

# SS. PETER & PAUL

Lorain, OH | [www.OrthodoxLorain.org](http://www.OrthodoxLorain.org) | (440) 277-6266

Rev. Joseph McCartney, Rector

Cell (440) 668 - 2209 ~ Email: [frjosephmccartney@gmail.com](mailto:frjosephmccartney@gmail.com) ~ Home (440) 654-2831

**Gospel Reading ~ Luke 1:1-25, 57-68, 76, 80**  
**Epistle Reading ~ Romans 13:11-14:4**  
***Nativity of St. John the Baptist***

## *This Week at a Glance*

### **Mon, June 25th**

6:30 - Parish Council Meeting

### **Wed, June 27th**

6:00 pm - Akathist to Ss Peter & Paul / Confessions

### **Thurs, June 28th**

6:00 pm - Vespertal Liturgy for Feast of Ss Peter & Paul with Chrismation of Catechumens

### **Sat, June 30th**

5:00 pm - Riah Yusoff Baptism

6:00 pm - Great Vespers

### **Sun, July 1st**

9:00 pm - 3rd & 6th Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

### **Pierogi Making**

**June 26th** peeling and **June 27th** pinching. We are almost there for our Food Festival. Please come if you can!

### **Food Festival Supplies**

Envelopes are available on the bulletin board to donate supplies for the food festival. Thank you for your support!

## **Gospel Meditation**

We have a birthday today. It is somebody you all know. He's really a special person but were not going to sing "Happy Birthday" to him nor will there be a cake with candles. The only thing that he wants for a birthday present is for you to love and worship God. More specifically, he desires that we, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" In fact, he's probably embarrassed that we are even talking about him. He doesn't like attention to himself. He wants the spotlight on Jesus Christ because he once said, "He must increase, I must decrease." After all, he's the one who said, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

You probably guessed who I'm talking about (*Hint*: It's not Fr. Joseph). If you have been following the church calendar closely, you already knew that St. John the Baptist is our birthday person we celebrate today. In the life of the Church his birthday, on June 24th, is so important that when it occurs on a Sunday like today, the epistle and gospel readings for this feast supersede the normal readings. The Gospel passage from Luke 1 is only read for this feast, so we only hear it about once every six years in the liturgical worship of the Orthodox Christian Church.

If we follow the Baptist's commands, if we try as best we can to love God, to seek His will, in order to discover His will, in order to do His will; if we try to be great in God's eyes, not someone else's, if we try to fill ourselves with the Spirit of God and not the spirits of drunkenness, if we repent and turn to the Lord, if we are prepared for the Lord, then these consequences will deepen our faith so the next time He speaks to us, whether through an angel or another, then we will believe Him. Happy Birthday John the Baptist! Amen!

## **Reception of Catechumen**

This week we will have the great joy of receiving our 3 catechumen into the Holy Orthodox Church. On Thursday, June 28th, before the vespertal liturgy we will Chrismate Andrew and Gil. On Saturday at 5pm we will baptize Riah. We hope you can be there to join in the joyous celebrations!

## **Main Candles**

The main candles in the candlestands are given for the health and well-being of **Mike Chemorov, Nikki Rafferty, David Lezinsky** and **Fr. Yves Babich**.

