

## *We Honor Our Veterans...*

**On Sunday, November 13, 2022**, we offer special prayers for all the veterans of our Saint John's parish family. This list below includes those members of our church or their immediate family members who are serving or have served in the armed forces of the United States. *Thank you for your service!*

May God, through the Prayers of the Archangel Michael, Saint George, Saint Demetrius, and all the Saints, grant these men and women, and all veterans who served or now serve our country, His blessings, grace, and mercy!



Robert Amos  
Deacon John Anderson  
Father Thomas Blaschak  
Dennis Burpich  
Ruth Ristvey Cisneros  
Thomas Doyle  
Chester Everett  
John Frejik  
Andy Lutz

Paul McMahon  
John D. Ristvey  
Peter Roman  
Edward Slovesko  
Joseph Tatusko  
Aaron Van Zanten  
David Van Zanten  
Gary Yonchak

## *God Bless America!*

## SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 6-20, 2022

- \*SUN 11/6/2022 9:00 AM**      **21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 4**  
Divine Liturgy  
*Panachida:*      +George Pacinda (Per.)  
                         ++Pavlick Family (Per.)  
                         +Michael & +Martha Soloninka (Per.)  
                         +Ronald Schultheis, by daughter Roxanne Marks
- TUES 11/8/2022 9:00 AM**      **ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND ALL HOLY ANGELS**  
Divine Liturgy
- WED 11/9/2022 10:00 AM**      **ST. NEKTARIOS THE WONDER-WORKER**  
Divine Liturgy (*Note Special Time!*)
- WED 11/10/2022 9:00 AM**      Parastas      ++John & +Katherine Polochak (*Perpetual*)
- \*SUN 11/13/2022 9:00 AM**      **22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 5**  
Divine Liturgy  
*Panachida:*      +Estelle (Ledney) Adams (*Perpetual*)  
                         +George & +Anna Valent, +Harold Bouslough (*Perpetual*)
- TUES 11/15/2022 9:00 AM**      Parastas      +Joseph & +Margaret O'Shanic (*Perpetual*)  
**6:00 PM**      November Board Meeting
- TUES 11/15/2022**      **THE NATIVITY FAST BEGINS TODAY**
- WED 11/16/2022 6:00 PM**      Akathist to St. Joseph the Betrothed
- SAT 11/19/2022 1:00-3:00 PM**      Chinese Auction Open for Ticket Sales and Placement
- \*SUN 11/20/2022 9:00 AM**      **23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 6**  
**PREFEAST OF THE ENTRY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE**  
Divine Liturgy

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Chinese Auction Sunday, November 20, 2022

#### Donations Needed

- Cash donations
- Gift cards
- Prize donations

#### Sponsors Needed

- Basket raffle \$ 250.00
- Main raffle \$ 500.00

**St. Nektarios** the Wonder-Worker—a great healer and intercessor for those with cancer and other terminal illnesses—is celebrated each year on November 9th. Many people do not realize this, but he is also the patron saint of the Youngstown Deanery. To mark his holyday, several Deanery priests will join us for Divine Liturgy on November 9th at 10:00 AM. (Please note the special time!) Please join us in prayer as we honor this great saint!

**Upcoming Church School Classes** will be on November 13 and November 27. All youth are invited to participate in these lessons and activities!

**Cemetery Clean-Up Reminder:** Please remove all summer flowers by Sunday, November 13th. Anything not removed

will be discarded. Thank you!

**2023 Church Wall Calendars** have again been provided to our parish through the generosity of **TOMON FUNERAL SERVICES**. We thank our parish funeral directors Joe Tomon and Jennifer for this annual gift, and ask God to bless them for many years! Please consider utilizing their excellent services.

Every home should have a calendar! Please take a free calendar home and let it assist you in sanctifying the whole course of the year. Follow the daily commemorations, as the Church remembers the events of our salvation—the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Our Lord—and the lives of the saints. Use the Bible readings as daily spiritual nourishment.

**Diocesan Yearbook/ACRY Annual Sponsors and Memorial Listings:** If you would like to include your name and/or the names of your loved ones in the 2023 Diocesan Yearbook/ACRY Annual, please visit the church office.

**National ACRY “Lots o’ Luck”** calendar raffle tickets are available in the church office for a donation of \$25.

**The Nativity Fast (Advent) begins on November 15th!** *Read more about it on page 6 of this bulletin.*

SHENANGO VALLEY'S **ORIGINAL** SINCE 1974

# CHINESE AUCTION

Saint John's Orthodox Church Hall  
3180 Morefield Road, Hermitage

Sunday, November 20, 2022

Doors Open at 1:00 PM  
Drawing Begins at 3:00 PM

*Buy and Place Your Tickets Early!*  
*Saturday, November 19, 2022*  
*1:00 to 3:00 PM*

Admission: \$5.00  
(Includes 1 Sheet of Tickets, Cake, and Coffee)  
Extra Sheets: \$3/Sheet or 4/\$10

*For More Info, Call (724) 981-0571    [stjohnacroc.org](http://stjohnacroc.org)*

— *A Note of Thanks* —

Susan and I wish to thank our friends and church family for all of the well wishes, cards and most of all your prayers for my healing. There is a long road ahead for the cancer treatments, so please keep up the prayers. They are powerful! *Henry and Sue*

**Stewardship**  
*By Dan Hromyak*

*"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word." - 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17*

There are two important lessons here. First, we are called to be generous with our encouragement and hope with others. As God shows us mercy, we must be merciful to others. Second, joy is contagious! The joy we receive from doing good works not only strengthens us, it encourages others as well. Share the joy of living your faith whenever you can.

*"...Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you, so that you might imitate us." - 2 Thessalonians 3:9*

Most people who live a grateful and generous lifestyle don't go around bragging about it. But through their words and actions, others do take notice. They notice because of the joy and peace that results and others desire this in their own life. Know that the way you live your life may be the only interaction others may have with our Orthodox faith.

<b>TRAVELING ICON SCHEDULE</b>	
November 6: Ed & Francine Fabian	November 20:
November 13: Matthew & Dina Fabian	November 27:

## **The Nativity Fast (Advent) begins on November 15th!**

During these next six weeks, we prepare for the celebration of the Nativity of Christ. Here are some ways to observe this holy time in a meaningful way:

### ◆ **FAST**

Fasting goes hand-in-hand with our spiritual preparation for the Nativity. Traditionally, every day from November 15th until December 25th was kept as a fast day. Without a doubt, this poses a challenge for most of us. So, what can we do, practically speaking?

**The Nativity Fast should represent an increase of fasting in our life.** Pastorally, I would offer the following general ideas. If fasting is not your strong suit during most of the year, then be *very* careful to abstain from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays during Advent. If you already keep those fasting days throughout the whole year, then add more days as you are able (Mondays, all weekdays, etc.). During the latter part of the Nativity Fast (December 12th onwards), you may also want to increase your fast even more.

All of us are enjoined to observe the strict fast from meat and dairy on Christmas Eve, December 24.

Remember: it's not the *least* that we *have* to do, but the *most* that we *can* do for Our Lord!

### ◆ **TAKE TIME TO PRAY DAILY**

There are many ways to do this, but the key is to be consistent. You can use your prayer book, or pick up one of the "Basic Daily Prayers for Orthodox Christian" sheets in the vestibule (which has a short daily prayer rule). Be sure to offer the "Nativity Fast Prayer Challenge" from the Diocese. Set this as a goal for the next six weeks. If you miss a day, just pick up again the next day.

### ◆ **PRAY FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS CARD LIST**

Each time you send a Christmas Card, ask God to bless the recipients. If you want to take it a step further, pray for them weekly or even daily.

### ◆ **READ THE SCRIPTURES**

I will be sharing a Bible reading guide for December 1-24 in a subsequent bulletin. The "essential" passages from the Gospels for this season would be

chapters 1 and 2 of Matthew's Gospel and chapters 1 and 2 of Luke's Gospel.

### ◆ **GO TO CONFESSION**

As we sing in one carol: "Let *every heart prepare Him room.*" During the Nativity Fast this year, Confessions will be heard 30 minutes prior to all Sunday and Weekday Liturgies; 30 minutes before the Wednesday Evening Services; and by special appointment. Do not neglect this great sacrament of God's forgiveness!

### ◆ **ATTEND DIVINE SERVICES**

We have additional services scheduled throughout the next six weeks. On Wednesday evenings at 6:00 PM, we will have a Prayer Service appropriate to the season. Additional weekday Divine Liturgies will be offered. Check the schedule for details. These are great opportunities to be in God's house!

### ◆ **BE CHARITABLE**

We think of charity as giving money to those in need—and that is certainly an act of charity! But charity comes from the Latin *caritas*, which denotes the kind of Christian love directed towards all people. As God showed His love for us by sending His Son, so we strive to show that same love in our actions and attitudes.

### ◆ **DON'T FORGET THE "TRUE MEANING" OF CHRISTMAS**

Christmas is not primarily about "family", "togetherness", "generosity", or any such adjective. **Christmas is about Jesus Christ.** All of the wonderful aspects we associate with this holiday—the time with loved ones, the delicious foods, the gifts we exchange—flow from the fact that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). This isn't just an intellectual fact. The Church gives us the Nativity Fast and the Christmas holyday every year as an opportunity to grow in our relationship with God. We should take advantage of it.

**How can we "keep Christ in Christmas"?  
By putting Christ at the center of our life  
now and always!**

*God bless you on this journey to Bethlehem!*

*Fr. David*

# SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Website: [www.stjohnacroc.org](http://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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<b>Our Church's Website:</b>	<a href="http://stjohnacroc.org">stjohnacroc.org</a>
<b>Our YouTube Live Stream:</b>	<a href="https://youtube.com/user/saintjohnsharon">youtube.com/user/saintjohnsharon</a>
<b>Our Facebook Page:</b>	<a href="https://facebook.com/SaintJohnHermitagePA">facebook.com/SaintJohnHermitagePA</a>
<b>Our Diocesan Website:</b>	<a href="http://acrod.org">acrod.org</a>

**For Online Giving Options, please visit our website: [stjohnacroc.org](http://stjohnacroc.org)**

## ETERNAL LAMP SPONSOR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

In loving memory of  
**John Robert Hynes**

By: Jim, Karen, Katie & Brent Hynes

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

In loving memory of  
**Kyle Kupensky**

On the one year anniversary of his passing

From: Dian Kupensky



November 10 Gino Tofani  
November 12 John Parimuha  
November 15 Amelia Baronowsky  
November 18 Francine Fabian  
November 19 Dorothy Wilson



## MEN TO HOLD CANDLES

- **Sunday, November 13**  
Milan Shumkaroff  
Gino Tofani  
Henry VanZanten  
Donald Yasnowsky  
Kevin Yasnowsky
- **Sunday, November 20**  
Gary Yonchak  
Bob Amos  
Jason Baker  
Dave Beight  
Dennis Burprich



## Wedding Anniversary's

November 4  
Carol & Dan Ristvey

November 7  
Amy & Matt Ristvey

November 12  
Michaelene & Scott Obermiyer

## Bulletin Sponsors

November 13

In loving memory of

**Richard Hartley**

By Katie Hartley & Family