



*"Your Cross We Adore, O Master,
and Your Holy Resurrection, We Glorify!"*

BULLETIN FOR SEPTEMBER 8-21, 2024



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| *SUN | 9/8/2024 | ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 2 NATIVITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (HOLYDAY) 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy <i>Perpetual Commemorations for September 8-14, 2024:</i> <i>DUPAY/DILORETO FAM. Frank, Mary, George, John & Mary, Michael,</i> <i>Ann, Andrew, Louie, Margie, Jack, Louie, Helen</i> <i>KOMISIN, George & Estella, John & Pauline, Harry & Anna VERHOLEK,</i> <i>Helen Penich</i> |
| MON | 9/9/2024 | 6:00 PM September Board Meeting |
| TUES | 9/10/2024 | <i>Post-Feast: Nativity of the Mother of God</i> <i>Saints of the Day: Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora</i> 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy <i>With Weekly Perpetual Commemorations</i> |
| FRI | 9/13/2024 | 6:00 PM Vespers for the Holyday & Procession with the Holy Cross |
| SAT | 9/14/2024 | EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (HOLYDAY) STRICT FAST DAY – NO MEAT OR DAIRY! 10:00 AM <i>Divine Liturgy will be at HOLY CROSS ORTHODOX CHURCH</i> <i>950 Maple Drive, Hermitage</i> |

***SUN 9/15/2024** **TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 3**
SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Church School “Kick Off” Sunday

Perpetual Commemorations for September 15-21, 2024:

KLUTCHER, John & Mary

RISTVEY Family: Michael, Anna, John, Stephanie, Steve, Ann, Stevie, Joseph, Nicholas, George, Mary, Susan, Ann, John, Susan & Kanishak Family: Andrew, Evelyn, Dorothy

REPASKY, Helen

TUES 9/17/2024 ***Post-Feast: Exaltation of the Cross***
Saints of the Day: Martyrs Sophia, Faith, Hope & Love
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
With Weekly Perpetual Commemorations

THURS 9/19/2024
6:30 PM *New Series! “Conversations”*
Guest: Fr. Thomas Slosky
Topic: Personal Wellness – Physical, Mental & Spiritual

FRI 9/20/2024
6:00 PM Moleben to the Holy Cross
With Prayers of Special Intention for the Living/Sick

***SUN 9/22/2024** **THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 4**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Perpetual Commemorations for September 22-28, 2024:

GUZI, Frank

ROWLANDS, Charles & Mary

HALL, Frank & Connie

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Upcoming Holyday: Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

September 14th is the holyday of the Exaltation (or Elevation) of the Holy Cross. This day comes 40 days after the Transfiguration on August 6th. As a solemn day on which we honor the Cross of Christ and read the Gospel account of His Passion, we observe September 14th as a day of strict fasting. No meat or dairy products are to be eaten on September 14th.

Vespers will be offered on Friday, September 13th at 6:00 PM. At the conclusion of this service, we will place the Cross in the center of the church for veneration. On Saturday, September 14, we will gather at Holy Cross Orthodox Church (950 Maple Drive in Hermitage) for Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM, to join Fr. Spyridon Ickes and the faithful in celebration of their church's feast. *"Your Cross we adore, O Master, and Your Holy Resurrection we glorify!"*

- **New Enrichment Series: "Conversations"**

Please see the included information about our inaugural "Conversations" event on Thursday, September 19 at 6:30 PM. *Here is a description of how these will be structured:*

At each event, Fr. David will sit down for a conversation with a guest. (This will take place in our hall.) The discussion will be focused on a specific topic or theme. While it is called "Conversations" the main conversation will be taking place between Fr. David and the guest. *You will NOT be expected to talk!* There *will* be time for Q&A and discussion at the end, but it is not obligatory. Also, this will not be broadcast or recorded. Please plan to come, and feel free to invite others!

- **Praying for Others: Service on September 20**

This month, we will offer a prayer service (*molében*) to the Holy Cross on Friday, September 20 at 6:00 PM. This will bring to a close our celebration of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, as it is the eve of the leave-taking of this holyday.

During this service, we will offer prayers for the health and salvation of the living. Lists submitted this past August will be used. If you want to submit a new list, blank prayer lists are available in the vestibule.

- **Sponsorships**

There are MANY open sponsorships for the rest of this year and throughout 2025. Please stop by the Church Office if you would like to sponsor the bulletin, the Eternal Lamp, and more.



We will begin our **Religious Education (Church School) Year** on Sunday, September 15th. All youth are invited to participate! Parents, let's get off to a good start!

This academic year, we are planning on having TWO groups—one for the younger students and another for the older students.

Sign up forms will be available on September 15th.

We will also distribute a schedule of Sundays when lessons will be offered and potential dates for other activities.

ALSO STARTING SEPTEMBER 2024: FAMILY READING TIME AT HOME

Fr. David is inviting families to sign out a copy of a catechism book "The Law of God" from our parish library. Fr. David will then supply a few suggested readings for each week. See Fr. David for more details on September 15th!

THE “CONVERSATIONS” SERIES
AT SAINT JOHN’S IN HERMITAGE

PERSONAL WELLNESS: Physical, Mental & Spiritual

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024
6:30 PM

With Special Guest: Fr. Thomas Slosky



Join Fr. David Mastroberte, pastor of Saint John’s, as he sits down with Fr. Thomas Slosky to discuss wellness in all spheres of life. Fr. Tom brings many insights into this topic as a husband, a father, a parish priest, a licensed professional counselor, a chaplain in the PA Army National Guard, a former college coach, an NCAA Division I All-American in cross country and track & field, and a 2023 inductee into the Duquesne Athletics Hall of Fame.

Come & Join the Conversation

Time for Q&A to Follow

Free & Open to the Public

Really: there will be no collection or “sales pitch”

SAINT JOHN’S
ORTHODOX CHURCH

3180 MOREFIELD ROAD
HERMITAGE, PA 16148
STJOHNACROC.ORG

STEWARDSHIP

From Dan Hromyak

*"Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?"
- James 2:5*

What is more important - being rich in faith or rich in possessions? Society tells u that possessions are most important. God teaches us a different lesson. When we are rich in faith, we keep God first and experience true joy and peace. When we put possessions first, we soon realize we can never have enough and happiness is fleeting. When we put faith over possessions we truly realize it is better to give than receive.

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." - Mark 8:34

Living a stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for my own life, but for the lives of others as well. We realize that our gifts are not intended for ourselves, rather they are meant to be shared with others. "Taking up my cross" means doing things when someone else needs me and not when it's convenient for me.

GOLF TOURNAMENT 2024: THANK YOU!

The remarkable success of our 2024 golf tournament is a reflection of the ever increasing dedication and enthusiasm of our parishioners.

We would like to personally thank everyone that made a donation and your labor of love to St. John's. Our golf event would not have been a success without your commitment.

Because of your hard work, generosity and support we had a profit of \$15,452.92.

With thanks and appreciation,

Ed & Francine Fabian

And we all thank Ed and Francine for their hard work & dedication!

Chinese Auction 2024

Fall is almost here and it's Chinese Auction time. This year is extra special: **it's our 50th Chinese Auction!** We would like to celebrate by making it our best ever with great gifts, giveaways, and prizes, prizes, prizes!

We have been working hard but we need your help. Anyone interested in helping out in any way, please contact us—we would appreciate your help.

Also, we have enclosed **an envelope for monetary donations** to help purchase prizes and gift cards. Please mark your envelope number to receive credit on your yearly church offering statement.

In addition, we are accepting gift cards (your choice) and/or major sponsors listed below:

- Lottery Tree: \$100 (Taken! Thank You!)
- Basket Raffle: \$300
- Main Raffle: \$500

If you have already purchased a gift to donate, we will gladly accept it **until September 30, 2024**. After that time, any physical gifts will be unable to be used for this year's event.

Gift Cards will be accepted until November 1, 2024. Monetary donations will be accepted until auction time.

Thank you again for your support! This event could not happen without you!

Mary Ann & Renee

On July 27th, we held our 4th Annual Pierogi Race at LindenPointe in Hermitage. We had **86 walkers and runners** who attended our event who got to enjoy our delicious pierogis after the race. Our race brought in a total profit of **\$2,200**. We are hoping this continues to grow in the years to come!



PIEROGI RACE REPORT

We thank Laura Fette for chairing this event!

Camp Alumni Weekend: October 11-13, 2024

Calling all Diocesan Camp Nazareth Alumni (current and former campers, volunteers, clergy and staff) who are Seniors in college or older!! Camp is hosting an Alumni Weekend October 11-13, 2024 at the Camp.

There'll be time for hanging out, hiking, visiting the Gift Shop, for stories and getting to know each other, and for prayer and church services. Entertainment, a guest speaker and an alumni forum are also a part of the schedule. We have a few surprises for you as well! So don't miss out! Come gather together for a great weekend with your Camp family through the generations. Come from all those cities "far and near" to our "beautiful place in among the mountains."

You can register for the Alumni Weekend online.

Diocesan Alumni and their families are welcome. Cost for the weekend is \$150. Children 7 and under are free. Remember, this is for Diocesan Alumni who are Seniors in college or older. On Friday, October 11th check-in at Camp will be between 6-7:30pm. Check-out on Sunday, October 13th will be by 3pm.

After you register online, you will be sent further information about the event including a schedule, packing list, etc. ***Looking forward to seeing our alumni at Camp!!***

FALL 2024 PIROHI SALES

⇒ Friday, October 4, 2024

⇒ Friday, November 1, 2024

*If you would like to volunteer to help,
sign up in the church hall.*



OCTOBER 2024 Pirohi Schedule

Wednesday, October 2
11:00 AM
Potato Prep

Thursday, October 3
6:00 PM
Filling Prep

Friday, October 4
8:00 AM
Pirohi Making and Sale

*Be sure to tell your
family, friends, neighbors,
coworkers, etc.
about our pirohi sale!*

October 2024 Pirohi Order Form

Order Deadline: Sunday, September 29, 2024
724-981-0571

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

____ Potato-Cheese Pirohi @ **\$9.00**/dozen

____ Butter Only

____ Butter and Onions

Total Amount Due: \$_____

Pick-Up on Friday, October 4, 2024
12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM

(Doors Open at Noon)

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

3180 Morefield Road
Hermitage, PA 16148

Office: 724-981-0571
Rectory: 724-346-4457
E-mail: father.david@stjohnacroc.org
Website: www.stjohnacroc.org

Clergy:
Rev. Father David Mastroberte
Rev. Deacon John Anderson

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

Sacramental and Membership Information

Sick Calls can be made at any time. Please phone the rectory (724-346-4457) when a family member is admitted to the hospital, or to request a home visit. Hospitals do *not* call to alert the parish when someone is admitted.

Marriages are solemnized on Saturdays or Sundays. Circumstances may require a dispensation from the diocesan bishop. Consult the pastor at least six months in advance and before any plans have been made for the wedding reception. Marriages cannot be celebrated during the fasting seasons of the church, or on Fridays.

Baptisms are usually scheduled on Saturdays or Sundays. Consult the pastor. Two godparents (godfather and godmother) are required, at least one of whom must be a practicing Orthodox Christian in good standing at an Orthodox parish, and the other (at least) a practicing, baptized Christian.

Church Funerals are, under ordinary circumstances, provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual and material obligations to the parish; otherwise, the funeral service is conducted at the funeral home. **The Church does not permit cremation.**

Parishioners in "good standing" are those Orthodox Christians who, as members of Saint John's Orthodox Church, strive to live according to the teachings of the Orthodox Church; participate in the life of the parish through regular church attendance, regular reception of Holy Communion and periodic Holy Confession (and receive these sacraments no less than once a year); if married, having been married in the Orthodox Church; and financially support the parish (especially through an annual "pledge").

Prospective members and returning members are asked to fill out an application form, copies of which are available in the church office.

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| Our Church's Website: | stjohnacroc.org |
| Our YouTube Live Stream: | youtube.com/user/saintjohnsharon |
| Our Facebook Page: | facebook.com/SaintJohnHermitagePA |
| Our Diocesan Website: | acrod.org |

For Online Giving Options, please visit our website: stjohnacroc.org

Happy Birthday!

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Nancy Long | September 8 |
| Shelley Hando | September 9 |
| Delores Jisko | September 9 |
| Sabrina Lukac | September 11 |
| Helen Blasko | September 14 |
| Marilyn Radu | September 15 |

Happy Anniversary!

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Chuck & Janet Kretchek | September 8 |
| Jason & Shannon Baker | September 10 |
| Paul & Michelle McMahan | September 13 |
| Milan & Stephanie Shumkaroff | September 15 |
| Fred & Kathy Meiss | September 20 |



"God Grant You Many Years!"

■ Our Sponsors ■

Eternal Lamp for the Week of September 8, 2024

*In Loving Memory of Mother Anna Blasko
by Helen Blasko*

Eternal Lamp for the Week of September 15, 2024

*In Memory of Parents Joseph & Catherine Pavlick on Their Wedding Anniversary
By Debbie & Greg Cross*

Schedule of Men to Hold Candles During the Gospel

September 8
Paul McMahan
Robert Miller
John Moon
Dan Ristvey
Joel Ristvey

September 15
Matt Ristvey
Tom Ristvey
Thomas Ristvey
Pete Roman
Steve Saluga

September 22
Milan Shumkaroff
Gino Tofani
Donald Yasnowsky
Kevin Yasnowsky
Gary Yonchak