



600 Silver Lane, Stratford, CT 06614  
www.stjohnsilverlane.net

# St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

**Pastor:**  
Very Rev E. Michael Macura  
Phone: 203.386.8888 - Cell: 203.218.1627  
Email: frmichael@optonline.net  
**Subdeacons:**  
Joseph Laput & Joel Pleban  
**Cantor:**  
Subdeacon Christopher Gombos  
**Parish President:**  
Carole Krochta  
Phone: 203.375.2621  
Email: cwkrochta@optonline.net

**GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!  
GLORY FOREVER!**

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR JULY 2016

### Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>

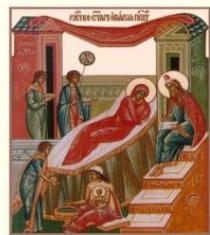
9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Carpatho-Rusyn Saints - Tone 1  
Readings: Romans 2:10 – 16; Matthew 4:18 – 23  
Panahida: In memory of deceased members of the Sabol & Kamenitsky families offered by John Sabol

### Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>

5:30 p.m.: Great Vespers and Litiya for *Nativity of St. John the Baptist- Patronal Feast Day-Joint service here at Saint John's on Silver Lane*

### Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy – *Nativity of St. John the Baptist- Patronal Feast Day-Joint Celebration of the Divine Liturgy at Saint John's on Broadbridge Avenue*



### Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 2  
Readings: Romans 5:1 – 10; Matthew 6:22 – 33

### Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m.: Great Vespers and Litiya for the *Feast of the Apostles Peter & Paul*



### Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy – *Feast of the Apostles Peter & Paul*

### Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 3  
Readings: Romans 6:18 – 23; Matthew 8:5 – 13

### Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 4  
Readings: Romans 10:1 – 10; Matthew 8:28 – 9:1

### Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>

9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5  
Readings: Romans 12:6 – 14; Matthew 9:1 – 8

### Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 6  
Readings: Romans 15:1 – 7; Matthew 9:27 – 35



**FOLLOW OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE**

**Diocesan Website:**

<http://www.acrod.org>

**Camp Nazareth:**

<http://www.campnazareth.org>

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>

**Twitter:**

<https://twitter.com/acrodnews>

**You Tube:**

<https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

## **FROM FATHER MICHAEL**

### **CONTACTING FATHER**

You can reach me at either of the following numbers: 203-386-8888 or my cell phone at 203-218-1627. I am here to serve you, so please feel free to contact me at any time and especially with any emergencies or problems that may arise. God bless!

### **CHANTERS SCHEDULE FOR THE NICEAN CREED**

The following groups and/or individuals are scheduled to chant the Nicene Creed on the following dates:

07/03 Peter Samilenko	07/24 Subdeacon Chris
07/10 Joe Samilenko	07/31 Peter Samilenko
07/17 Congregation	08/07 Joe Samilenko

### **ALTAR SERVERS**

All Altar servers are expected to be in the sanctuary at least five minutes before the beginning of any Liturgical service. Please try to arrive on time. The following altar servers are responsible for the altar on the following dates:

07/03 Joe Samilenko	07/24 Stephen Ordner
07/10 Magnus Ordner	07/31 Joe Samilenko
07/17 David Pleban	08/07 Magnus Ordner

### **FACEBOOK/WEBSITE**

Follow and "like" us on Facebook to keep up to date. Search "St. John's Orthodox Church of Silver Lane" on your Facebook search engine to find our site. Remember to also visit our church website frequently!! Go to [www.stjohnsilverlane.net](http://www.stjohnsilverlane.net) and add it to your favorites!!



### **CANDLE DONATIONS**

June 26<sup>th</sup>

- Eternal Candle offered by Maria Michaels in memory of Anna, Joseph & Stephen Koval. Memory Eternal!

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

- Eternal Candle offered by Maria Michaels in memory of Stephen Joseph Michaels. Memory Eternal!
- Altar Candles offered by Samilenko family for health of Michael Pistey. Many Years!

July 10<sup>th</sup>

- Eternal Candle offered by Maria Michaels in memory of Stephen Joseph Michaels. Memory Eternal!

July 17<sup>th</sup>

- Eternal Candle offered by Carole Krochta in memory of husband Walter Krochta. Memory Eternal!

- Tetrapod Candles offered by Melanie Ordner in honor and for health of Emilia Ordner on the occasion of her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday. Happy Birthday! Many Years! In Memory of Stephen J. Michaels. Memory Eternal!

July 24<sup>th</sup>

- Eternal Candle offered by Maria Michaels in memory of Stephen Joseph Michaels. Memory Eternal!

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

*The people listed below who are in need of our special prayers:*

Michael & Nina Andrenyak, Irene Babey, Ann Balasa, Pani Betty Jean Baranik, Fr. Larry Barriger, Judy Berard, Fr. Thomas Blaschak, Lena Bobko, Lenny Booth, Andrea Bower, Dean Bradford (Mer. Marine), Penny Briganti, Andre Briganti, Melissa Brock, Rosemary Brown, Kimberly Calhoun, Shirley Canaan, Jean & Joseph Candela, Michael Capuano, Joyce Cayer, Protopresbyter David Cochran, MaryAnn Damato, Ray Davidson, Jeff Delvecchio, Laura DeMayo, Karen Dobosz, Joan Dumas, Fr. John & Pani Patricia Duranko, Noreen Ehnot, Marie Eichler, Fr. John Fencik, Carol & Bob Ferik, Bill Forth, Fr. John Gido, Chris, Eileen, Sarah, Nicholas & Annie Gombos, Ken & Marie Hegyi, Fr. Paul Herbert, Betsy & Tom Hetherington, Bruce Hultgren, Gus Jarosko, Maya Joyner, Pani Katherine Jula, Jessica Keane, Peter Kepchar, Bettie Kerpchar, Barbara Kolaric, Sarah Kotos, Protopresbyter Elias & Pani Anne Kozar, Michele Krochta, Subdeacon Joseph Laput, Marcia Laput, Gregory Laput, Thomas Laput, Mark Lawruszko, Irene Lombard, Elsi Lotufo, John Lovell, Arthur Macura, Fr. Daniel Mahler, Irene Maty, Don Maxton, Peter McGinnis, Frank Meyernick, Lillian Mierzejewski, Protopresbyter Luke Mihaly, Megan Morrissey, Fr. Ted Mozes, Philip Murphy, Merle Palmer, John Papa, Raymond Peterson, Verna & Michael Pistey, Roseann & John Plavnick, Adriana Pleban, Sandy Pleban, Betty Pollman, Kim Pollman, Pani Eleanor Pribish, Fr. Michael Psenechnuk, Liam Rice, Linda Rosinsky, John Sabol, Pani Helen Shutack, Josephine Sinatro, Pani Anna Slovesko, Diane Sorrentino, Barbara Susi, Susanne Talley, Sarah Tartaglio, Daniel & Sebastian Tomy, Gary Wolff, Karen Ann Yuschak, Michael, Paula, Daniel, Holly, Tiffany, Lynn, Susan, Betty, Ann, Carol, Greg, Jackie & Our US Military Personnel

### **On Stewardship and the Orthodox Life - Part 13: Sacrificial Giving**

...And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, that nothing may be lost." (John 6:12 RSV)

If the Orthodox people had the love of God firmly embedded in their hearts, if every church member were



saturated with the spirit of self-sacrifice, there would be no lack of funds for the church-at-large, the local parishes or any ministry of the church that needs those funds to operate. Our resources would be multiplied. A thousand doors of usefulness would be opened.

If ever there were a time to sacrifice, it is now. We must practice economy in our homes. We must put away the worldly idols that have been placed before God. We must give up selfish pleasures. We must not expend our means to simply beautify the places where we live our lives. After all, we have said so many times here, our money belongs to God, it will be to Him that we will have to give an account for its use. We cannot give in to every fad and fancy that comes along to entertain ourselves and our children. When those temptations arise, it is the perfect time to instruct our family members that God has a claim on everything (yes, everything!) we possess – and nothing will ever cancel that claim!

Our money and goods are needed treasures. We cannot lavish them upon those who do not need them. Someone needs our willing gifts. There are those in our world, or around the corner from where we live who are hungry, yes, starving. We might say, "But I cannot feed them all!" But by practicing sacrificial giving, we can feed one at a time. "Gather up the fragments left over, that nothing may be lost." These words were spoken by Christ whose power supplied the needs of a large group of hungry people.

Do we practice excessive, extravagant habits? Then let us cut them away at once. The discipline of economy, industry, clear and selfless thinking are a much better gift to give our children than a rich inheritance.

We walk as strangers and pilgrims on this earth. Our "probationary" time in this life is limited as we prepare for the life that will be eternal. Let us not spend our brief time in this world satisfying the desires that God would have us curb. Of what value is wealth if it is stored up in automobiles, electronics, large and expensive homes, or invested in Wall Street, when we compare such wealth with the wealth that we need to store up to take with us into eternity?

### On Stewardship and the Orthodox Life - Part 14: Baptism and Turning One's Back on the Church



"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If any one loves the world, love for the Father is not in him." (1 John 2:15 RSV)  
At the Holy Mysteries of Baptism and Chrismation, the candidate (and his or her

sponsor) stands at the door of the church facing the East, the rising sun, the symbol of Resurrection and the new life that awaits the newly baptized. At one point in the rite, the candidate is turned away from the East, and is instructed to turn to the West. During the time the candidate faces West, the prayer for the casting out of sin and Satan is prayed by the priest. The candidate is then turned back to the East (seemingly with much relief). He or she is now ready to be joined to Christ and His Church.

That brief moment of turning one's back on Christ and His Church is the very moment when one's allegiance to Satan and all his works and all his ways should finally put behind. Evil and darkness are cast out. All there is to come is brightness and the uncreated Light that is the Transfigured (changed) Christ!

This joining of a person to Christ and His Church is not to be taken lightly. Every Orthodox Christian should strive to maintain this attachment. And every Orthodox Christian is given the means to do so. The Holy Mysteries are available to every Orthodox Christian. A spiritual Father is available to every Orthodox Christian. There should be no question that there are resources for every Orthodox Christian to remain firmly in the Church of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

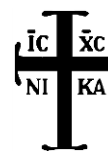
Yet the connection is often lost, or becomes only a thin thread holding on. Why? It may be that a person has turned away on purpose – that is, turned his or her back on the Church just as was symbolically done at Baptism. This happens more often than not because the lure of the world to self and selfishness is all around us. From TV commercials to the little ads you see on every internet website to the mounds of junk mail everyone receives every day. These are all calls to satisfy one's own self. These are temptations, lures, attractions to give what means you have to someone else in return from some trinket, service or product that one really does not need.

Such is the beginning of the Orthodox Christian's re-attachment to this world, to sin and to Satan. Such is the beginning of the loss of a true understanding of stewardship. We are Christ's. We belong to Him. All we have is from Him. All we expect to receive eternally is due to His first love for us, and our response of love to Him.

*This weekly series of brief thoughts on stewardship and Orthodox life is brought to you by your Diocesan Stewardship Commission.  
([www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org))*

### YOUR STEWARDSHIP

The Year 2016 is already into its' sixth month! Hopefully, we all have made a commitment to participate in our church stewardship offering for the year and to put aside at least our "dollar-a-day", or whatever we are able to, in order to help support the work of our church. May our Lord Jesus Christ bless all of you with health and happiness as you continue to participate during these very difficult times! Many Years! Mnohaja Lita!



### DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

Our deepest sympathies are extended on the passing of Peter Tatsis to His Grace, Bishop Gregory and his family on June 6<sup>th</sup>. You can read the obituary on-line at:

<http://www.acrod.org/news/7283/em-peter-tatsis>

### HOLY AND GREAT COUNCIL

His Grace, Bishop Gregory was invited to serve as a member the Ecumenical Patriarchate's official delegation at the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox in Crete. The council started on 16<sup>th</sup> and will end on the 27<sup>th</sup>. More than 300 bishops and special guests from the primates of all 10 of the 14 Orthodox autocephalous (or self-governed) Churches are meeting to pray and discuss issues of common concern. Follow updates on our diocesan web-site. Pray that their deliberations are good and that they safely return to their homes.

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Please stay in touch with the following people by sending a card or note, calling or visiting them. Let them know they are being prayed for and that they are missed and thought of often!

- Irene Babey, PO Box 181, Stratford, CT 06615
- Ann Balasa, 218 Virginia Ave, Unit 2B, Bridgeport, CT 06610
- Pani Helen Shutack, 218 Virginia Ave, Unit 2B, Bridgeport, CT 06610



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

4<sup>th</sup>: Irene B                      16<sup>th</sup>: Emilia O  
9<sup>th</sup>: Sharon L                      30<sup>th</sup>: Melissa T

### DON'T FORGET

- **Please refrain from texting and phone calls during church.** There's a time and place for that ... and it's not during church services. If the call or text absolutely cannot wait, we ask that you step downstairs so as not to disturb anyone else.
- **When you are at St. John's Cemetery in Stratford** caring for a loved one's gravesite, please stop by Metropolitan Orestes and Pani Yolanda's gravesite to offer a prayer and water/prune the flowers. Thank you!
- **If you would like to have Altar Candles, Eternal Light, or side Iconostas Candles lit in honor of or in memory of family or friends,**

please register on our signup sheet in the back of the church. A donation of \$5.00 is appreciated.

- **If you or a family member goes into the hospital,** please have someone contact Father Michael immediately. Hospitals no longer give out patient information when priests call to ask if a parishioner is a patient.
- **If you would like to request a panahida service** on a Sunday, please add it to the panahida listing on the back table in church.
- **Yearly parish financial obligations are traditionally taken care of during the Lenten season.** However, if circumstances prevent this from occurring you can pay them in monthly installments during the year (or use monthly offering envelope). To be a member in good standing, you must pay yearly dues of **\$165.00 per adult** plus all past yearly dues that you may be delinquent in paying. A portion of your annual dues goes to pay your diocesan yearly dues. Not sure if you are up-to-date? Please see Financial Secretary Debbie Samilenko to find out your financial status.

### THANK YOU TO

- ❖ Those who made donations in memory of Alan Plavnicky: Ronald & Alice Bunovsky, Lois & David Finn, Carole Krochta, Maryann & Donald Nelson, J&R Plavnicky, Sandy Pleban, Ruth Pulaski & Evelyn Porter, Samilenko Family
- ❖ The women who prepared and served a delicious Father's Day Brunch and those who donated items for our Chinese Auction
- ❖ All who cooked and attended our Spring Food and Tag Sale
- ❖ **Our Stewards, God's Gardeners, grounds and church cleaners!**

### OFFICERS MEETING

The monthly meeting of our church officers will take place on Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the church hall. All officers are asked to attend.

### WEDNESDAY BINGO

Don't forget to come down to our weekly Wednesday Night BINGO in the Church Hall. BINGO begins at 6:45 p.m. with a "Winner Take All" game at 6:30 p.m. for early arrivals! We have free coffee and soda available during BINGO along with snacks. Prior to BINGO from 5:00 – 6:30 pm we will have hot dogs for sale.



### YOUTH IN ACTION THIS SUMMER

Our youth are busy this summer now that school is out participating in retreats, mission work, and camps. Please keep our youth in your prayers as they travel around the world. We'll share their destinations in next month's bulletin.

## TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME DINNER AND BINGO

Come on out to our Take Me Out To The Ball Game Dinner at 4:00 pm on Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> in our air-conditioned church hall. Join us for a meal sure to fill everyone (chicken, potato salad, baked beans, corn on the cob, dessert, and beverages) – cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. We will also have Bingo games starting at 5:30 pm if you would like to stay and participate in those as well. Admission is \$1.00 for Bingo. Take out meals are available for \$11.00 and can be picked up after 5:30 pm. Contact Carole K if you would like to make a reservation to eat in or take out before the 18<sup>th</sup> so we can make sure we have enough food to feed everyone. Volunteers are needed to prepare, serve and clean up at the meal.



## NATIONAL ACRY SUMMER MISSION TRIP

The National ACRY is sponsoring its first Mission Trip to St. Herman's House in Cleveland, OH. This trip is an on-going effort to provide opportunities of mission work for our ACRY members. Our ACRY Ambassador Daniel Coffman had the opportunity to work there during his Real Break Trip in March and saw the impact we can make at St. Herman's. The summer trip will take place during the weekend of August 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> working at the house. Any diocesan adult age 18 and older is invited to participate. Contact Fr. Peter Paproski [rrpaproski@gmail.com](mailto:rrpaproski@gmail.com) for more information.

## NATIONAL ACRY CONVENTION

Holy Resurrection ACRY in Potomac, MD, is this year's host of the National ACRY Convention and has a great weekend planned for all who attend. Chairpersons Nick & Tim Dzubak have provided the following information to us on the weekend:

- Hotel accommodations will be at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center in Bethesda, MD with a group rate of \$109.00 plus tax per night.
- Golf outing is scheduled for September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9 am
- Saturday afternoon excursions (cost is \$15/person) to:
  - The Hillwood Museum
  - Arlington National Cemetery
  - Monuments on the Washington DC National Mall
- Meal package includes 4 meals (\$150/ages 18+, \$125/ages 13-17, \$75/ages 12 & under)
  - Saturday Plated Breakfast
  - Saturday night choices – Fussilli Pasta with Herb Chicken and Alfredo

Sauce –or- Orzo Pasta with Roasted Vegetables and Basil Pesto

- Sunday Plated Breakfast
- Sunday night choices – Grilled Breast of Chicken with Grain Mustard Demi Glace, Grilled Flat Iron Steak with Bourbon Demi Glace –or- Herb Roasted Salmon Fillet with Tomato Olive Ragout Over)

- Commemorative Booklet ads – Patrons or Memorials \$10, Boosters \$5

Contact Debbie if you would like to attend or submit an ad for the booklet before July 24<sup>th</sup>.

## CHURCH SHOPPING WISH LIST

Donations of the following new items would be greatly appreciated for church:

- Paper Towels & white napkins
- Regular & Decaf Coffee
- Large Bags of Pretzels, Chips, & Cookies
- \*Individually Wrapped\* Tea Bags
- 2 liter Bottled Soda



Thank you to everyone who donated items this past month!

## GODS GARDENER PROJECTS

Please support these projects that parishioners sponsor for the benefit of our parish operating fund:

### Recycle Clothes, Linens, Shoes and More

Bring your useable clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, linens, pillow cases, blankets, curtains, towels, & stuffed animals to our St. Pauly Textile Drop-Off Shed to help our church. St. Pauly send it to people who need it here in the United States & all over the world.

### Recycle Used Cell Phones & Printer Cartridges:

Drop off unwanted cell phones & ink jet cartridges in the labeled boxes in our church hall instead of having it pollute our landfills. The Gombos Family will recycle them for us!

### Recycle Your Cans:

Bring your recyclable deposit cans, soda & water bottles to church or contact Subdeacon Joel Pleban to pick up your clean recyclable cans/bottles. He'll redeem them for the church. What a great way to help keep the earth a little cleaner!

**THIS MONTHS SCHEDULE OF COLLECTIONS & VOLUNTEERS**

**Envelope (Curators):**

- 07/03: Maintenance-Repairs & Weekly Offering (Melanie & Mercury)
- 07/10: Dues & Weekly Offering (Sharon & Wendy)
- 07/17: A/C & Weekly Offering (Kim & Melanie)
- 07/24: Weekly Offering (Mercury & Sharon)
- 07/31: Weekly Offering (Wendy & Kim)

Note: There is only one collection basket after the sermon. All envelopes for the day can go in that basket.

**Bingo Workers:**

- 07/06: Carole, Sharon, Teecia
- 07/13: Carole, Chris, Debbie
- 07/20: Carole, Sharon, Wendy
- 07/27: Carole, Chris, Teecia
- 08/03: Carole, Sharon, Debbie

Note: If you cannot work on your assigned Wednesday, please contact Carole so she can get a substitute worker for you.

**Fellowship Hour Hosts:**

- 07/03: Debbie S      07/10: Kim P
- 07/17: Teecia S      07/24: Melanie O
- 07/31: Carole K      08/07: Wendy G
- 08/14: Michelle T    08/21: Sharon L

Note: If you cannot bake on your assigned date, please contact Carole so someone else can fill in.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS AT DEANERY PARISHES**

- St. John's (Bridgeport) will hold their Annual Picnic at Glevenak Grove in Stratford on Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 5 pm. Stop by to enjoy some good food and Christian fellowship.
- St. John's (Broadbridge Avenue Stratford) will have a Flea Market on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> on the church property. Stop by to support their event.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Aug 2016**

21<sup>st</sup> – Blessing of School Children

**Sept 2016**

2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> – ACRY Convention hosted by Potomac, MD

**Oct 2016**

2<sup>nd</sup> – Church School begins following services  
9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> - Diocesan Sobor Council in Johnstown, PA



**TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME DINNER and BINGO**

at

**St. John's Church  
600 Silver Lane, Stratford**

**Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 pm**

Dinner includes:

Chicken, Potato Salad,  
Corn on the Cob, Baked Beans and Dessert  
Admission: \$10.00/adult,  
\$5.00/children under 12

**Bingo starts at 5:30 pm - \$1.00/person**

Contact Carole Krochta for reservations by July 18<sup>th</sup>  
[cwkrochta@optonline.net](mailto:cwkrochta@optonline.net) or 203.375.2621

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**CONGRATULATIONS**

To Josef Samilenko who graduated from Foran High School in Milford on June 9<sup>th</sup>!

