

# The Forerunner

**St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church** 301 Struthers Liberty Rd Campbell, OH 44405 OCA - Diocese of the Midwest



## OCTOBER BULLETIN SPONSOR

Sue Kennedy in memory of Robert on the occasion of their Anniversary

## Weekly Liturgical & Events Schedule TWO WEEK EDITION

#### Sunday, October 1

9:35 am: Hours 10:00 am: Divine Liturgy / Panachida for Laurissa Rusnak / Social by Rusnak Family Fr. Andrew will be in Chicago for the Diocesan Assembly until Wednesday night

Saturday, October 7 4:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Great Vespers / Confession

Sunday, October 8 9:35 am: Hours 10:00 am: Divine Liturgy / Social by Council / Festival Meeting

Monday, October 9 6:00 pm: Orthodoxy 101 Class

Wednesday, October 11 6:00 pm: Fr. Andrew at Fire Station for meeting

**Thursday, October 12** 11:00 am: Book Club

Saturday, October 14 1:00 pm: Bible Study 3:00 pm: Great Vespers 5:00 pm: Annual Advent Social

#### Sunday, October 15 9:35 am: Hours 10:00 am: Divine Liturgy / Monthly Panachida / Social by sisterhood / Fr. Andrew will be in Chicago for National Clergy Retreat until Saturday afternoon

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH \$1000

7th Annual Dinner & Raffle Benefit

Saturday, October 14, 2023

Located at St. Michael's Byzantine Church Hall 463 Robinson Rd. • Campbell, Ohio



### Advent Gift Card Tree

Donations of scratch-offs or gift cards for the Advent Social's Christmas Tree are being sought.

If you would like to donate, please bring to Barb Kolesar or Cindy Ferrick.

### 40 Day Remembrance

October 8 – Karen Muzyka October 15 - Bruce

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

padrebartek@gmail.com

#### PLEASE KEEP OUR SHUT-INS IN YOUR PRAYERS

Send a "Thinking of You" card or remember their Birthday with a card. If anyone needs to be added, please contact Fr. Andrew.

#### Seminarians Pray Akathist to the Tikhvin Icon

Seminarians from St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary gathered for prayer and fellowship this month. Deacon John York hosted his fellow seminarians and their families from the diocese for a cook out. During this time, the seminarians were able to pray the akathist to the Tikhvin Icon of the Mother of God.

During the DOM Seminarian Summer Retreat, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest requested that the seminarians come together to pray to the diocesan icon of the Mother of God as a way of building their bond with one another and diocese through prayer.

September is also "Support Our Seminarians" month in the diocese. In an effort to build awareness of our seminarians' needs, SOS flyers are available for downloading and distribution in all parishes during the month of September. All donations from parishes as well as individuals — culminating in "SOS Sunday" on September 24 — will be distributed directly to the seminarians to offset the cost of their educational and living expenses.

Regardless of how a parish chooses to raise SOS funds, the result will help ensure that our seminarians and their families will find some measure of "relief" from increasing living and educational expenses.

Individuals are encouraged to donate through their parishes, by mailing a check to the diocese, or online.

#### SIGN-UP / VOLUNTEERS FOR SOCIALS

It has been customary that the "O" Club, Sisterhood, & council sponsor the coffee socials.

We are asking for individuals or families to please sponsor a social on a rotating basis. With enough volunteers, the rotation of sponsors could be once a quarter. Even though the above groups take a particular Sunday, getting a break would be nice.

Bagels, donuts and coffee is perfectly fine. A simple meal is perfectly fine.

Please see Fr. Andrew so he can put you on a schedule.

As of right now on any given month: First Sunday "O" Club Second Sunday Council Third Sunday Sisterhood Fourth Sunday Open Fifth Sunday Open (when applicable)

#### PRAYER LIST– Updated 9-27-23

**PARISHIONERS:** Achiles Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / Ĝeorge Horodnic / Irene Horodnic / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / Paula Kennedy / George Kolesar / Barbara Kolesar / Mary Jane Puskas / Kenny Ruff / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko / Marion Zwinski / Mary and her unborn child

FAMILY & FRIENDS: Archbishop Benjamin / Bishop Matthias / Fr. James Gleason (Fr.) / sub-deacon Wylie Meath (Fr) / Bret (Zelinsky) / Dominic (Centofanti) / Ellen (Clark) / Katie (Garrity) / Basil Glovinsky (Fr.) / Ellen (Kessler) / Eleanor Marie (Kidder) / Paul (Kolesar) / Kathy (Kolesar) / Malakai (Kolesar) / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Andrew LaChard (Jesko) / Mea (Mahan) / Mary (Mahan) / Pauline Meath (Fr.) / Matushka Raissa (Nicoloff) / Eugene (Pallai) / Ksenia and her unborn child (Petrochko) / Matushka Helen (Psinka) / Chris Quotap (Fr.) / Kristianna & infant Mary Louise (Robinson) / William Romanchak (Fr.) / Roxanne (Yannitto) / Julia (Shirilla) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Johanna (Tusinac) / Richard (Tusinac) / Brian (Shirilla) / Joseph (Vansuch) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Paula (Voytilla) / Mary Ann Bozichovich (Kennedy) / Patty Bozichovich (Vansuch) / Sarah and her newborn Zoe / Drew (Willison) / Emilia Yannitto / Zoland Zile, (Fr.)

MILITARY FAMILY & FRIENDS: Cory Deaton (Fr.) / Alena Grabavoy (Fr.) / Liam Garrity (Zelinsky)

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Diocese of Aleppo) & Archbishop John (Archdiocese of Aleppo) still being held captive / The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers around the world / Those suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and around the world.

## OCF College Conference 2023 "Walk in the Light"

WHEN: December 27-30

WHERE: COLLEGE CONFERENCE MIDWEST ST. IAKOVOS RETREAT CENTER KANSAS-VILLE, WI

Do you ever feel your faith is overshadowed by darkness? Or the world is so distracting that it obscures the Light of Christ? What will you choose? To embrace Christ? Or dwell in the darkness?

OCF invites you to face these decisions in the upcoming academic year, as we strive together to Walk in the Light.

"Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God"

(John 3:20-21)

So where are you going to start? This is your invitation to flourish spiritually, intellectually, and personally. Come, walk in the Light of Christ this December at College Conference.

Registration is open now, through December 1st.

#### SPEAKERS:

Fr. Seraphim Ramos- Bearing with One Another: Canceling Cancel Culture

Abbess Aemiliane- Longsuffering: The Cross of Love

Fr. Justin Patterson- Lowliness & Gentleness: A Gateway to Authenticity

Steven Christoforou- Unity of the Spirit: Living as One Body

More info about event on the National OCA Website. You can also register there.

#### Luke 6:31-36 (Gospel)

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

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#### **October Candle & Bulletin Sponsors**

**Bulletin**: In memory of Robert on the occasion of our 68th anniversary- Given by Sue Kennedy

**Wine:** In memory of Laurissa Rusnak – Given by Sub-deacon Vladimir

Incense: In memory of Laurissa Rusnak – Given by Sub-deacon Vladimir

**Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light**: In memory of George and Mary Vasile and George Vasile – Given by James & Elaine Johnston

Altar Candles: In memory of Andrew & Anna Cvercko - Given by Anne Cvercko / In honor of Monica Vansuch on the occasion of her birthday – Given by Reader Nick Vansuch

**Tetrapod Candles**: In memory of my father Frank Flaherty – Given by Layne Demkosky

#### St. Herman Candles: Taken

**St. Panteleimon Icon Candles**: In honor of Karen Debiec on the occasion of her 63rd birthday – Given by Sue Kennedy

**Protection Icon Candles**: In memory of my mom Helen Flaherty – Given by Layne Demkosky

#### St. John the Baptist Candles: AVAILABLE

**Incense**: In Memory of Laurissa Rusnak – Given by Sub-deacon Vladimir

**Flowers:** For health of all members of the Altar Society; In memory of the ladies from the Altar Society – Given by Ladies Altar Society

<u>\$50 per month</u>	<u>\$30 per month</u>	<u>\$25 per month</u>
Wine	St. Herman candles	Incense
Bulletin	St. Panteleimon Icon	
Iconostasis Candles	candles	<u>Flowers -</u> \$75
& Eternal Light	Protection Icon can-	
Altar Candles	dles	
Tetrapod Candles	St. John the Baptist	
	candles	

## The Protection of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary

Commemorated on October 1

This miraculous appearance of the Mother of God occurred in the mid-tenth century in Constantinople, in the Blachernae church where her robe, veil, and part of her belt were preserved after being transferred from Palestine in the fifth century.

On Sunday, October 1, during the All Night Vigil, when the church was overflowing with those at prayer, the Fool-for-Christ Saint Andrew (October 2), at the fourth hour, lifted up his eyes towards the heavens and beheld our most Holy Lady Theotokos coming through the air, resplendent with heavenly light and surrounded by an assembly of the Saints. Saint John the Baptist and the holy Apostle John the Theologian accompanied the Queen of Heaven. On bended knees the Most Holy Virgin tearfully prayed for Christians for a long time. Then, coming near the Bishop's Throne, she continued her prayer.

After completing her prayer she took her veil and spread it over the people praying in church, protecting them from enemies both visible and invisible. The Most Holy Lady Theotokos was resplendent with heavenly glory, and the protecting veil in her hands gleamed "more than the rays of the sun." Saint Andrew gazed trembling at the miraculous vision and he asked his disciple, the blessed Epiphanius standing beside him, "Do you see, brother, the Holy Theotokos, praying for all the world?" Epiphanius answered, "I do see, holy Father, and I am in awe."

The Ever-Blessed Mother of God implored the Lord Jesus Christ to accept the prayers of all the people calling on His Most Holy Name, and to respond speedily to her intercession, "O Heavenly King, accept all those who pray to You and call on my name for help. Do not let them go away from my icon unheard."

Saints Andrew and Epiphanius were worthy to see the Mother of God at prayer, and "for a long time observed the Protecting Veil spread over the people and shining with flashes of glory. As long as the Most Holy Theotokos was there, the Protecting Veil was also visible, but with her departure it also became invisible. After taking it with her, she left behind the grace of her visitation."

At the Blachernae church, the memory of the miraculous appearance of the Mother of God was remembered. In the fourteenth century, the Russian pilgrim and clerk Alexander, saw in the church an icon of the Most Holy Theotokos praying for the world, depicting Saint Andrew in contemplation of her. **Con't Pg 8** 

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

#### **REPOSED LIST FOR OCTOBER**

Michael Kropenoh (1987) © Louis Boldish (1960) 2- His Grace Bishop Antoun (2017) 2- Mary Evanoff (1970) © 2- George Graban (2004) © 2- Anna Kristian (1932) © 3- Mary Libertin (1986) © 3- George Kalas (1994) © 3- Mary Novak (1994) © 4- Louis Boldish (1960) © 4- Michael Tevonyoh (1987) © 4- John Hanuscin (1920) © 6- Helen Korechko (2021) © 6- Kaliope Ellinos (1941) © 8- Still Born Rosko (1923) © Twins 8- Still Born Rosko (1923) © Twins 8- Matthew Shirilla (1939) © 9- Barbara Matzye (1971) © 9- Walter Wilfong (2012) © 11- Helen Zelina (1982) © 11- Paul Zeleniuk (1924) © 11- Olga Roman (1926) © 12- Eli Tsvetanoff (1953) © 13- Mary Basala (2006) 13- John Kristian (1994) © 13- Mary Vodilko (1998) © 13- N. Musolin (1923) © 14- John Livosky (1985) © 14- Larry Sozur (1998) © 14- Joseph Jackubek (2022) © 14- Mary Papac (1928) © 14- Veronica Kristian (1936) © 14- Anna Ivancho (1939) © 14- Anna Midlik (1943) © 14- Dan Vansuch (1965) © 14- Margaret Zappia (2006) © 15- Helen Feltovich (1919) © 15- Dorothy Kirtos (1994) © 15- Peter Nickoloff (1970) © 15- Anna Simko (1929) ©

15- George Petro (1959) ©

16- Frank Flaherty (1999) 16- Ronald Tucci (2013) © 16- Nicholas Hamamzis (1959) © 17- Mary Kalas (1939) © 17- Nicholas Ellinos (1953) © 17- Mary Milner (1967) © 17- Sophie Sobey (2002) © 18- Joseph Sirilla ((2012) © 18- Helen Macala (1958) © 19- Christopher John White (1973) © 19- Rochelle McIntire (1993) © 19- Archpriest Sergei Garklavs (2015) 19- Gori Pietropolo (2017) 19- His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius (2020)19- Mary Holovatiuk (1933) © 20- Helen Lebo (1988) © 20- Mary Ann Dunchak Volk (2018) © 20- Magdalene Carantonis (1940) © 21- Regina Lomme (2021) 21- Helen Bura (2006) © 21- Andy Cvercko (1960) © 22- Thelma Jean Cialella (2021) © 22- Helen Gerakios (1924) © 22- John Patzakes (1945) © 24- Arnold Bickley (1977) © 24- Infant Lyras (1950) © 24- Martha Voytilla (1960) © 24- John Matzye (1964) © 24- Mike Despatorich (1965) © 25- Serge Mihaly Jr (2019) 25- John Rosko (1920) © 25- Victor Zelina (1963) © 26- Emil Gozur (2006) © 26- Irene Gozur (2006) © 27- Eva Zurau (1982) © 27- Richard Guerrieri (2005) © 28- Kathryn Puharich (2005) © 28- Christallou Demetrios (1942) © 28- Steve Koties (1953) © 30- Joseph Malchisky (1993) 30- Harold Zastany (2017) © 31- Margaret Basala (2002)

31- Still born Zlatkoff (1937) ©

#### **Birthdays**

1-Trudy Ellmore 2-Tina Litzie, Reader Nataniel Willison 3–Ethan Chendorain, Alicia Calzone 5–Maya Kubancsek 6-Michelle Horodnic, Brian Lariccia, Ron Royhab 7-Gabriella Hryb, Sophia Jesko 8– Monica Vansuch 9-Kelly Ann Ferrick **10-Walter Litzie** 12-Granger Matthew Lariccia 13-Colin Felker, Shelia Jesko 14-Fr. Andrew Groom 16-Fr George Lardas, Mary Ruth Mico 17-Tim Glovinsky 18–Nicole Batura 20-Helen Lis (100th) 25–Sam Dardovsky

October Celebrations

#### Anniversaries

1-Joseph & Mary Ruth Mico; AB Irenee of Canada (2009)
2-Fr. Matthew & Pani Eleni Stagon
3-Fr. Matt Stagon (Priestly ordination)
7-Fr. Eli & Mat. Larissa Bremer
9-Sub-deacon Wylie & Pauline Meath, David & Terrie Konik
11-Ron & Charlotte Zenko
14-Michael & Lynn Polewan
19-Archpriest John & Mat. Cynthia Zdinak
31-Paul & Layne Demkosky

#### *Name Day* 9- The Most Blessed His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon

SEPTEMBER Liturgical Attendance				
Day	Vespers	Divine Liturgy	Communi- cants	
Tues. Aug 29		9		
Sunday, Sep 3		81	48	
Sat., Sep 7	6			
Sun., Sep 8		10		
Sat., Sep 9	7			
Sun., Sep 10		70	42	
Wed., Sep 13	10			
Thur., Sep 14		25		
Sat., Sep 23	7			
Sun., Sep 24		60	37	





#### FINAL FINANCIALS FOR SEPTEMBER

Expenses\$15,03 Income\$13,10 TOTAL\$1,92	7.00
Weekly Tithe\$8	.300
Weekly Candles\$	
Wine	100
Incense\$	25
Protection Icon\$	30
Decorated Candles\$	20
Unneeded Gifts\$	25

#### OTHER INCOME:

Deanery Donation	\$154
Seminary Donation	
Garlic Sales to Basil Workers	

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#### DIOCESAN NEWS: "Prayer: Longing for God" Spiritual Retreat in Chicago

#### September 30, 2023 - 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

St. George Cathedral announces an upcoming retreat held by the community at the end of the month, Saturday, September 30, from 9:00am – 4:30pm CDT. The retreat is entitled "Prayer: Longing for God." This is a community-wide retreat led by Holy Cross Monastery and organized by St. George Cathedral and Holy Virgin Protection Cathedral, in conjunction with St. Nikodim Brotherhood.

There is no charge for this spiritual event, however, donations are welcomed and highly appreciated. The Holy Cross Monastery is currently building a new and beautiful church, and donations will be used for that

#### Invitation to Patronal Feast of St. Demetrios Orthodox Church, Warren October 25 and October 26

We are invited to attend the Patronal Feast of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Warren on:

Wednesday, October 25th @ 7:00pm w/ Great Vespers followed by refreshments in the downstairs hall.

Thursday, October 26th- @ 8:00 am Orthos followed by Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 am. There will be light refreshments following.

#### **TEEN FALL FESTIVAL - SATURDAY OCTOBER 7**

#### ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK O. C., WARREN

Tickets- \$10 per person (Comes with dinner & all activities)

TIME: 5:00-8:30 pm

Food / Drinks/ S'mores / Music / Greek Dancing / Games / Activities / Fellowship

RSVP saintdemtriosyouthministries@gmail.com by Wednesday Oct. 4

St. Demetrios Pavilion

3223 Atlantic St. NE, Warren, OH 44483

#### **Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council**

#### **Commemorated on October 8**

Today the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council under the holy Patriarch Tarasius (February 25).

The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI.

The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype (the person depicted). It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18).

In Greek practice, the holy God-bearing Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council are commemorated on October 11 (if it is a Sunday), or on the Sunday which follows October 11. According to the Slavic menaion, however, if the eleventh falls on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, the service is moved to the preceding Sunday.

#### A GENTLE REMINDER

As we are now in the last few months of the year a gentle reminder....

A member in good standing is eligible to speak and vote at the Annual meeting has:

 gone to Holy Confession and received Holy Communion at least (the very bare minimum) 1 time. Frequent participation is extremely encouraged;

2) given (at bare minimum) \$350 for the year.

Please contact Father Andrew to discuss further or with questions/concerns.

Note: All college students are considered members in good standing by meeting the 1st requirement is fulfilled. The second is not a requirement.

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#### Protection con't from Pg 4

The Primary Chronicle of Saint Nestor reflects that the protective intercession of the Mother of God was needed because an attack of a large pagan Russian fleet under the leadership of Askole and Dir. The feast celebrates the divine destruction of the fleet which threatened Constantinople itself, sometime in the years 864-867 or according to the Russian historian Vasiliev, on June 18, 860. Ironically, this Feast is considered more important by the Slavs then by the Greeks.

The Primary Chronicle of Saint Nestor also notes the miraculous deliverance followed an all-night Vigil and the dipping of the garment of the Mother of God into the waters of the sea at the Blachernae church, but does not mention Saints Andrew and Epiphanius and their vision of the Mother of God at prayer. These latter elements, and the beginnings of the celebrating of the Feast of the Protection, seem to postdate Saint Nestor and the Chronicle. A further historical complication might be noted under (October 2) dating Saint Andrew's death to the year 936.

The year of death might not be quite reliable, or the assertion that he survived to a ripe old age after the vision of his youth, or that his vision involved some later pagan Russian raid which met with the same fate. The suggestion that Saint Andrew was a Slav (or a Scythian according to other sources, such as S. V. Bulgakov) is interesting, but not necessarily accurate. The extent of Slavic expansion and repopulation into Greece is the topic of scholarly disputes.

In the Prologue, a Russian book of the twelfth century, a description of the establishment of the special Feast marking this event states, "For when we heard, we realized how wondrous and merciful was the vision... and it transpired that Your holy Protection should not remain without festal celebration, O Ever-Blessed One!"

Therefore, in the festal celebration of the Protection of the Mother of God, the Russian Church sings, "With the choirs of the Angels, O Sovereign Lady, with the venerable and glorious prophets, with the First-Ranked Apostles and with the Hieromartyrs and Hierarchs, pray for us sinners, glorifying the Feast of your Protection in the Russian Land." Moreover, it would seem that Saint Andrew, contemplating the miraculous vision was a Slav, was taken captive, and became the slave of the local inhabitant of Constantinople named Theognostus.

Churches in honor of the Protection of the Mother of God began to appear in Russia in the twelfth century. Widely known for its architectural merit is the temple of the Protection at Nerl, which was built in the year 1165 by holy Prince Andrew Bogoliubsky. The efforts of this holy prince also established in the Russian Church the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God, about the year 1164.

At Novgorod in the twelfth century there was a monastery of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (the so-called Zverin monastery) In Moscow also under Tsar Ivan the Terrible the cathedral of the Protection of the Mother of God was built at the church of the Holy Trinity (known as the church of Saint Basil the Blessed).

On the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven, "Remember us in your prayers, O Lady Virgin Mother of God, that we not perish by the increase of our sins. Protect us from every evil and from grievous woes, for in you do we hope, and venerating the Feast of your Protection, we magnify you."

#### **October Social Schedule**

Sunday, October 1 – Melanie Rusnak Sunday, October 8 – Council Sunday, October 15 – Sisterhood Sunday, October 22 – Altar Society Sunday, October 29– Reader Nick & Monica Vansuch

Thank you for volunteering!

#### DIOCESAN NEWS Saint John's Camp Programs Announces Fall Retreat

Saint John's Camp Programs has announced its retreat, "2023 Emmaus Retreat". The annual, allages, fall retreat – on Saturday, October 14 at Camp Belzer in Indianapolis, IN.

The main speaker of the event will be Diocesan Chancellor, Archpriest Paul Jannakos, who will be expanding upon the theme "Sanity and the Mind of Christ." There will be three speaking sessions, fellowship time, and afternoon recreation. Lunch will be provided as well as child care during the speaking sessions for children 2 thru 12. Camp Belzer is located just outside 465 in Northeast Indianapolis – a beautiful campus with hiking trails and natural beauty.

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