



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

714 Westmoreland Avenue

PO Box 3

Slickville, PA 15684-0003

[724] 468-5581

www.holyghostorthodoxchurch.org

Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Pastor

23 Station Street

Carnegie, PA 15106-3014

[412] 279-5640 home [412] 442-4160 office

[412] 956-6626 cell

ON THE MEND: Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Metropolitan Constantine, Patriarch Pavle, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Peter Natishan, Father Gerald Olszewski, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Dragan Filipović, Father Elias Katras, Father Stevo Rocknage, Father Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, Father Deacon Joseph Bulkanowa, Ollie Pendylshok, Walt & Evelyn Burlack, Joshua Agosto and his family, Harley Katarina Rahuba, Mike and Hilda Holupka, Eva Malesnick, Helen Likar, Angela Wesolosky, Stella Peanoske, Joe Nezolyk, Nick Behun, Terry Reinhart, Bernie O'Masta, Grace Holupka, Virginia Bryan, Joseph Sliwinsky, Maria Balo, Linda Mechtly, Mary Mochnick, Mary Pekich, Mildred Manolovich, Evelyn Misko, Amy, Nigel Daniel, & Daniel Pocura, Jeanne Boehing, Alex Drobot, Rachelle, Jane Golofski, Doug Diller, Harry Krewsun, Sandy Gamble, Glen Lucas Burlack, Bernie Vangrin, Mary Alice Babcock, Dorie Kunkle, Andrea, & Melissa [Betty O'Masta's relatives], Mary Evelyn King, Stella Cherepko, Sam Wadrose, Khoruia Joanne Abdalah, Cameron [a boy in Matt's class], Faith—a 5-year-old girl with rheumatoid arthritis, Isabella Olivia Lindgren—a 2-year-old with a brain tumor, Dillon, Ethel Thomas, Donna, Jeff, Nick Malec [Maxine's brother], Bill, Erin, Jimmy Fennel [7th Grader], Jim Markovich, Jeff Walewski [thyroid cancer], Carol [Lotinski] Rose, Michael Miller, Dave May, Grace & Owen Ostrasky, Claudia [Horvath] Gradicheck, Alverta, Margaret Mueller, Gary Zurasky, Michael Horvath, Tony Notaro, Patti Sinecki, David Genshi, Pete Special, Rita Very & family, Sue Segeleon, Mike Gallagher, Mildred Walters, Michael Miller, Betsy Mallison, Mike Pelchar [Liz's brother], Jim Logue—throat cancer, Michael, Amy, Liz Stumpf, Aubrie—3-month-old with Cystic Fibrosis, Kathy Ciranni, Ester Tylavsky, Ed Jamison, Sarah Wilson, Theodore Nixon [neonatal ICU], Mary Novosel, and Daria Masur. **ARNOLD:** Stefania Lucci, Kay Tomson, Ann Ostaffy, Steve Sakal, Elisabeth Arasin, Homer Paul Kline, and Steve Ostaffy. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR AUGUST BABIES: John Brunermer on the 1st, Maxine Kitch on the 7th, Janet Brunermer on the 12th, and Stella Cherepko on the 26th. May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous Years!

Please remember ALL American servicemen and women in the Middle East in your prayers. May God watch over them and all American servicemen and women—and bring them all home safely!

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 05 AUGUST 2007

10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—ICON OF THE THEOTOKOS OF POCHAIV AND HER APPEARANCE IN 1675, MARTYRS TROPHIMUS, THEOPHILUS, & 13 OTHERS IN LYCIA, HIEROMARTYR APOLLINARIUS-BISHOP OF RAVENNA, RIGHTEOUS ANNA-MOTHER OF PROPHET SAMUEL, TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF SAINT HERMAN-ARCHBISHOP OF KAZAN

TROPARION—TONE 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews;
While the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body;
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior,
Granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life:
Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Thy Kingdom!
Glory to Thy Dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

KONTAKION—TONE 1

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself.
Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished!
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:
Thou are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 1

READER: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.
PEOPLE: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.
READER: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!
PEOPLE: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.
READER: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
PEOPLE: As we have set our hope on Thee.

ALLELUIA VERSES

God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me.

He magnifies the salvation of the king, and deals mercifully with His Christ, with David and his seed forever!

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 14:22-34

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

John 17:1-13

Sunday has arrived in the Holy Orthodox Church. The Divine Liturgy is being experienced by Orthodox believers throughout the world. Serbian Orthodox Christians gather together in communion with Orthodox everywhere.

The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is paramount each Sunday of the year. The Resurrection is understood in direct relation to the Crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ. The joy of the Resurrection is viewed with consideration of the humility and suffering of Jesus upon the Cross.

Jesus' death and resurrection influenced His disciples. Jesus' death and resurrection changed the course of history. The world has never been the same.

Faith has a major part in consideration of the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. The importance of faith is illustrated in the Gospel of the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost.

In the Gospel of St. Matthew for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, when the Apostle Peter stepped out on the water in faith, he was able to walk. When he experienced the roughness of the sea and his faith wavered, he began to sink.

Fortunately, Peter's appeal to Christ to save him fell on receptive ears. Jesus used Peter's experience to teach him a lesson and to teach each generation of believers a lesson.

Reaching out and saving Peter, Jesus said: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" When we step out in faith to come to Christ, doubt has no place the heart and mind. Resoluteness and complete faith in Christ is necessary. Faith as exhibited by Abraham when he was asked to sacrifice Isaac is necessary. God always provides. (Gen.22:1-14).

Jesus wants eternal life for those given to Him. Jesus wants unity among those given to Him. Jesus does not want believers lost in faith. Jesus does not want believers falling into sin from which there is no return.

The Gospel of St. John for this Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils focuses upon Jesus' completion of His work prior to the crucifixion and resurrection.

Believers benefit from thinking seriously about different points in Jesus' life as described in the Holy Gospels. Believers benefit from sorting through the lessons from Christ, incorporating them into daily life.

Each Sunday at the Divine Liturgy, believers have the opportunity to experience the Kingdom of God. Each Sunday at the Divine Liturgy believers have the opportunity to draw near and partake of the Precious Body and Blood of Christ.

Believers are reminded at each Divine Liturgy during The Creed that Jesus will come to judge the living and the dead. Each Sunday is a new opportunity to

Strengthen personal faith in the Triune God.

May today be a new beginning for each of us. May the Crucified and Resurrected Christ firmly be first and foremost in our hearts, our minds, our souls, our homes and our lives.

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania. Ninth Sunday after Pentecost. Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils.

July 16/29, 2007—Father Rodney Torbic

PERKS OF BEING OVER 50 or,

If you're not over 50, this is what you have to look forward to.

1. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
2. In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
3. No one expects you to run--anywhere.
4. People call at 9 pm and ask, "Did I wake you???"
5. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
6. There is nothing left to learn the hard way.

7. Things you buy now won't wear out.
- 8 You can eat dinner at 4 pm.
9. You can live without sex but not your glasses.
10. You get into heated arguments about pension plans.
11. You no longer think of speed limits as challenge.
12. You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.
13. You sing along with elevator music.
14. Your eyes won't get much worse.
15. Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
16. Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.
17. Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.
- 18 Your supply of brain cells is finally down to manageable size.
19. You can't remember who sent you this list!

And you notice these are all in Big Print for your convenience! You should forward this to anyone you can remember!!

e-mail via Mike Holupka

Yesterday Rod Dreher posted on his blog on Beliefnet.com, "Crunchy Cons," the piece I sent out the other day about the journey from Anglican to Orthodox. He asked people to write in telling what triggered them to leave a church or a belief, or what caused them to decide to stay despite difficulties. Its been a good discussion. I just posted this, which is so long I thought I'd send it to my list, too!

Thanks, Rod, for posting this and launching a strong conversation.

Daniel, thanks for this: <<Why, after 16 years, does Matthews-Green still talk about her difference with the Episcopal church and use it as a way to covert people to her little corner of Orthodoxy? >>

As Rod points out, I keep talking abt it bec people keep asking about it. They also ask what's the difference between Orthodoxy and Western Christianity, so I spend a lot of time explaining that, too -- and in the process, offending and angering people. I am sad to think that I have probably damaged some friendships that way. No matter how kindly you put it, you're inevitably saying, "here are the differences, and here is why I think Orthodoxy is better" -- that's inevitable.

BTW, I was thinking of writing an essay titled "Why Converts to Orthodoxy are Obnoxious." I think it's pretty much parallel to the reason adolescents are obnoxious. They are trying to comprehend their unique identity, and trying to establish it in the face of--not hostility, which would be hard but at least bracing and clarifying, but *affection*, which is a lot more sticky. Grandmom and Pops and Uncle Joe et al love the little guy, who's "going through a phase."

But the "little guy" knows that it's more profound than that, that he is turning into a different person, the adult he will be, and affectionate attempts to obscure this feel suffocating. So he's either sullen or outspokenly angry. Of course, there *are* ways that he is still the same person he will always be, and there *are* ways Orthodoxy and (e.g.)Lutheranism share beliefs and practices-- definitely so, not least that each loves the same Lord. But the impulse is to exaggerate the differences when you fear being hugged to death.

But lately I've been feeling restless because this explaining and clarifying is *so* not what I want to be doing. I don't want to be putting more argument into the world. I look at the essays on my website, and there are about 400 of them, and most are arguing about something. But what I want to be doing is presenting the beauty of Jesus Christ. I want to show people how it's possible

to know him in this life, to know his immediate presence, to be suffused with his love.

It will sound strange, but I think some of the people who most need to hear this good news are evangelical Christians. Someone wrote me yesterday: <<They are promised changed lives in the Spirit and exhorted to submit everything to Christ but have absolutely no idea how this comes to be. They are ever searching for that one next book or great preacher that will have the answers, but never find the solution. Many live in a perpetual state of despair; some even theologize it away so despair becomes the normative setting for Christian life. >>

There is a lot of restlessness and dissatisfaction in evangelicalism right now, and what people are craving is to know Jesus. He really is life. He really is love. There is so much joy here. But I can't find a way to talk about this without sounding silly.

What I found in Orthodoxy is the ancient biblical "way" to be filled with the presence of Christ. I'm talking about "Orthodoxy" the way someone could say "Buddhism" or "Calvinism" -- talking abt the understanding it has, the spiritual path, rather than any particular example of the earthly Orthodox Church. Before I became Orthodox I didn't know this "way" existed. This is the "best kept secret" people are always talking about.

It actually took me several years grasp it, but the early church uncovered a "way" to be saturated with God, like a cloth is saturated with dye. As this way was carried around the world by missionaries, it became clearer which parts were expressions of local culture, and which parts were universally applicable, effective for any human being anywhere, any time. This "way" is designed to heal a basic brokenness in the human person. It's tailored to the human organism, it "works" for everybody like nutritious food and water do.

It "works" for those who "work" it, of course. There are lots of people with health club memberships who never set foot in the place. Likewise, there are plenty of Orthodox churchgoers who are not pursuing this path. Maybe they were never taught about it, sadly enough. But if you want to find it, the places to try are Orthodox churches and monasteries, because that's where it's always been practiced and passed along. Before Orthodoxy I'd done lots of exploration in Western spirituality, and I can recognize some common elements (the West is later overall, the best-known texts aren't till after 1300, and influences like feudalism and intellectualism color it). But in Orthodoxy the spiritual path is organic, electric, synergistic; and it has never passed out of practice.

This is not archeology, but stepping into a living community 2000 years old.

So this is what I wish I could spend all my time talking about. Not even talking about the Orthodox "way" as much as talking about Jesus! It's only a "way" to see the beauty of his face. To be taken up into his life and be filled with his love, able to love even your enemies. But the posts on this thread sure show how easy it is to misunderstand Jesus, and how damaged people can be by a weak or erroneous presentation of him. Lots of healing is necessary.

That's what I want to write about. I want to help people discover this way. It's what I was looking for all my life. But it's so hard to write about, bec it sounds sentimental or flaky. I keep struggling with this. In the meantime I keep getting asked the "compare and contrast" questions, and keep trying to explain.

Not long ago a journalist phoned me from the New Republic, and he wanted to know about the politics behind why people leave Anglican churches for Orthodoxy. At the end of the long conversation it struck me what we *hadn't* talked about. I said "But all this is not the point. What draws people into Orthodoxy, and what keeps them there, is the person of Jesus Christ. He is there, and the more you draw near him, the more compelling and beautiful it is. Orthodoxy practices an ancient 'way' to draw nearer to him, and he is the magnet at the center. Without this vibrant love flowing from and toward Jesus Christ, Orthodoxy would be pointless."

Even saying the words I could hear how ineffective they were. and naturally the reporter didn't ask any followup questions or indicate any interest. The thing people can write about is political infighting; they can't write about this. It's embarrassing. Smarmy. Idiotic.

Anyway, I ask prayers that I will discover how to write about the thing I love most, instead of arguing. I've got a trunkful of old spiritual journals going back decades. I keep thinking I'd like to just transcribe them, and present how God has dealt with me all my life, how beautiful he is, what his healing is like, how much joy. But whatever I think of writing sounds like a Hallmark card.

Frederica Mathewes-Green

www.frederica.com

The Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration
Ellwood City, PA
Annual Pilgrimage and
40th Anniversary Celebration

Presiding Hierarch:

The Most Blessed HERMAN

Archbishop of Washington & New York
Metropolitan of All America and Canada
with

The Most Rev. NATHANIEL

Archbishop of the Romanian Episcopate
and **Visiting Hierarchs**

Sunday, August 5: 5:00 p.m. Vigil Service
followed by refreshments

Monday, August 6:

9:30 a.m.: Greeting and Vesting of Primate

10:00 a.m.: Procession and Holy Liturgy in our outdoor
Chapel Pavilion

Noon: Lunch, Fellowship, Shopping in our store

2:30 p.m.: Sacrament of Holy Unction and
Anointing of Pilgrims

Please join us in celebrating our 40th Anniversary!
For information and directions, call 724-758-4002

29 July of 2007

St. John Orthodox Christian Church

4939 Durant Avenue
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405
843.494.4467

frJoshua@orthodoxcarolina.org
www.orthodoxcarolina.org

ALL PEOPLE OF GOOD WILL ARE WELCOME HERE!

Father Joshua, Pastor

Great Vespers: Saturday at 6:00 PM

Sunday Orthros: 9:00 AM

Sunday Divine Liturgy: 10:00 AM

Feast Days: Holy Transfiguration: August 6th at 9:00 AM

Confessions: directly after Great Vespers on Saturday or by appointment

St. Lazarus Recovery Group: AA/NA 12 Step recovery group

Inquirers Class: starting soon!

The Feast of the Holy Transfiguration!

Will be at **9:00 AM Monday, August 6th**. Please make arrangements to attend. This is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Orthodox calendar year that all Orthodox are constrained to attend! And please bring grapes or grape products to be blessed on this day! We cannot have a vesperal Divine Liturgy the night before due to this feast falling on a Monday.

The Churching of Katrin Hendon!

We are working on a date for Katrin's Churching on a Sunday so that the whole community can participate! More news to follow!

Celebrate with your Orthodox Brethren!

On Sunday, **August 5th** (leaving here at 2:30 PM) I will be traveling to Holy Transfiguration in Florence, SC to attend a Great Vespers (6:00 PM) celebrating their parish Holy Feast Day. Should you like to attend please see Russell for more information.

A Parish Work Day!

This Fall on **Saturday, October 13th** (9:00 AM) we will be having a Parish Work Day! We will be working outside (landscaping, raking, planting flowers, etc.) and inside (preparing walls for painting, cleaning windows, etc.). Please mark this date on your calendar!

A New Place to Live!

Father Joshua has moved to a new and wonderful apartment! He would like to invite the parish over for a get together **Saturday, August 12th** after Church! Directions will follow. Please plan to attend!

Important Surgery!

Cherie Tuell will be going for very important surgery for her spine in **August 28th** at Duke Medical Center in North Carolina. I will be in Durham, NC for a few days to give her the Holy Mysteries, to pray with her and see her over this dangerous surgery. Please pray that the doctors are anointed of God and that they are blessed to do His work on our dear sister Cherie for her healing and restoration to health and for her freedom from pain! Please add her to your daily prayers.

Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) is starting-up AGAIN!

As you know Father Joshua has been working OCF at the Citadel and the College of Charleston for going on 2 years now. He is looking for help working with these college and university students starting with a banquet on **Saturday, August 11th**. If you are interested please contact Father Joshua.

A Holy Wedding! The first official announcement!

Hear ye! Hear ye! John Rodzianko of Ladson and Emily Gibson of Barnwell will be crowned in Holy Matrimony on **Saturday, August 18th** at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church on Race Street, Charleston by Hieromonk Joshua.

A Holy Baptism!

Anthony Maalouf the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Najib Maalouf will receive Holy Baptism in our blessed Parish on **Sunday, August 19th**. The Baptismal service will begin at 9:30 AM. All members of the parish are requested to attend this holy service of Orthodox Baptism. The Agape for this Sunday will be provided to the parish by Mr. and Mrs. Najib Maalouf in honor of their son's Holy Baptism! Please begin now to pray for the future servant of God Anthony Maalouf!

A Gathering of Orthodox Students for a "MATTHEW 25" Weekend!

On **September 28th, 29th and 30th** Father Joshua and St. John's Parish will be hosting a **Pan-Orthodox All-Carolina** Orthodox Youth "MATTHEW 25" Weekend! We will be working at a local soup kitchen and we will be building a Habitat for Humanity House on one of the Sea Islands by Johns Island. This is in conjunction with St. Nectarous Greek Orthodox Church in Charlotte, NC. Volunteers are needed! OCF and Orthodox high school students are welcome to attend! Requested donation: \$50.00.

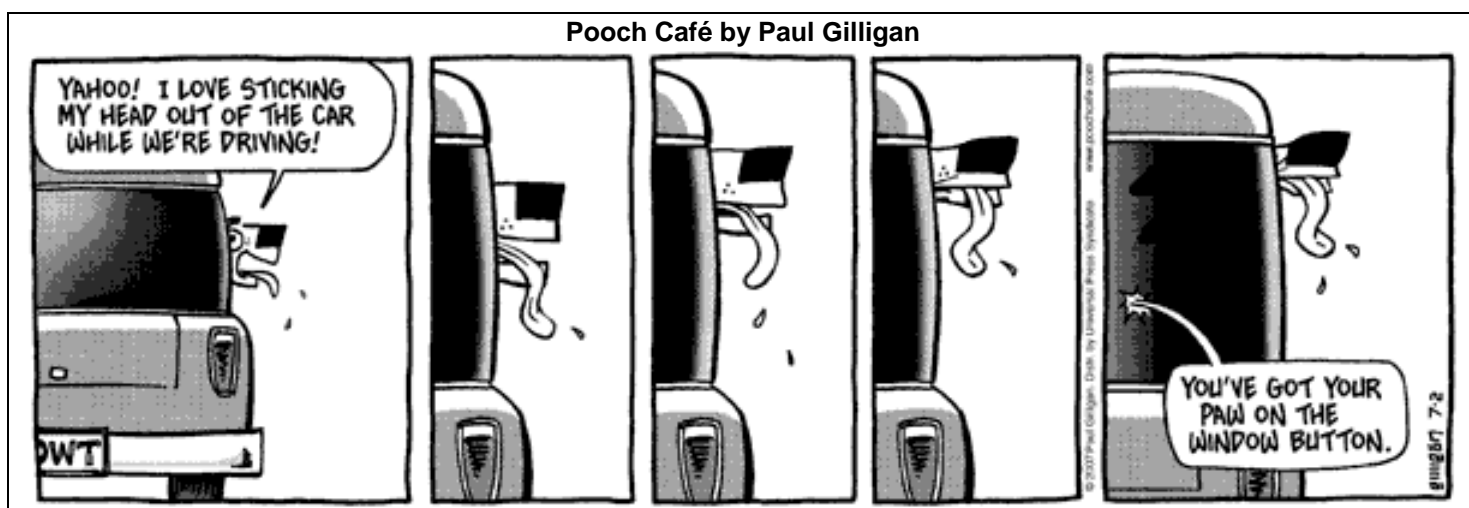
If you would like to include something into this "cyber-bulletin" then please e-mail Father Joshua at: frjoshua@orthodoxcarolina.org by 6:00 PM on Friday. These will be sent out on Saturday before Great Vespers.

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"Faith is the key of God's treasury. She dwells in simple, kind, loving hearts. `All things are possible to him that believeth.' Faith is a spiritual mouth, the more freely it opens the greater the stream by which the Divine springs enter into it; let this mouth freely open, as your bodily one does; do not let your lips be compressed by doubt and unbelief: if you compress

them by doubt and unbelief, the treasury of God's blessings will be closed to you. The more openly, the more heartily you believe in God's omnipotence, the more bountifully will God's heart be opened to you.
'What things so ever ye desire, when ye pray believe that ye receive them and ye shall have them.' [St. John of Kronstadt](#).

"Take heed often to come together to give thanks to God and show forth His praise. For when you assemble frequently in the same place, the powers of Satan are destroyed, and the destruction at which he aims is prevented by the unity of your faith. Nothing is more precious than peace, by which all war, in heaven and earth, is brought to an end." [St. Ignatius of Antioch](#)
([The Ante-Nicene Fathers Vol. 1; Eerdmans pg. 51](#)).



CHRISTIAN ONE LINERS

Peace starts with a smile.

I don't know why some people change churches—what difference does it make which one you stay home from?

A lot of church members who are singing "Standing on the Promises" are just sitting on the premises.

We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers.

Outside of traffic, there is nothing that holds this country back as much as committees!

PO Box 495
South Bound Brook, NJ
Phone: 732 356 0090
E-Mail Address: Consistory@Verizon.net

July 30, 2007
Great Martyr Marina

From the Office of His Eminence Archbishop Antony, Consistory President.

To: Venerable Fathers, Esteemed Council and Organization Heads!

Beloved in Christ!

Glory to Jesus Christ, Source of every good and perfect gift!

On Monday, August 6th at 11: 00 AM, ground will be solemnly broken, signaling the impending constructing of the Cultural-Educational Complex at the Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 335 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873.

We are pleased to share in the joy of this event with you and kindly request that you also inform your parish congregation of the same.

The participation of clergy and laity who are located at a reasonable driving distance from the Center is urged, encouraged and welcomed. A luncheon, to which you are invited will follow the event.

Anticipating the honor of your presence, I remain,

In Christ's all-abiding love,

+Antony,
By the Grace of God, Archbishop and Consistory President.