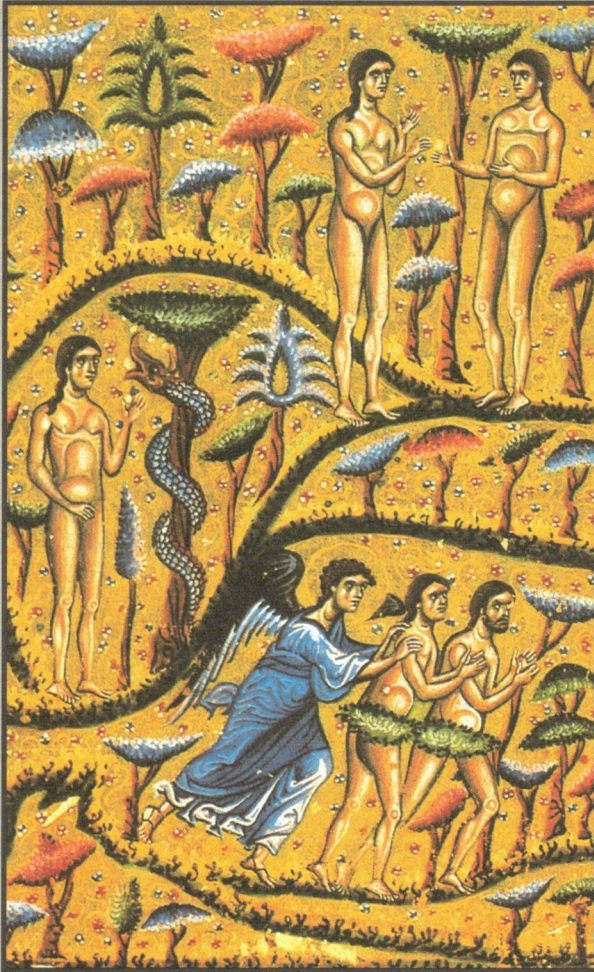


HEED THE WARNING

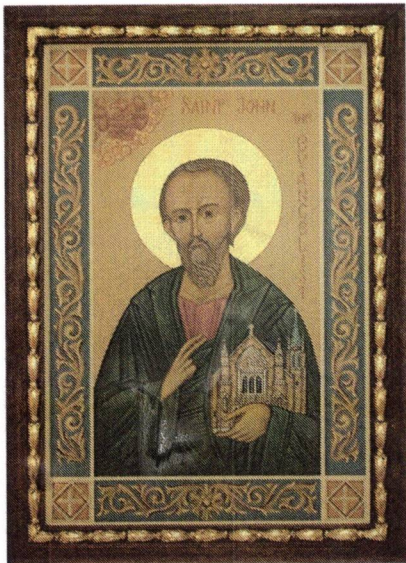


Most of us have either experienced a devastating storm firsthand or know of someone who has. The resulting damage can often be life altering. Luckily, because of today's technology, government officials may be able to confidently issue evacuation orders in advance.

Interestingly enough, there are still those who refuse to heed the warnings that they are given – no matter how ominous – and remain right where they are. Those who stubbornly refuse to leave their homes inevitably have to be rescued from their roof tops by emergency crews.

Have you ever wondered why people act this way? By and large, most ignore these warnings simply because they don't believe anything will ever happen to them or they believe that they can wait just a little bit longer before evacuating.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

1501 8TH AVENUE
BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010
(724) 847-1111

WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND
METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA
HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE
OF OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

=====

***Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23)
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .***

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshiping with us.

Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer, please contact Fr. Seraphim

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshiping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.

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DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 07, 2025
TONE 4 / EOTHINON 2
SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
TRANSFER OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness. Lo, we have heard it at Ephratha. We have found it in the plains of the wood.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be shaken; God shall help her right early in the morning. (***Refrain***)

Glory... Both now... (***Refrain***)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; and He will not annul it. Of the fruit of thy loins will I set upon thy throne.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

There will I make to spring forth a horn for David. I have prepared a lamp for My Christ. (***Refrain***)

For the Lord hath elected Zion; He hath chosen her to be a habitation for Himself. (***Refrain***)

Glory... Both now... ***O, only begotten Son and Word of God...***

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Here will I dwell, for I have chosen her. The Most High hath hallowed His tabernacle. Holy is Thy temple, wonderful in righteousness.

After the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the Nativity of the Theotokos.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

KONTAKION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

**O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
To Thee, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.**

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:11-18)

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

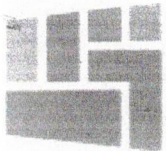
The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."

Antiochian Woman of the East Present:

SERVICE RETREAT

**AT ST. MOSES THE BLACK ORTHODOX CHURCH &
NEIGHBORHOOD RESILIENCE PROJECT IN
PITTSBURGH, PA**



**NEIGHBORHOOD
RESILIENCE
PROJECT**

Saturday
Sept. 20. 2025
Beginning with
Prayer at 9:00 AM
&
Concluding with
Vespers at 6:00 PM



REGISTRATION
FORM



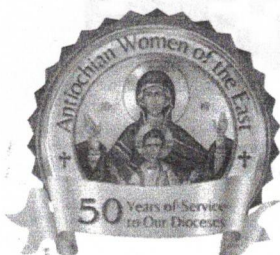
For all the law is fulfilled in one
word, even in this: 'You shall love
your neighbor as yourself.'
(Galatians 5:14)

Address

2038 Bedford Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Contact

aweorthodox1973@gmail.com



Bearing the Light in the World Today

AWE Spiritual Retreat With Arch. Paul Matar

Come and join us as we live out our
Orthodox Christian faith together

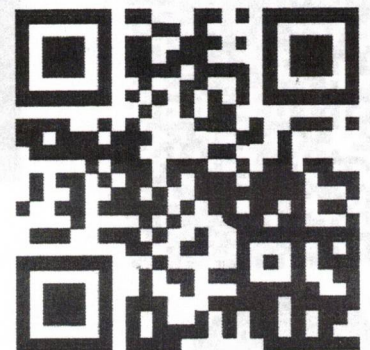
Divine Liturgy at 8 am (Optional)

Retreat: 10 am - 4 pm

Cost: \$25 per person
payable the day of the retreat

Location: Holy Protection
Monastery of the Theotokos

Address: 1 St Joseph's Way
White Haven, PA 18661



Registration Link:

<https://forms.gle/bKd1SrVY2k5Y8>

Contact Us: aweorthodox1973@gmail.com
with any questions

MEGALYNARION OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT

Virginity is alien to mothers, and childbirth is foreign to virgins; in thee, O Theotokos, both were granted. Wherefore, all we the tribes of the earth bless thee unceasingly.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT

I will take the cup of salvation, and I will call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia.

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THE SYNAXARION

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Nativity of our Most-holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary.

Verses

*Truly, O Anna, thou surpassest all mothers,
Until that day thy daughter shall become a mother.
On the eighth Anna brought God's Mother into the light.*

The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anna. Her father was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams; for He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of God. She was Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, and the Fount of virginity and purity.

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THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“because He loves mankind for a long while, He pardons instead of making examination. For had He done so, all would at once have been harried to perdition.”

(St. John Chrysostom).

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER SERVICES

SEPT. 6TH SATURDAY — GREAT VESPERS— 5PM

SEPT. 7TH SUNDAY — SUNDAY BEFORE THE CROSS

NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

SEPT. 10TH WEDNESDAY — SMALL COMPLINE @ 6PM followed by
Light meal and Study Session 7-8 PM

SEPT. 13th SATURDAY — GREAT VESPERS — 5PM

SEPT. 14TH SUNDAY — ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

SEPT. 17TH WEDNESDAY — SMALL COMPLINE @ 6PM followed by
Light meal and Study Session 7-8 PM

SEPT. 20TH SATURDAY — Community Breakfast 8:30—10:30 AM
GREAT VESPERS— 5PM

SEPT. 21ST SUNDAY — SUNDAY AFTER THE CROSS

MATINS 9 AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

COUNCIL MEETING 12 NOON

SEPT. 24TH WEDNESDAY — SMALL COMPLINE @ 6PM followed by
Light meal and Study Session 7-8 PM

SEPT. 27TH SATURDAY — GREAT VESPERS — 5PM

SEPT. 28TH SUNDAY — MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

OCT. 1ST WEDNESDAY — SMALL COMPLINE @ 6PM followed by
Light meal and Study Session 7-8 PM

OCT. 4TH SATURDAY — GREAT VESPERS 5PM

OCT. 5TH SUNDAY — MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Carol, Debbie, Trish, Shannon, Justin,
Perry Sassic & family, Roddy, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene,
Cindi, Harriet, Joann, Cindy, Ray, Marlene, Julianna, Elias, Margaret,
Carrie, Lori, Oliver, Pauline, Despina, Julius, John, and Bonnie.

Welcome to our newest members: Connor, Mira, Asher, Benjamin

**FOR THOU ARE THE RESSURECTION, THE LIFE, AND THE REPOSE OF THY
SERVANTS WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP ESPECIALLY:**

Prayers are offered in memory of

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AWE — AMERICAN WOMEN OF THE EAST

Looking ahead, AWE are kicking off the new year with some wonderful events. Please mark your calendars and join them.

SERVICE RETREAT — St. Moses the Black Orthodox Church and Neighborhood Resilience Project in Pittsburgh on September 20, 2025 See flyer.

FALL RETREAT — Holy Protection Monastery in White Haven, PA. on October 25, 2025 See flyer.

BOOK CLUB on November 16, 2025, where we will be discussing “The Art of Myrrh Bearing.” by Elissa Bjeletich Davis. The discussion will be on Zoom and led by our own Religious Coordinataator, Katherine Evelyn. See flyer in next weeks bulletin.

Now we wouldn't be so foolish – certainly we wouldn't ignore warnings given to us – or would we? Just think for a moment about all of the times in life we have been warned about doing something, and we did it anyway. Our parents, our friends, our doctors all warned us about things and more often than not, we ignored them – and that's foolish and often dangerous. But even worse is when we ignore warnings from another "source" – that being **OUR LORD**.

God warned Adam and Eve not to eat from a certain tree and that if they did, they would suffer dreadful consequences. They failed to heed His warning, and God's entire plan for the world was altered. He warned the people of Sodom and Gomorrah to change their sinful ways. They didn't, and their cities were destroyed. Likewise the people at the time of Noah were warned to change their wicked ways. When they refused to do so, they experienced a flood worse than any hurricane ever caused.

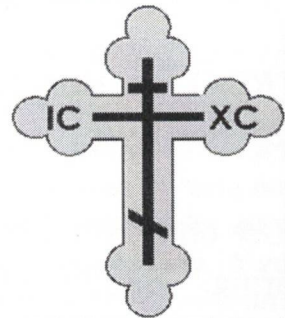
But how do we react to Christ's stern words? Pretty much like those asked to evacuate before a hurricane: we either refuse to believe the warnings or we feel that there is plenty of time for us before we start paying attention to them. Oh, if that were only so!

Time will, one day, run out for all of us. Let us remember the most chilling warning our Lord gave us: **"Watch, therefore, for you know not the hour when the Son of God will return."** If we don't heed **THIS** warning, no one will be able to rescue us.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ORTHODOX CHURCH
1501 8TH AVENUE
BEAVER FALLS, PA 15010

CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES
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OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment