



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] 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, Metropolitan Theodosius, 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 Michael Mihalick [MS], Father Paul Bigelow, Ollie Pendlshok, 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, 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, Cameron [a boy in Matt's class], Faith—a 7-year-old girl with rheumatoid arthritis, Isabella Olivia Lindgren—a 3-year-old with a brain tumor, Dillon, Ethel Thomas, Donna, Nick Malec [Maxine's brother], Erin, Jim Markovich, Jeff Walewski [thyroid cancer], Carol [Lotinski] Rose, Michael Miller, Dave May, Grace & Owen Ostrasky, Alverta, Gary Zurasky, Michael Horvath, Patti Sinecki, David Genshi, Rita Very & family, Sue Segeleon, Mike Gallagher, Mildred Walters, Michael Miller, Mike Pelchar [Liz's brother], Jim Logue—throat cancer, Liz Stumpf, Ester Tylavsky, Ed Jamison, Theodore Nixon, Charles Johnson, Amy Forbeck, Michelle Corba Kapeluck, Gloria Prymak [Liz's niece], Robert Hippert & family, Margaret Vladimir, Luke Emmerling, John Sheliga, Sabrina, George & Mika Rocknage, Elizabeth Mitchell, Robert McKivitz, Cliff Dow, Marjorie Pershing, Amy Kemerer, Tom Marriott, Joe Farkas, Liz Obradovich, Liz, Adam, Helen Pytlak, Halyna Zelinska [Bishop Daniel's mother], Mary Ann, Charlotte, and Daria Masur. **ARNOLD:** Stefania Lucci, Ann Ostaffy, Steve Sakal, Homer Paul Kline, and Steve Ostaffy. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

Please remember especially in your prayers: Walter Burlack & Liz Obradovich.

Pastor Carl Jones, Sr., and the Greater Parkview Baptist Church invite everyone to celebrate their church's 82nd anniversary THIS AFTERNOON. Dinner starts at 2 PM with a worship service at 3:30 PM with guest pastor Gerald Smith of Christ Missionary Baptist Church of Pittsburgh. For more information, please contact the church office at 724-468-8318 or Brother Alvin Kirkling at 724-217-5113.

Saint Sylvester Roman Catholic Church will host their Fall Tea on Sunday, September 28, 2008, at 12:30 PM. There will be a Hand-quilted quilt and Basket Raffles, food, refreshments, and lots of door prizes. Adults \$10, ages 6-12 \$7. Hat and gloves optional. Advance tickets only—please call Bridget at 724-468-4094.

Please remember David Weaver in Mosul, James John Logue assigned to Iraq, Matthew Machak, and 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 Sixth Grade and Matt's Fourth Grade collections. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP!
Love, **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, September 21

Divine Liturgy

10:30 AM

**14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, THE NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY,
ICON OF SOPHIA THE WISDOM OF GOD IN KIEV**

Tone 5

Galatians 6:11-18

Phillipians 2:5-11

John 3:13-17

Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Tillie Kuzman—Debbie & John Paouncic

Sunday, September 28 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE MOST HOLY AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS, GREAT-MARTYR NICETAS THE GOIH, UNCOVERING OF THE RELICS OF SAINT ACACIUS-CONFESSOR & BISHOP OF MELITENE, MARTYRS THEODOTUS, ASCLEPIODOTUS, & MAXIMUS OF ADRIANOPOLIS, MARTYR PORPHYRIUS THE ACTOR, UNCOVERING THE RELICS OF HOLY PROTOMARTYR & ARCHDEACON STEPHEN, SAINT JOSEPH-BISHOP OF ALAVERD IN GEORGIA, VENERABLE PHILOTHEUS-PRESBYTER IN ASIA MINOR, SAINTS BESSARION I & BESSARION II-ARCHBISHOPS OF LARISSA, SAINT GERASIMUS-ABBOT OF MYSIA, NEW MARTYR JOHN OF CRETE

Tone 6

II Corinthians 4:6-15

Matthew 22:35-46

Litany in Blessed Memory of Michael Holupka—Mike Holupka
Parastas in Blessed Memory of Matilda Kuzman—John & Debbie Pauncic

Sunday, October 5 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, PROPHET JONAH, HIEROMARTYR PHOCAS-BISHOP OF SINOPE, VENERABLE JONAH-PRESBYTER & FATHER OF SAINT THEOPHANES THE HYMNOGRAPHER & SAINT THEODORE GRAPTUS, RIGHTEOUS PETER THE TAX-COLLECTOR, VENERABLE MACARIUS-ABBOT OF ZHABYN & WONDERWORKER, VENERABLE JOHNA-ABBOT OF YZSHAVERSK, 26 MARTYRS OF ZOGRAPHOU MONASTERY ON MOUNT ATHOS, VENERABLE COSMAS OF ZOGRAPHOU, MARTYRS ISAAC & MARTIN, VENERABLE THEOPHANES THE SILENT-RECLUSE OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

Tone 7

II Corinthians 6:1-20

Luke 5:1-11

Litany in Blessed Memory of Kay Behun, Father Theodore Forosty, Johnathan Dorning, & Mary Evaniuk—Fr. Bob
Parastas in Blessed Memory of Anna Harte—40 days—Jean Stutchell & Family

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 21 SEPTEMBER 2008

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST THE NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

ICON OF SOPHIA-THE WISDOM OF GOD IN KIEV

TROPARION—TONE 4

Your Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos!
He bestowed a blessing.
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

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

KONTAKION—TONE 4

By your Nativity, O most pure Virgin,
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness;
Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death.
And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you:
The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life.

PROKEIMENON—TONE 3

READER: My Soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior!

PEOPLE: **My Soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior!**

READER: For he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

PEOPLE: **My Soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior!**

READER: My Soul magnifies the Lord...

PEOPLE: **And my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior!**

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 8 (Psalm 45)

Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear

Before your face, the richest of the people will pray

HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS—REPLACES “IT IS TRULY MEET”

Virginity is foreign to mothers; childbearing is strange for virgins. But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished! For this, all the earthly nations unceasingly magnify you!

COMMUNION HYMN (Psalm 226)

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

The author of the popular book, "Thirsting for God in a Land of Shallow Wells," Matthew Gallatin, will speak at St Nicholas Orthodox Church in McKees Rocks on Wednesday, October 8th.

At 10:30 AM, a Pastor's Forum for pastors, teachers and ministry leaders who are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Church will be led by Matthew. A prayer service will open the Forum at 10:00 AM followed by a continental breakfast. Matthew's talk is entitled, "Seeking Truth, Finding Love: My Journey to the Orthodox Church." A time for questions and discussion will follow.

At 7:00 PM, Matthew will speak on the topic, "How to Experience God." Matthew's practical talk will deal with the Orthodox mystical experience of God vs. a mediated

approach common in Western Christianity. This talk is open to the general public and refreshments will be served.

Both events are free of charge. Matthew's book and other materials will be available for purchase.

St Nicholas Orthodox Church--*only three minutes from downtown Pittsburgh*
320 Munson Avenue
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
<http://stnicholas-oca.org>

Fliers concerning the events are available by clicking the links in this email, or visit <http://stnicholas-oca.org>. Priests are kindly asked to share this important information with their parish in their bulletin. For more information about Matthew Gallatin's visit, write info@stnicholas-oca.org.

Matthew Gallatin is the author of "Thirsting for God in a Land of Shallow Wells" (Conciliar Press, 2002). Audiences around the country have heard him share the story of his journey from evangelical Protestantism to Eastern Orthodoxy. His "Pilgrims from Paradise" podcast on Ancient Faith Radio presents teachings on a host of issues relating to Christian belief and practice and is one of the most popular offerings on AFR. Matthew is a former professor of Philosophy, and is currently working on a new book, "One: What it Means to be a Christian."

A Weeping Icon of Saint Anna, mother of the Most Holy Theotokos, will visit Saint Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 116 Ella Street, McKees Rocks, PA, on Friday, October 3rd, 2008, and Saturday October 4th, 2008.

On Friday, at 7 PM, an Akathist will be served, followed by anointing of the faithful

On Saturday, at 9 AM, a Divine Liturgy will be served, following by anointing of the faithful. At 11 AM, another Akathist will be served, also followed by anointing of the faithful.

Please contact Very Rev. Father Tim Tomson with any questions at 412-331-2362.

An Athonite hermit said: What guarantees a safe journey to eternity is effort, dignity, the sense of being unworthy before God, hope--the spiritual oxygen, consolation, and certainty. Not misery and compelled obedience and forced prayer; not tears and sadness - these all come from Satan. Yes, I ought to weep for my sins, but all the while hoping in God's love. But I cannot stand it if I cry because the Devil wants me to despair. Many times Satan crushes a person with despair and the devil becomes the victor. But this does not happen when one is like a child on his father's arm - trusting. Our trust in God is a ceaseless prayer that brings positive results. Despair comes from the Devil. Don't say, "Oh, what has happened to me?" But give yourself to God totally and hope in Him.

from an Athonite Gerontikon

A provincial magistrate heard about Abba Moses one day and he went to Scetis to visit him. They told the old man. When he heard it, he got up and fled towards the marsh. Along the way, the magistrate and his entourage met him and said, "Old man, can you tell us where the cell of Abba Moses is?" He said to them, "What do you want with him? He's a fool and a heretic!" So the magistrate continued to Scetis and said to the brothers, "I heard people talking about Abba Moses and I wanted to see him, but there was an old man going into Egypt who crossed our path and we asked him where Abba Moses' cell was, and he said to us, 'What do you want with him? He's a fool and a heretic.'" When they heard this, the brothers were greatly scandalized and said, "What sort of an old man was it who dared to speak like that about the holy man?" He said, "He was an old man wearing a tattered cloak, a big black man." They said to him, "That was Abba Moses himself. He spoke like that in order not to be questioned and honored by you." And the magistrate went away greatly edified.

Hi,

I've moved to Saltsburg:

Maxine (Mary) Kitch

804 Wood Street Extension

Saltsburg, PA 15681-1300

New Phone: 724-702-0106

Thanks,

Max

Please remember Helen Pytlak and her family in your prayers as she recovers from surgery two weeks ago.

Please remember in your prayers Peter Natishan, son of Very Rev. Mitrat Father Peter Natishan, who has been recently diagnosed with cancer. I'm sure Father Pete and his family would appreciate prayers for them as well. You can drop Father Pete and Pani Ann Marie a note at: 151 Mallard Drive, McKees Rocks, PA 15136.

Sept. 9, 2008: Turkey: Implement Recent European Court Decision and Press Forward with Reforms

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 9, 2008

Contact: Judith Ingram
Communications Director
(202) 523-3240, ext. 127

communications@uscirf.gov

WASHINGTON—The European Court ruled unanimously this summer in a case brought by the Greek Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarchate that Turkey was in violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property) of the European Convention on Human Rights. The case concerned an orphanage on the Turkish island of Buyukada owned by the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the body that is the spiritual leader of almost 300 million Orthodox Christians worldwide. The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom has monitored and reported on this and other religious freedom concerns in Turkey and calls on the U.S. government to urge the Turkish government to implement the judgment as soon as possible.

“This is a landmark decision for the rights of all religious minorities in Turkey, not least because it recognizes the rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate as a legal entity,” said Commission Chair Felice Gaer. “The Commission calls on the U.S. government to urge the government of Turkey to demonstrate its commitment to observe the rule of law for all citizens of Turkey by implementing this important ruling.”

During the Commission’s November 2006 visit to Turkey, though people from almost every religious tradition said they were free to gather and worship as provided for in the country’s constitution, the Commission also learned of significant restrictions on religious freedom for religious minority communities that violated those rights. Among them are state policies and actions that

deny non-Muslims the right to own and maintain property, to train religious clergy, and to offer religious education above high school.

Many of the most serious problems faced by religious minorities in Turkey involve property rights and ownership. The Turkish state has consistently used convoluted regulations and undemocratic laws to confiscate—without opportunity for legal appeal or financial compensation—thousands of religious minority properties, particularly those belonging to the Ecumenical Patriarchate and Greek Orthodox community under patriarchal jurisdiction. Turkey's policies have led to the decline—and in some cases, virtual disappearance—of some of these religious minorities on lands they have inhabited for millennia.

The European Court's ruling comes at a time of another momentous court ruling: the July decision of Turkey's Constitutional Court against closing down the government's ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP), which was elected to government with a strong plurality in July 2007 national elections in Turkey. After the parliament voted to alter the country's 1982 constitution to allow women who wear headscarves to attend university—which is currently prohibited in Turkey—a public prosecutor filed a lawsuit with the Constitutional Court in March 2008 to shut down the AKP and ban the party's senior officials from politics. The U.S. government and the European Union had criticized the lawsuit, suggesting that it was an attempt to disrupt the democratic process in Turkey.

“It is hoped that the ruling by the Constitutional Court will enable the government of Turkey to resume the path toward democratic reform and respect for the human rights of all persons, regardless of their religious conviction or affiliation. Swift and full implementation of this recent judgment of the European Court of Human Rights on the property rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate would be an important first step in demonstrating genuine commitment to that reform process,” Gaer said.

Background. Although legally purchased by the Ecumenical Patriarchate in 1902, the orphanage was registered as the property of the orphanage's foundation in 1936 because the Turkish legal system no longer recognized the Patriarchate as a legal entity. In 1997, Turkey's General Directorate for Foundations (Vakiflar), which regulates all activities and property of non-Muslim religious groups, determined that the orphanage foundation was no longer operational and assumed management of the property. In 1999, the Vakiflar initiated proceedings to deprive the Ecumenical Patriarchate of ownership and to re-register the property in the name of the orphanage, now under the Vakiflar's management.

After a series of appeals in the Turkish courts, the Patriarchate turned to the European Court, which ruled that the Turkish authorities were not entitled to dispossess the owner of its property without providing for appropriate compensation. As the Ecumenical Patriarchate had not received any form of compensation, the Court stated, there had been a violation of property rights.

Slickville Presbyterian Church will sponsor a TURKEY DINNER next Saturday, September 27, 2008, from 4 PM to 7 PM at the Civic Center. Adults--\$7.00, Children 6 and under--\$3.00. Please support our neighbors and have a great dinner—NO COOKING!

And indeed there was assembled at a meeting-place (in 5th century Britain) a crowd of vast proportions, wives and children among them, drawn by the occasion. The people were present both as spectators and as jurymen. The two parties (Pelagians and Catholics/Orthodox) faced each other, ill matched and on unequal terms. On the one side was divine authority, on the other human presumption; on this side, faith, on that side, bad faith; those owned allegiance to Pelagius, these to Christ.

The holy bishops (who had come from Gaul for the occasion, among whom was St. Germanus of Auxerre) gave the privilege of opening the debate to their opponents, who took up the time of their hearers with empty words drawn out to great length but to little purpose. Then the revered prelates themselves poured out the floods of their eloquence, mingling them with the thunders of the apostle and the Gospels, for their own words were interwoven with the inspired writings and their strongest assertions were supported by the testimony of Scripture. Empty arguments were refuted, the dishonest pleas were exposed, and their authors, as each point was made against them, confessed themselves in the wrong by their inability to reply. The jury of the people could hardly keep their hands off them and were not to be stopped from giving their verdict by their shouts.

Suddenly a man of high military [tribunician] rank, accompanied by his wife, stepped into the middle and put his ten-year-old daughter, who was blind, into the arms of the bishops. They told him to take her to their opponents. But the latter, stung by conscience and much alarmed, joined the parents in begging the bishops to cure the little girl. The bishops, seeing that the people were expectant and their opponents in a humbler frame of mind, offered a short prayer, after which Germanus, filled with the Holy Spirit and in the name of the Trinity, took from his neck the reliquary that always hung at his side and in full view of everybody put it to the eyes of the child.

Immediately it expelled their darkness and filled them with light and truth. The parents were filled with joy at the miracle and the onlookers with awe. From that day onward the false doctrine was so completely uprooted from men's minds that they looked to the bishops for teaching, with thirsty souls.

Constantius of Lyons, Life of St. Germanus of Auxerre 14-15
St. Germanus of Auxerre, commemorated 31 July/13 August

Vigils and fasts and acts of mercy are the methods advocated by the saints to attain the spiritual life. But they must not stand alone, nor must the Christian put his trust in them. Humility must have faith for its principle, and fasting be combined with charity, that is, feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, clothe the naked.

St. Basil the Great

The Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration Ellwood City, PA

Mother Alexandra Memorial Retreat Blossoming Forth: A Seminar on Orthodoxy in America



Opening Procession—Monastery Consecration, September 1968

Saturday, September 27, 2008:

1:30 p.m. Service of Thanksgiving

2:00 p.m. "The Past Forty Years" by Fr. Thomas Hopko

3:30 p.m. "The Next Forty Years" panel discussion by
young church leaders in America today:

Fr. Michael Kallaur

Nathan & Melissa Graff

Cindy Klinar

Kory Warr
5:00 p.m. Closing Remarks: "Dreaming the Dream"
6:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Sunday, September 28, 2008:

10:00 a.m. Holy Liturgy and Procession with the
Ellwood City Icon of the Mother of God

For further information call the Monastery at 724-758-4002