

BULLETIN FOR MAY 18-JUNE 7, 2025

***SUN 5/18/2025** **5TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA — THE SAMARITAN WOMAN**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Perpetual Commemorations for May 18-24, 2025:

BOGDAN, George

DOBROVOLSKI, Peter & Julia, Michael, Andrew & Peter, Rose,

Pauline, Helen, Anna, Julia, Mary

Golf Meeting after Liturgy

WED 5/21/2025 **Ss. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Weekly Perpetual Commemorations

***SUN 5/25/2025** **6TH SUNDAY AFTER PASCHA — HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy



MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE:

Panachida at the Cemetery Cross & Blessing of the Cemetery

WED 5/28/2025 **LEAVE-TAKING OF PASCHA**
6:00 PM Great Vespers for the Ascension

THURS 5/29/2025 **ASCENSION OF OUR LORD (HOLYDAY)**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

***SUN 6/1/2025** **7TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA — FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**
10:00 AM “Family Day” Divine Liturgy
at Camp Nazareth—Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church
(No Liturgy at Saint John’s)

WED 6/4/2025 Moleben (Prayer Service) to Our Lord Jesus Christ
6:00 PM *With Prayers for the Living/Sick*

FRI	6/6/2025	EVE OF SOUL SATURDAY
	6:00 PM	Parastas (Memorial Service) with Reading of Names of Departed
SAT	6/7/2025	EVE OF PENTECOST
	4:00 PM	Great Vespers for Pentecost
*SUN	6/8/2025	PENTECOST – THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
		<i>Kneeling Prayers following Liturgy</i>
		<i>“Welcome” Breakfast – All Invited!</i>

NOTES ON UPCOMING SERVICES

– The Holyday of the ASCENSION

We celebrate the Ascension of Christ on the 40th day after the Resurrection. Since it always falls on a Thursday, it tends to be one of those holydays that is often neglected. Don't let it slip by—come to one or both of the scheduled services for this feast on Wednesday, May 28 and Thursday, May 29.

– Praying for Others...

As we begin the month of June, we will have a Moleben (Prayer Service) to Our Lord Jesus Christ on Wednesday, June 4 at 6:00 PM. We will include special prayers for the living, especially for those who are sick.

– Services for the Holyday of PENTECOST

Pentecost is the fiftieth day after Pascha and the feast of the descent of the Holy Spirit. It is the second most important day on the Church's calendar—yes, it is even more important than Christmas! We have a number of services in preparation for and in celebration of this holyday, including an **All Souls Parastas** (Memorial Service), **Vespers** on Pentecost Eve, and **Divine Liturgy** with **Kneeling Prayers** on Pentecost Sunday. Take a look at the schedule in this bulletin. Come and celebrate the Holy Spirit!

– Wear GREEN on Pentecost Sunday, June 8th

Since the Holy Spirit is called the “Giver of Life,” it is a very old Slavic custom to decorate the church for Pentecost with greenery, and for the vestments and altar covers to be green as well. **YOU are welcome to join in, too!** Consider wearing something green to church on Sunday, June 8th. This is a great way to get into the spirit of the day's liturgical celebration.

Welcoming Our New Saint John's Members

A Pastoral Message from Fr. David



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Christ is Risen!

The continual joy of the Paschal season is enhanced this year as we welcome into our Saint John's community those families and individuals who to date have been parishioners of Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church at Camp Nazareth. This transition has been happening with the guidance and encouragement of the Very Rev. Protos-pyter Stephen Loposky.

Truthfully, we are not strangers! First and foremost, we are all fellow Orthodox Chris-tians *and* members of the same Diocese under His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory. We have already worshipped together and communed of the Body and Blood of the Savior from the same chalice on many occasions. Our social interactions during Coffee Hour and at various functions have started to help us familiarize ourselves with each other. Because of this, I am confident that this will be a smooth transition.

To formally celebrate this occasion, we will have a special BREAKFAST on Pentecost Sunday, June 8. This will be an opportunity for our current members to welcome our new members and for all of us to have fellowship together. Please plan to attend! *How appropriate that we will do this on Pentecost which is often called the "Birthday of the Church"!*

May God grant us His blessings as we—the parish family of Saint John's—grow in love for Him and for one another. Let us pray together, learn together, roll up our sleeves and work together, and thereby witness to our shared Orthodox Christian faith in this wonderful region.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. David Mastroberte

ANNOUNCEMENTS

– “Hawaiian” Myrrh-Streaming Icon at Local Monastery

On Tuesday, May 20, the miracle-working icon of the Mother of God from Hawaii will be present at the Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration (321 Monastery Lane, Ellwood City, PA 16117) from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Visitation will be open throughout the day for prayer and anointing with the myrrh. The abbess, Mother Christophora, invites everyone to visit for this special event. Akathist and Paraklesis services will be chanted throughout the day, at various times, but not on any particular schedule. (It is more of an “Open House” so that people can come at their convenience.)

– Memorial Day Observance on Sunday, May 25

Our annual Procession to the Cemetery Cross, Panachida Service, and Blessing of the Cemetery will take place after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 25. Please plan to participate as we pray for all departed veterans, as well as our departed clergy and parishioners, loved ones, parishioners, and all those who rest in our cemetery. *(In case of bad weather, we will reschedule the procession and blessing.)*

– Coffee Hour Donations: “Thank You”!

We would like to thank those parishioners who have recently contributed food items to the Sunday morning Coffee Hour. They are - Chad and Laura Fette, Steve Lukac, Kathy Piston and JoAnn Yasnowsky. We thank you for your extreme generosity.

We also thank Dina Fabian, Laura Fette, Pani Vikkie Mastroberte and other relatives of our 2025 First Confession Class for contributing dishes for the **First Confession Sunday Refreshments** on May 4! It was a wonderful celebration.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Family Day at Camp Nazareth: Sunday, June 1
- Pentecost and Parish Breakfast: Sunday, June 8
- Nativity of St. John (*Our Church Name Day*): Tuesday, June 24
- St. John’s Pierogi 5K: Saturday, July 19
- Golf Scramble and Dinner: Saturday, August 23

FAMILY DAY

Sunday, June 1, 2025



Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

Camp Nazareth

339 Pew Road

Mercer, PA 16137

*Our Annual Family Day will take place on **Sunday, June 1, 2025**. This is the "Kick-Off" to our summer season at Camp. Faithful from around the Diocese are invited to attend the day's festivities which will begin with a beautiful **Divine Liturgy at 10 am**, followed by a delicious **brunch**, live **music** and all kinds of **games and activities** for kids and adults alike!*

The cost for brunch is Adults \$10, Children under 13 are \$6, and Children under 5 are free. A Family Price of \$30 includes 2 parents and all children under age 13. This is a great way to start our summer together! Join us on June 1st! There is no registration for Family Day. Come one! Come all!

There will be no service at Saint John's on Sunday, June 1 so that we can join in worship with Metropolitan Gregory and other clergy and faithful from our Diocese!

*We offer our prayers for the blessed repose of **+ANDREW LUTZ** who fell asleep in the Lord on May 7, and whose funeral was held on May 12. We also extend our condolences and sympathies to all Andy's family members and friends.*

Eternal Memory!

*Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and to those in the tombs bestowing life!*



Thoughts on Stewardship

From Dan Hromyak

"I give you a new commandment; love one another. As I have loved you, do you also should love another." - John 13:34

"As I have loved you," this is the hard part - Jesus's love is unconditional; our love usually comes with strings attached. It is easy to love someone when they love you back. But it takes mercy and compassion to love someone when you feel unappreciated, feel used or feel like your opinion doesn't matter. It takes courage and the grace of God to "love thy neighbor" when they may be someone you don't like, someone you don't know, or someone that doesn't look like you.

"...Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." - John 14:27

Our limited human understanding cannot begin to understand the immense power of God. Instead of trusting in God, we often think we can control every outcome. Do you want to make God laugh? Tell Him your plans. The next time worry, anxiety or fear creeps in, thank God for all He has given you and trust that He has a better plan for you. Make God your first choice and not your last resort.

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Rev. Father David Mastroberte, Pastor

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 to receive Confession and Communion. 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, but other days are possible as well. 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.

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!

Alexandra Maurer	May 19
Elizabeth Maurer	May 21
Dawn Burns	May 22
Dennis Burprich	May 22
Christine Maurer	May 23
Paula Kudelko	May 29
Victor Ristvey	May 29
Doane Bailey	May 30
Kathy Baronowsky	May 30
Amy Ristvey	June 1
Emilie Maurer	June 2
Kelly Hellmann	June 3

Happy Anniversary!

Stephen & Kathy Baronowsky	May 18
Geri & Tom Tulip	May 25
John & Christine Frejik	May 31

*God Grant You
Many, Blessed Years!
Christ is Risen!*

■ Our Sponsors ■

May 18, 2025

Eternal Lamp
*In Memory of Dorothy Pacinda
on Her Birthday
by Debbie & Greg Cross*



May 25, 2025

Altar Flowers
*In Loving Memory of Esther Chupak
From Jennifer & Ken Wansack*

Eternal Lamp
*In Loving Memory of Irene Shaffer
From Jim, Karen, Katie & Brent Hynes*

***Schedule of
Men to Hold
Candles During the
Gospel***

May 18
Steve Saluga
Milan Shumkaroff
Gino Tofani
Donald Yasnowsky
Kevin Yasnowsky

May 25
Gary Yonchak
Bob Amos
Jason Baker
Dave Beight
Dennis Burprich

June 8
Jerry Chupak
Ed Fabian
Matt Fabian
Chad Fette
Jim Hynes