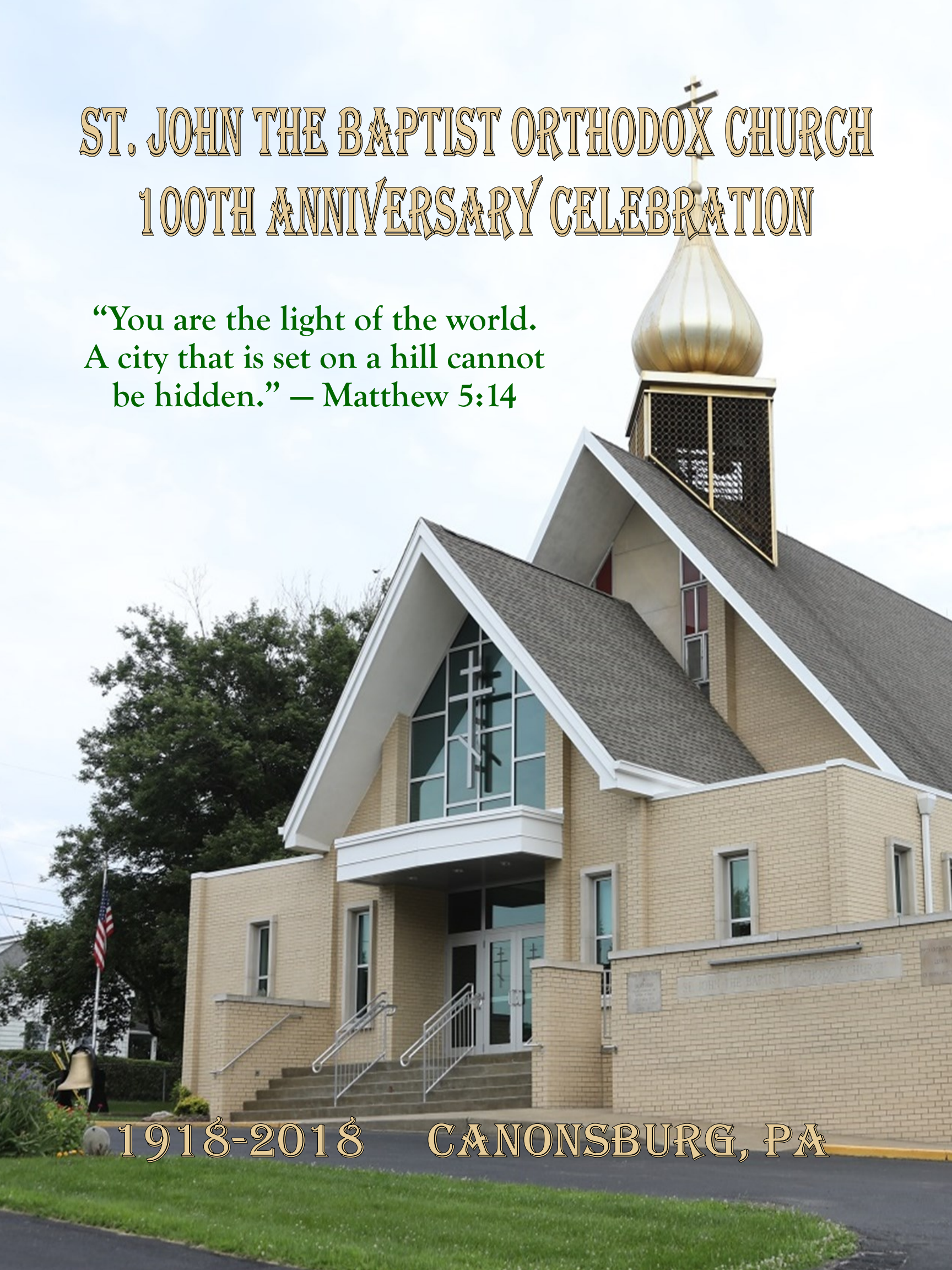
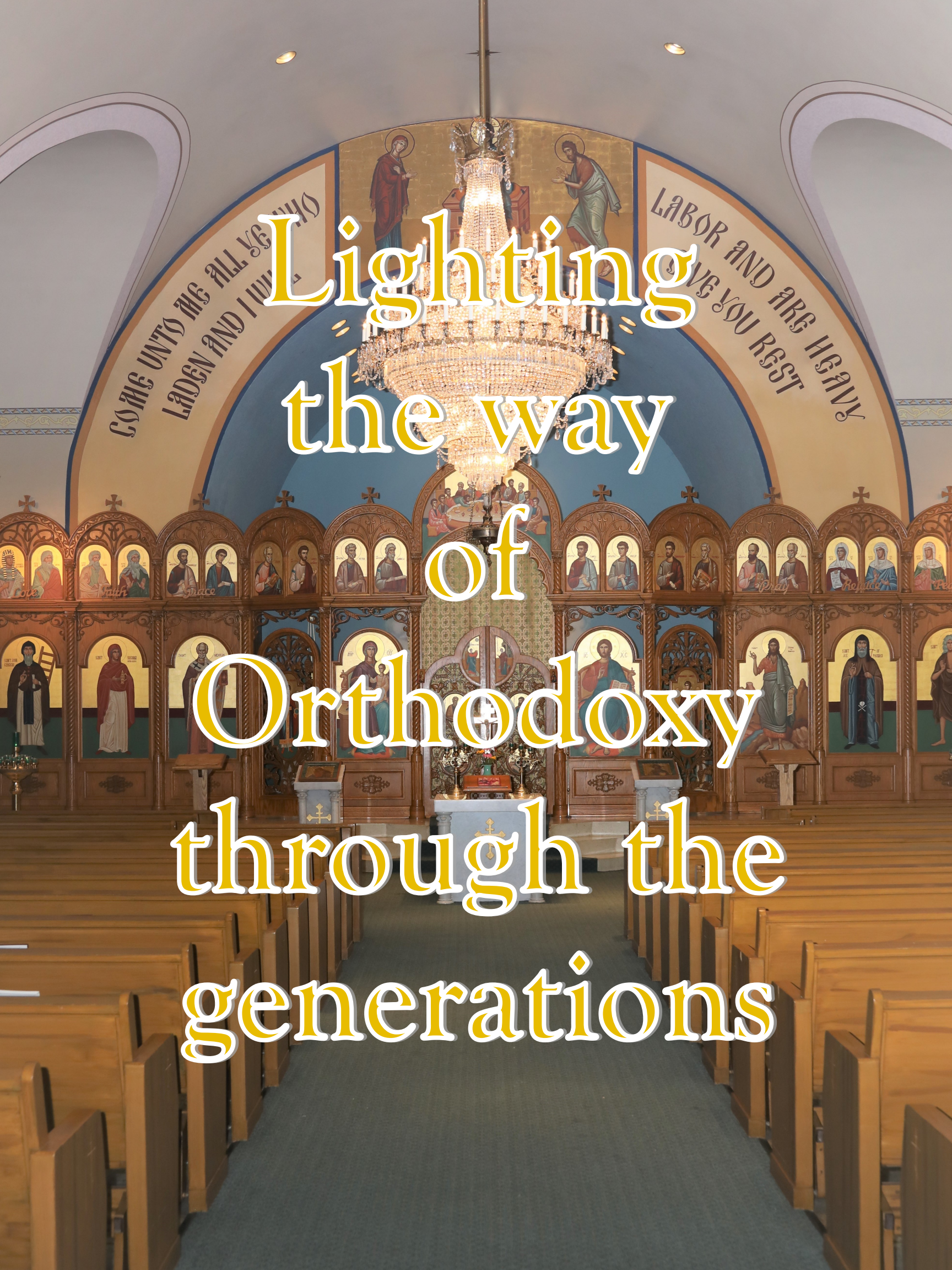


# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

“You are the light of the world.  
A city that is set on a hill cannot  
be hidden.” — Matthew 5:14

1918-2018 CANONSBURG, PA





COME UNTO ME ALL YE WHO  
LABOR AND I WILL  
GIVE YOU REST

LABOR AND ARE HEAVY  
GIVE YOU REST

Lighting  
the way

of

Orthodoxy

through the  
generations



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From 1918 to present  
with much gratitude and appreciation,  
we thank our Organizer and first priest,  
Father Gregory Kobasa,  
our Founding Fathers,  
and the Clergy and Parishioners  
that have brought us to where we are today.  
We cherish those that are still with us, and  
for those that have fallen asleep in the Lord,  
we will keep them forever in our hearts and  
minds with great reverence for the  
foundation of faith they have provided.



100

Through the generations



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY



100

Through the years  
shows



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY

## The Creed

I believe, in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, Begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light, True God of True God, Begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made:

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man;

And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried;

And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures;

And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father;

And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets;

In one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.

I look for the Resurrection of the dead,

And the life of the world to come, Amen.

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# OUR METROPOLITAN

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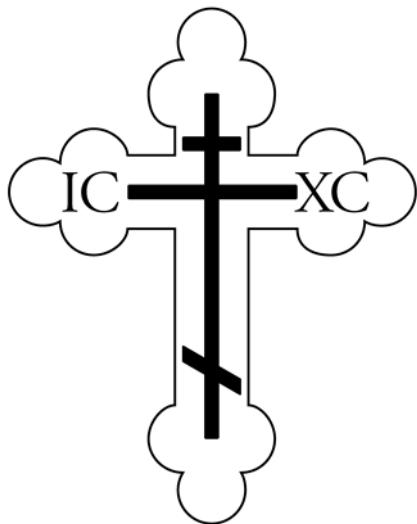
Archbishop of Washington,  
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

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*His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon (Mollard)*

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# OUR BISHOP

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Archbishop of Pittsburgh & Western PA

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*His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek (Pleska)*

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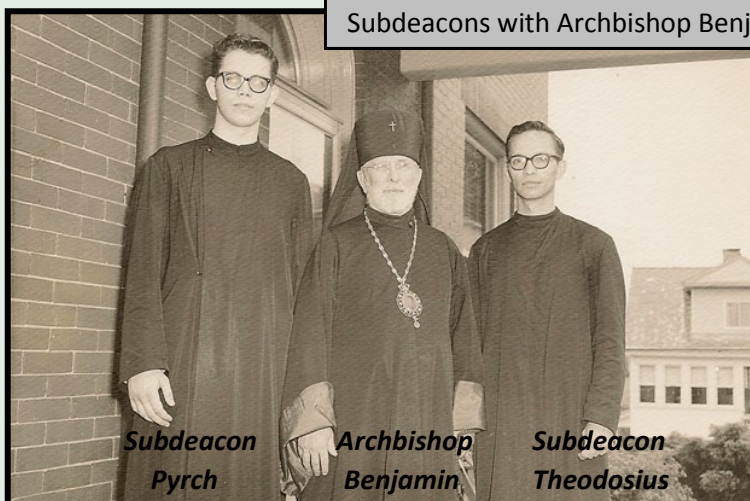
# His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius (Lazor), Retired

His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius (Lazor) was the spiritual leader of the Orthodox Church in America from 1977-2002. He was born in Canonsburg in 1933, attended Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church as a child, received his undergraduate degree from Washington and Jefferson College, and attained a Masters of Divinity degree from Saint Vladimer's Seminary in Crestwood, New York in 1960. In 1961, he took his monastic vows, was ordained as a deacon and priest, and served five years as Rector of Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church in Madison, Illinois, while also being an assistant military chaplain. During 1967, he was elected diocesan Bishop of Sitka and Alaska. During his tenure, he oversaw the rebuilding of St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka-the first Orthodox Church in the New World, headed the Orthodox Church in America in 1970 to accept the Tomos of Autocephaly (the degree of self-governance) from the Russian Orthodox Church, and hosted ceremonies for the canonization of Father Herman, the first saint of the Orthodox Church in America. Bishop Theodosius was



***Metropolitan Theodosius pictured at his home parish in Canonsburg, Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church***

transferred to the Pittsburgh Diocese in 1972, where he instituted a diaconal training program. On October 25, 1977, he was elected Metropolitan of All America and Canada at the fifth All-American Council in Montreal and assumed leadership of one of the 15 self-governing bodies of the worldwide communion of Orthodox Churches. In 1981, the Holy Synod of Bishops established a new diocese, the seat of the American Primate, and Metropolitan Theodosius served as Archbishop of the Washington, DC diocese. Metropolitan Theodosius met with church leaders including Pope John Paul I, Pope John Paul II, Orthodox Church Patriarchs, Coptic and American Church officials, and American Roman Catholic and Protestant leaders. He was the first Orthodox Church leader to be invited by the newly enthroned Patriarch Aleksy II of Moscow and also participated in the 600th anniversary of the repose of Saint Sergius of Radonezh in 1992. Metropolitan Theodosius was also a frequent guest at the White House and conferred with Presidents Bush and Clinton for advice on religious and political affairs in Russia and the former Yugoslavia. He also received honorary doctorates from Georgetown University in 1988, St. Vladimir Seminary in 1986, and Washington and Jefferson College in 1973. After his retirement on July 21, 2002, His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius (Lazor) returned to the Canonsburg area, where he currently attends and celebrates Sunday Eucharist at his home parish, Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church.



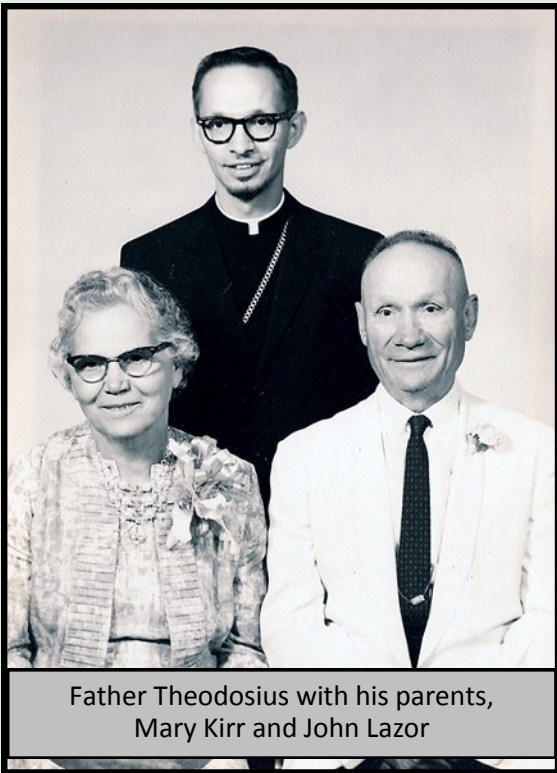
**Subdeacons with Archbishop Benjamin**

***Subdeacon Pyrch***

***Archbishop Benjamin***

***Subdeacon Theodosius***





Father Theodosius with his parents, Mary Kirr and John Lazor

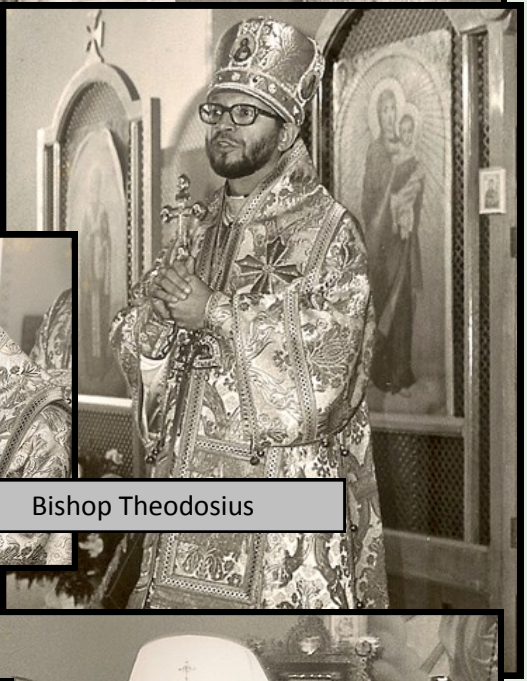
Laying of the cornerstone at his first parish as priest in Madison, IL



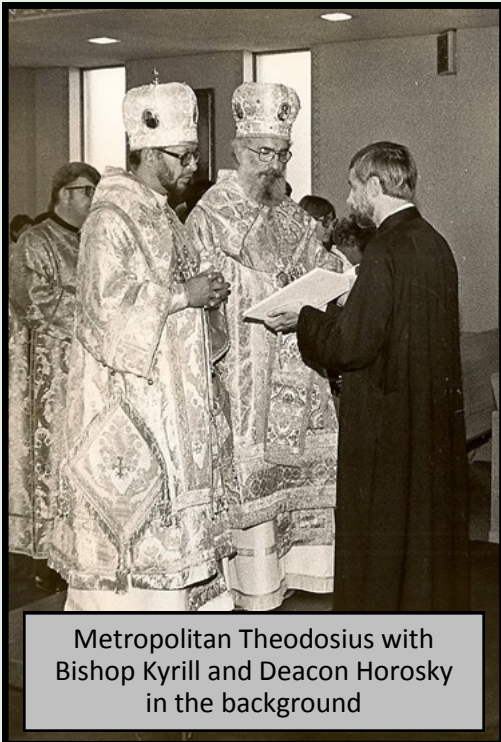
Archbishop John of Chicago

Father Pyrch

Father Theodosius



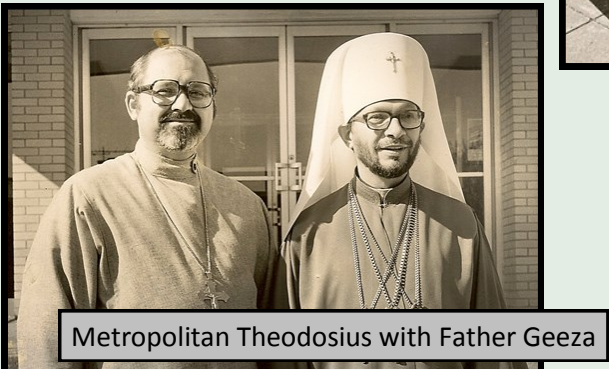
Bishop Theodosius



Metropolitan Theodosius with Bishop Kyrill and Deacon Horosky in the background



First visit to Canonsburg as Metropolitan Theodosius



Metropolitan Theodosius with Father Geeza

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# OUR CLERGY

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St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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*Archpriest Joseph Oleynik, Rector; Deacon Theodosius Onest; Metropolitan Theodosius (Lazor), retired;  
Protodeacon John Oleynik; Subdeacon Thomas Havrilak; Reader Michael Povich (not pictured)*



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*Messages and  
Letters of Greeting on the  
Centennial Anniversary of  
St. John the Baptist  
Orthodox Church*

Metropolitan Tikhon, Primate



10.7.2018  
10/012

Archpriest Joseph Oleynik  
Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church  
601 Boone Avenue  
Canonsburg, PA. 15317

Dear Archpriest Joseph and Faithful Parishioners of Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church,

It is with joy and thanksgiving to Almighty God that I greet you on the most glorious occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church. May the Lord bless our celebration to the glory of His name.

Today we celebrate one-hundred years of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior being proclaimed here in Canonsburg. Firmly guided by our Lord, Jesus Christ, the community of Orthodox Christians in and around Canonsburg grew and flourished due in great part to excellent Pastoral and lay leadership. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit today we are joined in our celebrations with the thousands of souls who have been baptized, married, ordained, chrismated, and buried from this holy church. We are also joined by the prayers of the former pastors and lay-leaders of Saint John's. While too numerous to name, those former pastors and laity must be remembered as those who kept the light of Orthodoxy burning bright in this portion of our Lord's vineyard.

We give thanks to our Lord for the most venerable men, women, and children, the parishioners of Saint John's who have become stewards of the great history and tradition of this church. Much has changed in the neighborhood of Saint John's over the past one-hundred years, but the community of Saint John's and its mission has been a constant. Just as the founders of this community endeavored to make it a home for all, your challenge today is to make this beautiful and magnificent parish the spiritual heart of this neighborhood, and a home for all who seek the love and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

There is much for us to be justifiably proud of at Saint John's, but most importantly we should feel honored to be part of the legacy of the founders and benefactors of this holy community. So let us look back with thanksgiving; let us look forward with humility and hope; and let us have joy today.

Invoking God's Blessing upon you, and with every good wish, I remain

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tikhon".

+TIKHON  
Archbishop of Washington  
Metropolitan of All American and Canada

P.O. Box 675 Syosset, New York, 11791  
516-922-0550 - [metropolitan@oca.org](mailto:metropolitan@oca.org) - [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY



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**PASTORAL MESSAGE ON THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY  
OF  
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH  
CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

**OCTOBER 2018**

We live forward but our understanding of life looks backwards. Every parish has a story about where they came from and how they got where they are.

The story we here in Canonsburg tell begins with those pilgrims who left their homes to settle in this corner of the world. We speak about our founding fathers and mothers. With them, they brought their dreams and their hopes for a better life. But with them they brought something infinitely more important. They brought Orthodoxy.

They brought the most precious gift they could imagine: the gift of knowing the living God in an Orthodox manner. Unbeknown to them, they were God-sent Orthodox missionaries to Canonsburg.

Their hopeful vision and determined zeal helped make this a God-favored community, exceptional in local history, blessed with grace, and committed to sharing the Lord's blessings with friends and neighbors.

Our history has not been pure nor serene. Our journey has been filled with the joy of sharing the life from above and the sin of not living out our deepest values. But always this vision of the human person has guided us to repentance and amendment.

My children and my friends, I know that some of you feel that we have neglected the realization of who we are. We have faced, and will continue to face, different kinds of questions. But the biggest challenges ahead of us do not concern anything which we can hold in our hands. Our biggest struggle will be a challenge of identity. We must daily hold fast to the threads of our Orthodox faith which continually remind us of who we are, lest we forget who we are as a people or what our eternal purpose is.

We are the inheritance of the Lord who became human to allow us to share in his divine life. We are his and he is ours.

Dear children, dear friends, this is our calling at this hour of our history: to tell a new story for an ever changing and new community. We need a narrative that will define us as one people with a common purpose; a new story which will help us to see beyond our narrow selves and the mentality of “just another” church.

We need to talk about holiness and heroism. Our parish has always been alive in her saints—and we have had, and still have, so many! Dreamers who take risks, missionaries who reach out, martyrs who sacrifice, pilgrims who come to our doors searching for a home and an order to the chaos in their lives which only God can provide. They come to share their gifts and to make this parish what she was meant to be: a light set upon a hill.

We are called to be the Church!

There are saints in every family and every neighborhood. You know them. They are the hidden saints, saints of the everyday—holy wives and holy husbands, working hard to do what is right, sacrificing for their children, being good friends and good neighbors, serving the poor and working to make their lives stronger. They are some of the people who helped to build the Orthodox Church in America. Let us hold these people up as examples. Let us try to be like them in our own lives.

Our founders knew this truth. They knew that we belong to a story that began long before us: the story of our Creator. They knew that we are born with a dignity and a destiny that can never be denied, no matter who we are, or where we came from, or how we got here.

One parish saint, who means a great deal to me, came to this parish scores ago and now is enjoying the fruit of finishing his life victorious, a servant and wise teacher who once said “We are here for the glory of God.”

My children and friends, this is the meaning of our lives. This is the meaning of our anniversary.

The continuing story of Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church is a story we are writing with our lives. Dear ones, my prayer for us is that we will continue to write a story that is filled with goodness, love, and service, with prayer and thanksgiving for simple gifts. I pray that we will always seek to know what is right, and have the courage to do it.

The story is not over yet. We can still rely on the protection of divine providence. We can still open our door with confidence to people who are yearning to live. We can strive forward, with love toward all and ill will for no one. We are here for the glory of God.

Although the next centennial anniversary seems far away, it begins right now.

Watch!

Love!

Father Joseph

*Father Joseph*



## Glory to God in the Highest

We give glory to God in the highest for He has truly blessed us. We have been blessed with the ability to faithfully serve Him and the Orthodox Church in America for 100 years. Let us pray that we continue to receive His blessings and preserve the Orthodox faith for many generations.

Our forefathers worked faithfully and devoted their lives to Christ to enable us to worship in St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church. It started first on Vine St. in downtown Canonsburg back in 1918. We then moved to Boone Avenue in 1963 and continue till the present. We have seen many changes over these past 100 years, but we have also remained steadfast in our beliefs, traditions and mostly our faith. It was these faithful members which gave us the strength to build the church that we now have.

Through the work of the entire church family, we have a vibrant and growing parish. I would like to acknowledge those groups and individuals that continue to faithfully serve and have been so vital in the success of the church. Our forefathers, Parish Council and Board of Trustees, our angelic choir (directed by Matushka Annice Oleynik), the Ladies Altar Society, Men's Club, Sr. FO-CA and Jr. FOCA Chapters, Sunday School teachers and students, the Altar Servers, acolytes and those that serve in the sanctuary, the coffee hour organizer (Mrs. Anita Prince) and all those that sponsor coffee hours, those that bake the Prospora and Pascha, those who assist with the special projects, the candle room and accounting personnel, those who clean and maintain the church and its grounds, and to all the past and present Readers, Subdeacons, Deacons, His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius, our past clergy and especially Father Joseph Oleynik, the Shepherd of this flock. They have all been inspirational and devoted in faith.

My hope is that we continue to reflect on our past so that we may boldly move forward in faith. I believe that our Orthodox faith will be tested in today's society as was our forefathers' in their time. I believe that we can overcome any difficulties if we have faith in God. May we continue with our faith for another hundred years!

With Love in Christ,



Kiprian S. Yarosh  
Parish Warden







Office of the Mayor  
Borough of Canonsburg



# CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

*Presented to*  
**St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church**  
**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*Whereas:* St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church was founded in the Borough of Canonsburg in 1918; and

*Whereas:* we recognize these founders: Daniel Kotyk, Michael, John and Anna Lazorchak, Alexis Sevak, John and Luke Matyuf, Andrew Blyshak, Sam Ridosh, Peter Hoblak, Gregory Pszyk, John Lazor, Dimitri Moskal, Mike Kuzemka and George Anthony; and

*Whereas:* there have been several leaders over the years. Father Gregory Kobasa was the initial organizer and first priest. Under his leadership the church flourished and ultimately outgrew its first location on Vine Street; later moving to the new location on Boone Avenue in 1964; and

*Whereas:* in the time period to follow, the church was under the ecclesiastical leadership of Metropolitan Theodosius (Lazor), who was born and raised in Canonsburg; and

*Whereas:* the current leader, presiding over the 160- member congregation, is Father Joseph Oleynik. Together they have served many others in the Canonsburg area and have made many people aware of the Russian Orthodox religion and culture; and

*Now, therefore:* On behalf of the citizens of the Borough of Canonsburg, we honor and congratulate St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church and all of its members on the occasion of the church's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We commend the church for playing a vital role within our community, enriching the spiritual lives of many of our citizens, both young and old.



SIGNED: Alexander Coghill  
DATE: October 7, 2018

*In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed.*

MAYOR: David R. Rhome



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## ANNIVERSARY GREETING OF ARCHPRIEST PAUL LAZOR

*As a special blessing on our Centennial Anniversary, it gives us great pleasure and honor to share with you this greeting of Archpriest Paul Lazor, scion of our parish and retired Dean of Students of Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary.*

*Please enjoy reading it while blessing God that He is still wonderful and is still glorifying His Name even among us.*



*Fr. Paul reading the Ambo Prayer at the conclusion of the first Divine Liturgy which he served in our parish*

## — CONGRATULATIONS —

To Father Joseph & Matushka Annice Oleynik,  
To the Founders and Benefactors, and to All the Current Members

on the occasion of the  
**100th ANNIVERSARY OF OUR ORTHODOX PARISH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
in  
**CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**



*With gratitude, love and prayer,  
Father Paul and Natasha Lazor  
(parish son and wife)*

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH—CANONSBURG, PA

### 100TH—YEAR PARISH ANNIVERSARY

#### GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

Congratulations to *all* the members of the Orthodox parish of St. John the Baptist in Canonsburg, PA., as we celebrate this great occasion in our history: the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish! I use the word *ALL* in this opening greeting to you to ensure that, from the very beginning of this holy celebration, our heartfelt desire is to include EVERYONE in our prayerful gratitude to our Lord and God: clergy and laity, living and departed, parents, grandparents and relatives; those active, dedicated and founding members of the parish from 1918, as well as those of you who, at the present time – 2018, constitute the committed and active parish membership. Personally, I offer special thanks to our Lord and God for the lifetime of prayerful and highly positive activities accomplished in our midst throughout their lifetime by my parents. My father, Joseph Lazor, is listed among the founding members of our parish, and served as the parish's official cantor and choir director for 50 years. My grandfather, Michael Lazorchak (the father of my mother), is also listed among our founding members. My mother, Anna, was totally absorbed within the liturgical/sacramental life of the Church. She sang (alto voice) in the choir, carefully observed all of the fasting and festal seasons of the Church's life, and always personally prayed to our Lord and God, faithfully and daily. Without fail, she also took on major responsibilities in the area of cooking and hosting for the many seasonal celebrations, commemorative and social events in parish life. The priests of our parish loved to visit our family home, enjoying the prevailing atmosphere there of faith, hope, love and respect, as well as (depending on the time of the visit) – a good breakfast, lunch or dinner!

In this opening greeting to you, I also use the pronoun *WE*, because, along with a number of my family relatives, I still consider myself as a parish member. Among these relatives, allow me to mention my Aunt Helen (*nee* Zubenko) Lazorchak, her daughter Leah, Leah's husband, David Stockman, and their son Nathan – an active server in the holy altar. David is the Vice President of the Parish Council and Leah teaches in the parish Church School. I see photos of them as well as many of you regularly on the parish website, as you all engage joyfully in the prayer, life and labor of our parish. Certainly my own life, by the will of God, for more than 50 years (about half of our "one-century" history), except for several special occasions, has been all but removed from direct and active involvement in local parish life. After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh in 1961, I left Canonsburg to enroll at St. Vladimir's Seminary, during the autumn of that same year. After graduating from the Seminary in 1964, I married my wonderful wife, Natasha. We were married in the Seminary chapel, and our Lord and God has blessed us to be together since that year! About one month after our marriage, I was ordained to the Holy Priesthood, again in the Seminary chapel, by Archbishop +JOHN of San Francisco. Shortly afterward, in October of the same year, His Beatitude, Metropolitan +IRENEI, assigned me to my first parish in distant Milwaukee, WIS. After more than 2 years of service in Milwaukee, I was transferred to the wonderful parish of the Holy Trinity in New Britain, CT, where I served as rector for nearly 11 years. Then, following faculty invitation and assignment by our Metropolitan THEODOSIUS, I was officially transferred to full-time ministry at St. Vladimir's Seminary. During these nearly 50 years of my official and consecrated service as a parish priest, a seminary and international teacher of the Orthodox Faith, however, St. John's parish in Canonsburg has always retained its special place in my heart and mind as my native spiritual home – a major point of reference regarding my

experience and vision in and for life, within Christ's Holy Church.

## II. OUR PARISH – THE BODY OF CHRIST

For these 100 years of the existence of our parish, God has worked in and with our faith-grounded love and dedication to Him to ensure His Divine Presence in Canonsburg. By means of the establishment and growth of the parish of St. John the Baptist, He has secured an assembly of people dedicated to being the local embodiment of His “One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church” (our official confession concerning the Church in the Nicene Creed). In all its fullness, the true Church of God is, as the Apostle Paul says many times in his writings - the BODY OF CHRIST (e.g., Rom 12:5). Christ Himself is forever the Head of this Body, and we the members, indeed many and varied in our unique personhood, abilities, family and other origins and backgrounds, by the Grace of His Divine calling, and the empowerment of His Holy Spirit, are the current and local, visible members of -- this Holy Body! This basic, Biblical teaching means that, from the very first days of the parish's establishment in 1918 to the present year of 2018, the committed parish members are inspired by the Holy Spirit of God to strive for and to realize that, by “Grace Divine” (an expression heard frequently in the prayers of the Church), we are blessed to be nothing less than -- the BODY OF CHRIST! As members of this Holy Body, we are consecrated to gather regularly in an *Orthodox* manner, i.e., in the true faith, hope, and love, in and for the one and true God and each other, to worship Him and, through the Church's liturgical and sacramental life, to grow in ever-greater unity with Him and with each other. We are thereby empowered to reflect and transmit, within our own families and households, as well as with and to others, the loving and saving presence of God Himself – as He is directly known within His Church -- the HOLY BODY of His Son, Jesus Christ!

## III. PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Each of us is consecrated into membership within this HOLY BODY through our sacramental Baptism and Chrismation. As we celebrate this great anniversary of our wholeness and integrity as an Orthodox parish, let each of us personally recall some aspects of our own Baptism, Chrismation and Entrance into God's Holy Church. Who was our parish priest at the time of our Baptism/Chrismation? Who were our sponsors? Were we children or adults? As I write these words, wonderful memories of my own baptismal sponsors (I as a child at the time of my Baptism), the lifetime supporters of my path both toward and within the Orthodox priestly ministry, John and Julia Taper, immediately spring up before me - in the “eye” of my mind! Let each of us recall that, immediately following our consecration into the Church through our Baptism and Chrismation, we were carried by our sponsors (as infants), or led by them (as adults) three times, in a triumphant procession, around the Baptismal font, as the glorious Biblical words of my heavenly patron, the Apostle Paul, were sung: “As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ” (Gal 3:27). This “putting on of Christ” implies much more than a mere dressing with different “outer” garments, (e.g., the special baptismal robe in which the newly baptized is vested immediately following his/her baptism). In popular consciousness, entrance into the life of the Orthodox Church is often presented as dealing almost entirely with a host of external matters, e.g: the taking on of new languages, ethnic customs and foods, a different shaping of the cross (3-barred) as well as a different way of making on oneself the “sign” of the cross; a different “religious” calendar involving different dates (especially for Pascha), more fasting seasons, “holidays” and their accompanying social events, etc. Yes, some of these and/or other external factors certainly might be elements in our entrance into and ongoing efforts within Churchly life and piety. Our “putting on of Christ”, however, is a daily as well as lifetime action demanding much more than these externals, no matter how great in number or difficulty (from one community to another) they might appear to be. The putting on of Christ is largely an all-encompassing and *interior* matter. The “putting on of Christ” is, in its complete implication, the foundation of a full life of daily consciousness and personal effort toward: *inner transformation*. To live up to our calling as Orthodox Christians, each of us is anointed with the Holy

Chrism during the initiatory Sacrament of our Holy Chrismation. This Sacrament bequeaths to each of us the Holy Spirit, who, working *within* us, enables each of us, personally and often slowly, but always surely, to die to our *egotistical* selves, and to strive to live out in actuality the new life in Christ which has been gifted to us. The foundational features of this “Way, Truth and Life” (John 14:6) in Christ are far beyond any externals. Within the sacred life of the Church all of us, “with unveiled face,” as St. Paul says, “beholding/reflecting the glory of the Lord, are being changed into His likeness from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit” (II Cor 3:18). This gradual growth in godliness, from “*one degree of glory to another*,” is termed by Orthodox theologians as **theosis**, a Greek word implying exactly - “growth in Godliness,” – a *forever* process of upward movement from Divine *image* to Divine *likeness*. Fr. John Meyendorff, one of my greatest teachers in the Orthodox Faith, loved to use this word. Most often, he applied it to our constant effort to stay forever on the forward-moving path that we, as members of the Body of Christ, are consecrated to walk. He always went on to note clearly that this path leads us to actualize, both personally and together, what he termed as the “*possible impossibility*,” or, as he often stated it inversely, the “*impossible possibility*.” These words, while emerging from human intelligence, directly relate to the Divine admonition of Christ Himself, when He commands: “**You**, therefore, must be *perfect* as your heavenly Father is *perfect*!” (Matt 5:48).

#### IV. THE HOLY EUCHARIST – THE DIVINE LITURGY

The principal context of our growth in this holy perfection, within which we increasingly realize ourselves as the BODY OF CHRIST, both personally and together, is our regular celebration of the Holy Eucharist. In churchly terminology this most-holy gathering is called -- the Divine Liturgy! This term signifies that the Eucharist is celebrated as the principal gathering, the “work of the people of God” (the meaning implied in the Greek word, “*liturgia*”) on each Lord’s Day (Sunday – the day of the Resurrection), as well as on each of the major and many of the minor, commemorative days. Each of these days is always celebrated within the *whole*, i.e., “for us men and for our salvation” (words taken again from the Nicene Creed). Throughout the course of a Church year, we are thereby connected directly and powerfully to the significant examples and saving events in the life of Christ, His Holy Mother (the Theotokos), and all the Saints. The Divine Liturgy, however, can never be taken as a singularly purposed or private celebration. Whether the Liturgy is a gathering of a huge number of people, with a choir of 50 singers, with the presiding celebrant being our local Archbishop MELCHISEDEK, including as well several ordained Deacons and Subdeacons, along with visiting Priests, or – a modest weekday celebration during a winter snowstorm, for which only the parish Rector, the Cantor, and a few other “heroic” people are in attendance, the ultimate, all-encompassing and saving purpose of the celebration remains the same. The word “Eucharist” is from a Greek word meaning “thanksgiving”, and in the Eucharistic celebration, as again, my heavenly patron, the Apostle Paul states it: “We who are many become one” (Rom 12:4-5). The implication of this statement is that, at each Divine Liturgy, we thank God for everything, and offer to Him all that we are and all that we have, “*on behalf of all and for all*.” These wonderful and all-encompassing liturgical words are chanted by the celebrant, at each Divine Liturgy, as he raises the Chalice and the Discos (holding the Bread and the Wine) and intones: “Thine own of Thine own, we offer to Thee, on behalf of all and for all.” This thankful and gracious offering is focused finally on the Eucharistic bread and wine which, by the Power of the Holy Spirit, are transformed into the very Body and Blood of Christ. Participants in this Eucharistic celebration are those who have gathered as the Church, and personally have gone through the focusing and cleansing operations of preliminary fasting and prayers. In the Church they sing and listen attentively to the liturgical psalmody and hymnography. They take part in all of the litanies and prayers offered by the priest (as well as deacon, if he is serving). They hear and embrace anew the prescribed Scripture readings, the Epistle and Gospel of the day, as well as the instructive sermon offered by the celebrant. Together they recite the Nicene Creed, the official and basic outline of **Orthodox Faith**, thereby stating, personally and together, that this Faith is *their* Faith. And now, having made the offering to God of all that they are, have and know, “on

behalf of all and for all”, they partake of HOLY COMMUNION -the very Body and Blood of Christ. Thereby, in a most *specific community and personal manner*, they become, again in the affirmative words of the Apostle Paul: the *BODY OF CHRIST*.

#### V. FR. JOSEPH OLEYNIK

Congratulations again to all of you: to your pastor and teacher in the Lord, Fr. Joseph Oleynik (and to all the nine preceding pastors and their families), to all the living and departed parish members (parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts, cousins and friends), from all phases and particular aspects and responsibilities of parish life (parish council, brotherhood and sisterhood organizations, youth, educational and mission activities), to the choir directors, cantors and fellow singers, to the many altar servers and sacristans (such as His Beatitude, Metropolitan THEODOSIUS, who, as a youthful member of our parish, was “always there,” serving in the altar), and to all others, known and unknown - on this great occasion!

At the forefront of all the names of those presently involved in the life of our parish, our current parish pastor, Fr. Joseph Oleynik, by the Grace of God, as manifested in his long-standing commitment and service, certainly merits special attention. Fr. Joseph is the son of an Orthodox priest and a native Western Pennsylvanian. His wife, Matushka Annice, is the daughter of Fr. Daniel Hubiak, who for many years served as the Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America. Annice also previously served in the OCA Chancery, and over those years I came to know her rather well. In St. John’s parish, she has been blessed in many ways by our Lord and God to exhibit her spiritual dedication and wonderful skills, especially as a competent choir director and singer. She and Fr. Joseph together truly are - a *consecrated* couple. Fr. Joseph has been blessed by our Lord and God to be the longest serving pastor of our parish (37 years)!

#### VI. TWO MAJOR EVENTS FROM MY OWN LIFE IN OUR PARISH

##### #1

As a conclusion to my words of greeting and congratulations, let me now present to you two amazing and significant events, linked directly to our parish life, which have been determining factors in the course of my own life. Both of these events occurred during my earlier years of personal upbringing and growth. They took place within “regular” parish life, i.e. - **in your very midst!** They are associated with the very beginnings of my life in the large, multi-family (Lazorchak-Lazor) home at 210 E. Pike St., located in a section which no longer exists - of that major, Canonsburg “avenue”. Most significantly, they are events reflective of the overwhelming openings in the heart, soul and mind of my life, of a vision and journey toward that forever-existing and **ultimate home – the Kingdom of God:** the ultimate destination for which we were all called “from non-existence into being” (words of our liturgical prayers) by our Lord and God! A foretaste of that “homeland of the heart’s desire”, as the Kingdom of God is called in the Church’s hymnography, was given to me especially in and through my participation in the liturgical life and worship of God, within our Orthodox parish of St. John the Baptist in Canonsburg – during the earliest years of my childhood.

My father, Joseph, as I mentioned previously, served as our parish’s official cantor and choir director for 50 years, rarely missing any liturgical services or celebrations during that time. The first *memorable* spiritual event from my own life is linked to my father’s place and holy responsibilities within our parish. It took place when I was but 8 years old! It happened in connection with the “Old Style” (Dec. 19) celebration of the Feast of St. Nicholas (well-known among children back then as “Santa Claus”), which fell that year on a weekday. A substantial snow storm had hit our area during the night before the festal Eucharist. The storm posed a serious question within my family: could my father make the rather long trek from his workplace, the FORT PITT BRIDGE WORKS, to the Church – in order to lead the congregation in singing the liturgical responses on this great holiday? We had no family automobile in those days, so, independent

of weather conditions, he and our entire family almost *always* had to accomplish the rather long and difficult walk from our home to the Church, a journey requiring us, quite literally, to “amble up” to Vine St. While my father had an arrangement with the Bridge Works which permitted him to leave his workplace for Church services and then to return after their conclusion, his walk to the Church was even more trying. His walk up; to Vine Street included a longer and rougher section along the Pennsylvania railroad tracks. My mother, Anna, awakened me early that morning and told me the following: officially by telephone, she had been informed that, because of the storm, the public schools would be closed for the day. She immediately and joyfully added that, as a result, I was “free” to go to the Church with her for the great celebration of St. Nicholas Day. I got out of bed with equal joy, dressed appropriately, and very soon my mother and I departed from our house. The “holy assignment” before us was to accomplish, in timely fashion, that substantial journey, described earlier, of walking to the Church. The trek by foot, in and through the snow, took considerable time and effort, but – “we made it!” Upon our arrival, I went immediately to the sanctuary to prepare to serve as an altar boy. My cousin, “Frankie,” as he was known back in those youthful days, had accomplished his even longer walk from his family home in Canonsburg’s East End, was – as always, already “there” in the Church and ready to go! Through his *lifetime* of love for and faithful dedication and service to Christ and His Holy Church, demonstrated so clearly during his youthful years at our St. John’s parish, he later attended and graduated from St. Vladimir’s Seminary, was ordained to the Priesthood in 1961, served as a parish priest in Madison, ILL, was consecrated as a Bishop in 1967, and, in 1977, was elected as His Beatitude, Metropolitan THEODOSIUS – the consecrated head of the Orthodox Church in America! He exercised this position until his retirement in 2002!

As the time to begin the Liturgy drew near, it was fairly obvious that my father would be unable, especially because of the heavy snow, to accomplish the difficult walk from his workplace. What was to be done? Who would lead the singing? Our parish pastor at that time, Fr. Basil Horsky (1934-1948), repeatedly glanced up from the altar toward the cantor’s place at the front-center of the choir loft. Seeing that my father was still not there, and noting by his wristwatch that only a few minutes remained before the official starting time for the Liturgy, he suddenly turned to me and directly, in his substantial Russian accent, said: “Paul, you will sing!” My dear cousin looked at me, smiled, and nodded in full agreement. In total awe and amazement, but with complete understanding of the implications in his directive to me, I said nothing in response. After receiving Fr. Basil’s blessing, I left the sanctuary, walked from the front to the back of the Church via the center aisle, made the sharp right turn at the back of the church and took the steps up to the choir loft. Along the way down the center aisle, I walked past my mother, who was sitting in a pew on the right side (as you face the altar) of the Church. She looked at me and smiled, giving to me a certain indication that she *understood* what was happening. Finally, I made it to the place from which my father usually chanted the services: the cantor’s traditional place at the front-center of the loft.

Within minutes, cousin “Frankie” also journeyed to the loft to ring the church bell (the rope for which was located at the back of the choir loft), indicating that the Liturgy was about to begin. Before ringing the bell he handed me a little service book, which Fr. Horsky had asked him to give to me. The book contained the Divine Liturgy, and was printed entirely in the parish’s liturgical language: *Church Slavonic*. At this youthful stage in my life, however, I was still *unable* even to read the alphabet of this rather archaic and complex language, and certainly was incapable of denoting its many abbreviated words and usages. Neither had I ever seen any musical settings for the Galician chant sung by my father and the entire congregation back in that era of parish life. I had, however, from the earliest days of my life, when my mother still carried me in her arms, attended the Divine Liturgy and other services on a regular basis. Now, for the first time in my life, to my incredible and shocking surprise, I was able to accomplish, **PUBLICALLY**, the following: from the priest’s opening exclamation, “Blessed is the Kingdom...”, to his final blessing with the Holy Cross, by “Grace Divine,” I was able to lead the congregation in singing the entire Divine Liturgy – in Church Slavonic, in the Galician chant, and in my “boy-soprano” voice! Most significantly, I knew the liturgical order and

chanted everything, literally – **BY HEART!** This memorable accomplishment was a tangible beginning of that much deeper “touching base” within me of a Divine calling. At this very young age, as I sang the Divine Liturgy, I sensed a “spark” of that profound calling and movement toward the “homeland of the heart’s desire:” the Kingdom of God, the Holy Church, the Body of Christ, in which we – *to this day* - lovingly sing of, worship and glorify our One and True God, within and for all that He continuously does - “for us men, and for our salvation.” All the while, we are filled with the Grace Divine to grow as well in our joyful love and care for one another. I will never forget this overwhelmingly significant event in my life!

As a side issue, I must mention that, much later in my life, as a faculty member at St. Vladimir’s Seminary, among my several areas of teaching responsibility, I taught not only Church Slavonic, but Russian and Greek as well. When for the first time I personally undertook studies of these languages as a seminarian, I discovered that a rather substantial capability and knowledge of them was, to my surprise, already *there* and was just waiting to “explode” through actual study. I trace this special linguistic ability back to my roots in the liturgical singing at St. John’s parish.

## #2

The second memorable and path-determining event in my life occurred in connection with a sacramental Confession which I made during the Christmas Lent of my senior year (1960-1961) as a college student at the University of Pittsburgh. Time indeed had moved on. I was now 21 years old. I attended PITT on a basketball scholarship (as did my older brother, Bob, 4 years before me). My field of study was chemical engineering, an area my high school teachers (at the “CHS” of those days) had strongly advised me to enter because of my excellence in such subjects as mathematics and chemistry. During the summer of 1960, I had obtained employment as an engineering trainee with the Bethlehem Steel Corporation at the Company’s giant plant in Buffalo, NY. As a result, I had a job lined up with that Company immediately following my college graduation.

The Sacrament of Confession, at least for me back in those days, was not such a profound, soul-opening or life-changing event. It was more like a “disciplinary” action, a practice specially performed before Easter and Christmas, in order to ensure one’s record as a parish member in “good-standing.” Much had changed in my life, however, since those early years I previously described. During my four years of college, I was rarely at home. I lived at the University campus in Pittsburgh. My social circle had expanded to include many new friends who had little knowledge of and virtually nothing to do with the Orthodox Church or my native Canonsburg. For most of them, Orthodoxy was largely a “foreign” thing – a religious practice adhered to by Russians, Greeks, etc. This practice involved primarily “external” things (about which I commented earlier) such as: languages, ethnic foods, clothing and a multitude of customs connected with different calendars, holidays and special events. My own life had started to make a certain “drift” away from the foundational ways which I had known and arduously followed since early childhood. A very particular aspect of this drift was my “sagging away” from participation in the Church’s liturgical life, which had, in terms of actually “going to Church,” dramatically dropped to an all-time low level. Now, as I was at home for a little break before Christmas, I thought it might be a good thing to restore some “order” into my life by making a “typical” and “customary” sacramental Confession. But, as the saying goes: “One never knows...”

I prepared to “go to” Confession before the next scheduled (weekday) Divine Liturgy. Fr. Nicholas Fedetz, our parish priest during those years (1948-1961), received me for the Confession. After I came forward and, as was customary in our parish back then, knelt before the Cross of our Lord and His Holy Gospel, the Lord Himself, without any warning, “touched base” deeply within my heart and soul. I underwent an internal and truly *shaking experience* as, suddenly, considerations regarding my life and its ultimate purposes uncontrollably rose up within me. A Russian saying I learned years later from my Russian-speaking mother-in-law, Maria Feodorovna Manturoff, captures well what took place during my Confession as this much earlier time. The adage goes something like this (my own English translation): “You have



something, you don't value it; you lose it, --- **you cry!**" I tried to begin my sacramental Confession, but, in a totally unpredictable fashion, I suddenly broke down and, indeed, cried profusely. I was suddenly overwhelmed with a profound interior sense that, if I continued to walk on my present path of life, something extremely valuable, my life in Christ and His Holy Church, would be pushed aside and eventually - **lost!** Deep within my heart, soul, mind and strength, for the first time, I fully realized that something had to be done. What was that *SOMETHING*? During the Confession, Fr. Fedetz exercised great self-restraint. He said nothing to me as I uncontrollably wept. He kept his arm around my shoulders and let me get it "all out!" When, after a time, he asked me what was troubling me so much, I tried my best to calm down and say to him something about the contemporary circumstances and path of my life. My final words had to do with the holy possibility of my attending Seminary and training for the priesthood. His very simple advice to me came at the conclusion of my Confession. It directly regarded my aroused sense of the ultimate purposes of my life. He said: "Paul, give it a try!"

Later, as I began attempts to heed his advice, we spoke outside of Confession about the various Orthodox Seminaries, and to which of them I might apply. He advised me to consider enrollment at his *alma mater*, St. Vladimir's Seminary. Again, he offered me only very simple and understandable reasons for this consideration. He said: "Paul, you will soon be a college graduate and you have always been a good student. You should seek enrollment at that Seminary which offers the best education. St. Vladimir's is a graduate school of Orthodox theology; you soon will be a college graduate. You should seek enrollment there!" Following his very simple and sound guidance, I underwent the appropriate application process and, during the summer of 1961, was accepted for enrollment at St. Vladimir's for the forthcoming term, scheduled to begin in September with several days of official Orientation for new enrollees.

To this brief narrative regarding the two *major events* involving the interaction between my own life and the life of our "100<sup>th</sup>-Anniversary" parish, I must conclude with a few words regarding my actual departure from Canonsburg, to begin my enrollment and studies at St. Vladimir's Seminary. None other than my "always-there" cousin, now His Beatitude, the currently retired Metropolitan THEODOSIUS, ensured the continuation of this interaction. Himself already a graduate of St. Vladimir's Seminary, he accompanied me on the overnight bus trip from Canonsburg to New York City and the Seminary. I will never forget our walk along upper-Broadway on the morning of our arrival in New York City. As we passed several large educational institutions and their impressive facilities such as – Columbia University, Barnard College and Union Theological Seminary (with a glimpse of Julliard School of Music in the background), I looked fervently for some familiar signs of an Orthodox presence: perhaps a gold cupola or a three-barred cross! There was nothing of this kind! The Seminary's move to its present location north of New York City (near Yonkers, NY), with its own campus, dormitories and other needed buildings, did not take place until the following year. (Much more, physically, has been added to the Seminary since then!) Only after we had walked up to and entered a very typical, non-descript, unnamed, brownish-brick building at 537 West 121<sup>st</sup> Street, and later stepped out of the elevator on its 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, did my cousin turn to me and say: "Paul, you are now at St. Vladimir's Seminary!"

To this day, I still find it amazing that this simple, unheralded arrival at St. Vladimir's Seminary, and my move into residence there, would develop into a profound **transfer**, laden with such all-encompassing meaning, for the rest of my life! At this very beginning, I was required by the Lord Himself to make the substantial mental, physical and spiritual move from being a scholarship athlete at the University of Pittsburgh, living in the former Schenley Hotel, with most meals provided for me and other scholarship athletes at a special training table, to being a seminarian at a school featuring tightly squeezed housing (I lived

in a small apartment with eight other seminarians), where you could cook your own humble meals in a very small “dorm kitchen,” or eat for a reasonable price at a nearby little restaurant called “Dot’s”. All this took place (living space, chapel, classroom, meals, offices, etc.) in an old building tightly squeezed between two other similar structures on a “kind-of” side street in New York City! From those very first moments of my wonderful days of prayer and study, under the great dean and faculty at St. Vladimir’s Seminary, I sensed that the Lord Himself was already presenting to me a **new path - HIS PATH**, along which He was now directly calling me, by virtue of His example and help, to walk. His words rang out to me then, and continue their powerful meaning in my life until now:

“Learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls” (Matt 11:29).

## VII. CONCLUSION

Let me conclude this outline of my life in terms of its special connection with the one-century history of the Orthodox parish of St. John the Baptist in Canonsburg, PA. My more than 50 years of ministry as an ordained Orthodox priest, Seminary faculty member, pastor, administrator and international teacher in and for God’s Holy Church, find their roots and continuous growth in the life and the loving dedication my wonderful wife, Natasha, my parents and family, the clergy, and CERTAINLY the beautiful liturgical worship of our parish – within which I was blessed by the Lord to grow and develop as a human being! I thank God for blessing me with such excellent spiritual roots and a lifetime of love, support, guidance and companionship. I thank God for all of you who have constituted the parish in my presence during those early years of my life, and in my physical absence over these last more than 50 years! I have great remembrances of my years as an altar boy under the immediate guidance of (later) Metropolitan THEODOSIUS. I remember well my years, and the knowledge and experience I gained, while attending the Church-School and Christian Education classes, conducted as either “release-time” classes from public school, or as those gatherings set up separately by our parish. Memories of the classes as led and taught by Fr. Nicholas Fedetz, as well as the many young brother and sister parish members who attended these classes and other youth activities with me, joyfully vibrate within my mind and heart to this day!

Let us thank our Lord and God for everyone and everything as we celebrate this 100-year anniversary of the Orthodox parish of St. John the Baptist in Canonsburg. Let us thank Him for the hierarchy and clergy, the founders and benefactors, our parents, relatives, families and close friends, and, in a particular way – for the ongoing Power of His Holy Spirit, which has inspired generations of parish members to sing, to serve and thereby to glorify Him through the Grace-filled liturgical worship in His Holy Church.

MAY GOD GRANT YOU ALL ----- MANY YEARS !!!

ARCHPRIEST PAUL LAZOR



**Lord...save Your people and bless Your inheritance!**  
**(Psalm 28:9)**

**A PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH  
IN OUR CENTENNIAL YEAR**

O Lord God Almighty who has called us together to be the Church of Your Son and our God, the Lord Jesus Christ, as His holy body and His bride, a royal priesthood and a holy people, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon our parish, her clergy and her people, that we may do Your holy will in every way.

Bless our parish in all of her programs and projects to fulfill that which is well-pleasing in Your sight, for the glory of Your name, the edification of Your Church, the service of all men and the salvation of our souls.

Heal every wound within the parish, overcome every difficulty and disharmony by Your gracious power and love, that we may in truth glorify Your all-holy name with one mind and one heart; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Revised page 29  
(previously Page 25)

Insert pull out here of the Parish Photo.  
This page should have the icon of St John by himself and says “In celebration of her 100 years, may God grant the Clergy and Laity of St. John’s Parish Many Years Mnohaya Leta” .  
This page should be on top and then when you open it up, the large parish photo is inside.

Revised Page 30  
(previously Page 26)

This page should be the back side of the Parish Photo pullout and should have a large icon of the Lives of St. John the Baptist that looks like this



This page should also be to the left of the page that starts “Our Ministries” and has the picture of the Parish Council and Trustees.

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# OUR MINISTRIES

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St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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## PARISH COUNCIL & TRUSTEES

First (front) Row: Alexis (Oleynik) DeArmitt, Anita Prince (Secretary), Mary Ann Reck, Dawn Simko, Kevin Rudolph, Father Joseph Oleynik; Second Row: Dr. Ruth Ann Esaias, Tamara Marsico, Carol Sweda (Asst. Treasurer), Taisia Zupancic; Third Row: Mike Pazuchanics (Financial Secretary), Bob Schenken, Kiprian Yarosh (President), David Sweda (Treasurer), David Stockman (Vice-President), John Migyanko III; Not pictured: Michael Killmeyer, Greg Shamitko, Jerry Strennen

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## AUDITORS

Kathy Caligiuri

Paula Phillis

Kira Rudolph

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# OUR MINISTRIES

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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### ALTAR BOYS

First (front) Row: Jude Killmeyer, Simon Killmeyer, Daniel Cario, Elijah Cario; Second Row: Roberto Thompson, Nathan Stockman, Samuel Simko, Jake Simko, Michael Pazuchanics, Gregory Oleynik; Third Row: Luke Phillis, Aidan Onest, Nick Simko, Father Joseph Oleynik, Steven Schenken, Dan Yarosh

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### CHURCH CHOIR

First (front) Row: Father Joseph Oleynik, Matushka Annice Oleynik (Choir Director), Bridget Onest, Layla Killmeyer, Kathryn Pazuchanics, Sarah Simko, Evan Petronka; Second Row: Matushka Myra Oleynik, Alexandra Yarosh, Anastasia Rudolph, Diane Yarosh, Julianna Cario, Kira Rudolph, Leah Stockman, Alexis (Oleynik) DeArmitt; Third Row: Catherine Thompson, Elena Yarosh, Alexandra Oleynik, Sonia Blaha; Fourth Row: Anthony Cario, Subdeacon Thomas Havrilak, Denise Kalakewich, Isabela Petronka, Chris Petronka, John Thompson, Tamara Marsico, Richard Blaha; Not pictured: Gregory Bitsko, Dr. Rodney Fedorchak, Chelsea Geer, Joseph & Katherine Helinski, Sonya Klingensmith, Lisanne Migyanko, Greg and Jane Shamitko, Christopher Wright

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# OUR MINISTRIES

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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## CHURCH SCHOOL

### Directors

Julianna Cario  
Leah Stockman

### Teachers

Anthony Cario  
Denise Kalakewich  
Marcie Killmeyer  
Lynn Migyanko  
John Migyanko III  
Rick Pierce  
Leah Stockman  
John Thompson

### Mentors

Marcie Killmeyer  
Alexis Oleynik  
Matushka Myra Oleynik  
Chris Petronka  
Jane Shमितko (not pictured)  
Diane Yarosh

### Pictured:

Daniel Cario  
Elijah Cario  
Jude Killmeyer  
Layla Killmeyer  
Melina Killmeyer  
Simon Killmeyer  
Joseph Migyanko  
Aidan Onest  
Bridget Onest  
Nina Onest  
Kathryn Pazuchanics  
Michael Pazuchanics  
Evan Petronka  
Isabela Petronka  
Ben Phillis

### Luke Phillis

Anastasia Rudolph  
Annabelle Ruffing  
Gabriel Ruffing  
Gideon Ruffing  
Lilah Ruffing  
Nicholas Ruffing  
Nick Schenken  
Steven Schenken  
Jake Simko  
Nick Simko  
Sarah Simko  
Samuel Simko  
Nathan Stockman  
Zachary Strennen  
Catherine Thompson

### Alexandra Yarosh

Dan Yarosh  
Elena Yarosh  
**Not Pictured:**  
Annalise Eismont  
Aubrie Eismont  
Chelsea Geer  
Megan Geer  
Hannah Migyanko  
Ellie Ruffing  
Jacob Ruffing  
Katherine Ruffing  
Luke Ruffing

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# OUR MINISTRIES

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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### LADIES ALTAR SOCIETY

First Row: Eva Chupinsky, Mary Ann Zupancic, Matushka Annice Oleynik, Loretta Matyuf, Father Joseph Oleynik; Second Row: Helen Lazorchak, Anita Prince, Helene Emerick, Olga Rusinko; Third Row: Geri Petronka, Shirley Brookman, Diane Yarosh, Denise Kalakewich, Matushka Myra Oleynik

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### MEN'S CLUB

First (front) Row: Dr. John Chupinsky, Greg Sakovich, Father Joseph Oleynik, John Rusinko, Protodeacon John Oleynik; Second Row: Kevin Reck, Kevin Rudolph, Christopher Weber, Subdeacon Thomas Havrilak, Mike Pazuchanics, Aidan Onest, Chris Petronka; Third Row: David Stockman, Bob Schenken, Kiprian Yarosh, Anthony Cario, Justin DeArmitt; Not pictured: Deacon Theodosius Onest, John Petronka, Greg Shamitko

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# OUR MINISTRIES

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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### SENIOR "O" CLUB

First (front) Row: Mary Ann Zupancic, Metropolitan Theodosius (Lazor), Father Joseph Oleynik, John Rusinko, Olga Rusinko; Second Row: Shirley Brookman, Helene Emerick, Matushka Annice Oleynik, Alexandra Oleynik; Third Row: Matushka Myra Oleynik, Diane Yarosh, Kevin Rudolph, Kira Rudolph, Leah Stockman, Kyra Schenken, Loretta Matyuf, Dolores Schinosi, Protodeacon John Oleynik; Fourth Row: Taisia Zupancic, David Stockman, Kiprian Yarosh, Bob Schenken; Not pictured: Denise Kalakewich, Greg & Jane Shamitko, Milana Sopko

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### JUNIOR "O" CLUB

First (front) Row: Father Joseph Oleynik, Alexandra Yarosh, Evan Petronka, Nathan Stockman, Samuel Simko, Kathryn Pazuchanics, Sarah Simko, Nick Simko; Second Row: Elena Yarosh, Anastasia Rudolph, Layla Killmeyer, Kyra Schenken (Advisor), Nick Schenken, Michael Pazuchanics; Third Row: Isabela Petronka, Luke Phillis, Ben Phillis, Dan Yarosh, Steven Schenken; Not Pictured: Layla Killmeyer, Melina Killmeyer, Bridget Onest, Nina Onest, Zachary Strennen

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# OUR MINISTRIES

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St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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## FUNDABILITY

L-R: Paula Phillis, Susan Pazuchanics,  
Wendy Petronka, Kyra Schenken,  
Diane Yarosh, Father Joseph Oleynik;  
Not pictured: Lisanne Migyanko

---



### 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

*<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

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# OUR PRIESTS

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St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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*We thank you for your prayers and guidance that have brought us to this 100th Anniversary Celebration.*

<i>1918—1919</i>	<i>Father Gregory Kobasa, Organizer</i>
<i>1919—1920</i>	<i>Father Isadore Kostiuł</i>
<i>1920—1921</i>	<i>Father Jacob Piatesky</i>
<i>1921—1926</i>	<i>Father Isadore Kostiuł</i>
<i>1926—1927</i>	<i>Father Gregory Soroka</i>
<i>1927—1934</i>	<i>Father George Cucura</i>
<i>1934—1948</i>	<i>Father Basil Horsky</i>
<i>1948—1961</i>	<i>Father Nicholas Fedetz</i>
<i>1961—1968</i>	<i>Father Dimitri Ermałov</i>
<i>1968—1969</i>	<i>Father Basil Slimak</i>
<i>1969—1981</i>	<i>Father Daniel Geeza</i>
<i>1981—Present</i>	<i>Father Joseph Oleynik</i>

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*We'd also like to recognize those from our parish that went on to join the Priesthood.*

*+Metropolitan Theodosius (Lazor) ~ Consecration to the Episcopacy: May 6, 1967*

*Archpriest Paul Lazor ~ Ordination to the Priesthood: October 17, 1964*

*Archpriest John Horosky ~ Ordination to the Priesthood: November 7, 1981*

*Archpriest William Evansky ~ Ordination to the Priesthood: May 11, 1984*

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# OUR PARISH WARDENS

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St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

---



*In recognition and appreciation for the leadership these Wardens (previously called Presidents) have provided our parish leading up to this 100th Anniversary Celebration.*

YEARS	WARDEN	TOTAL YRS SERVED
1918 - 1921	Daniel Kotyk	16
1922 - 1923	Metro Moskal	2
1924	Daniel Kotyk	
1925	Nicholas Gontz	1
1926	Michael Lazorchak	3
1927	Daniel Kotyk	
1928 - 1929	Alex Feyche	2
1930 - 1931	Nicholas Shoyda	2
1932 - 1933	Michael Lazorchak	
1934	Harry Nestor	1
1935 - 1936	Daniel Kotyk	
1937 - 1938	Harry Lazor	4
1939	Daniel Kotyk	
1940	Frank Matyuf	1
1941	Daniel Kotyk	
1942 - 1944	Lukach Matyuf	3
1945 - 1946	Harry Lazor	
1947 - 1952	Daniel Kotyk	
1953 - 1956	Theodore Fecycz	4
1957	John Suwak	1
1958 - 1965	Samuel Sederoff	10

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# OUR PARISH WARDENS

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St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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YEARS	WARDEN	TOTAL YRS SERVED
1966	Dr. John Chupinsky	17
1967 - 1968	Samuel Sederoff	
1969 - 1972	John Rusinko	4
1973 - 1974	John Horosky, Jr.	2
1975 - 1977	Raymond Sobczak	4
1978	Parish Council	
1979	Raymond Sobczak	
1980	Wayne Rasmussen	2
1981	Gregory Bushko	1
1982	Wayne Rasmussen	
1983 - 1987	John Telesko	5
1988	Gregory Shamitko	1
1989 - 2004	Dr. John Chupinsky	
2005 - Present	Kiprian Yarosh	14

*We also thank the other officers, Parish Council members and parishioners who diligently served and worked on many committees and projects during our history.*



## *Special Recognition & Thank You for most years served as Warden*

*We thank Dr. John Chupinsky for his 17 years as Warden and his continual guidance through the years. Special thanks also to his wife, Eva, for her support of his leadership.*





# The Gift of The Holy Spirit

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY



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# OUR HISTORY

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St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church—Our Soldiers Killed in Action

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*As we begin to look back over our history, may we first remember those parishioners that gave their lives so that we may have the freedoms we do today.*

*The soldiers our parish lost while serving their country are remembered each Memorial Day with a Parastas service at the bell.*

*Memory Eternal ~ Vechnaya Pamyat*

*Daniel Abraham (WWII)*

*Joseph Backner (WWII)*

*Steven Blyshak (WWII)*

*Peter Bushko (WWII)*

*Gary Dowell (Vietnam)*

*Nicholas Fecycz (WWII)*

*Ernest Jacobs (WWII)*

*Steven Koman (WWII)*

*Michael Matyuf (WWII)*

*Michael Pidich (WWII)*

*George Povich (WWII)*

*Dennis Pyz (Vietnam)*

*Nicholas Seminick (WWII)*

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# OUR HISTORY

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church—Historical Timeline

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### 1916—1919: ORGANIZATION (Church Community Realized)

- ◆ Meetings held in Dimitri Moskal's home with Father Bzulevich, Father Turkevich and Eastern European laypersons, most of whom became our Founders:  
Daniel Kotyk, Michael Lazorchak, Anna Lazorchak, Alexis Sevak, John Matyuf, Andrew Blyshak, Sam Ridosh, Peter Hoblak, Gregory Pszyk, John Lazor, Dimitri Moskal, John Lazorchak, Mike Kuzemka, Luke Matyuf & George Anthony.
- ◆ Father Gregory Kobasa, our first priest, held public church service at Miner's Hall on Epiphany, January 19, 1918 commemorating the Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ by John the Baptist. Also, the first official meeting held & elected officers Daniel Kotyk as President, Alexis Sevak as Secretary & Michael Lazorchak as Treasurer. St. John the Baptist chosen as Patron Saint.
- ◆ First of many house-to-house collections by Michael Lazorchak & John Matyuf, raising \$1900 that day.
- ◆ Charter filed on March 16, 1918. Two lots on Vine St. purchased for \$1200. Contractor hired for \$9500. Also purchased 1 acre in Strabane for cemetery.
- ◆ New church cornerstone dedicated. Father Kobasa completed his mission & was reassigned to organize additional churches in area.
- ◆ Father Kostiuk assigned, organized our first choir with Nicholas Gontz as cantor & Joseph Lazor as choir director.
- ◆ Parish home purchased & remodeled for \$5300, June 1919
- ◆ New church completed, dedicated by His Grace Archbishop Alexander September 1919

### 1920's & 1930's: BEAUTIFICATION & GROWTH

- ◆ Iconostasis installed for \$800 and gradually decorated with icons donated by individual donors 1920. Walls, ceiling decorated for \$3100 as well as a chandelier for \$400 in 1924.
- ◆ Russian Day created July 1926 with the help of Father Soroka. Concerts & picnic raised \$2500 towards a church hall for Sunday School classes, choir rehearsal & other social activities. Catechism classes begin with Father Cucura in 1927.
- ◆ Despite the Great Depression years, Decoration Day 1931 Bishop Adam dedicated new Altar with portion of relics of St. Job of Pochayev enclosed in Altar.
- ◆ Ladies Altar Society organized 1933.
- ◆ Russian language classes begin with Father Horsky, 1934.
- ◆ The Federated Russian Orthodox Club of Canonsburg chartered 1938 as Chapter 109.
- ◆ New pews, improvements, remodeling done 1938.

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# OUR HISTORY

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church—Historical Timeline

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### 1940's & 1950's: DIFFICULT YEARS OF PRAYING FOR PEACE & RETURN OF SERVICEMEN

- ◆ WW II took a toll on families who lost servicemen: Sgt. Michael Matyuf, First Sgt. Steven Blyshak, Staff Sgt. George Povich, Master Sgt. Nicholas Seminick, Pvt. First Class Nicholas Fecycz. (Each Memorial Day these men, as well as more recent losses, are remembered with a Parastas service.)
- ◆ Reading of Gospel in Russian & English instituted. Envelope offering system begun.
- ◆ Parish home remodeled 1941 inside & exterior covered with asbestos shingles.
- ◆ Stained glass windows installed through generous contributions of a few parishioners. Basement of parish home remodeled 1942 for school, choir practice.
- ◆ 2 acres of Oak Spring Cemetery acquired Dec. 1943 as our new cemetery.
- ◆ Exterior of church brick veneered & inside newly decorated June 1948.
- ◆ Women were first permitted to go caroling 1955.
- ◆ The Forerunner, our church newspaper, founded 1957.
- ◆ Building program for new church & rectory began 1959. Architect Joseph Trigilia hired; Joseph Lazor Jr. hired as designing engineer. Land negotiations began.

### 1960's: RE-DEDICATION IN NEW CHURCH

- ◆ Father Ermakov assigned amidst proposed new church plans. 9.6 acres of the Johnson property purchased for \$25,000.
- ◆ Father Theodosius (Lazor) celebrated his 1st Divine Liturgy after being ordained October 1961.
- ◆ Ground-breaking ceremony May 1963 for new church on Boone Ave. held with Bishop Benjamin. H-M Construction Company began new church construction for \$350,000. Cornerstone dedicated September 29 with Bishop Benjamin & Father Kreta.
- ◆ Pentecost Sunday Procession June 1964 with faithful carrying banners, icons, crosses & candles to move us from St. John's on Vine St. to new St. John's — "on the hill". Consecration Aug. 30 by Bishop Nikon & Bishop John of San Francisco. Father Paul Lazor served his 1st Divine Liturgy after being ordained.
- ◆ Bishop Theodosius served his 1st Pontifical Divine Liturgy in Canonsburg May 1967 since he was consecrated Bishop of Washington, D.C.
- ◆ Celebration of 50th Anniversary of founding of St. John the Baptist with Bishop Theodosius & Bishop Amvrossy officiating in November 1968. Church interior painted for our Golden Jubilee.
- ◆ Joseph Lazor retired 1969 as Choir Director/Cantor after 50 years of dedicated service. Deacon Michael Hutnik assumes choir directorship.

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# OUR HISTORY

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church—Historical Timeline

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### 1970's: ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA BECOMES INDEPENDENT BISHOP THEODOSIUS (LAZOR) INSTALLED AS METROPOLITAN

- ◆ TOMOS of AUTOCEPHALY granted April 10, 1970 to the Orthodox Church in America by Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alesky I & Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church. This was the official instrument by which the American Church, of which we are a member, was given independence by its Mother Church to be self-governing. Our Parish's Son, Bishop Theodosius of Alaska, headed the delegation from the American Church in May, 1970 to receive the TOMOS on May 18.
- ◆ Bishop Theodosius transferred from Alaska to Archdiocese of Pittsburgh; St. John's hosted his installation in 1972.
- ◆ Original parish home sold 1972 and original church building sold March 1974, both on Vine Street. Stained glass windows, church bell removed & stored. In order to preserve the church bell and a piece of our past, a special place was earmarked in the church yard where it is now displayed permanently. Parastas services are held at the bell each Memorial Day to remember those soldiers from the parish that were killed in action.
- ◆ Church mortgage debt satisfied Feb. 1997.
- ◆ Bishop Theodosius elected & installed as Primate of the Orthodox Church in America as Metropolitan of all America & Canada Jan. 1978.
- ◆ Iconographer Constantine Yousis retained for our new icons on iconostas.
- ◆ Our 60th Anniversary was commemorated at the Jefferson Room.
- ◆ Bishop Kyrill installed as Bishop of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and West Virginia.

### 1980's & 1990's: GROWTH & DEDICATION

- ◆ New Iconostasis installed by Bishop Kyrill. Father Geeza accepts Deanship of St. Stephen Cathedral in Philadelphia in 1981.
- ◆ Matushka Annice temporarily led our choir in 1982, as well as by Pamela Matyuf & George Zubenko. In 1983 Kira Evansky directed the choir until 1986 when Matushka Annice resumed the duties of Choir Director.
- ◆ Our name sign to welcome visitors erected by parishioners. And a fence was erected to protect our grounds.
- ◆ St. John's hosted celebration of Bishop Kyrill's 20 years of episcopacy Oct. 1984.
- ◆ Iconastasis loan repaid.
- ◆ Stained glass windows donated by a few parishioners begun. Church kitchen remodeled. 1986
- ◆ Father Joseph recognized for his efforts at our Parish and awarded the wearing of the Gold Cross by His Grace after he blessed our stained glass windows Dec. 1989.

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# OUR HISTORY

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church—Historical Timeline

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### 1980's & 1990's: GROWTH & DEDICATION (continued)

- ◆ Plans for our Parish 75th Anniversary in 1993 began October 1991 to include church interior painting, rewiring & lighting improvements, renovation & decorations including refinishing of pews. \$46,000 allocated 1992. Candles reorganized. New carpet installed, donated by Ladies Altar Society in 1993. Additional icons donated by parishioners.
- ◆ 75th Anniversary Week Oct. 3-10 included a “Kick-off” breakfast after Liturgy, tours of the church, a lecture by Father Lazor, a memorial Liturgy of Founders & all departed parish members. The Anniversary banquet was held at Holiday Inn. Main speaker was Very Reverend Daniel Hubiak on the Orthodox Church in Russia.
- ◆ Storage shed/Utility Building constructed and completed Dec. 1998 for \$23,433
- ◆ Men’s Club formed in 1999

### 21st CENTURY: BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS & FUTURE GROWTH EFFORTS

- ◆ First decade had major improvements: Elevator installed April 2001; Iconostasis was extended, began Sept. 2001 completed Oct. 2003; New roof was completed in 2005; Lighting installed on roof to shine on the church domes, donated in memory of parishioner; Painting of church interior June 2007 in preparation for the 90th Anniversary in 2008; Parking lot was paved May 2008
- ◆ Growth & Development Building Project planning 2004-2007.
- ◆ Celebrated 90th Anniversary, October 2008. Banquet held at Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe.
- ◆ Phase I construction approval October 2008; completed June 2009. Projects included renovation of Fellowship Hall; classrooms/multi-purpose rooms added; kitchen updated with new tile floor, lighting and cabinets; air conditioning added to entire church. Hall blessed June 2009.
- ◆ Time Capsule found during the new construction of Phase II, Dec. 23, 2012. During work with the cornerstone construction of new entrance to the church, workers discovered a time capsule placed in it when the church was built in 1963. It was opened after liturgy in the presence of the congregation. In it was found a letter from Father Dimitri Ermakov, church membership roster, new church plans and information, Forerunner pamphlets, and a copy of “The Light of Orthodoxy”, a diocese newspaper.
- ◆ Phase II construction completed March 17, 2013 with blessing and ribbon cutting ceremony. Project involved the renovation and expansion of the vestibule which helped to also address maintenance concerns with the porch, steps and room below resulting in: an enlarged and more welcoming vestibule; new Candle Room/Office and Church Library; better access to our elevator; newly designed & relocated concrete handicap ramp; and an additional classroom/multi-purpose room.
- ◆ 2017-2018 Preparations begun to celebrate 100th Anniversary in October 2018.
- ◆ 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration held October 7, 2018. Hierarchal Divine Liturgy with His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek officiating. Liturgy is followed by a banquet at the Doubletree Hotel on Racetrack Road in Washington, PA, with Archpriest William Evansky as the keynote speaker.

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# OUR HISTORY

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## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church—Pictorial History

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### SAINT JOHN'S CHARTER

## EQUITY DOCKET

*In re Incorporation  
2563 of  
St. John the Baptist  
Russian Orthodox Greek  
Catholic Church of  
Canonsburg, Pa.  
Filed Mar. 16, 1918  
Fee \$600 paid*

*To the Honorable the Judges of  
the Court of Common Pleas of  
Washington County, Pa.*

*In compliance with the  
requirements of an Act of the  
General Assembly of the Com-  
monwealth of Pennsylvania  
entitled "An Act to provide for the  
incorporation and regulation*

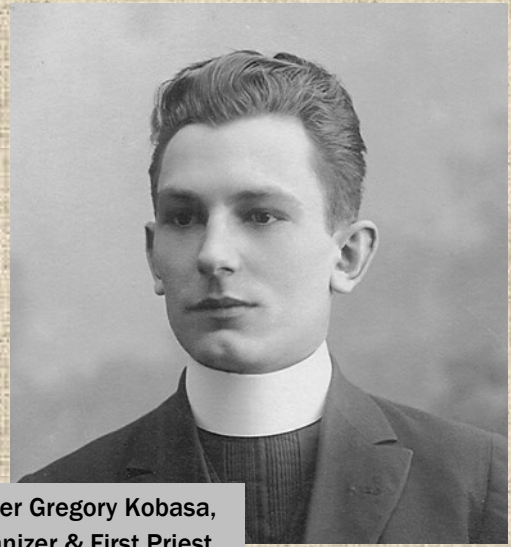
*of certain corporations," approved the 29th day of April, A.D. 1874, and the supple-  
ments thereto, the undersigned, a majority of whom are citizens of the State of  
Pennsylvania, having associated themselves together for the purpose of the support  
of public worship, desire that they and their associates may be incorporated ac-  
cording to law, and do hereby certify:*

- 1. The name of the proposed corporation is St. John the Baptist Russian Ortho-  
dox Greek Catholic Church of Canonsburg, Pa.*
- 2. Said corporation is formed for the purpose of the support of the public  
worship of Almighty God according to the faith, doctrine, creed, discipline and  
usages of the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church, and the support of the  
beneficial, charitable, educational and missionary undertakings of said Church.*
- 3. The business of said corporation is to be transacted in the area of  
Canonsburg, Washington County, Pennsylvania.*
- 4. Said corporations to exist perpetually.*
- 5. The number of Trustees of said corporation is fixed at fourteen, the majority  
of whom shall be lay members, and the names and residences of those who are  
chosen Trustees for the first year are:*

Danko Kotyk,  
Mike Lazorchak,  
Oleska Gywak,  
John Matiuch,  
Andrej Blyszak,  
Sam Ridosh,  
Peter Hoblak,  
Gregory Pszyk,  
John Lazor,  
Demitro Moskal,  
John Lazorchak,  
Mike Kuzemka,  
Lukach Matiuch,  
George Anthony,

Canonsburg, Washington County, Penna.  
Canonsburg, Washington County, Penna.  
Canonsburg, Washington County, Penna.  
Canonsburg, Washington County, Penna.  
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Canonsburg, Washington County, Penna.  
Canonsburg, Washington County, Penna.  
Canonsburg, Washington County, Penna.

First public church service at Miner's Hall January 19, 1918



Father Gregory Kobasa, Organizer & First Priest



Includes Founders & Board of Trustees Circa 1920's/1930's



First church on Vine Street (built 1919)





Circa 1930's/1940's



1953

ALTAR BOYS ST. JOHN'S CHURCH



Canonsburg "R" Club 1948  
(now known as "O" club)



St. John's Choir 1953



1953

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH COMMITTEE





St. John's Trustees 1958



1958

Pittsburgh Russian Orthodox Male Chorus



Original founders and members of the church taken in 1964 when the new church on Boone Ave. was completed.  
 Sitting(l-r): John Lazor, Nicholas Gontz, Daniel Drochak, George Anthony  
 Standing(l-r): Frank Matyuf, Joseph Lazor, Daniel Chicarella  
 Missing from picture: Joseph Sapp & Michael Uchal



St. John's 1964 Church Committee with Father Ermakov at new Church on Boone

St. John's Sunday School 1964



St. John's Ladies Altar Society 1964



St. John's Choir 1968

St. John's Church Committee  
1968



Groundbreaking May 12, 1963 with Bishop Benjamin and Father Dimitri Ermakov

Construction of the  
new church on Boone  
Avenue  
1963 - 1964  
(Consecrated Aug. 30, 1964)



ST. JOHN'S — 1964

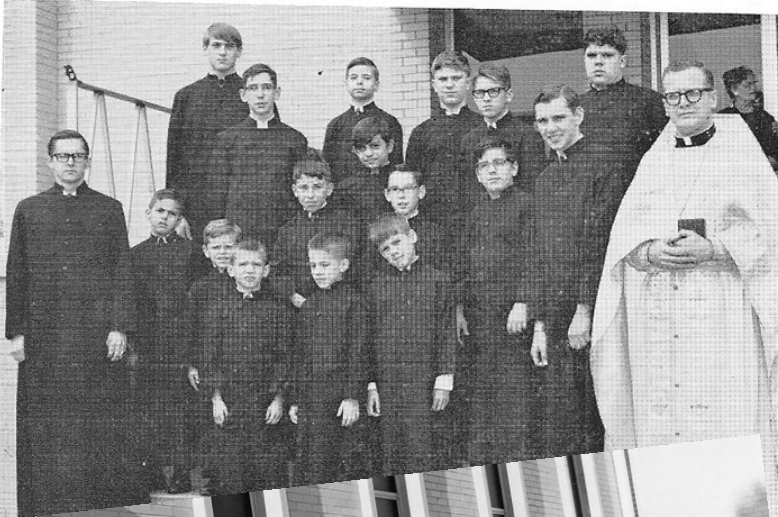


Procession from Vine Street to Boone Avenue Pentecost Sunday June 21, 1964



1968

*Altar Boys*



*Canonsburg "R" Club*

1968



Sunday School Teachers 1968

*Junior "R" Club*

1968



Circa 1960's/1970's



Father Joseph and Parish Council 1993



Sunday School Teachers 1993



Canonsburg O Club Chapter 109 FROC 1993



Altar Boys and Sunday School Students 1993



Matushka Annice and Church Choir 1993



Myrrh-Bearers Ladies Altar Society 1993



Canonsburg O Club Chapter 109 FROC 1993





Bell brought up from first church on vine street



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY



Pascha 2003



Youth Retreat at Monastery 2008



Church Camp





Parish Photo 90th Anniversary 2008



Kid's Choir 2008



Church Camp

**Growth & Development  
Building Project  
Phase 1  
October 2008—June 2009  
Fellowship Hall completed &  
blessed June 14, 2009**



**AFTER**



**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY**



**BEFORE**



**CONSTRUCTION**



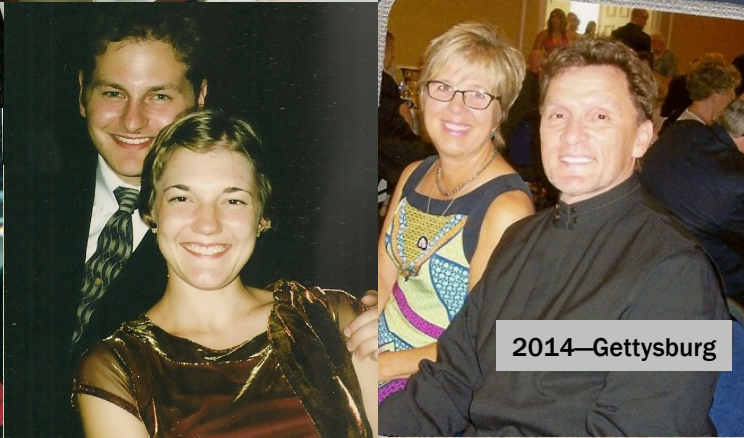
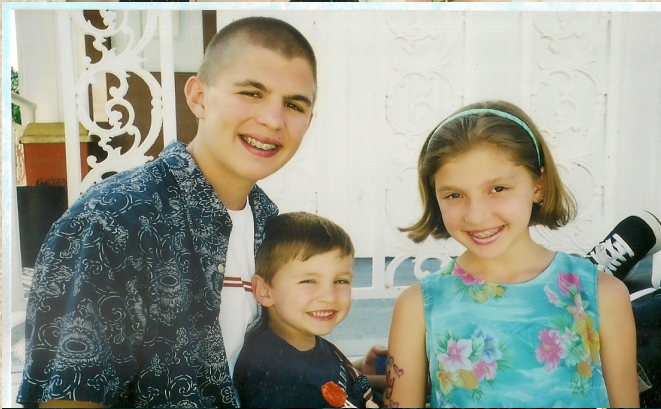
# FOCA CONVENTION MEMORIES



1996—Orlando



2001—Pittsburgh "Pittsburgh, our founding city, has hosted the most conventions with 12."~*Orthodox Christian Journal*, Winter 2018



2014—Gettysburg

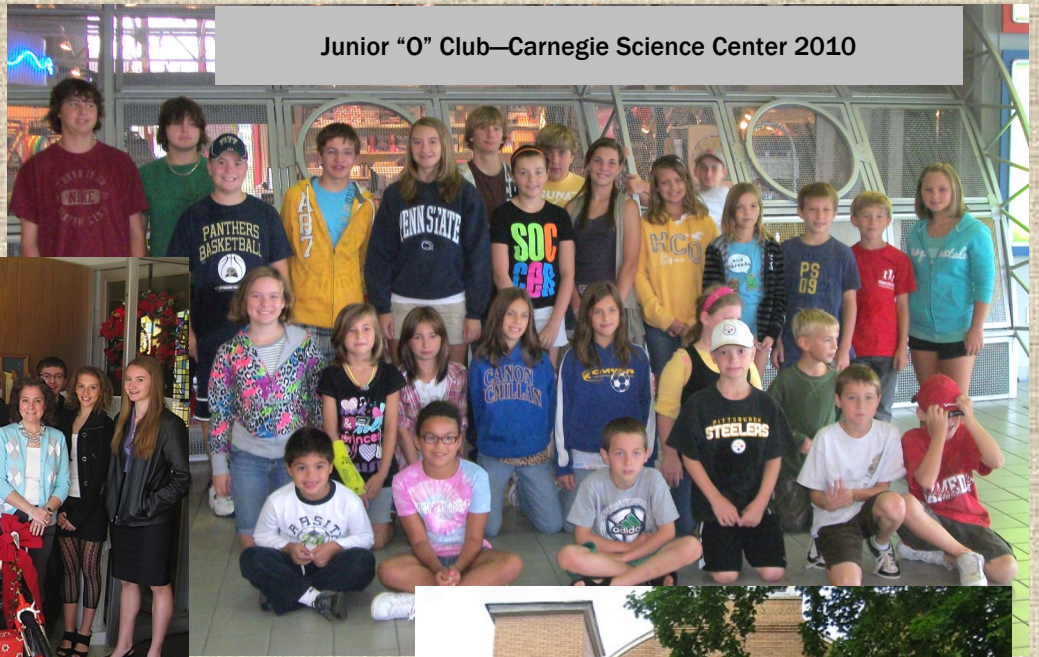


2009—Hartford



2010—Pittsburgh

Junior "O" Club—Carnegie Science Center 2010



Junior "O" Club  
St. Nicholas Tree 2011



Pentecost Walk 2010  
(starting out at our old church on Vine Street)



Gift of appreciation given to His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius for his years of service. Gift was a framing of two paintings by Sulkowski of Canonsburg back in the day. (2011)



Opening of Time Capsule  
Dec. 23, 2012



St. John's Church School 2011

**Growth & Development  
Building Project  
Phase 2  
2012–2013  
Vestibule Renovation &  
Expansion completed and  
blessed March 17, 2013**



**Building Committee**



**Naming Sponsors &  
donor of Vestibule Chandelier**



**Parish Council**





**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY**



2013 Tournament was held in Canonsburg and sponsored by the Canonsburg "O" Club.



Bantam Boys Champions



Junior Girls 2nd place



Bantam Girls 2nd place



Super Senior Mens 2nd place



Yolka 2013



12/22/2013



Christmas Caroling 2013



Old Time Christmas in Canonsburg 2013



Senior "O" Club Cereal Social 2013



Egg Hunt 2014



Church Camp 2015



Ice Skating at PPG 2016

Visit from Archbishop Melchisedek 2016



2016



2016



Pascha 2017



Junior "O" Club Pentecost Walk 2018



Fourth of July 2018

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY



1970



2018



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY



100

*Congratulatory Greetings  
and Memorial Messages from  
Our Parishioners,  
Neighboring Orthodox Parishes,  
Supporting Organizations  
and Friends  
of*

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

You are the light of the world.  
A city that is set on a hill cannot be  
hidden.

Matthew 5:14

May God continue to bless our  
community.

Father Joseph & Matushka Annice

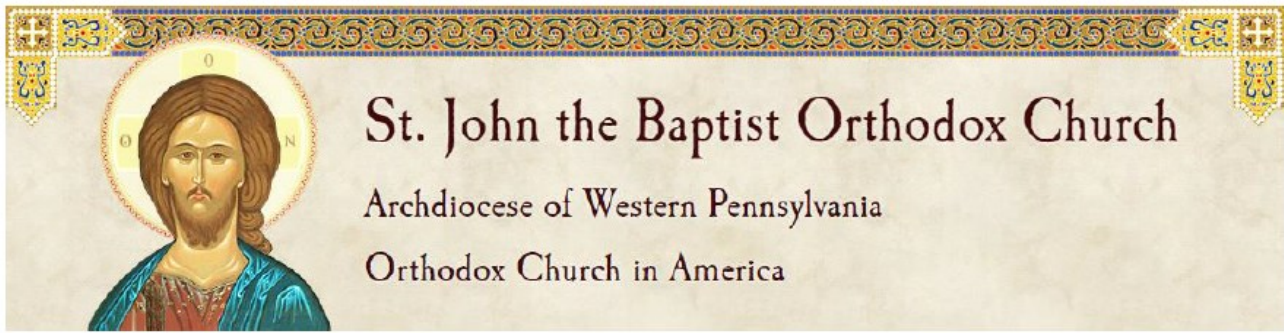
James & Melanie

Sophia, Jacob & Mary

Anthony & Julianna

Elijah, Daniel & Joseph

Justin & Alexis



## Celebrating 100 years!



1918



2018

“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”

~Matthew 5:14-16 (KJV)

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ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY



*In Memory of*



*Ray & Irene Sobczak*

*Memory Eternal!*

*Wishing St. John's Congratulations*

*on their 100th Anniversary*

*The Basso Family & The Kobak Family*



Dedicated to the Choirs (past and present) of  
St. John the Baptist  
Russian Orthodox Church in America (1918—1970)  
Orthodox Church in America (1970—Present)

*“Those Who Sing, Pray Twice”*



*The Bitsko's*

*Greg & Suzanne, John & Nika*



In  
Memory  
of

Beloved husband, Bill Brookman

Parents, Paul & Mildred Vargo

Brother, Pauly Vargo

Earl & Catherine Brookman

Bobby Wright

Marie Cage

"Vechnaya Pamyat"

"Memory Eternal"

Remembered by Shirley Brookman

**Congratulations and  
Best Wishes On  
St. John's 100th  
Anniversary**

**CANONSBURG O CLUB**



**Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America  
Chapter #109—Canonsburg, PA**

*Pray, Study, Toil, Always be Temperate  
All for One, One for All!*

# Wishing St. John's Many Years



## Canonsburg Junior "O" Club

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name,  
there am I among them." ~Matthew 18:20*



FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA

*Chapter 109-J, Canonsburg, PA*



# De Angelo

FUNERAL HOMES

**Mario L. DeAngelo Funeral Home**

194 E. College Street  
Canonsburg, PA 15317  
Tel: (724) 745-6720  
James N. DeAngelo, Supervisor

**Dale D. DeAngelo Funeral Home**

1290 Jefferson Ave.  
Washington, PA 15301  
Tel: (724) 225-9110  
Dale D. DeAngelo, Funeral Director

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Serving St. John the Baptist Church Since 1920



Don's Appliances contributes with sponsorships to local organizations year-round.  
Our efforts support the people who live and breathe Pittsburgh.

*We wish St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church  
a happy 100th anniversary, from our family  
to yours!*

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ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY

*Congratulations to the clergy and parishioners of  
St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church  
on 100 years of dedicated service to God's Holy Church*



*Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Russian Orthodox Church  
McKeesport, PA 15132*

Archpriest Dimitri D. Ermakov  
Parish Council and Parishioners



*Congratulations on 100 Years  
God Grant You Many More Years!*

*In Loving Memory of Parents and Brother*

**ANN AND JOHN MATYUF  
DAVID JOHN MATYUF**



*and departed family from the  
John and Anna Matyuf Family  
and  
Theodore and Mary Demay Family  
and  
John and Ruth Esaias Family*

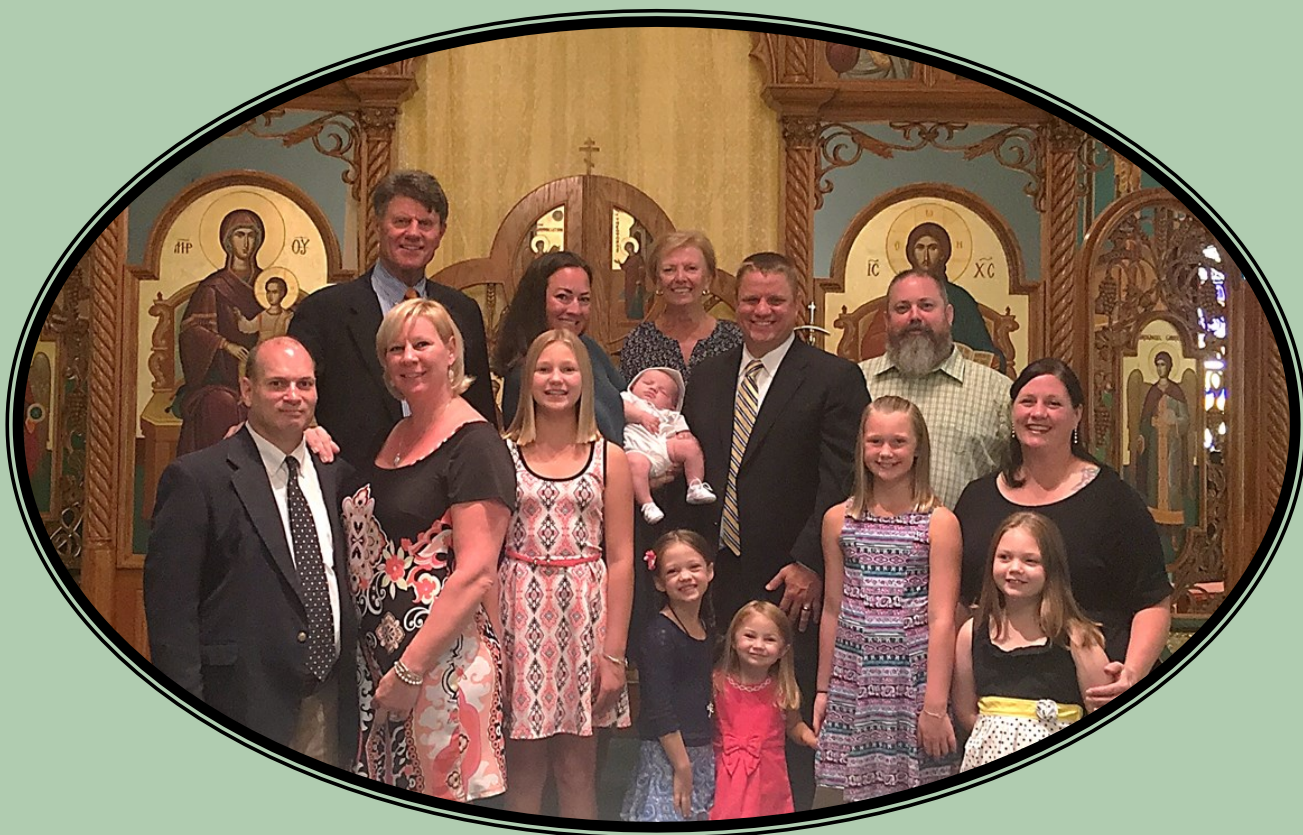
**MEMORY ETERNAL**



*Ruth Ann &  
John Esaias*



*Congratulations!*



*The Fedorchak's*

*Congratulations St. John The Baptist Orthodox Church on  
your 100th Anniversary!*

*We're honored to help you with your next hundred years.*



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*Memory Eternal  
To*

*Parents  
John & Esther Haverlack*

*Grandparents  
John & Julia Haverlack  
Steve & Mary Heiser*

*Family Members  
Haverlack  
Heiser  
Kolsosky  
Sweda  
Chupinsky*



*In loving, blessed memory,  
Diana*

May God Grant You

Many Years!

*From Your Brothers and Sisters at  
Holy Ghost Orthodox Church*

Ambridge, PA

*V. Rev. Fr. William J. Evansky, Pastor*



# Congratulations to the Faithful of the St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

God Grant You Many Years as Your Parish  
Continues to Work for the Greater Glory of God



Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church  
Belle Vernon, PA

The Reverend Father Stephan Gresh  
Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church Council  
Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church Choir



**H O L Y T R I N I T Y O R T H O D O X C H U R C H**  
**ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH AND WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA**  
**ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA**

Rector: Archpriest Gregory Peterson, Ph. D.  
1000 Lookout Ave., Charleroi PA 15022  
Phone: (724) 483-4441

June 14, 2018

Dear Father Joseph,

On this most memorable and meaningful event in the lives of the Faithful of Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church, the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its founding, we extend our heartfelt sincere congratulations.

We join with you in prayer and gratitude to our Heavenly Father for all of His Blessings He has bestowed upon you.

May our Lord grant Memory Eternal to all the Founders and Clergy who have served the parish.

May His special Blessings be upon you, Father Joseph, the Parish Council members and all the Faithful whom you have served and have ministered to over the years.

May God grant you and your Congregation good health, and Many Blessed Years!

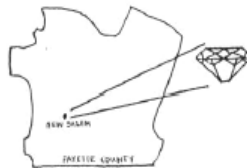
*Fr. Gregory and family, Parish Council, and Parishioners of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church.*

*Parishioners, Parish Council, and the Rector  
of the Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in New Salem, PA  
send their heartfelt congratulations  
to the Rector, Parish Council, and all parishioners of*

*St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church  
in Canonsburg, PA  
on its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
with warm wishes, brotherly love,  
and prayers. Many more years  
to your church and its congregation.  
May God continue to protect you;  
may He grant you many more blessings!*

*God can no more do without us, than we can do without him.*

*May the Lord help us and may His bounties  
be upon us in the years to come*



*Founded on coal,  
she has become a  
diamond.*

*“SALEM” means “PEACE”. This is Jerusalem’s original name. (Genesis 14:18)*

*In Judah God is known, His name is great in Israel. His abode has been established in  
Salem, His dwelling place in Zion. (Psalm 76)*

*Holy Trinity Orthodox Church  
Rector: archpriest Vitaly Dudkin  
President: Sonja DiCarlo  
Church Secretary: Sophia Berdar  
91 S. Mill St, New Salem, PA 15468  
724-245-9251 (Rectory)  
724-245-8413 (Secretary)  
Email: vitdudkin@gmail.com*



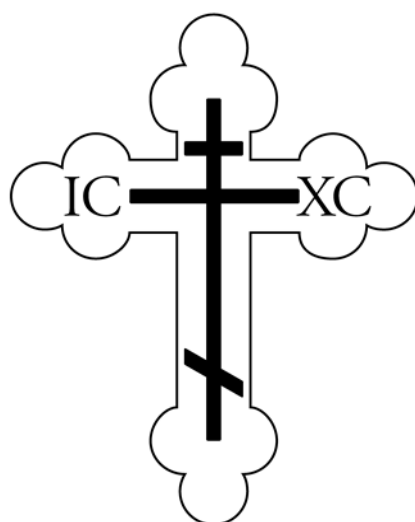
**Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church  
Carnegie, Pa.**

**May God grant you Many Years**

**Very Rev. Father R. George York ~ Pastor  
Parish Board and Parishioners**



Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church Carnegie, PA



## **in Loving Memory Of**

**Lukach (Luke) Louis Matyuf (a founding member)  
his wife, Tekla Matyuf, Anne Matyuf Kolarsky, all  
deceased members of the Matyuf families, all  
founding members of St. John's and their families.**

From

Anthony, Kathy and Pat Kolarsky

MEMORY ETERNAL



**MAY THE LORD BLESS OUR  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX PARISH  
ON ITS 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



**In Memory of  
My Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather**

**THEODORE F. LAZORCHAK**

**and**

**THE LAZORCHAK FAMILY**

**Father—Michael — Co-Founder**

**Mother— Anna**

**Brothers and Sisters**

**Michael**

**Harry**

**William**

**John**

**Anna**

**Julia**

**Memory Eternal! Vechnaya Pamyat!**

**Helen Lazorchak  
David, Leah, and Nathan Stockman**

*God's Blessings On Our  
St. John The Baptist Orthodox Parish  
On Its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



*In Memory of  
Parents and Grandparents*

**STEVE and HELEN ZUBENKO**

*Brothers and Sister  
Sisters-in-Law  
Uncles and Aunts*

*Infant Joseph  
Michael & Charlotte  
William & Elizabeth  
Andrew & Margaret  
George & Agnes  
John & Elsie  
Stephen  
Mary*

*Memory Eternal! Vechnaya Pamyat!*

*Helen Lazorchak  
David, Leah, and Nathan Stockman*



# The Malone Flower Shop

Leave the arrangements to us!

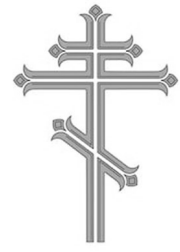
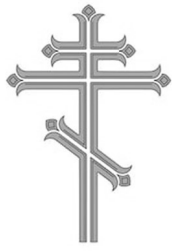
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---

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*May God  
continue to  
bless you.*



*In Loving Memory of*

*Our Grandparents*

*Theodore Frank & Julia Matyuf*

*(one of the founders of the church)*

*and*

*Our Parents*

*Theodore Frank Matyuf II*

*Ann Matyuf Souchak*

*Julia Matyuf Dluski*

*Helen Matyuf Kopy Koman*

*John Paul Matyuf*



*given by Children and Grandchildren*

“O Baptizer of Christ, pray unto God for us  
and the faithful  
of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church”



**Glory to God for all things!**

Protodeacon John, Matushka Myra,  
John Nicholas, Alexandra and Gregory Oleynik



Memory Eternal to our grandparents,  
V. Rev. John and Matushka Barbara Oleynik  
Thank you for teaching us the importance of God and family!



We love and miss you Father Dido and Baba Barb,  
John Nicholas, Alexandra & Gregory Oleynik



God Grant You Many Years

Baba Olga and Dido John Rusinko!

Thank you for guiding us in faith and in love  
and for working tirelessly together for 60+ years  
as true stewards of our parish, Archdiocese and  
the Orthodox Church in America.



Love,  
John Nicholas, Alexandra &  
Gregory Oleynik  
Abu & Meaza Rusinko



LAW OFFICE OF JAMES K PAULICK

---

**JAMES K. PAULICK**

ATTORNEY AT LAW

1569 MCFARLAND ROAD  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15216

PHONE: 412-353-9454  
FAX: 412-592-0330

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---

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# Congratulations

St. John's Parish on our 100th Anniversary

In Blessed Memory of Parents and Grandparents



Stephen and Mary Petronka



Michael and Helen Povich

*"Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28*

May we remain steadfast in our faith and may God  
Grant the St. John's Community Many Years!

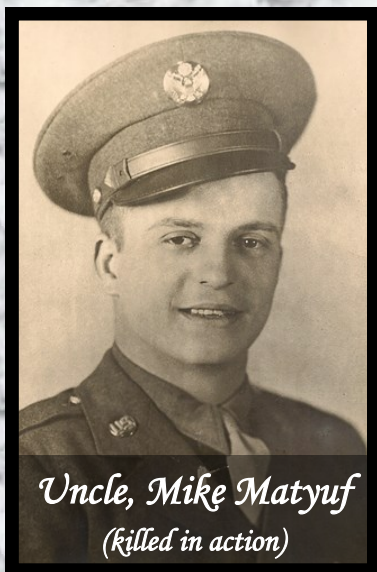


Tamara Petronka, Richard and Sonia Blaha,  
Pete and Dorothy Petronka

# *Memory Eternal Vechnaya Pamyat*



*Parents, George & Anne Puskarich*



*Uncle, Mike Matyuf  
(killed in action)*



*Grandparents, John & Anna Matyuf*

*...and all the deceased in the John & Anna Matyuf Family and all the Founding Fathers of our parish.*



*Eternally grateful for all they've done and the foundation of faith they provided,*

*Joe, Paula, Rachel, Ben & Luke Phillis*





*Commemorating*

*100 Years*

*In loving memory*

*of deceased in*

*Sakovich,*

*Prince*

*and Holowich*

*families*

*from*

*Gabe & Anita*

*Prince*

*and family*



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# Memory Eternal

To Our Grandparents  
Samuel and Mary (Uchal)  
Ridosh  
Founders



And

Parents  
Michael and Mary (Ridosh)  
Woitel



With Love and Gratitude

*Kevin and Mary Ann (Woitel) Reck*

*Catherine and Christopher Weber*



In memory of the Udodow family







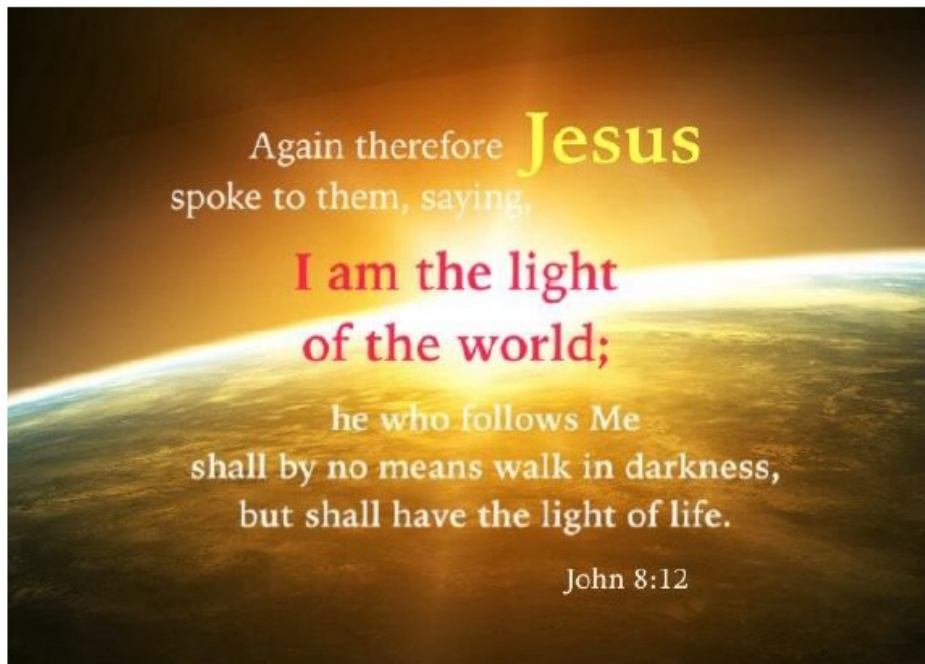
## St John's Orthodox Church

100 Years Strong and Still  
Moving Forward into the Future

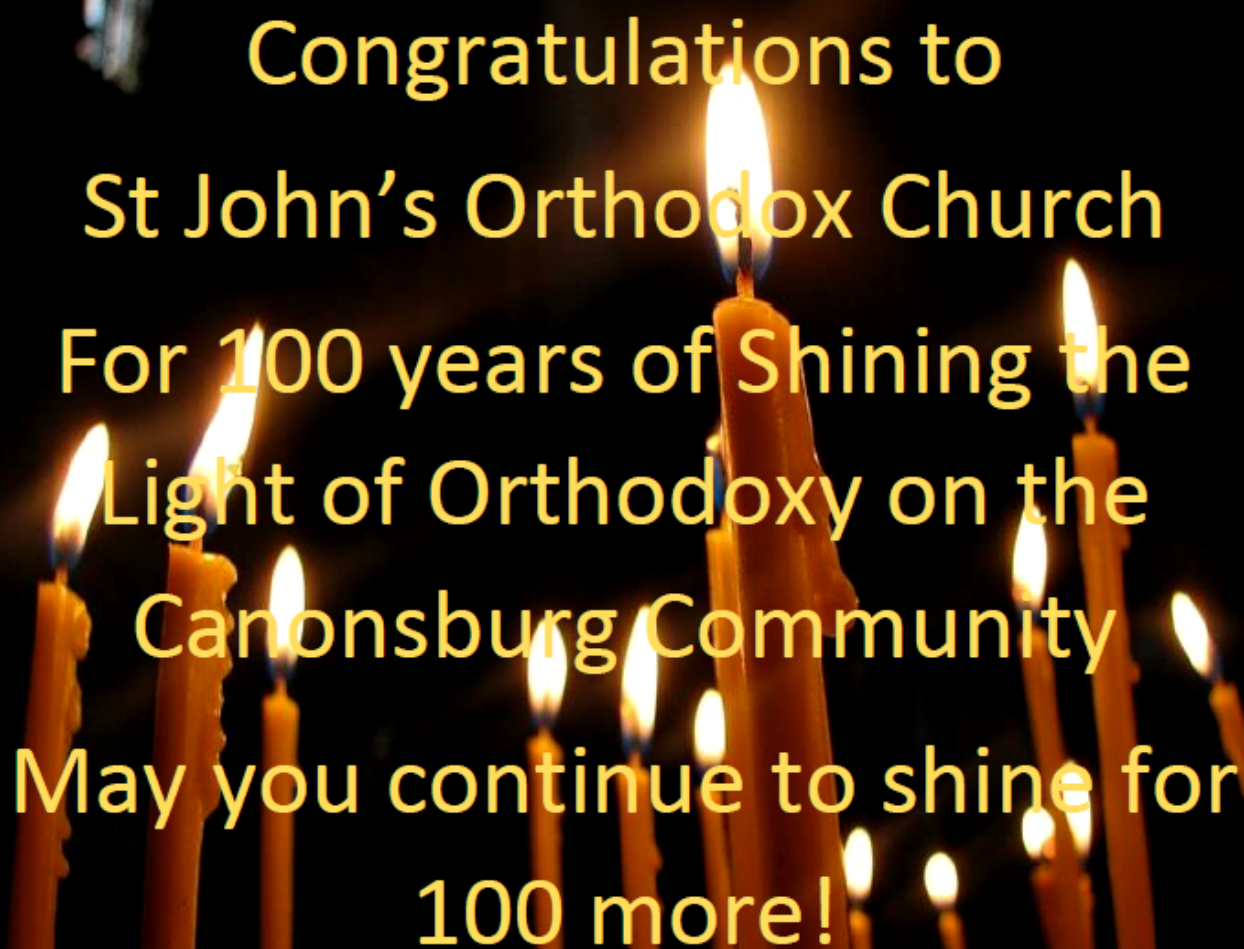
In memory of our grandparents,  
aunts and uncles that helped in  
founding and growing the church.

**May their Memories be Eternal!!**

God's Blessings for All of Those who continue to work  
and strive to grow the church for the next 100 Years!



The Rudolph Family – Kevin, Kira and Anastasia



**Congratulations to  
St John's Orthodox Church  
For 100 years of Shining the  
Light of Orthodoxy on the  
Canonsburg Community  
May you continue to shine for  
100 more!**

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... and Much Much More

## So much to celebrate!



We are blessed to have shared so many wonderful memories  
with our fellow parishioners, family and friends  
during our past 61 years here in Canonsburg.

We thank the founders, clergy, and dedicated lay leaders  
who have guided us

and now our children's children  
along the spiritual path of Orthodoxy.

May God Grant You Many Years!

John and Olga Rusinko

# RUSSIAN BROTHERHOOD ORGANIZATION

Saint Peter ~ Saint Paul

Lodge 247

Canonsburg, Pennsylvania

*Established March 5, 1916*



*100th Anniversary*

*March 5, 2016*

Ia Rusyn bŷŷ, iesm'y budu

I was, am and will remain a Rusyn.

**PAST**



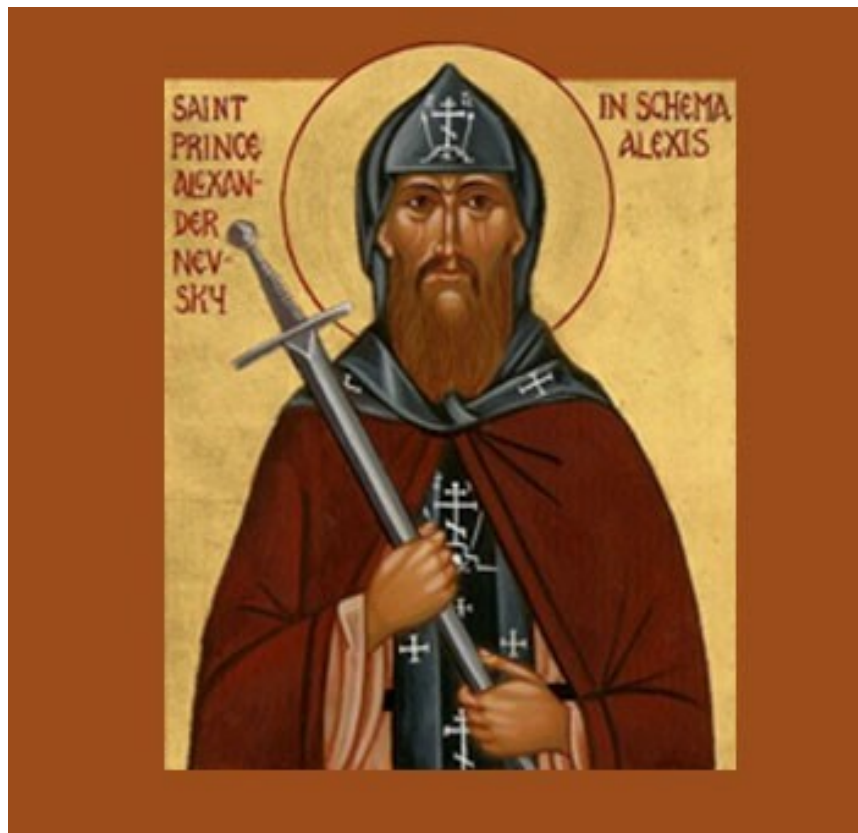
Братство Св. Ап. Петра и Павла Ч. 247 О. Р. Б., Канонсбург, Па.  
 Урядники въ первомъ рядѣ слѣва направо: Алексѣй Сивакъ, Организаторъ; Иванъ Матюхъ,  
 Организаторъ и Помощникъ Кассира; Теодоръ Фецичъ, Вице-Предсѣдатель; Стефанъ Котикъ,  
 Кассиръ; Лука Матюхъ, Предсѣдатель; Григорій Ващакъ, Секретарь; Николай Гонцъ, Помощ-  
 никъ Секретаря; Петръ Матюхъ, Контроллеръ.

Lodge Anniversary Picture of RBO St. Peter & Paul Lodge #247, Cbg., PA includes organizers and officers Alexis Sevak, John Matyuf, Theodore Fecycz, Steve Kotyk, Lukas (Louis) Matyuf, Harry Waschak, Nick Gontz, Pete Matyuf, (circa 1930's/1940's)

**PRESENT**



100th Year Anniversary—March 5, 2016. Sitting l-r: William Matyuf, Head Auditor & VP Emeritus; Chris Patrick, Treasurer; Standing l-r: Greg Matyuf, Vice President & Auditor; Lou Matyuf, President; Dave Carlock, National Officer; Dave Rhome, Mayor of Canonsburg



Love and Blessings  
from the  
Clergy & Faithful  
of



St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral  
[sanocpgh.org](http://sanocpgh.org)



**To Archpriest Joseph Oleynik  
And the God protected parish of  
St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, Canonsburg PA  
On the joyous occasion of the  
100th Anniversary of your Church  
May God grant Many Years  
With the love and prayers of  
Igumen Patrick and the faithful of  
St. Mary Orthodox Church, Pittsburgh PA**

Reverend Andrew P. Nelko, Acting Rector  
the Council & Parishioners of

# *St. Nicholas Church*

*Weirton, WV*



Ask God's blessings on our friends at

**St. John the Baptist Church**  
**Canonsburg, PA**

on the celebration of your  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.





*To Father Joseph, Matushka Annice,  
All The Clergy And  
All The Christ - Loving People Of  
Saint John's Parish*

*Many Years!*

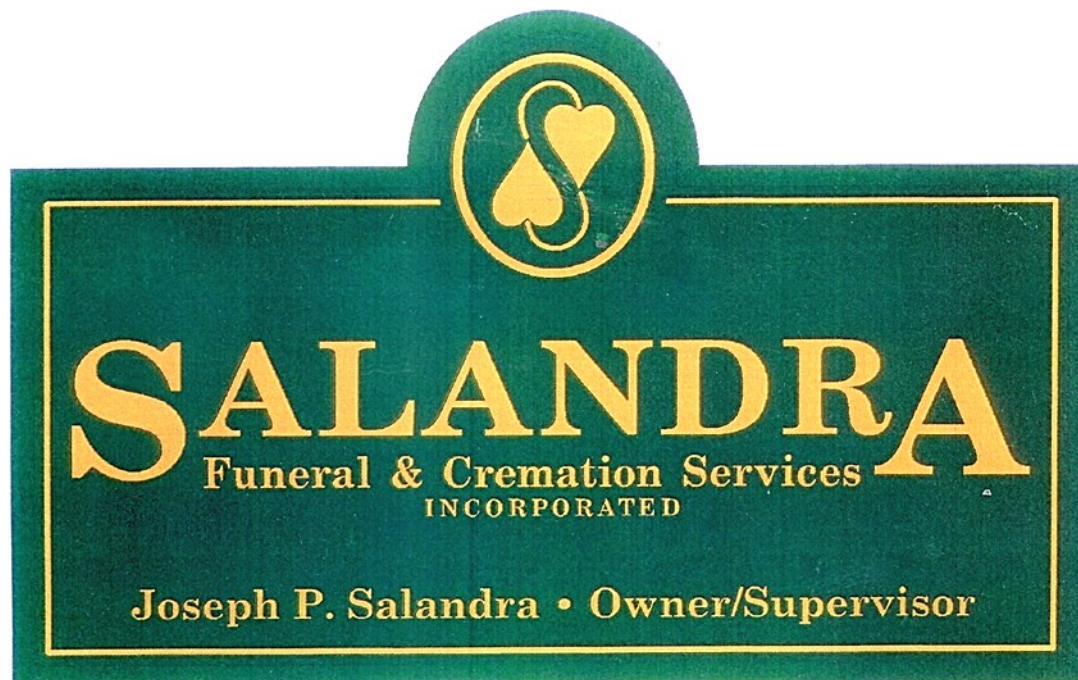
**Saint Nicholas Parish  
Duquesne, Pennsylvania**

**SALANDRA**

***FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES, INC.,***

***CONGRATULATES***

***ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH***  
***ON 100 YEARS!***





Congratulations to our  
St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church  
on her 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In loving memory of our beloved  
husband and father,  
Louis Schinosi

*Dolores Schinosi*

*Kirk, Debbie, Tyler & Kyle*

*Kimberly, Chris, Evan & Sophie*

*Lou, Rachel, Gabriella & Louie*

# THE SCHULTZ FAMILY

Dr. JOHN, SONIA, SARAH, JOHNNY



*God bless  
St. John the Baptist Church  
Canonsburg  
on the celebration of your  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*

*Congratulations*



ANNIVERSARY

## St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

*"God grant you many years"*



FROM

## The Simko and Strennen Families

John and Eleanor Simko, Michael Simko

Jerry, Lorie, Abigail, and Zachary Strennen

John, Dawn, Brandon, and Samuel Simko

Stephen, Julie, Sarah, Nicholas, and Jacob Simko

# **VECHNAYA PAMYAT**



*Grandparents  
John & Anna  
Matyuf*



*Parents  
John & Julia  
Spetek*



*Lovingly remembered by daughters and granddaughters  
Anna Marie, Nancy, Shirley and their families*

*God's Continued Blessings upon  
St. John's 100th Anniversary and beyond*



In loving memory of...

Michael & Julia Sweda

Basil & Audrey Sweda

Richard Sweda

Douglas Sweda

Sandra Sweda

Sweda & Kirby Families

McCaffrey & Atkins Families

Bernardi & Pavlik Families

Bendel & Filowiat Families

*Vechnaya Pamyat!*

The Sweda Family

*Thanks Be to God*

*Congratulations on 100 years!*



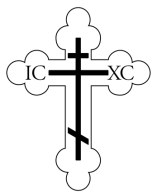
*With prayers for another 100 years!*

*The Yarosh Family*

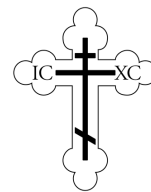


*God's Blessings  
and Best Wishes to All  
on the Occasion of the  
100th Anniversary of your Parish*

*Protodeacon Joseph Balkunowa*



*Congratulations and Best Wishes  
on your 100th Anniversary*

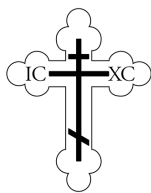


In Loving Memory of Father, Mother, Grandfather and Grandmother

**PAUL T. and PEARL S. DEMAY**

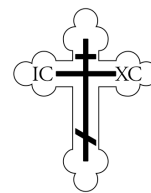
**THEODORE and MARY DEMAY**

**EDWARD and EVA SAPINSKY**



*From*

*Ronald, Debbie and Chelsea Ann Demay,  
Nick Walters and Danielle and John Lipscak*



*Eternal and Loving Memory of  
Parents, John & Mary Chupinsky*



*By Dr. John & Eva Chupinsky*

*Eternal and Loving Memory of  
Parents, Stephan & Mary Petronka*



*By Dr. John & Eva Chupinsky*

Congratulations and best wishes to All  
as we celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
"Faith, Family and Friends".

May God continue to BLESS and grant us Many Years.



*Helene Emerick*



*May God Grant You Many Years!*

Archpriest William J. Evansky

Chancellor

Archdiocese of Pittsburgh  
and Western Pennsylvania (OCA)

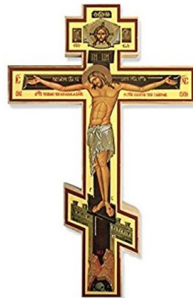
# Congratulations St. John the Baptist Parish



*Subdeacon Thomas & Cynthia Havrilak*

GOD'S BLESSINGS & BEST WISHES ON 100 YEARS  
GOD GRANT YOU MANY MORE YEARS!

*Susan Horosky & Janet Horosky  
Archpriest John C. Horosky*



MAY THE LORD GRANT ETERNAL REST TO OUR DEARLY DEPARTED.  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

*Parents  
John & Josephine  
Horosky*

*Grandparents  
Charles & Cecelia  
Horosky*

*Grandparents  
Frank & Frances  
Zimny*

*Wife & Sister-in-law  
Matushka Judith  
Horosky*

***Faithful members of St. John the Baptist Church in Canonsburg:***

From humble beginnings in Canonsburg, your church is now one that is “set on a hill” reminding us of our Lord’s words: “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.” (Matthew 5:14)

In the years ahead “May your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Congratulations on the Centennial of your parish, and best wishes for continued growth and faithful witness to Holy Orthodoxy in Canonsburg.



*Protopresbyter Daniel and Matushka Dunia Hubiak*



**Michael Kusturiss**

Agent

210 W. Pike Street  
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*24 Hour Good Neighbor Service®*

*Congratulations  
to a wonderful  
Community  
on your  
100th Anniversary!*



*Congratulations on your  
100<sup>th</sup> anniversary!*



**The Maceiko Family**

**Frances**

**Richard & Donna  
Tiffany and Tyler**

**Robert**

**David & Sarah  
Allie and Nick**

*Here's to another 100!*



*In loving memory of*

*My husband  
Mike (9/2/85)*

*And my beloved son  
Michael (4/4/17)*

*With all my love,  
Frances Maceiko*



**100**

**In Memory of  
Steve and Florence Matyuf**



*Memory Eternal!*

*given by Greg & Gay Lynn Matyuf*



In Memory of  
Lukas & Tekla (Majkowicz)  
Matiuch (Matyuf)

and

Children

Anna

Eva

Mary

Helen

Catherine

Andrew

*Vechnaya Pamyat! Memory Eternal!*

*Offered by Louis & Carolyn Matyuf*



*In Memory of*

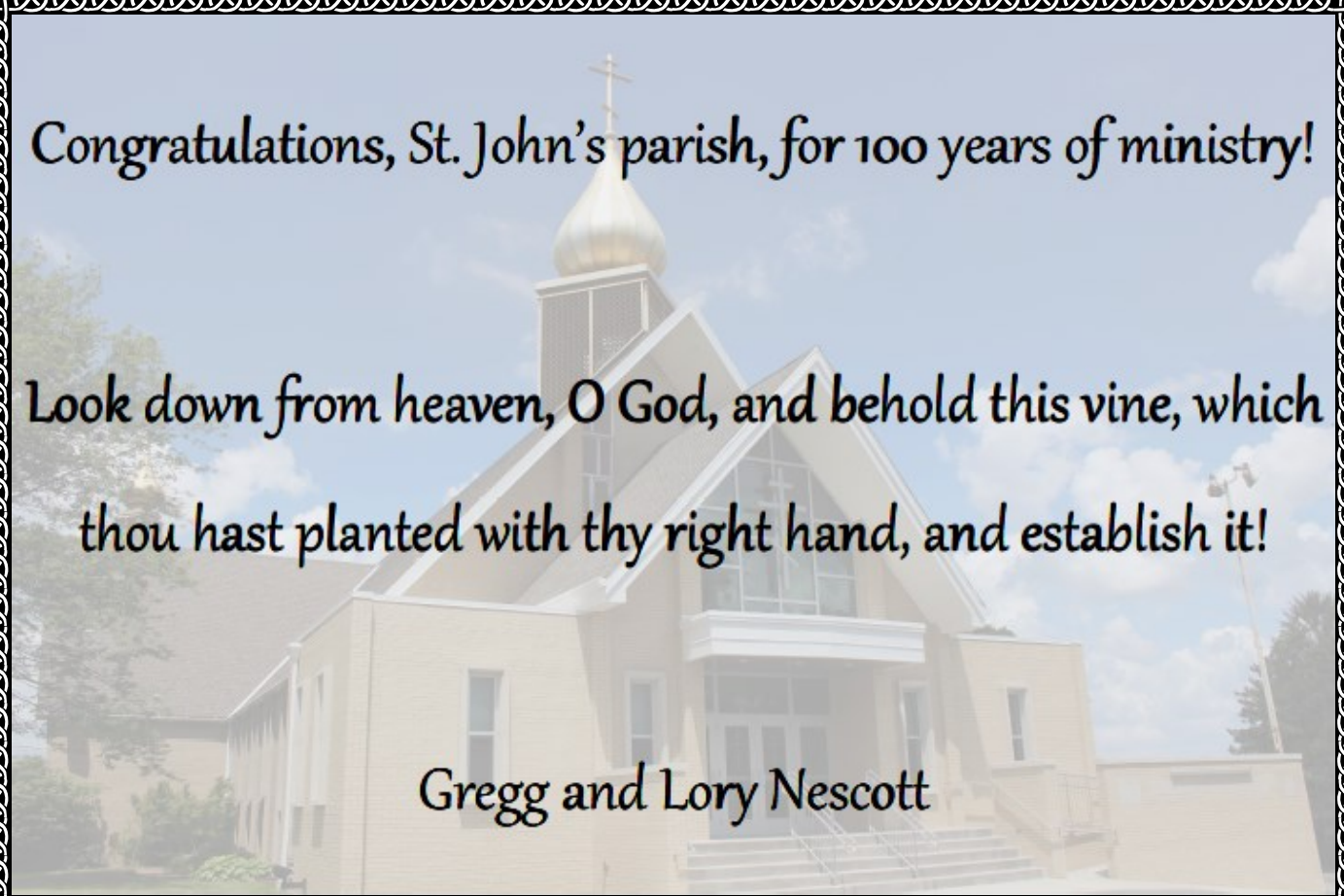
*Wife, Dorothy Matyuf*

*John & Anna Matyuf*

*Michael & Constance Ogradowski*

*offered by*

*William Matyuf*



Congratulations, St. John's parish, for 100 years of ministry!

Look down from heaven, O God, and behold this vine, which  
thou hast planted with thy right hand, and establish it!

Gregg and Lory Nescott



*“Let the heavens rejoice. Let the earth be glad.”*

---

**Memory Eternal**

*to the venerable founders and those who labored  
and served with faith and love.*

**Many Years**

*to the faithful of St. John the Baptist parish!*

---

*Rev. Dn. Mark, Matushka Kelly Elizabeth, Hannah, Samuel, and Benjamin Oleynik*



*Congratulations St. John's Orthodox Church*

*100 years!*

*May God grant us many more.*

*Mike, Susan, Michael and Katie Pazuchanics*



*In Memory of  
Parents*

*Henry & Eva Pirih*



*Vechnaya Pamyat!  
Memory Eternal!*

*by Marian,  
Michael & Mary Pirih*

**Greetings from Florida**

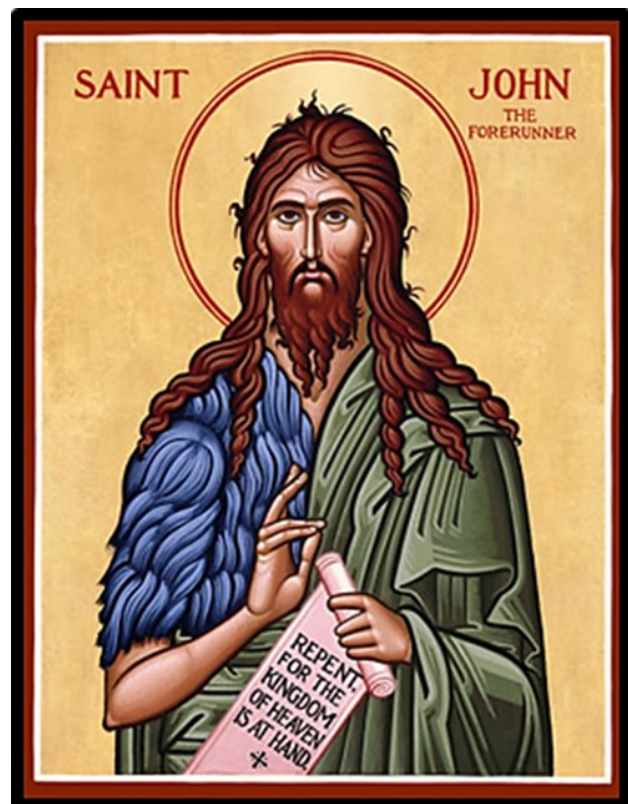
to congratulate  
St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church  
on 100 years in Canonsburg.

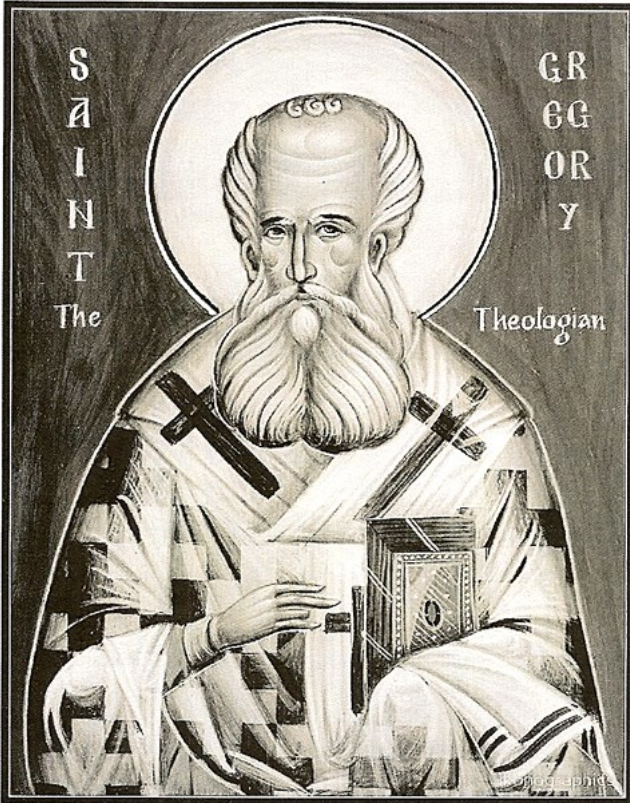
**May God Grant your parish many more!**

*Yours in Christ from  
St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church  
Inverness, Florida (The Villages, Florida)*



Marian Pirih	Archbishop Mark Maymon of Philadel- phia & Eastern PA	Father Sergious Gerken
-----------------	---	------------------------------





**St. Gregory  
Orthodox Church**

214 E 15th Avenue, Homestead PA 15120

**Fr. Evgeni Peykov**

Phone: 412-580-7621 / Email: [epeykov@yahoo.com](mailto:epeykov@yahoo.com)

**Congratulations  
On Your  
100th  
Anniversary!**

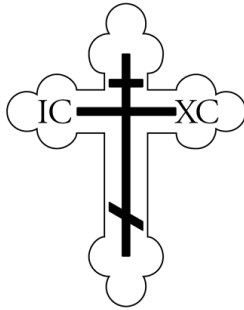
**Happy 100th St John's!**

*Happy Anniversary!*

CHEERS TO ALL THE YEARS!

**Congratulations from the Schenken Family**

In Loving Memory



Katherine and Silvester Kanzius  
Helen and Harry Shamitko  
John Kanzius

*Memory Eternal!*

Jane and Gregory Shamitko

2 Timothy 4:6-8



***Vechnaya Pamyat***



*In loving memory of*  
***Julia Matyuf Spetek, 89***

*Fell asleep unto the Lord January 22, 2018*  
*Lifetime member of St. John's who so looked forward*  
*to being here for the 100th Anniversary*



# Congratulations

on St. John's 100th Anniversary

**Joe and  
Mary Ann Matyuf  
Zupancic**



- ✦ **Candle Room Attendant for over 50 Years**



- ✦ **Lifelong Member and Granddaughter of  
One of the Founders**
- ✦ **Choir Member for 65 Years**

## *Congratulations to St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church*

*On One Hundred Years,  
and Here's to Many More!*



*Taisia Zupancic*





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**CONGRATULATIONS  
ON CELEBRATING  
100 YEARS  
IN CANONSBURG!**



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*God's Blessings to  
St. John's parish*



*May God grant you  
"Many Years"*

*Best Wishes  
for the 100th!  
from*




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*God's Blessings  
for many more*



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Dorothy K. Zikos      Nick C. Lipapis

**Wishing St. John the Baptist  
Orthodox Church, their clergy  
and parishioners a wonderful  
100th Anniversary!**



*In loving memory of our parents...*

*Alfred and Helen Davis*

*John and Mary Sesco*

*Vechnaya Pamyat!*

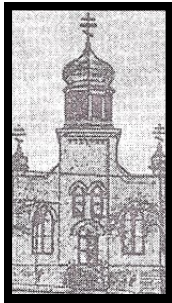
*Alfred and Beverly Davis*

*In Memory of  
Archpriest John  
&  
Matushka Barbara  
Oleynik*



*from The Klingsmith Family*

**Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Many Years! M'horaya Lira!**



Congratulations and Prayerful best wishes to the Archpriest Joseph,  
& our Brothers and Sisters  
Of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, Canonsburg, Pa.  
On the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. John's Church

*"Be strong, and show yourself a man, and keep the charge of the Lord your God,  
walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments,  
his ordinances, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law,  
that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn..."*

*(1 Kings 2: 2-3)*

From the parish families of:

HOLY ASSUMPTION OF ST. MARY  
629 Sunshine Avenue  
Central City, Pa. 15926

SS. PETER & PAUL  
100 Tipple Road  
Berlin, Pa. 15530

Rev. Fr. Elijah J. Bremer, Rector  
Officers & Parishioners  
[www.saintmarysoca.org](http://www.saintmarysoca.org)

*Greetings  
and  
Best Wishes*



*Loretta Matyuf*

In Loving Memory of



**Grandparents**

*Wosil & Anna Melnyk  
Metro & Mary Behun*

**Parents**

*Michael & Eva Melnyk*

*from*  
*M. Charles & Cecilia Melnyk*



*In  
Loving Memory  
of*

*Mike & Mary Uchal*

*from  
Your Grandchildren*



In Loving Memory of

**Parents:**

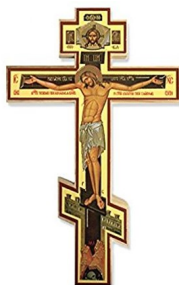
*Mitred Archpriest Paul &  
Matushka Pauline White*

**Grandparents:**

*John & Sue Homer  
Frank & Anna Babilya*

**Aunts:**

*Mary Ann Maddox  
Anna Mae Parker*



*Mr. & Mrs. Mark White & Family*







# MEMORIALS



*“Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.” —Matthew 11:28*

*Though they are not with us today, they are always in our hearts & minds.*

*Memory Eternal      ❁❁❁      Vechnaya Pamyat*

*In Memory of*

*John & Viola  
Anthony*

*from  
Michele E. Campbell*

*In Memory of*

*Helen & Michael  
Bushko*

*from  
Michele E. Campbell,  
Sara & Gemma*

*In Memory of*

*Tekla & Louis  
Matyuf*

*from  
Michele E. Campbell*

*In Memory of*

*Husband  
Andrew “Andy”  
Matyuf*

*from  
wife, Grace M. Matyuf & family*

*In Memory of*  
Parents  
Peter Matyuf  
&  
Sophie Matyuf

from  
Loretta Matyuf

*In Memory of*  
Our Parents  
Mary & Steve  
Migyanko

from Children: Anna Kay,  
John, Stephanie & Barry

*In Memory of*  
Robert "Bobby"  
Wright

from  
Christopher & Ashley Wright

*In Memory of*  
John, Anna,  
Vera and George  
Zotov

from  
Martha Zotov

*Memory  
Eternal!*

*Vechnaya  
Pamyat!*



The angel cried to  
the Lady Full of  
Grace: Rejoice, O  
Pure Virgin!

Again I say Rejoice!  
Your Son is risen  
from His three days  
in the tomb!

With Himself He  
has raised all the  
dead! Rejoice, all  
ye people.

Shine! Shine! O  
New Jerusalem!

The glory of the  
Lord has shone on  
you!

Exult now and be  
glad, O Zion!

Be radiant, O Pure  
Theotokos, in the  
Resurrection of  
your Son!





*Thank you to our . . .*



# *PATRONS*



*Sophia Berdar*

*Daniel J. Chupinsky*

*Serge & Carolyn Daniels*

*Sonja DiCarlo*

*The Andrew Fedetz Family*

*Louise Gerber Family*

*Diana Haverlack*

*Bob & Denise Kalakewich*

*Louis & Carolyn Matyuf*

*Michael S. Povich*

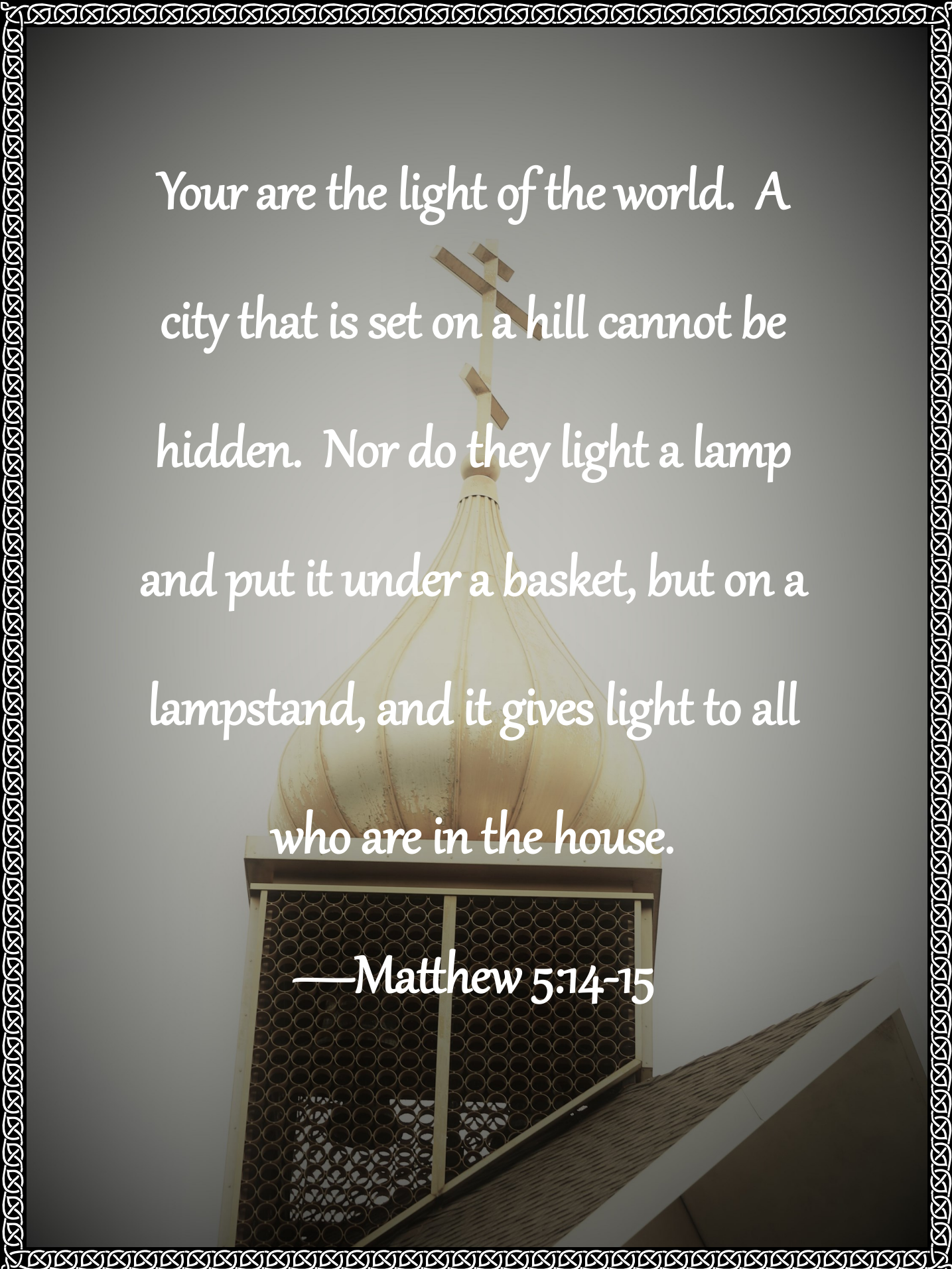
*Olga Povich*

*Madelyn & Patrick Rohaley*

*Anastasia Rudolph*

*Dr. Stephanie A. Urchick*





Your are the light of the world. A  
city that is set on a hill cannot be  
hidden. Nor do they light a lamp  
and put it under a basket, but on a  
lampstand, and it gives light to all  
who are in the house.

—Matthew 5:14-15



# The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy Name, Thy  
Kingdom come, Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us  
this day our daily bread; and  
forgive us our trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against  
us; and lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from  
evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever, Amen.



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH PARISH 100TH ANNIVERSARY - 2018

*Picture taken May 20, 2018*



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