

BULLETIN FOR JULY 6-19, 2025

***SUN 7/6/2025 4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

**Board Meeting After Liturgy*

Weekly Perpetual Commemorations for July 6-12, 2025:

DRAGAN, John

*SEKERAK, Nicholas & Mary, Carmella, John & MaryLou, Helen,
Mary, George & Martha KLEIN*

ANDRAS, Helen & John Sr.

DOBROVOLSKI, Josephine & Andrew

HARTLEY, Richard

*TRESCILLA, Michael & Susan & Helen ROTH LITWILER, Mary &
Perl*

TUES 7/8/2025 Saint of the Day: Great-Martyr Procopius
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
With Weekly Perpetual Commemorations

***SUN 7/13/2025 5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Celebrant: Fr. Ken Bachofsky

***SUN 7/20/2025 6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**
SAINT ELIAS (ELIJAH) THE PROPHET
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

****Blessing of Vehicles After Liturgy***

Weekly Perpetual Commemorations for July 20-26, 2025:

BICH, Ronald

DORUS, Joseph & Anna; David Dorus; Robert Sorokach

POTPRASKY, John & Betty

LYSOHIR, Sue & Steve

SLOVESKO, John & Helen, Richard; Kathleen Wansack

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fr. David will be away from July 9 to July 15. In the event that you need the services of a priest for an **emergency hospital visit** or similar pastoral matter, please call:

- *From July 9-13:* Fr. Spyridon Ickes of Holy Cross, Hermitage (216.372.6217)
- *From July 12-15:* Fr. Timothy Paproski of St. Nicholas, Warren (203.804.2030)
- Or contact the nearest canonical Orthodox Christian priest.

In the event that a **funeral** needs to be scheduled, please call Fr. David directly on his cell phone (724.813.3172) to make arrangements.

WELCOME, FR. KEN! We are grateful to Fr. Ken Bachofsky for offering the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, July 13, 2025. *May God grant Fr. Ken and Pani Mary many, blessed years!*

Red Cross Blood Drive will take place at our church on Thursday, August 7. *More information coming soon!*

National ACRY Convention will take place August 29-September 1 at Seven Springs Mountain Resort. Information is posted on the bulletin board and is also available

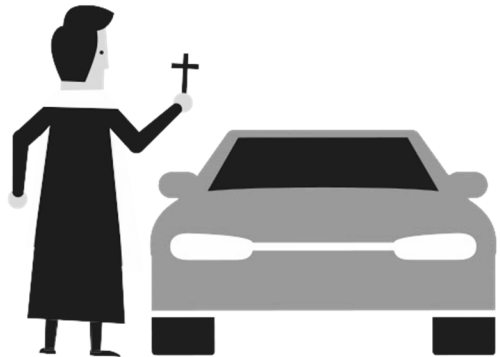
Sunday, July 20, 2025

After Divine Liturgy

Bring your car, truck, bike, scooter, horse-and-buggy, chariot, etc. for a special blessing!

We observe this blessing on or near the holyday of St. Elias (Elijah) the Prophet.

All are welcome—tell your friends and neighbors!



Blessing of Vehicles

Receiving Holy Communion: Some Practical Reminders

It is a real blessing that we have so many receive Our Lord in Holy Communion on a regular basis! Since it has been a while since I printed Communion-related reminders in the bulletin, I am taking this opportunity to remind everyone of some practical matters with regard to this Sacrament.

First: Only Orthodox Christians who are properly prepared are invited to receive Holy Communion. Additionally, I do not give blessings to non-communicants (whether Orthodox or non-Orthodox) during the distribution of Communion. *(That is what we do after Liturgy, when everyone is invited to come forward for blessed bread, to kiss the Cross, etc.)*

Come close! If the clergyman has to reach, then there is a greater chance that the Eucharist will be dropped. If you are too far back, you may be asked to step closer.

Open wide and tilt your head back. Within Orthodoxy, there are variations on the exact way the Eucharist is received by the communicant. In our Diocese, the general practice is to open your mouth and allow the priest or deacon to reverently place the Eucharist in your mouth, without closing your lips on the spoon. However, in order to do this effectively, you need to open wide (like when you're at the dentist), tilt your head back, and not stick out your tongue. If you do not open your mouth widely, or if you tilt your head forward instead of backwards, there is a greater possibility of an accident.

When you are at the chalice: do not make the Sign of the Cross and do not kiss the chalice. You should make the Sign of the Cross *before* stepping forward and only *after* you have walked away from the chalice.

Communion Cloth: Allow the two assistants to place the cloth directly under your chin. This is a "drop cloth" in case of any drips or spills. Do not hold the cloth under your chin or pull the cloth away—this is not helpful. There cannot be a gap between you and the cloth.

Form two lines up the middle and approach the chalice from whichever side you are sitting on. This applies to Sundays and weekdays. You do not need to "crisscross" in front of the tetrapod.

Infants: Those bringing up an infant should cradle the child in the **right** arm. Since infants receive a small drop of the Precious Blood, keeping the child in a reclining position can be helpful.

Being conscientious towards these practical matters will greatly assist me when distributing Holy Communion, and enhance our reverence for Our Lord present in the Holy Gifts.

Thank you for your care when approaching the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation!

If you have any questions, please ask!

—Fr. David

5th ANNUAL PIEROGI 5K WALK/RUN

—Saturday, July 19, 2025—

Start: Walk/Run begins at 8:30am

Location: Butler Community College LindenPointe parking lot, Hermitage, Pa 16148

Proceeds: St John's Orthodox Church

Awards: Awards: Top 3 Male & Female overall.

Each runner will receive Pierogi with assorted topping after the race!

Divisions: Top 3 in each age group. 14 & Under, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 +.

Fee: \$30 registration: includes race day T-Shirt and event medal. *Same day registrations cannot be guaranteed a shirt.*

Online Registration: Run Sign up

<https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Hermitage/1stAnnualPierogi5kWalkRun>

Contact Information: Laura Fette @ lbstigliano@gmail.com

***** SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE! *****

Gold: \$300—Only 4 Available

Silver: \$150

T-Shirt Sponsor: \$30-50

Stop by the information table in the hall for a Sponsorship Form!

GOLF SCRAMBLE 2025

Don't Forget! The 2025 Golf Scramble will be held on **Saturday, August 23rd at Avalon at Buhl Park**. Shotgun Start will be at 8:30 AM.

The post-golfing meal will again be held at our church hall, and will feature our *signature* all-you-can-eat buffet with spit roast lamb, chicken, sausage and peppers, side dishes, desserts and beverages. Dinner will begin to be served at 2:30 PM. We will also hold the a Basket and Gift Card Raffle at this dinner.

Dinner-only tickets are available for \$30 per person. See Francine Fabian to get your ticket!

THANK YOU to everyone that has donated towards the golf tournament to date!
We are still in need of the following:

- ⇒ Team Commitments
- ⇒ Major sponsorships for \$100.00
- ⇒ Hole sponsorships for \$40.00
- ⇒ Patron Ad Listings for \$10.00
- ⇒ Gift Cards for the Raffle - [see list in the fellowship hall](#)
- ⇒ General monetary donations to the event

Copies of the registration form/flyer and the sponsorship form are still available in the church hall for your use.

To register your team, for any additional information, or to volunteer to help in any way, please speak with Ed or Francine Fabian.

Sponsorship Levels:

Sponsorship Level	Donation with Golf	Donation without Golf
Platinum Sponsor	\$850.00	\$450.00
Gold Sponsor	\$625.00	\$200.00
Silver Sponsor	\$575.00	\$150.00
Major Sponsor	—	\$100.00

Quick Orthodox Facts: Bread!

The bread we use for Holy Communion is known as PROSPHORA (*Greek: "offering"*). It is made from flour, water, yeast and, if desired, some salt. Before baking, it is stamped with a special seal, imprinting it with a cross and the letters IC XC NIKA—Greek for "Jesus Christ Conquers."

Before the public start of the Divine Liturgy, the priest prepares the bread and wine for Communion during a rite called PROSOKOMÍDIA. He cuts a cube—the part marked with IC XC NIKA—from the prosphora. This is then known as the LAMB, since this is consecrated and becomes the Body of Christ. We receive a portion of this in Holy Communion.

During Proskomidia, the priest also cuts small triangles of prosphora in honor of the Mother of God and nine categories of saints.

He will also remember the living, and the departed by reading their names and removing small particles of bread. These are all arranged on the DÍSKOS (*paten, Communion plate*) and placed into the chalice, but are not distributed as Holy Communion.

The leftover portions of unconsecrated prosphora are cut up and distributed after Liturgy as ANTIDORON (*Greek: "Instead of the Gift"*). We should be careful about crumbs when receiving and eating this bread, as it is blessed.

On certain holydays, bread is blessed at Vespers along with wheat, wine and olive oil. This bread can either be prosphora or a more festive sweet bread. If you have ever noticed a different kind of bread being distributed on a holyday, it is usually because it was blessed at Vespers. This is also why we have MIROVÁNIE—anointing with blessed oil—on or near holydays. —*Fr. David*

Thoughts on Stewardship

From Dan Hromyak

"He said to them, 'The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few...' - Luke 10:2

As Orthodox we are all called to serve. Each of us has been given "charisms" otherwise known as gift from the Holy Spirit to help build God's Church. Our charisms can only be used for good. We know that we are using them in the right ministry when we are filled with joy and we want to share stories about our charitable works. Discern how God is calling you to use your charisms. Say "yes" to what God is calling you to do and then do it! Share your joy and invite others to do the same.

"Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'" - Luke 10:37

This was Jesus' command at the end of the Good Samaritan story. Did you know that the Samaritans and Jews despised each other? The moral of the story is to love our neighbor. That means loving someone you may not know, or someone that looks different than you, or someone that has different beliefs than you, or someone that you don't like. All without expecting anything in return.

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

3180 Morefield Road
Hermitage, PA 16148

Church Office: 724-981-0571
To Reach Fr. David: 724-813-3172
E-mail: father.david@stjohnacroc.org
Website: www.stjohnacroc.org

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!

Josey Dinsmore	July 6
Courteney Riddle	July 8
John Moon	July 9
Elizabeth Figiel	July 13
Debbie Cross	July 14
Laura Fette	July 14
Richie Preston	July 14
Milan Shumkaroff	July 16
Michael Polanichka	July 17

Happy Anniversary!

Burns, Dawn & Mark	July 18
Johnson, Martin & Martha	July 18
Chupak, Jerry & Patti	July 19

*God Grant You
Many, Blessed Years!*

■ Our Sponsors ■

July 6, 2025, 2025

Eternal Lamp

*In Memory of +George Varsho
by Kathy & Gary Yonchak*

July 13, 2025

Eternal Lamp

*In Honor of Mrs. Toni Yonchak's
100th Birthday (7-19-25)
by Gary & Kathy Yonchak*

Sponsorships for the Eternal Lamp, Candelabrum and Bulletin are still available for many Sundays of the year. Altar Flowers can also be sponsored. Stop by the Church Office for more information!

Schedule of Men to Hold Candles During the Gospel

July 6
Milan Shumkaroff
Gino Tofani
Donald Yasnowsky
Kevin Yasnowsky
Gary Yonchak

July 13
Bob Amos
Jason Baker
Dave Beight
Dennis Burprich
Jerry Chupak

July 20
Ed Fabian
Matt Fabian
Chad Fette
Jim Hynes
Steven Lukac