ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Orthodox Church

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022**

**ST ANTHONY THE GREAT**

**TONE VII ✠ HEBREWS 13:17-21 ✠ GOSPEL: ST. LUKE 6:17-23**


## PASTOR

VERY REVEREND

FR. MICHAEL T. CHENDORAIN

## CLERGY

FATHER DEACON GREGORY BENC

## CHOIR DIRECTOR

PROFESSOR GEORGE HANAS

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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*An Orthodox Christian community of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese of the USA under the protection of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.*

**WELCOME!**

## SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY DIVINE SERVICES

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30**

9:00AM Sunday Divine Liturgy.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 05**

9:00AM Liturgy of February Perpetual Commemorations (1st half): *George & Michael Buleca, Charles Totin, George Turjanica, George -Mary - Michael Sepelyak, Joh & Anna Sepelyak, John Petrovey, John & Mary Bishop, James Ello, Basil & Mary Pinzelik, Alexander & Anna Stegura, John - Susan - George Yevchak,*

3:00PM Saturday Evening Vespers - Come join us!

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 06 - ZACCHAEUS SUNDAY**

9:00AM Sunday Divine Liturgy.

## SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY PARISH ACTIVITIES

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30**

10:30AM NO Coffee Social Hour or Sunday School.

**MONDAY, JANUARY 31**

5:00PM Weekly Soup Kitchen Service.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 06**

10:30AM **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** — We Need Total Parish Participation. Food & Refreshments will be served.

**PLEASE PRAY for the Servants of God:** His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. John & Pani Eleanor Pribish, Helen Hrehowsik, Bill Kobasz, Helen J. Dunham, Olga Medvigy, John & Suzanne DiBiasi, Lynn Beres, Maryann Dudash, Eleanor Aleksza, Judith Raskoshin & Unborn child, Jenna Quinn & Newborn Son, Kristy Stallard & Unborn Son, Frank Ello, Lia Gogoladze, Dacia Snider, CPL Michael Delcher, Joann Kolator, Irene Tobin, Olga Mitko, Sandy DiLeo, Pani Eleanor Herbert, Michele Camisa, Abigail Billy, Joseph Santalla, Sussi Howard, Amanda Orender, Helen Deliman, Melanie McHenry, Peggy Patrick, Lillian Kalog, Maryann Della Serra, Victoria Dean, Stephen Skasko, George Kratsashvili, John Paul Hall, Veronica Houser, Joshua Skoog, CPL Logan Grguric, PO Daniel Langner, Smn. Daniel Birthisel, the unborn children of this world and for more vocations to the Holy Priesthood.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SIGN-UP SHEET for HOUSE BLESSINGS** is in the vestibule. Fr. Michael will call to schedule a day/time in advance. Let us ask the blessings of God upon our homes and family once again!

### ST. JOHN'S SOCIAL CLUB
### VALENTINE'S DINNER

Thursday, February 10 @ 6:30PM

Raritan Yacht Club

Contact Kim Kuzma to Sign up: 732-501-3124

## EMERGENCY CONTACT

Please remember, if you are admitted to the hospital in an emergency or for any reason, or are undergoing surgery, please notify Fr. Michael so he can make arrangements to visit and pray with you ASAP. He may be reached on his cell phone, at any hour of the day by calling (**201) 486-2123**. If he cannot be reached: **Fr. Andrew Fetchina (732) 382-8844** or **Fr. Ken Ellis.**

## WELCOME VISITORS

We are happy that you have joined us today. Please join us in the church hall (behind the church) for coffee and a bite to eat. You have just experienced the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom which is the ordinary service of worship celebrated on regular Sunday's in the Orthodox Church. The Liturgy—as experienced at St. john's Church—stems from the 4th century though its practices were inherited from the time of the apostles in the book of Acts. (Acts 1:14) It also represents a time when all Christians worshipped in One Undivided fully Catholic Christian Church. if you have any questions in regards to our worship or the Orthodox Church in general please see Fr. Michael and he will gladly answer any of your questions to the best of his ability. He looks forward to meeting you.

At our best we are known for our welcoming attitude, hospitality, prayerfulness, generosity and compassion. At our worst, we are sinners, but we're working out our salvation together, and could use your help. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider making St. John's Church that place.

## PANACHIDA REQUESTS

Please be reminded to submit requests for all Panachidas to Fr. Michael in writing so there is no confusion. Multiple requests on the same day will be combined, with the exception of 40th day and 1 year anniversaries which take precedence.

**PAYPAL QR DONATION CODE**

Just scan with your phone and follow the prompts. Thank you!

After Speaking to His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory, we will observe our 125th Anniversary with the following schedule:

**Friday, September 09, 2022:** Vespers of the Beheading of St. John followed by a small fellowship reception in our parish hall.

**Saturday, September 10, 2022:** Hierarchical Divine Liturgy of Celebration with Deanery Priests and visiting clergy and guests. A Grand Banquet Luncheon will follow the Divine Liturgy. Information is forthcoming.

*Please mark down these important dates on your calendars and plan on attending and supporting our parish on this grand milestone. There is much to give thanks for … together. Family and friends will also be invited to attend - come one, come all! It's sure to be a wonderful event not to be missed.*

**The 2022 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will take place Sunday, February 06 following Divine Services. We need Your Support of our Parish as we enter our 125th Year of existence. Reports and Agendas are available in the vestibule. **The agenda is printed below.** *We are still in search of parishioners wanting to serve on the parish council. If you would like to be considered, please see Steve Wythe or F.r Michael.*

### ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

| | |
|---|---|
| Call to Order | *Steve Wythe, President* |
| Opening Prayer | *Fr. Michael* |
| Pledge of Allegiance | |
| Approval of Minutes 6/6/21 | |
| Development of Liberty Building | *Francis O'Toole, MA* |
| Financial Report | *Kim Kuzma* |
| Investment Reports | *Kim Kuzma* |
| Auditors' Report | *Sharon Sarno* |
| Stewardship Report | *Sharon Sarno* |
| President's Comments | *Steve Wythe* |
| Pastor's Report | *Fr. Michael* |
| Property Reports | *Steve Wythe & Trustees* |
| Soup Kitchen Report | *Judi Petersen* |
| Old Business<br>Iconography Restoration<br>Carpeting Project | |
| New Business<br>Pulpit<br>125th Anniversary<br>2022 SOBOR Delegates | |
| Election of Officers | *Fr. Michael* |
| Motion to Adjourn | |
| Closing Prayer | *Fr. Michael* |

# BAD HABITS AND THEIR CURE

A. Examine the bad habits and proclivities you've accumulated over the course of your life. If they're long-standing, they'll need more effort if you're to defeat them; less if they're more recent. Just as it takes greater effort to cut down and uproot an ancient, sturdy tree than it does a sapling.

B. Examine the cures you need to apply for these bad habits and proclivities. The first of these is that you have to want to rectify your condition, not half-heartedly, but decisively. Because bodily ailments can be remedied without any effort of will, but those of the soul can't be cured so easily. That's because they require a firm intention on the part of the person suffering if they're to be cured. And the proper means and tools have to be employed for the cure to be effective. These means and tools are the two which the Lord revealed to us when he freed the man who'd been possessed from childhood: 'This kind cannot be driven out except by prayer and fasting' (*Mark* 9, 29).

C. So examine yourself as regards how you make your prayer. Because you can't pray with a heart that's wandering about all over the place and with a mind that's distracted. You have to turn to God and pray with as much humility, contrition of heart, attentiveness of mind and such great fortitude and patience as you would if you were in a tempest at sea and had no hope of survival except help from God. Because God doesn't refuse anything to such contrite and humble prayer. He gives whatever's necessary for salvation, because he himself said: 'Ask and it will be given, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened. For everyone who asks, receives; and everyone who seeks, finds' (*Matth*. 7, 7-8). He also gave the example of the widow and the hard hearted judge, to teach us to pray at length and not complain when we don't receive an immediate answer to our requests. He told this parable so that people would continue to pray and not lose heart. Since it's impossible that God should go back on his word and prove to be untrustworthy, so it's impossible that you won't be heard at the right time, if you continue to pray without ceasing and entreat him in the manner we've described. Apart from this, you have to ask the help of the Most-Holy Virgin, the mother of God and of all Christians, to intercede for grace and for whatever it is you're asking. Because if the Son is our father and brother and also the Spirit, it follows that she is our sweetest grandmother and mother, who's been given to us as a help and advocate precisely for this reason: to intercede with her Son on our behalf, as the Mother of mercy. And if Sirach can say of Eve that 'sin started from a woman and because of her we shall all die' (*Wis*. 25, 24), we, with greater justification can say about Our Lady, the Mother of God, that our salvation started from a woman and because of her we're all given new life. And so, in every instance and need, we can turn to her in all confidence. And finally, in order to make your prayer more active and to receive what you're asking from God, you should prepare through confession and Holy Communion, because these two sacraments are like the conduits through which all blessings from Christ come to us.

D. Then, examine yourself as regards your fasting- and when I say fasting I mean every kind of restraint and abstinence from food and drink, clothing, and material conveniences, as well as bodily comforts. Deprivation of these is either because of a penance and chastisement for previous sins or as a prevention and forestalling of future ones. Because if you give all sorts of pleasures and enjoyments to your body, if you want soft mattresses on your bed and a variety of food on your table; and if you want to attend all manner of entertainments and gatherings of your friends and waste your time on these things at the first excuse; and if, to be brief, you choose to indulge your passions and not avoid any of the dangers which the saints so assiduously evaded; if, I say, this is what you want, how will it be possible for you to root out the passions and bad habits you've fallen into? Saint Isaac says: 'When will the root of a tree wither if it's watered every day? Or when will a vessel be empty if it receives liquid every day?'. So if you give your body all the creature comforts, on what basis do you suppose you're going to straighten yourself out?

**st. nicodemus the hagiorite**