



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, 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 Gregory [Wolfenden], Father Joseph Kopchak, Father Charles Mezzomo, 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, 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, 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, Helen Pytlak, Halyna Zelinska [Bishop Daniel's mother], Mary Ann, Charlotte, Peter Natishan, Michael Spak, Andrew Mark Olynyk, Deborah Finley, Claire Senita, Brandi Thomas, and Daria Masur. **ARNOLD:** Stefania Lucci, 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.

The beginning of blessed patience is to bear dishonor, even with sorrow and hurt in one's soul; the middle is to stay in it without sadness; and finally comes the accomplishment--to accept the suffering as praise. I once saw three monks who all bore dishonor. One of them was eaten up by grief, but was silent. The other was joyful for himself, but was sad for the one blaming him. But the third, seeing only the harm to a close one, shed warm tears. Thus one could see here the workings of fear, reward, and love. *St. John Climacus*

Please remember David Weaver in Mosul, James John Logue & George Senita 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, November 9 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**
21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, MARTYR NESTOR OF THESSALONICA, MARTYRS CAPITOLINA & EROIS OF CAPPADOCIA, MARTYR MARK OF THASOS & THOSE WITH HIM, VENERABLE NESTOR THE CHRONICLER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA, VENERABLE NESTOR OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA, UNCOVERING OF RELICS OF SAINT ANDREW-PRINCE OF SMOLENSK, SAINT CYRIACUS-PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE, PROCLA-WIFE OF PONTIUS PILATE

Tone 4
Galatians 2:16-20
Luke 8:26-39
Litany in Blessed Memory of Michael Pelchar—Liz O’Bradovich
Parastas in Blessed Memory of Charles Yakim—Ollie Pendlyshok

Sunday, November 16 **Divine Liturgy** **10:30 AM**
22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, MARTYRS ACEPSIMAS-BISHOP, JOSEPH-PRESBYTER, & AEITHALAS-DEACON OF PERSIA, DEDICATION OF CHURCH OF GREAT-MARTYR GEORGE IN LYDDA, MARTYRS ATTICUS, AGAPIUS, EUDOXIUS, CARTERIUS, ISTUCARIUS, PAXCTOBIUS, & NICTOPOLION AT SEBASTE, VENERABLE ACEPSIMUS-HERMIT OF CYRRHUS IN SYRIA, VENERABLE SNADULIA OF PERSIA, SAINT ELIAS OF EGYPT, SAINT ACEMONIDIES-CONFESSOR OF PERSIA, BLESSED ANNA-DAUGHTER OF PRINCE VSEVOLOD I YAROSLAVICH

Tone 5
Galatians 6:11-18

Luke 8:41-56

Litany in Blessed Memory of All Deceased Veterans

Sunday, November 23

Divine Liturgy

10:30 AM

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, APOSTLES ERASTUS, OLYMPAS, HERODION, SOSIPATER, QUARTUS, & TERTIUS OF THE 70, MARTYR ORESTES THE PHYSICIAN OF CAPPADOCIA, HIEROMARTYR MILOS-BISHOP OF PERSIA & TWO DISCIPLES, VENERABLE THEOCTERISTUS-ABBOT OF SYMBOLA ON MOUNT OLYMPUS, MARTYR CONSTANTINE-PRINCE OF GEORGIA, SAINT NONNUS-BISHOP OF HELIOPOLIS

Tone 6

Ephesians 2:4-10

Luke 10:25-37

Litany in Blessed Memory of Paul Popichak—Fr. Bob

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Agnes Rossi—Mr. & Mrs. Chester Debick

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 09 NOVEMBER 2008

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
MARTYR NESTOR OF THESSALONICA, MARTYRS CAPITOLINA &
EROIS OF CAPPADOCIA, MARTYR MARK OF THASOS & THOSE
WITH HIM, VENERABLE NESTOR THE CHRONICLER OF
PERCHEVSKY LAVRA, VENERABLE NESTOR OF PERCHEVSKY
LAVRA, UNCOVERING OF RELICS OF SAINT ANDREW-PRINCE OF
SMOLENSK, SAINT CYRIACUS-PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE,
PROCLA-WIFE OF PONTIUS PILATE

TROPARION—TONE 4

When the women disciples of the Lord
Learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection;
They cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles:
Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen,
Granting 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 4

My Savior and Redeemer,
As God rose from the tomb
And delivered the earthborn from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of Hell,
And as Master, He has risen on the third day!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 4

READER: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

PEOPLE: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

READER: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

PEOPLE: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

READER: O Lord, how manifold are thy works!

PEOPLE: In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 4

Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness.

You love righteousness and hate iniquity.

We thank Mr. George in Battle Creek for the inspirational piece that follows.

There was a blind girl who hated herself because she was blind. She hated everyone, except her loving boyfriend. He was always there for her.

She told her boyfriend, 'If I could only see the world, I will marry you.'

One day, someone donated a pair of eyes to her. When the bandages came off, she was able to see everything, including her boyfriend. He asked her, 'Now that you can see the world, will you marry me?'

The girl looked at her boyfriend and saw that he was blind. The sight of his closed eyelids shocked her. She hadn't expected that. The thought of looking at them the rest of her life led her to refuse to marry him.

Her boyfriend left in tears and days later wrote a note to her saying: 'Take good care of your eyes, my dear, for before they were yours, they were mine.'

This is how the human brain often works when our status changes. Only a very few remember what life was like before, and who was always by their side in the most painful situations.

Life Is a Gift

Today before saying an unkind word - Think of someone who can't speak.

Before griping about the taste of your food - Think of someone who has nothing to eat.

Before complaining about your husband or wife - Think of someone who's crying out to GOD for a companion.

Today before thinking how difficult your life is - Think of someone who went too early to heaven.

Before dreaming about when you won't have children in the house - Think of someone who desires children but they're barren.

Before arguing about your dirty house someone didn't clean or sweep - Think of the people who are living in the streets.

Before whining about the distance you drive - Think of someone who walks the same distance with their feet.

And when tired and wishing you had a different job - Think of the unemployed, the disabled, and those who wish they'd your position and paycheck.

But before pointing the finger - Remember, none of us is without sin.

And when depressing thoughts come along - Put a smile on and think: "I'm alive and got a few great blessings that so many others don't have."

29 October 2008, 17:30

A Russian priest visits Saudi Arabia for the first time

Jeddah, October 29, Interfax - Deputy Head of the Moscow Patriarchate Department for External Church Relations Archpriest Vsevolod Chaplin became the first priest of the Russian Orthodox Church in history to visit Saudi Arabia.

He attended the fourth forum of the Russia-Islamic World strategic vision group held in Jeddah, October 27-29.

"Russia and the Islamic world have a lot in common. We are intermingled: Russia is inseparable from the Islamic world, as many millions of Moslems live there, and the Islamic world is inseparable from the Russian and Orthodox world which members live in so many Moslem countries," the priest said addressing the forum.

According to him, the most important thing is that "we share a lot in common in our views on the family and society, as well as the place of religion and good morals in their lives."

Fr. Vsevolod noted that the Russian model of inter-religious relations involved respect to the traditions of different religions, their intrinsic way of life, and social norms related to them.

"Today, this model is in demand in the world which increasingly understands that it is necessary to respect different civilizations with their religious or secular roots, their laws, rules, social models and political systems," the priest said.

Fr. Vsevolod called for mutual support of inter-religious peacemaking initiatives, in particular, the Russian proposal to organize a consultative interreligious council under the auspices of UN, and the initiative of Saudi Arabia's King to develop the interreligious dialogue, as well as measures to prevent hurting believers' feelings proposed by the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

According to Fr. Vsevolod, Russia and the Islamic world as well share common challenges. This is, in particular, an attempt to use religious feelings to unleash national and political extremism and radicalism, to justify terror, and reach vile mundane goals.

The other strong challenge is an attempt to induce believers, including by means of some models of "interreligious dialogue," to refuse their identity and traditions, introduce liberal reforms into their beliefs, "privatize" religion and recognize the monopoly of secular values in the social sphere, Fr. Vsevolod said.

"Recently, both Orthodox and Moslems, are being taught and tutored too often: abandon your "superstitions," recognize the supremacy of the secular right and secular values, and you will be a promoted student of the Western society," Fr. Vsevolod said.

Today, however, he said "consistent believers understand more and more that their world outlook, way of life, laws, and rules, and the model of society have no less right in the context of the world structure than the Western social and worldly model."

"If we together are able to stand up for such position, we will be much stronger," Fr. Vsevolod is convinced.

a word from the desert

Someone asked Abba Paisius, "What should I do about my soul, because it is insensitive and does not fear God? He said to him, "Go, and find a man who fears God, and live near him. He will teach you, too, to fear God."

Venerable Paisius, commemorated 18 June/01 July

A THOUGHT FOR VETERANS' DAY

I am a doctor specializing in the Emergency Departments of the only two military Level One-Trauma Centers, both in San Antonio, TX and they care for civilian Emergencies as well as military personnel. San Antonio has the largest military retiree population in the world living here. As a military doctor, I work long hours and the pay is less than glamorous. One tends to become jaded by the long hours, lack of sleep, food, family contact and the endless parade of human suffering passing before you. The arrival of another ambulance does not mean more pay, only more work. Most often, it is a victim from a motor vehicle crash.

Often it is a person of dubious character who has been shot or stabbed. With our large military retiree population, it is often a nursing home patient. Even with my enlisted service and minimal combat experience in Panama, I have caught myself groaning when the ambulance brought in yet another sick, elderly person from one of the local retirement centers that cater to military retirees had not stopped to think of what citizens of this age group represented.

I saw 'Saving Private Ryan.' I was touched deeply. Not so much by the carnage, but by the sacrifices of so many. I was touched most by the scene of the elderly survivor at the graveside, asking his wife if he'd been a good man. I realized that I had seen these same men and women coming through my Emergency Dept. and had not realized what magnificent sacrifices they had made. The things they did for me and everyone else that has lived on this planet since the end of that conflict are priceless.

Situation permitting, I now try to ask my patients about their experiences. They would never bring up the subject without the inquiry. I have been privileged to an amazing array of experiences, recounted in the brief minutes allowed in an Emergency Dept. encounter. These experiences have revealed the incredible individuals I have had the honor of serving in a medical capacity, many on their last admission to the hospital.

There was a frail, elderly woman who reassured my young enlisted medic, trying to start an IV line in her arm. She remained calm and poised, despite her illness and the multiple needle-sticks into her fragile veins. She was what we call a 'hard stick.' As the medic made another attempt, I noticed a number tattooed across her forearm. I touched it with one finger and looked into her eyes. She simply said, 'Auschwitz.'

Many of later generations would have loudly and openly berated the young medic in his many attempts. How different was the response from this person who'd seen unspeakable suffering.

Also, there was this long retired Colonel, who as a young officer had parachuted from his burning plane over a Pacific Island held by the Japanese. Now an octogenarian, he had a minor cut on his head from a fall at his home where he lived alone. His CT scan and suturing had been delayed until after midnight by the usual parade of high priority ambulance patients. Still spry for his age, he asked to use the phone to call a taxi, to take him home, then he realized his ambulance had brought him without his wallet. He asked if he could use the phone to make a long distance call to his daughter who lived 7 miles away. With great pride we told him that he could not, as he'd done enough for his country and the least we could do was get him a taxi home, even if we had to pay for it ourselves. My only regret was that my shift wouldn't end for several hours, and I couldn't drive him myself.

I was there the night M/Sgt. Roy Benavidez came through the Emergency Dept. for the last time. He was very sick. I was not the doctor taking care of him, but I walked to his bedside and took his hand. I said nothing. He was so sick, he didn't know I was there. I'd read his Congressional Medal of Honor citation and wanted to shake his hand. He died a few days later.

The gentleman who served with Merrill's Marauders, the survivor of the Bataan Death March, the survivor of Omaha Beach, the 101 year old World War I veteran. The former POW held in frozen North Korea, The former Special Forces medic - now with non-operable liver cancer, the former Viet Nam Corps Commander.

I may still groan when yet another ambulance comes in, but now I am much more aware of what an honor it is to serve these particular men and women.

I remember these citizens.

I have seen a Congress who would turn their back on these individuals who've sacrificed so much to protect our liberty. I see later generations that seem to be totally engrossed in abusing these same liberties, won with such sacrifice.

It has become my personal endeavor to make the nurses and young enlisted medics aware of these amazing individuals when I encounter them in our Emergency Dept. Their response to these particular citizens has made me think that perhaps all is not lost in the next generation.

My experiences have solidified my belief that we are losing an incredible generation, and this nation knows not what it is losing. Our uncaring government and ungrateful civilian populace should all take note. We should all remember that we must 'Earn this.'

Written By Captain Stephen R. Ellison, M.D. US Army

If it weren't for the United States military, there'd be NO United States of America.

Via Mike Holupka

HEAVEN AND HELL—via e-mail from Fred DeNorscia

A holy man was having a conversation with the Lord one day and said, 'Lord, I would like to know what Heaven and Hell are like.

The Lord led the holy man to two doors.

He opened one of the doors and the holy man looked in. In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table was a large pot of stew, which smelled delicious and made the holy man's mouth water. The people sitting around the table were thin and sickly. They appeared to be famished. They were holding spoons with very long handles that were strapped to their arms and each found it possible to reach into the pot of stew and take a spoonful.

But because the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the spoons back into their mouths.

The holy man shuddered at the sight of their misery and suffering.

The Lord said, 'You have seen Hell.'

They went to the next room and opened the door. It was exactly the same as the first one. There was the large round table with the large pot of stew which made the holy man's mouth water. The people were equipped with the same long-handled spoons, but here the people were well nourished and plump, laughing and talking. The holy man said, 'I don't understand.'

'It is simple,' said the Lord. **'It requires but one skill. You see they have learned to feed each other, while the greedy think only of themselves.'**

Serbian Orthodox Church head Patriarch Pavle offers resignation citing health reasons
By The Associated Press 11:42 AM EDT, October 24, 2008

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) _ The Serbian Orthodox Church said Friday its head, Patriarch Pavle, has offered his resignation for health reasons.

The church said on its Web site that Pavle, 94, has asked its top body, the Holy Synod, to release him from his duties at its next meeting on Nov. 11.

Pavle has been hospitalized for months, suffering from heart and lung problems.

A respected theologian and linguist also known for personal humility and modesty, Pavle took over the church leadership in 1990, just as the collapse of communism ended years of state policy of repressing religion.

The Patriarch's relationship with Slobodan Milosevic during the decade-long rule of Serbia's autocratic leader was often controversial, with the church at times appearing to support Milosevic's nationalist, militaristic policies.

But Pavle played a major role in Milosevic's ouster in 2000 by supporting the pro-democracy forces that toppled the former Serbian leader in a popular revolt.

Pavle's sometimes moderate policies have come under scrutiny from hardliners within the church, with nationalist priests likely to take over after the Holy Synod meeting.

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness or the faithful martyr for two more reasons. The first one is because He gave witness to the Truth, as for example when Pilate asked Him, Who are you? and He answered, **For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice.** (John: 18:37). Poor Pilate asks, **what is truth?** (18:38) and Christ does not answer. Some have ventured to say that Pilate should have asked, "Who is the truth?" and that he would have probably received a response. At any rate, the truth is a great subject. This is why we are struggling, to come to the truth. Poor Pilate had the entire Truth in front of him. The Truth is not some abstract idea or thought. The Truth is a Person. **I am the Truth**, Christ announced. He did not say, "I came to tell you a few nice things about the truth to help you along." He said; **I am the Way and the Truth and the Life!** (John 14:6)

From the 100 homilies on the book of the Revelation by +Archimandrite Athanasios Mitilinaios, translated by Constantine Zalalas

a word from the desert

One of the Fathers telling about Kellia, said there was once a hard-working old man there who wore a mat. He went to find Abba Ammonas, who, when he saw him wearing the mat, said to him, "This is no use to you." But the old man questioned him

in the following way, "Three thoughts occupy me, either, should I wander in the deserts, or should I go to a foreign land where no-one knows me, or should I shut myself up in a cell without opening the door to anyone, eating only every second day?" Abba Ammonas replied, "It is not right for you to do any of these three things. Rather, sit in your cell and eat a little every day, keeping the word of the publican always in your heart ("Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner!"), and you may be saved."