SAINT JOHN’S ORTHODOX CHURCH

3180 Morefield Road • Hermitage, PA 16148
Office: 724-981-0571 • Rectory: 724-346-4457
Fax: 724-308-6615 • Website: www.stjohnacroc.org

Clergy:
Rev. Father David Mastroberte
Very Rev. Protopresbyter Michael Polanichka
Rev. Deacon John Anderson

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese – Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Bulletin for August 18-31, 2019

*SUN 8/18/2019 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy    Panachida: ++Hromyak Family (Perpetual)

WED 8/21/2019
8:30 AM Divine Liturgy    +Pani Magdaline Blaschak, by Carolyn Duranko

FRI 8/23/2019
8:30 AM Divine Liturgy    +Rebecca Kapusta, by the Family

*SUN 8/25/2019 TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
    Panachida: ++Blanar Family (Perpetual)
    +Julia Stroke, by +Michael and +Nancy Ristvey

TUES 8/27/2019
8:30 AM Divine Liturgy    ++Ristvey Family (Perpetual)

THURS 8/29/2019 BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (STRICT FAST HOLYDAY)
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

*SUN 9/1/2019 CHURCH NEW YEAR & ST. SIMEON STYLITES
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
    Panachida:    +Anthony & +Helen Dzurinda (Perpetual)
    +Mary & +Joseph Bartko (Perpetual)
    ++Chuba Family (Perpetual)
ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 29 is the holyday of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist. Divine Liturgy will be on Thursday, August 29 at 9:00 AM. This holyday is a **strict fast day**—no meat or dairy products are to be consumed. It is also a pious custom (not a rule like the fast, but a custom nevertheless) that we do not consume foods that grow in heads (cabbage, lettuce) or use plates on this day. *Holy prophet, forerunner and baptist John, pray to God for us!*

**Church School classes** will begin on September 8th. Parents, if you have yet to turn in a Registration form, please do so as soon as possible.

**Greek Festival** will be held August 23-25 at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 315 West Englewood Avenue, New Castle. Friday and Saturday from Noon to 8 PM and Sunday from Noon to 7 PM. Free admission. Live entertainment. Lots of great food and desserts. Visit stgeorgenewcastle.org for more information.

---

**Blessing of Animals**

**Date:** Sunday, September 1, 2019  
**Time:** 4:00 PM  
**Location:** Church Parking Lot

We will again hold a “Blessing of Animals” this year! Its commemoration is two-fold. September 1st, the beginning of the Church Year, is a day set aside by our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to ask God to bless and protect all creation. September 2nd is the holyday of Saint Mamas, an early Christian martyr who is known as an intercessor for animals.

- In case of bad weather, the blessing will be *cancelled.*
- To promote the safety of all present, pets must be either on a leash or in a crate.
- Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors to bring their pets, too!
- A Facebook event has been created on our parish page. “Like” and share the event with others.
"Do you think I have come to give you peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." - Luke 12:51

Living a stewardship lifestyle means stepping out of our comfort zone when needed. Many of us like to play it safe, not cause waves, stay in the middle of the road. In today’s world we are called to be informed and take a stance for life, marriage and religious liberty.

"For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last." - Luke 13:30

Our standards in society are different from God’s standards. We often rank people by what they have, how powerful they are, or how successful they are. Jesus reminds us that God will not judge by the same earthly standards. When God asks you, "what have you done with the gifts I have given you?"

---

**A Prayer Before Any Task**

O Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of the eternal Father, You said, “Without Me you can do nothing.” In faith I embrace Your words, O Lord, and bow before Your goodness. Help me to complete the work I am about to begin for Your glory: in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

---

To the St. John’s Community,
I would like to thank you for the prayers and cards during my recent back surgery and hospital stay. They were gratefully appreciated. I was comforted and very humbled by the love from each one of you. Again thank you and may God bless each one of you.

In Christ
Deacon John
**Happy Anniversary!**

August 10  
Professor Joseph and Helen Jaeger  
*(Omitted from last bulletin!)*

August 18  
Gino & Mary Ann Tofani

**Happy Birthday!**

August 19  
Kaitlin Chacon  
Germaine Tatusko

August 24  
Alex Parimuha

August 26  
Jennifer Miller

August 27  
David VanZanten

August 28  
Edward Chuba

August 29  
Stephen Saluga

August 31  
Edward Fabian

God Grant You
Many, Blessed Years!