



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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ON THE MEND: Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Metropolitan Constantine, Patriarch Pavle, Archbishop Vsevolod, 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 John Harvey, Father John Monronko, Father Michael Mihalick [MS], Ollie Pendylshok, Walt & Evelyn Burlack, Joshua Agosto and his family, Harley Katarina Rahuba, Mike and Hilda Holupka, Eva Malesnick, Helen Likar, 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, Patti Sinecki, David Genshi, Pete Special, Rita Very & family, Sue Segeleon, Mike Gallagher, Mildred Walters, Michael Miller, Mike Pelchar [Liz's brother], Jim Logue—throat cancer, Michael, Amy, Liz Stumpf, Aubrie—6-month-old with Cystic Fibrosis, Kathy Ciranni, Ester Tylavsky, Ed Jamison, Theodore Nixon, Charles Johnson, Donna Kerr [stroke], Amy Forbeck, Michelle Corba Kapeluck, Gloria Prymak [Liz's niece], John Sheliga, and Daria Masur. **ARNOLD:** Stefania Lucci, Kay Tomson, Ann Ostaffy, Steve Sakal, Homer Paul Kline, and Steve Ostaffy. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our October babies: Rachel Shirley on the 6th, Rich Previc on the 8th, and Harley Katarina Frances Rahuba on the 24th. 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!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR “BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION” AND CAMPBELL’S SOUP LABELS TO CHURCH. There is a shoebox in the basement for Alex’s Fifth Grade and Matt’s Third Grade collections. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP! *Alex and Matt*

REMEMBER—PRAYERS ARE ALWAYS FREE!

Communion Fasting: nothing to eat or drink after midnight, EXCEPT in cases where your doctor tells you to eat or drink something for medical reasons: medication, diabetes, etc. If you have a question, please call Father Bob.

AT ANY TIME—if there is an emergency, if you have questions, or if you just need to talk, please CALL FATHER BOB at [412] 279-5640.

Schedule of Services

Sunday, October 14 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**
20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS—POKROVA—APOSTLE ANANIAS OF THE 70, VENERABLE ROMAN THE MELODIST, HIREOMARTYR MICHAEL-ABBOT IN ARMENIA & 36 FATHERS WITH HIM, VENERABLE SABBAS-ABBOT OF VIPHERA, SAINT JOHN KUKUZELIS OF MOUNT ATHOS, SAINT GREGORY THE SINGER OF MOUNT ATHOS, COMMERATION OF THE PILLAR WITH THE ROBE OF THE LORD UNDER IT AT MTSKHET IN GEORGIA
Tone 3
Hebrews 9:1-7
Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28
Litany in Blessed Memory of Kay Behun, Protopresbyter Theodore Forosty, Johnathan Dorning, & Mary Evaniuk—Fr. Bob
Parastas in Blessed Memory of George Luciow—14 years—Sonia Luciow And Kay Behun—the Behun Family

Sunday, October 21 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**
21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—HOLY FATHERS OF THE 7TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL, VENERABLE PELAGIA THE PENITENT, VIRGIN-MARTYR PELAGIA OF ANTIOCH, VENERABLE THAIS OF EGYPT, VENERABLE DOSITHEUS-ABBOT OF VERKHNEOSTROV-PSKOV, VENERABLE TRYPHON-ABBOT OF VYATKA, MARTYR IGNATIUS OF BULGARIA
Tone 4
Galatians 2:16-20
Luke 7:11-16

Sunday, October 28 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**
22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—VENERABLE EUTHEMIUS THE NEW OF THESSALONICA-MONK OF MOUNT ATHOS, MARTYR LUCIAN-PRESBYTER OF GREATER ANTIOCH, MARTYR SARBELIUS&BABAIA OF EDESSA, SAINT SBINUS-BISHOP OF CATANIA, MARTYR LUCIAN-PRESBYTER OF THE PERCHEVSKY LAVRA, SAINT DIONYSIUS-ARCHBISHOP OF SUZDAL, SAINT JOHN-BISHOP OF SUZDAL
Tone 5
Galatians 6:11-18
Luke 8:5-15

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 14 OCTOBER 2007

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

—THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS—POKROVA—

APOSTLE ANANIAS OF THE 70, VENERABLE ROMAN THE MELODIST,
HIREOMARTYR MICHAEL-ABBOT IN ARMENIA & 36 FATHERS WITH HIM,
VENERABLE SABBAS-ABBOT OF VISHERA, SAINT JOHN KUKUZELIS OF
MOUNT ATHOS, SAINT GREGORY THE SINGER OF MOUNT ATHOS,
COMMERATION OF THE PILLAR WITH THE ROBE OF THE LORD UNDER IT
AT MTSKHET IN GEORGIA

TROPARION—TONE 3

Let the Heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm!
He has trampled down death by death!

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
And has granted the world great mercy!

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

KONTAKION—TONE 3

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One!
Leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;
With the prophets and patriarchs
They unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 3

READER: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King,
sing praises!

PEOPLE: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing
praises!

READER: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

PEOPLE: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing
praises!

READER: Sing praises to our God, sing praises!

PEOPLE: Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 3

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!

Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge, in order to save me!

CONVERTS, REVERTS, AND RETREADS

A convert to Orthodoxy was approached by a precious Orthodox lady at coffee hour. She commented that his last name on his name tag wasn't common in the ethnicity of that parish. My friend told her that he wasn't of that ethnic background. This dear lady got a puzzled look on her face and innocently asked, "Then what are you doing here? Don't you have your own church to go to?"

Now before you are too harsh with this lady, please understand she was genuinely confused, not malicious. It never dawned on her that someone who did not have an ethnic connection to Orthodoxy would ever want to enter the Orthodox Church. But the truth is that thousands of converts stream into the Church every year, and not just from mixed marriages. American Christians are coming to Orthodoxy for its depth of faith, stability of theology, and beauty of worship. In fact, some of our Orthodox seminaries are filled with converts who have no ethnic connection to the countries that are traditionally Orthodox, and these men are becoming priests in our churches.

Some may see this as a bad thing, but they would be wrong. The truth is that Orthodoxy is doing what it has always done. It is baptizing the country where it finds itself, and in that respect twenty-first century America is no different from fourth-century Greece or tenth-century Russia.

How do we face honestly the inevitable "culture shock" that comes from this infusion of "new faces"? We could fight against it and attempt to keep our churches little more than "foreign embassies" of other countries, but that is a recipe for irrelevance in just a few generations. We could attempt to "fit in" so much in this country that we look just like every other religious group in the nation, but that would mean we would lose the very "distinctives" that make Orthodoxy the original Church founded by the Apostles.

No, there is another way. There is the Orthodox Way, and that is the way of transformation. This way is slower, wiser, and lasting. This way preserves the riches, with which we have been entrusted, the wisdom we have learned through the centuries, the cultural traditions that underpin deep theological truths, and the irreplaceable theology that sets Orthodoxy apart from the spiritual confusion all too often evident in today's world.

Here are three aspects of this Orthodox Way that will help us both welcome others

with traditional Orthodox hospitality and preserve that which is truly foundational to our faith.

First, this Orthodox Way Reveals. Orthodoxy is the fullness of the Christian faith, period. It is the spiritual hospital where the full potency of the Christian Gospel is preserved. An authentic Orthodox faith reveals both the divinely inspired parts of a culture and its weaknesses. Orthodoxy serves a nation best when it honestly critiques the culture of a nation. That is the blessing the faith brings to this nation. But it just doesn't criticize, *it also baptizes*. There are parts of our culture that can be transformed by the faith into a vehicle of Orthodox faith. The culture offers us an unprecedented amount of freedom to practice our faith, and unparalleled economic and educational opportunities that allow us to both educate our young people and be philanthropic like no other people in the world.

Second, this Orthodox Way Restores. Orthodoxy changes people and nations. It always has. In fact, one of the marks of authentic Orthodox faith is the changed behavior of people and governments. Orthodoxy calls men and women to a serious and sober Christian faith that restores them to what they were created to be - the sons and daughters of God. Orthodoxy uniquely gives men and women a tried and true path to spiritual maturity. This faith challenges us to mimic the life of Jesus Christ in actions and attitudes. This faith produces saints! No wonder spiritually weary Americans are seeking out and finding the mature and stable theology of Orthodoxy. Our challenge as a Church is to help them find "home," be ready to receive them, and to integrate them into our growing family.

Finally, this Orthodox Way Relates. Orthodoxy is about relationships - Our family, our nation, and our faith in God. Orthodoxy does not build walls but bridges. We seek out the lost, just like our Lord sought us out so we could enjoy right relationship with Himself and His Father. Orthodoxy always actively seeks out ways to bring this salvific message to friends and neighbors wherever the Church finds Herself. And Orthodoxy is no different in America than it is in any other nation. An authentic Orthodoxy works to make the faith available to "whosoever wills" to enter the faith. That's why Jesus described the Church as a city set on a hill that cannot be hid. Orthodoxy is meant to be found by anyone who longs for the fullness of the Christian faith, even people who might not have had the happy accident of being born in a traditional Orthodox country.

Our Orthodox faith is drawing the spiritually seeking people of this nation. This is a trend that will only increase. It isn't going away and it isn't something we will be able to stop. Thank God! God loves all people and He is drawing men and women to Himself from every ethnic background, even average Americans who really don't know their ethnic backgrounds. Orthodoxy is becoming part of the fabric of America, and we rejoice in this exciting time to be alive and serving His Church.

This week I will speak to Fr. Joseph Huneycutt. He is the author of the new book "One Flew Over the Onion Dome," published by Regina Orthodox Press. Fr. Huneycutt, a convert himself, helps us all deal with the inevitable challenges of coming into Orthodoxy from other faith traditions. Lifelong Orthodox and converts alike will find his insights helpful in building a deeper communion with new faces in our congregations.

Until next week. Yours for the spread of Orthodoxy,

Fr. Chris Metropulos

Baptist Barber

After forty years of shaving himself every morning, a man in a small Southern town decided he had enough. He told his wife that he intended to let the local barber shave him from now on.

He went to the shop, which was owned by the pastor of their Baptist church. The barber's wife, Grace, was working that day so she performed the task.

Grace shaved him, sprayed him with lilac water and said, "That will be \$20." The man thought it a bit high, but paid the bill and went to work.

The next morning he looked in the mirror and his face was just as smooth as it had been when he left the barbershop the day before. "Not bad," he thought. "At least I don't need to get a shave every day."

The next morning his face was still smooth. Two weeks later, still smooth. It was more than he could take, so he returned to the barbershop. "I thought \$20 was high for a shave," he told the barber's wife, "but you must have done a great job. It has been two weeks and my whiskers still haven't started growing back."

OK, are you ready for this?

"Of course they haven't," she replied. "You were shaved by Grace. Once shaved, always shaved."