



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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NATIVITY FAST

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, Bishop Robert, 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 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, 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 6-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, 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], Robert Hippert & family, Marjorie Robison, Margaret Vladimir, Luke Emmerling, John Sheliga, Sabrina, 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 December babies: Betty O'Masta on the 9th, Scot Brunermer on the 14th, Joe Nezolyk on the 15th, Donna Karas on the 18th, and Jean Stuchell on the 29th. May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Wealthy, 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, December 9 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**
28TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—VENERABLE ALYPIUS THE STYLITE OF ADRIANOPOLIS, VENERABLE JAMES THE SOLITARY OF SYRIA, DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH OF SAINT GEORGE IN KYIV, REPOSE OF SAINT INNOCENT-FIRST BISHOP OF IRKUTSK

Tone 3
Colossians 1:12-19
Luke 13:10-17

Litany in Blessed Memory of Victor, Jacob, & Katarina Burlack—Burlack Family
Parastas in Blessed Memory of John Pendylshok—Ollie

Sunday, December 16 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**
29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPHET ZEPHANIAH, VENERABLE THEODULUS-EPARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE, VENERABLE JOHN THE SILENT OF SAINT SABBAS MONASTERY, HIEROMARTYR THEODORE-ARCHBISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA, VENERABLE SABBAS-ABBOT OF ZVENIGOROD MONASTERY-DISCIPLE OF SAINT SERGIUS OF RADONEZH

Tone 4
Colossians 3:4-11
Luke 18:18-27

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Nicholas & Katherine Behun—Behun Family

Sunday, December 23 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**
30TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—MARTYRS MENAS, HERMOGENES, & EUGRAPHUS OF ALEXANDRIA, MARTYR GEMELLUS OF PAPHLAGONIA, VENERABLE THOMAS OF BITHYNIA, BLESSED JOHN-KING OF SERBIA & HIS PARENTS BLESSED STEPHEN & BLESSED ANGELINA BRANKOVICH, SAINT IOASAPH-BISHOP OF BILHOROD

Tone 5
Colossians 3:12-16
Luke 17:12-19

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 09 DECEMBER 2007
28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—VENERABLE ALYPIUS THE
STYLITE OF ADRIANOPOLIS, VENERABLE JAMES THE
SOLITARY OF SYRIA, DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH OF SAINT
GEORGE IN KYIV, REPOSE OF SAINT INNOCENT-FIRST BISHOP
OF IRKUTSK

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!

Craziest Laws in America



This is a list of crazy laws in American history. Most of the laws listed below were repealed by now but there are many crazy laws on the list that are still being used.

Pennsylvania

- * A person is not eligible to become Governor if he/she has participated in a duel.
- * A special cleaning ordinance bans homemakers from hiding dirt and dust under a rug in a dwelling.
- * All fire hydrants must be checked one hour before all fires.
- * Allentown: There is a ban on men becoming aroused in public.
- * Any motorist driving along a country road at night must stop every mile and send up a rocket signal, wait 10 minutes for the road to be cleared of livestock, and continue.
- * Any motorist who sights a team of horses coming toward him must pull well off the road, cover his car with a blanket or canvas that blends with the countryside, and let the horses pass. If the horses appear skittish, the motorist must take his car apart, piece by piece, and hide it under the nearest bushes.
- * By law, "watch stuffers" are unwelcome in McKeesport, Pa. Now, no one is quite sure what a watch stuffer does, but whatever he does, he better do it somewhere else.
- * Carlisle: In the middle of town, one must pay a fee of \$50 dollars a year to park on a particular block. At night, however, the cars must be moved for street cleaning. This law is enforced even if snow or ice prevents the cars from being moved.
- * Connellsville: One's pants may be worn no lower than five inches below the waist.
- * Dynamite is not to be used to catch fish.
- * Fireworks stores may not sell fireworks to Pennsylvania residents.
- * In Bensalem, Pennsylvania it is illegal to race mufflerless go-karts after 6PM on Sunday.
- * In Harrisburg, Pennsylvania it is illegal to have sex with a truck driver inside a toll booth.

- * In Hazelton, Pennsylvania, there is a law on the books that prohibits a person from sipping a carbonated drink while lecturing students in a school auditorium.
- * In Philadelphia, you can't put pretzels in bags.
- * In the Mount Pocono region any group of 5 or more Native Americans are to be considered a raiding party and may be killed on the spot.
- * In York, Pennsylvania, you can't sit down while watering your lawn with a hose.
- * It sounds like the title of a rock album or something, but "Coasting on Beaver Street" is illegal in Edgeworth, Pa.
- * It is contrary to Pennsylvania law to discharge a gun, cannon, revolver or other explosive weapon at a wedding.
- * It is illegal to have over 16 women live in a house together because that constitutes a brothel. However up to 120 men can live together, without breaking the law.
- * Millville: One may not shoot any dog that is found wandering the streets. The sale of alcohol is prohibited.
- * Ministers are forbidden from performing marriages when either the bride or groom is drunk.
- * Morrisville: It is required that a woman have a permit to wear cosmetics.
- * Newtown: Every outlet or switch (which can be purchased for 59 cents) that is installed requires an electrical inspection fee of 1 dollar and 33 cents.
- * No man may purchase alcohol without written consent from his wife.
- * No more than two packages of beer at a time may be purchased, unless you are buying from an official "beer distributor"
- * No one is allowed to sleep on a refrigerator. Stoves, dishwashers and microwave ovens are not specifically mentioned.
- * Pittsburgh: It is still illegal to bring a donkey or a mule onto a trolley car.
- * Tarentum: Horses are not to be tied to parking meters.
- * The state law of Pennsylvania prohibits singing in the bathtub.
- * Though you do not need a fishing license to fish on your own land, a hunting license is required to hunt on your own land.
- * Witchcraft was first legalized in the colony of Pennsylvania.
- * You may not catch a fish by any body part except the mouth.
- * You may not catch a fish with your hands.
- * You may not sing in the bathtub.

MORE BAD PUNS!

Back in the 1800s the Tates Watch Company of Massachusetts wanted to produce other products and, since they already made the cases for watches, they used them to produce compasses.

The new compasses were so bad that people often ended up in Canada or Mexico

rather than California.

This, of course, is the origin of the expression, "He who has a Tate is lost!"

November 30, 2007

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

With the Blessing of the Council of Bishops and the request of the members of the All Saints Camp Committee, we have been asked to coordinate the celebration of the consecration of the newly constructed chapel at All Saints Camp in Emlenton, Pennsylvania. The date selected for the joyous event is June 21 and 22, 2008 on the weekend of the Feast of All Saints.

Our hope is that this event will not only highlight the culmination of the dream of having a chapel at the camp, but also celebrate the 30th anniversary of the acquisition of this beautiful corner of God's creation.

This celebration will give us an opportunity to honor the benefactors and supporters of the camp, both the departed and the living. We can celebrate the success of the Youth Ministry Program and the well loved encampments at All Saints, the Diocesan Church Camp, Teenage Conference and the Mommy and Me/Daddy and Me Camp.

We are contacting you, those that have, are, or will be involved with our Camp, to inform you of our efforts, to request your input and to ask for your active participation, especially in the preparation for the big event. Due to the fact that most of us are at a distance from the camp and each other, we intend to coordinate these preparations through the internet or by phone.

At this time we ask for your ideas on how we may celebrate the blessing of the chapel and the camp anniversary. Please email us your thoughts and indicate your interest of how you and your parish may help. Our goal is to have some plans outlined by December 30, and the establishment of responsibilities with a budget in place soon after.

Please pray for the success of our efforts. Hope to hear from you.

In Christ our Lord,

Ira and Ihor

Pani Matka Iryna and Deacon Ihor Mahlay

Email is imahlay@yahoo.com or phone at home is 440-582-1051

Feasts and Saints of the Orthodox Church
November 26/9 December



Venerable Stylianos of Paphlagonia

Saint Stylianus was born in Paphlagonia of Asia Minor sometime between the fourth and sixth centuries. He inherited a great fortune from his parents when they died, but he did not keep it. He gave it away to the poor according to their need, desiring to help those who were less fortunate.

Stylianus left the city and went to a monastery, where he devoted his life to God. Since he was more zealous and devout than the other monks, he provoked their jealousy and had to leave. He left the monastery to live alone in a cave in the wilderness, where he spent his time in prayer and fasting.

The goodness and piety of the saint soon became evident to the inhabitants of Paphlagonia, and they sought him out to hear his teaching, or to be cured by him. Many were healed of physical and mental illnesses by his prayers.

St Stylianus was known for his love of children, and he would heal them of their infirmities. Even after his death, the citizens of Paphlagonia believed that he could cure their children. Whenever a child became sick, an icon of St Stylianus was painted and was hung over the child's bed.

At the hour of his death, the face of St Stylianus suddenly became radiant, and an angel appeared to receive his soul.

Known as a protector of children, St Stylianus is depicted in iconography holding an infant in his arms. Pious Christians ask him to help and protect their children, and childless women entreat his intercession so that they might have children.

St Stylianos was a man who practiced every day of his lifetime what Jesus preached when he said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the Kingdom of God" (Luke 10:14).

His great concern for children was such that he came to be considered the

patron saint of children, but he did not limit his benevolence to children alone, as his life story bears out.

Stylianos was born during the seventh century in Adrianopolis in the province of Paphlagonia into a family which for generations had known nothing but poverty, a circumstance which was accepted without complaint and in which the simple, uncomplicated life afforded them greater time for religious matters. What the family of Stylianos lacked in material things was more than offset by the wealth of a deep faith in Jesus Christ and a cheerful commitment to the Messiah who never owned anything more than the clothes he wore. Stylianos was early made aware of this affinity with the Lord and by the time he had reached maturity had acquired a profound sense of responsibility to the Savior. Determined to serve Jesus Christ to the fullest of his ability, Stylianos joined the hermits of the desert with a view toward cleansing his soul through a period of meditation and prayer, as well as through association with men likewise pledging their lives to Jesus Christ.

Unlike most other hermits, however, he did not withdraw from society altogether, preferring to go among the people for whatever good he might do, and then returning to his little cave for rest and prayerful meditation. One night while he prayed for guidance in helping others, Stylianos felt a divine presence and was consumed by the great glory of the Holy Spirit, emerging from his cave the next day with a spirit of exultation and serenity he had never known before.

In his customary rounds, wherein he counseled and comforted, he felt compelled to place his hand on a stricken child, something he had not up to that time dared to do; he felt the power of the Lord being transferred to the ailing youngster through his extended arm. The child immediately recovered, and thenceforth St Stylianos was sought after by every suffering soul for miles around, young and old. His cave became a magnet for the sick and suffering, many of whom received complete cures not only through the power in this man but through their faith as well, without which a sufferer's case was hopeless.

It was this time that St Stylianos concerned himself primarily with children, not just the physically afflicted but also those who were in need of spiritual guidance. Families from all walks of life entrusted to St Stylianos the enlightenment of their children, and he was forced to seek out larger headquarters and to recruit from the ranks of his hermit friends the assistance needed to tend to so many. His was probably the first day-care center of the world, where mothers could safely leave their children while tending to other matters of the home.

St Stylianos was inadvertently qualified to become the patron saint of children yet to be born, owing to his miraculous intercession for a young woman who helped him with children but could bear none of her own. When the woman conceived, her husband out of sheer joy spread the word of this miracle, and before long many barren women came to the great hermit. Those whose faith in Jesus Christ was genuine became fertile. The cheerful countenance of St Stylianos was his hallmark, because he seemed always to be smiling, Now and then, however, he would be challenged by an outraged discreditor of little faith, and only then would the beaming hermit's face darken with a scowl. He was also approached by greedy mercenaries with all manner of propositions for commercializing his talents and reaping a tidy fortune, but for these people he always had the same answer: that he had been paid in advance for his services when the serenity of the Holy Spirit came upon him. He would smile as they left. He lived to a ripe old age, and it is said that, when he was buried his countenance still beamed with a faint smile from the light of the Lord.

CHRISTIAN WAYS TO REDUCE STRESS

An Angel says, 'Never borrow from the future. If you worry about what may happen tomorrow and it doesn't happen, you have worried in vain. Even if it does happen, you have to worry twice.'

1. Pray
2. Go to bed on time.
3. Get up on time so you can start the day unrushed.
4. Say No to projects that won't fit into your time schedule, or that will compromise your mental health.
5. Delegate tasks to capable others.
6. Simplify and unclutter your life.
7. Less is more. (Although one is often not enough, two are often too many.)
8. Allow extra time to do things and to get to places.
9. Pace yourself. Spread out big changes and difficult projects over time; don't lump the hard things all together.
10. Take one day at a time.
11. Separate worries from concerns. If a situation is a concern, find out what God would have you do and let go of the anxiety. If you can't do anything about a situation, forget it.
12. Live within your budget; don't use credit cards for ordinary purchases.
13. Have backups; an extra car key in your wallet, an extra house key buried in the garden, extra stamps, etc.
14. K.M.S. (Keep Mouth Shut). This single piece of advice can prevent an enormous amount of trouble.

15. Do something for the Kid in You everyday.
16. Carry a Bible with you to read while waiting in line.
17. Get enough rest.
18. Eat right.
19. Get organized so everything has its place.
20. Listen to a tape while driving that can help improve your quality of life.
21. Write down thoughts and inspirations.
22. Every day, find time to be alone.
23. Having problems? Talk to God on the spot. Try to nip small problems in the bud. Don't wait until it's time to go to bed to try and pray.
24. Make friends with Godly people.
25. Keep a folder of favorite scriptures on hand.
26. Remember that the shortest bridge between despair and hope is often a good 'Thank you, Jesus.'
27. Laugh.
28. Laugh some more!
29. Take your work seriously, but not yourself at all.
30. Develop a forgiving attitude (most people are doing the best they can).
31. Be kind to unkind people (they probably need it the most).
32. Sit on your ego.
33. Talk less; listen more.
34. Slow down.
35. Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe.
36. Every night before bed, think of one thing you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before. GOD HAS A WAY OF TURNING THINGS AROUND FOR YOU. 'If God is for us, who can be against us?' (Romans 8:31)

If we wish to stand before our King and God and converse with Him, we must not rush into this without preparation.

When you are going to stand before the Lord, let the garment of your soul be woven throughout with the thread of obliviousness to wrongs. Otherwise your prayer will bring you no benefit.

Let your prayer be completely simple. For both the Publican and the Prodigal son were reconciled to God by a single phrase.

The work of prayer is one and the same for all, but there are many kinds of prayer and many different prayers. Some converse with God as with a friend and master, interceding with praise and petition, not for themselves, but for others.

Some strive for greater spiritual riches and glory for confidence in prayer. Others ask for complete deliverance from their adversary.

Before all else, let us list sincere thanksgiving first on the scroll of our prayer. On the second line, we should put confession and heartfelt contrition of soul. Then let us present our petition to the King of all. This is the best way of prayer...

St. John Climacus, The Ladder of Divine Ascent 28.1-7