoyed when I found out I would be able to go to the clergy wives retreat this year! I know it will be a beautiful time full of building community and of rejuvenation," said Matushka Ruth.

At Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Detroit, Michigan, Andrew and Danielle Bresinski found a creative way to send their priest's wife to the retreat despite a tight church budget. Explaining the parish council's decision to pay for Matushka Karina York's registration, Andrew said, "Holy Trinity is not a rich parish ... we scrape by. Even with that being said, it was a no brainer. We did our research and we saw that it's supported by His Eminence, Archbishop Daniel and His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon. It's our job to support the family, our rector and his wife. She is the mother of our congregation. It's such a huge choice to become a priest. And a lot of people don't think about Matushka…she makes that choice, too. How often does she get a chance to unburden herself?"

When Andrew returned home after the meeting and told his wife, the sisterhood treasurer, about the vote, Danielle took it upon herself to support Matushka Karina further. She mentioned the opportunity to the parish sisterhood at their meeting the following week. Andrew said, "All were supportive. Everyone was on board. It was unanimous," and in this way, travel expenses to the retreat will not be a burden, either. Andrew was grateful to help, saying, "She gets to go now and talk…with people who understand her like no one else can."

The 2026 Clergy Wives Retreat is part of the Office of Pastoral Life's broader effort to strengthen clergy families and support healthy pastoral life throughout the Orthodox Church in America.

JUNE / JULY READER SCHEDULE

June 28– Dc James Hryb
July 5– Jacob Hryb
July 12– Sub-deacon Donald Tamulonis
July19– Reader Matthew Vansuch
July 26—Reader Nick Vansuch

ARCHPASTORAL GREETINGS OF THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST ON THE FEAST OF THE APPEARANCE OF THE TIKHVIN ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Beloved Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the God-protected Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest:

Today, like a most brilliant sun, your all-honored icon dawns over us in the air, illumining the world with rays of mercy. Our land, piously receiving it as a divine gift from on high, does glorify you, O Mother of God and Mistress of all, joyfully magnifying Christ our God Who was born of you. Pray to Him, O Lady Queen and Theotokos, that all Christian cities and lands be preserved unharmed from every incursion of the enemy and that they will be saved who worship in faith His Divine and your most pure image, O Unwedded Virgin. -Troparion, Tone 4

On this joyous feast of the Appearance of the Wonder-working Tikhvin Icon of the Mother of God, the patronal feast of the Diocese of the Midwest, we lift our hearts in thanksgiving to our Lord Jesus Christ and glorify His Most Pure Mother, the heavenly Protectress of our Diocese. We celebrate with gratitude, giving thanks for the special blessings received throughout the decades because of the presence in the Diocese of the Midwest of this greatly venerated and wonderworking icon. Together, as clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Diocese, we rejoice in the motherly care, protection, and intercession granted us in this God-protected corner of the Lord's Vineyard.

The Tikhvin Icon is among the type of icons of the Theotokos known as hodegetria, "She who shows the way." In the icon, we see Mary lifting her right hand upward and pointing toward her Divine Son, whom she holds in her left arm. She draws attention away from herself and directs us to Christ, the source of our salvation. This is the foremost role of Mary: she always points us toward her Son, guiding us to the One who is our Lord and Savior. We are reminded of this role in the story of the wedding at Cana of Galilee, when she directs the wine stewards to go to Christ and to "do whatever He tells you," (John 2:5).

In her Tikhvin Icon, Mary directs us to her Son, even as she looks forward, gazing into the eyes of those who approach her image. Her gaze toward the beholder is quiet and peaceful, almost contemplative. In looking upon those who approach her image in faith, she looks at us with the gentle eyes of a loving mother, inviting us to share something that is within her heart (cf. Luke 2:5). Mary draws us in and invites us to share in her love for her Son, to imitate her fidelity to Him, to follow her example of serving Him, and to always place our trust in Him.

This loving mother was near her Divine Son throughout His life and saving ministry, beginning from the moment of His conception and His birth, throughout the hidden, unrecorded years in Nazareth, and during His public ministry. She heard Him preach and teach and witnessed Him performing miracles. Ultimately, she stood beneath the cross, near her Son as He died for us, so that we might live. And she remains near to Him in the Kingdom of Heaven, where He sits forever at the Father's right hand.

This nearness of Mary—to her Son and to us—is not merely a pious thought or comforting notion. It is a reality. It is a theological truth that is grounded in the Church's teaching on the nature of the Church itself and the communion of its saints. The continuing intercession of Mary is very real. The mother who stood beneath the Cross on Golgotha, who received her Son's dying gift in the person of Saint John, who was present with the Apostles in the Upper Room on the day of Pentecost, continues to be mother to those who were given her, by her Son Himself. Today, we rejoice that she continues to be our Mother. She continues to guide us and draw us ever nearer to Christ.

For generations, the Mother of God, honored in her Tikhvin Icon, has watched over the parishes, clergy, monastics, and faithful people of the Diocese of the Midwest and has interceded for them with her unfailing prayers. Through times of trial and sorrow, as well as times of great spiritual joy, she has remained a steadfast refuge, guiding us to her Son and blessing our diocese and our families with her maternal protection.

As we celebrate the feast of the Appearance of the Tikhvin Icon on June 26, I invite you to join me in prayer, asking the Most Blessed Theotokos to continue to bless our Diocese of the Midwest, to strengthen our clergy in their ministry, to preserve our parishes in peace and unity, and to protect every family and home entrusted to her care.

Let us especially pray that under her maternal gaze our children may grow in faith, our communities may abound in love, and all who seek Christ within our Diocese may find healing, consolation, and salvation.

May this feast renew our faith in Christ, deepen our devotion to His Most Pure Mother, draw us ever closer to the one who gave birth to God the Word, and fill our hearts with peace, hope, and joy.

With love in the Lord, DANIEL Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest

St Peter & Paul con't from pg 6

apostleship by a martyr's death, is now glorified throughout all the world.

The Apostle Paul, formerly Saul, was changed from a robbing wolf into a meek lamb. Formerly he was an enemy of the Church, then is manifest as an Apostle. Formerly he stalked it, then preached it. Having received from the high priests the authority at large to throw all Christians in chains for execution, he was already on the way, he breathed out "threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord" (Acts 9:1), he thirsted for blood, but "He that dwells in the Heavens shall laugh him to scorn" (Ps 2:4). When he, "having persecuted and vexed" in such manner "the Church of God" (1Cor.15:9; Acts 8:5), he came near Damascus, and the Lord from Heaven called to him: "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" and I am here, and I am there, I am everywhere: here is My head; there is My body. There becomes nothing of a surprise in this; we ourselves are members of the Body of Christ. "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me; it is hard for thee to kick against the goad" (Acts 9:4-5). Saul, however, "trembling and frightened", cried out: "Who art Thou, Lord?" The Lord answered him, "I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest."

And Saul suddenly undergoes a change: "What wantest Thou me to do?" -- he cries out. And suddenly for him there is the Voice: "Arise, and go to the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do" (Acts 9:6). Here the Lord sends Ananias: "Arise and go into the street" to a man, "by the name of Saul," and baptize him, "for this one is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel" (Acts 9: 11, 15, 18). This vessel must be filled with My Grace. "Ananias, however, answered: Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he hath done to Thy saints in Jerusalem: and here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Thy Name" (Acts 9:13-14). But the Lord urgently commands Ananias: "Search for and fetch him, for this vessel is chosen by Me: for I shall show him what great things he must suffer for My name's sake" (Acts 9:11, 15-16).

And actually the Lord did show the Apostle Paul what things he had to suffer for His Name. He instructed him the deeds; He did not stop at the chains, the fetters, the prisons and shipwrecks; He Himself felt for him in his sufferings, He Himself guided him towards this day. On a single day the memory of the sufferings of both these Apostles is celebrated, though they suffered on separate days, but by the spirit and the closeness of their suffering they constitute one. Peter went first, and Paul followed soon after him. Formerly called Saul, and then Paul, having transformed his pride into humility. His very name (Paulus), meaning "small, little, less," demonstrates this. What is the Apostle Paul after this? Ask him, and he himself gives answer to this: "I am," says he, "the least of the Apostles... but I have labored more abundantly than all of them: yet not I, but the grace of God, which was with me" (1 Cor.15:9-10).

And so, brethren, celebrating now the memory of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, remembering their venerable sufferings, we esteem their true faith and holy life, we esteem the innocence of their sufferings and pure confession. Loving in them the sublime quality and imitating them by great exploits, "in which to be likened to them" (2 Thess 3: 5-9), and we shall attain to that eternal bliss which is prepared for all the saints. The path of our life before was more grievous, thornier, harder, but "we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses" (Heb 12: 1), having passed by along it, made now for us easier, and lighter, and more readily passable. First there passed along it "the author and finisher of our faith," our Lord Jesus Christ Himself (Heb 12: 2); His daring Apostles followed after Him; then the martyrs, children, women, virgins and a great multitude of witnesses. Who acted in them and helped them on this path? He Who said, "Without Me ye can do nothing" (John 15: 5).

Translation of the Relics of the holy and wonderworking Unmercenaries Cyrus and John / Commemorated on June 28

The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Martyrs, Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers, Cyrus and John from the city of Konopa, near Alexandria (where they suffered in the year 311) to the nearby village of Manuphin, took place in the year 412. This Egyptian village prompted fear in everyone, since in a former time there was a pagan temple inhabited by evil spirits. Patriarch Theophilus (385-412) wanted to cleanse this place of demons, but he died. His wish was fulfilled by his successor in the See of Alexandria, the holy Patriarch Cyril (412-444). He prayed fervently in carrying out this project. An angel of the Lord appeared in a vision to the hierarch and commanded the venerable relics of Saints Cyrus and John be transferred to Manuphin. His Holiness Patriarch Cyril did the angel's bidding and built a church at Manuphin in the name of the holy martyrs.

From that time this place was purified of the Enemy's influence, and by the prayers of the holy Martyrs Cyrus and John there began to occur many miracles, healings of the sick and infirm. An account of Saints Cyrus and John is located under January 31.