



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, Bishop Robert, Father Gerald Olszewski, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Dragan Filipović, Father Stevo Rocknage, Father Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, Father Michael Mihalick [MS], Father Joseph Kopchak, Father Anthony Dimitri, Father Cuthbert Jack, Father Elias Warnke, Archimandrite Lev, Father Nestor Kowal, Father Paul Bigelow, Father Emilian Balan, Evelyn Burlack, Joshua Agosto and his family, Harley Katarina Rahuba, Mike Holupka, Eva Malesnick, Stella Peanoske, Joe Nezolyk, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, Virginia Bryan, Joseph Sliwinsky, Maria Balo, Linda Mechtly, Mary Mochnick, Mildred Manolovich, Evelyn Misko, Jeanne Boehing, Alex Drobot, Rachelle, Jane Golofski, Doug Diller, Harry Krewsun, Glen Lucas Burlack, Bernie Vangrin, Mary Alice Babcock, Dorie Kunkle, Andrea, & Melissa [Betty O'Masta's relatives], Mary Evelyn King, Stella Cherepko, Sam Wadrose, Isabella Olivia Lindgren—a 4-year-old with a brain tumor, Ethel Thomas, Donna, Erin, Michael Miller, Dave May, Grace & Owen Ostrasky, Alverta, Michael Horvath, Patti Sinecki, David Genshi, Sue Segeleon, Mike Gallagher, Michael Miller, Liz Stumpf, Theodore Nixon, Michelle Corba Kapeluck, Gloria Prymak [Liz's niece], Robert Hippert & family, Margaret Vladimir, Luke Emmerling, John Sheliga, George & Mika Rocknage, Robert McKivitz, Liz Obradovich, Liz, Halyna Zelinska [Bishop Daniel's mother], Charlotte, Peter Natishan, Andrew Mark Olynyk, Deborah Finley, Claire Senita, Brandi Thomas, Eleanor Kelly, Bryan, Doris Artman, Nancy Barylak, Henry & Shirley Tkacik, Martin Golofski, Anthony Yerace, Khrystyna Chorniy, Anthony Cormier [4-year-old with cancer], Nathan Forbeck, Sarah Doyle, Samuel Peters, Jean Stutchell, Charles & Esther Holupka, Wanda Mefford, Lynn (Bush) Gill, David Vallor, Henry Faraly, Betty O'Masta, Julie Eiler, Glenn Miller, Vince Ferro, Michael Pawlyshyn, Dorothy Lednovich, Kristin Batch Vaughn, Bob C., Allie—young girl with leukemia, Heather Kramer, Jane Wartinbee, Matthew—21-year-old with cancer, Nicholas Orlando, Mary Ann Kuzniak, Michael Woloschak, Michael Pryhodzenko, Sonia Luciw, Nellie Patsko, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial, Mary Pelino, Donna Tickerhoof, David Buchholz, Yvonne Christy, Myron & Barbara Spak, Pete Niederberger, Julia Duda, Lisa Pandle, Kris & Julie Hanczar, John Kennedy, Lloyd Sheakley

[Pani Gina's uncle], Diane McDaniel, Loretta, Nancy, Carol, & Michael Sheliga, Gaelle Kelly Irma McDivitt, Sandy Gardner, Richard Trinclisti, Robin Young, Mckayla, Rachel, Tony Butecoff, Carl Reed, Georgia & Theodore Demopoulos, Jillian Bowman [10-year old with cancer], Renee' Richards, Lois, Lydia Wilson, Robert Pointon, and Daria Masur. ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our August babies: John Brunermer on the 1st, Janet Brunermer on the 12th, and Stella Cherepko on the 26th. May God Grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years!

A SPECIAL THANK-YOU to Harry Batch and all who have assisted him in keeping up the beautiful flowers and plants in the memorial garden on the side and front of the church—God Bless you all!

Please remember James John Logue, George Senita, John Kirkowski, Matthew Machak, Michael Repasky, and ALL American service men and women in your prayers. May God watch over them and all American service men 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 Debbie Paouncic’s class. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP!

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, August 7 **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom** **10:30 AM**
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—THE DORMITION OF THE RIGHTEOUS ANNA-MOTHER OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS; HOLY WOMEN OLYMPIAS-DEACONESS OF CONSTANTINOPLE & VIRGIN EUPRAXIA OF TABENNA; HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIFTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

Tone 7

I Corinthians 1:10-28

Matthew 14:14-22

Litany in Blessed Memory of Samuel Mrvos, David Yenni, M. Denise Lawrence, Rudy Obradovich, Anna Harte, Agnes Rossi, Mary Milanovich, Millie Kitch, Michael Cherepko, & Father Peter Natishan—Fr. Bob

Sunday, August 14 **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom** **10:30 AM**
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROCESSION OF THE MOST HOLY LIFE-GIVING
CROSS; HOLY SEVEN MACCABEES, THEIR MOTHER SOLOMONIA & TEACHER
ELEAZAR; NINE MARTYRS OF PERGE IN PAMPHYLIA
BEGINNING OF THE DORMITION FAST!

Tone 8

I Corinthians 3:9-17 & 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

Matthew 14:22-34 & John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Steve Kuzman & Victor Burlack—Debbie & John Paouncic

Friday, August 19 **TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS**
CHRIST

Sunday, August 21 **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom** **10:30 AM**
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—AFTERFEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
SAINT EMILIAN THE CONFESSOR-BISHOP OF CYZICUS; SAINT MYRON-BISHOP OF
CRETE; MARTYRS ELEUTHERIUS & LEONIDES OF CONSTANTINOPLE & MANY
INFANTS WITH THEM; SAINT GREGORY -ICONOGRAPHER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA;
SAINT GREGORY OF SINAI
BLESSING OF FRUIT AFTER LITURGY

Tone 1

I Corinthians 4:9-16

Matthew 17:14-23

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Rae Ruth Batch—Harry Batch & Family

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 07 AUGUST 2011
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—THE DORMITION OF
THE RIGHTEOUS ANNA-MOTHER OF THE MOST HOLY
THEOTOKOS; HOLY WOMEN OLYMPIAS-DEACONESS OF
CONSTANTINOPLE & VIRGIN EUPRAXIA OF TABENNA;
HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIFTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

TROPARION—TONE 7

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death!

To the thief, Thou didst open Paradise!

For the Myrrhbearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy.

And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,

To proclaim that Thou art 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 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,
For Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers!
Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry:
The Savior has come to those in faith!
Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 7

READER: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

PEOPLE: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

READER: Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

PEOPLE: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

READER: The Lord shall give strength to His people!

PEOPLE: The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 7

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High!

To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night!

When a man partakes of Holy Communion he receives power and is enlightened, his horizons widen, and he feels joy. Each person experiences something different, analogous to his disposition and the flame of his soul. One person feels joy and rest, another peace, another a spirit of devotion and another an inexpressible sympathy towards all things. Personally I have often felt tired, but after Holy Communion I felt myself completely renewed. *Elder Amphilochios of Patmos, +1970*

THE DOLL:

I was walking around in a Wal-Mart store, when I saw a cashier hand this little boy some money back.

The boy couldn't have been more than 5 or 6 years old..

The Cashier said, 'I'm sorry, but you don't have enough money to buy this doll..'

Then the little boy turned to the old woman next to him: "Granny, are you sure I don't have enough money?"

The old lady replied: "You know that you don't have enough money to buy this doll, my dear."

Then she asked him to stay there for just 5 minutes while she went to look around. She left quickly.

The little boy was still holding the doll in his hand...

Finally, I walked toward him and I asked him who he wished to give this doll to.

'It's the doll that my sister loved most and wanted so much for Christmas.

She was sure that Santa Claus would bring it to her.'

I replied to him that maybe Santa Claus would bring it to her after all, and not to worry.

But he replied to me sadly. 'No, Santa Claus can't bring it to her where she is now. I have to give the doll to my mommy so that she can give it to my sister when she goes there.'

His eyes were so sad while saying this... 'My Sister has gone to be with God. Daddy says that Mommy is going to see God very soon too, so I thought that she could take the doll with her to give it to my sister.'

My heart nearly stopped.

The little boy looked up at me and said: 'I told daddy to tell mommy not to go yet. I need her to wait until I come back from the mall.'

Then he showed me a very nice photo of himself. He was laughing. He then told me 'I want mommy to take my picture with her so she won't forget me.'

'I love my mommy and I wish she didn't have to leave me, but daddy says that she has to go to be with my little sister.'

Then he looked again at the doll with sad eyes, very quietly.

I quickly reached for my wallet and said to the boy. 'Suppose we check again, just in case you do have enough money for the doll!'

OK' he said, 'I hope I do have enough.' I added some of my money to his without him seeing and we started to count it. There was enough for the doll and even some spare money.

The little boy said: 'Thank you God for giving me enough money!'

Then he looked at me and added, 'I asked last night before I went to sleep for God to make sure I had enough money to buy this doll, so that mommy could give it to my sister. He heard me!'

'I also wanted to have enough money to buy a white rose for my mommy, but I didn't dare to ask God for too much. But He gave me enough to buy the doll and a white rose.'

'My mommy loves white roses.'

A few minutes later, the old lady returned and I left with my basket.

I finished my shopping in a totally different state of mind from when I started.

I couldn't get the little boy out of my mind.

Then I remembered a local newspaper article two days ago, which mentioned a drunk man in a truck, who hit a car occupied by a young woman and a little girl.

The little girl died right away, and the mother was left in a critical state. The family had to decide whether to pull the plug on the life-sustaining machine, because the young woman would not be able to recover from the coma.

Was this the family of the little boy?

Two days after this encounter with the little boy, I read in the newspaper that the young woman had passed away.

I couldn't stop myself as I bought a bunch of white roses and I went to the funeral home where the body of the young woman was for people to see and make last wishes before her burial.

She was there, in her coffin, holding a beautiful white rose in her hand with the photo of the little boy and the doll placed over her chest.

I left the place, teary-eyed, feeling that my life had been changed forever. The love that the little boy had for his mother and his sister is still, to this day, hard to imagine.

And in a fraction of a second, a drunk driver had taken all this away from him.

A brother came to Abba Theodore of Pherme and began to converse with him about things which he had never yet put into practice. So the old man said to him, "You have not yet found a ship nor put your cargo aboard it, and before you have sailed, you have already arrived at the city. Do the work first; then you will have the speed you are making now."

One of the old men of the Thebaid used to tell the following story: I was the son of a pagan priest. When I was small, I would sit and watch my father who often went to sacrifice to the idol. Once, going in behind him in secret, I saw Satan and all his army standing beside him; and behold, one of the chief devils came to bow before him. Satan said, "Where have you come from?" He answered, "I was in a certain place and made much blood flow, and I have come to tell you about it." Satan said, "How long did it take you to do this?" He replied, "Thirty days." Then Satan commanded him to be flogged, saying, "In so long a time have you done only that?"

And behold, another demon came to bow before him. He asked him, "And you, where have you come from?" The demon replied, "I was on the sea, and I made the waves rise, and small craft foundered, and I have

killed many people, and I have come to inform you of it." He said to him, "How long did it take you to do this?" and the demon said, "Twenty days." Satan commanded that he also should be flogged, saying, "That is because in such a long time you have only done this."

Now a third demon came to bow before him. He asked, "And where have you come from?" The demon replied, "There was a marriage in a certain village, and I stirred up a riot, and I have made much blood flow, killing the bride and bridegroom, and I have come to inform you." He asked him, "How long have you taken to do this?" and he replied, "Ten days." And Satan commanded that he also should be flogged because he had taken too long.

After this another demon came to bow before him. He asked, "And where have you come from?" He said, "I was in the desert forty years fighting against a monk, and this night I made him fall into fornication." When he heard this, Satan arose, embraced him, and put the crown he was wearing upon his head and made him sit on his throne, saying, "You have been able to do a very great deed!"

The old man said, "Seeing this, I said to myself, 'Truly, it is a great contest, this contest of the monks,' and with God assisting me for my salvation, I went away and became a monk."

Amma Theodora said: Let us strive to enter by the narrow gate. Just as the trees, if they have not stood before the winter's storms cannot bear fruit, so it is with us; this present age is a storm and it is only through many trials and temptations that we can obtain an inheritance in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The One, Holy Catholic, and Apostolic Church

Which One is it?

Orthodox Christian Church

2000 years old

Greek: *orthos* ("right", "true", "straight")

doxa ("worship" or "belief", "to think"),¹

Pre-denominational (Non-Schismatic)



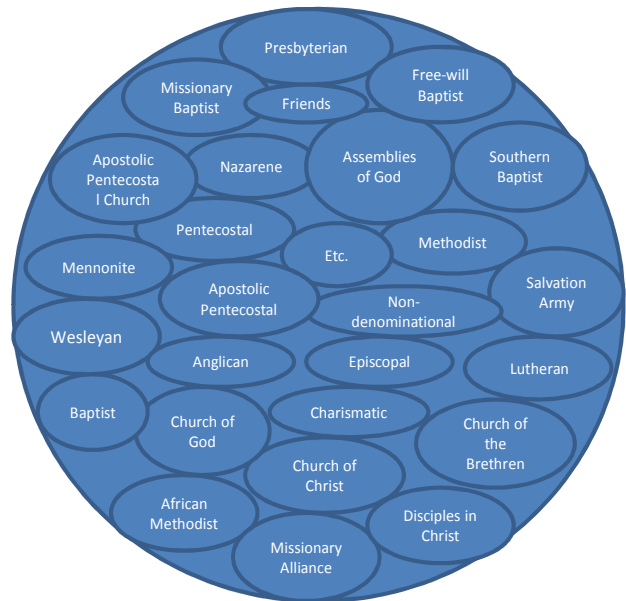
Evangelical Church

400 years old

Greek: *eu* ("good")

angelion ("message," "gospel")

denominational (Schismatic)



If you are Orthodox Christian, your religion falls in the circle to the left. It has believed, taught, preserved and defended its faith unchanged for 2000 years. Your church was founded in the year A.D. 33 by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and handed down by word of mouth and letter (2 Thes. 2:15) through a visible chain of people ("apostolic succession," 1 Tim. 2:2). The term Orthodoxy means the "correct teaching" or the "correct worship." In the Orthodox worship you will find lots of theology in the icons and in the liturgy. The liturgy used in Orthodoxy goes back as far as 2000 years. It was first written by St. James the brother of the Lord whose liturgy we use during the Lenten season. The Orthodox Church also uses the liturgy which was written by St. Basil the Great, St. John Chrysostom, and the Lenten pre-sanctified liturgy, all of which were written and used in the early Church. ²³*But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.* ²⁴*God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*" (John 4:23-24)

If you are an Evangelical, your religion falls in the circle on the right. It is only 400 years old, however it tries to appear as though it is the New Testament Church by falling under one subheading which is called the Evangelical Church. However, this could be the farthest thing from the truth because each sect within the big circle disagrees on every doctrinal issue known to man. In fact, you cannot even cross the street on a given Sunday without receiving a different teaching or worship whereas the circles on left you will find a Church where you can go thousands of miles around the globe and still receive the same teaching and worship but the only difference will be the language such as Russian, Greek, Romanian, Serbian, Bulgarian, etc.

The Orthodox Church has the historical evidence to back up the continuation of an apostolic succession from the time of Christ. You will discover through this historical evidence that Orthodoxy is in fact the New Testament Church because within the first four centuries of the Church it was witnessed in the First Ecumenical Council (325 A.D) that there was a continuation of apostolic succession when 312 Bishops gathered under the authority of the Emperor Constantine. Holy Tradition tells us that St. Andrew was one of the most prolific apostles when it came to appointing Bishops and establishing churches.

The Orthodox Church has always been known as “a hospital” since the time of the early church. At the beginning of the second century, Bishop Ignatius, the disciple of the Apostle John, on his way to a martyr’s death, wrote of the Eucharist as “the medicine of immortality, the antidote which results not in dying but in living forever in Jesus Christ (Eph. 20:2).” In the Orthodox Liturgy it speaks of the Holy Eucharist (Holy Communion) as “the medicine of immortality,” because it is for the healing of body and soul (nous) --- it is not a symbolic placebo. Furthermore, Saint Ignatius writes in a letter about the heretical group known as Gnostics “abstain from the Eucharist and from prayer, because they do not believe the Eucharist to be the flesh of our Savior Jesus Christ... Those, therefore, who speak against this gift of God, incur death.” (Ignatius of Antioch, c. 112). There are many Evangelicals who view the Holy Eucharist like that of the Gnostics because they do not believe the Eucharist to be the flesh and blood of Christ. Saint Theophylact states “by an ineffable action it is changed, although it may appear to us as bread. Since we are weak and could not endure to eat raw meat, much less human flesh, it appears as bread to us although it is indeed flesh”. As Orthodox we understand Holy Tradition and Holy Scripture to be the two pillars of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. In Holy Scripture our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ stated “this *is*” when He spoke of His body and blood (Mt. 26:26-28, Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:24-25) and also said “My flesh is food indeed and my blood is food indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me and I in him.” (Jn 6:55-56). In the history of the church there was a time when Christians were accused by Nero in 60 A.D. for having cannibalistic activity within their circles and as a result many incurred death because they never denied his allegations as being false.

Another Holy Mystery (Sacrament) in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church is Holy Baptism. This is another error on the part of many sects within the Evangelical Church. They view this Holy Mystery like that of the Gnostic sect known in ancient times as the Messalians, or Euchites, the so-called “praying people,” who refused to believe in “the power” of Holy Baptism and who falsely taught that the soul could be freed from the spirit of evil only through interior prayer, without struggle, immersing itself in contemplation of the Godhead and knowledge of the future. The venerable Saint Ephraim of Syria accused such men of laziness and corruption, which confirmed investigations of councils in Asia Minor and Syria. In the Evangelical sects they have altar calls at camp meetings, revival, and Billy Graham crusades where they have people say a salvation prayer but there is no mention of baptism. To the Orthodox faithful this can appear as a Gnostic vice that leads many down the wrong path because it doesn’t lineup with Holy Tradition and Holy Scripture. II Corinthians 11:3-4 says, “...For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might bear with me.”

You will find also that the Orthodox Church does not appoint women into the priesthood. There was an early Gnostic sect in the ancient church called the “Marcionites.” In fact, the movement began with a schismatic bishop in the second century by the name Marcion. There were many ancient Christian writers such as Irenaeus of Lyons (c.130 - c.200) who did not hesitate in classifying Marcion as a Gnostic because many of his practices went against Holy Tradition and Holy Scripture. The Marcionites, who were followers of Marcion of Sinope, assembled various writings into the earliest version of the New Testament. Marcion, like many other early Christians fell into the heresy of believing that Jesus had suddenly appeared in the world as an adult. Marcion and his followers worshipped the god of love, adopted some Gnostic ideas, and appointed women priests and bishops.

Martin Luther said, "I broke away from the pope to make a thousand more popes." A schism is like a hand that is no longer attached to the body. It is a grave sin to God because we see it in Galatians 5:20 "...idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, dissensions (schisms), heresies (sects)." If you are a firm believer of Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone) then you should take a hard look at all the different schisms that have occurred since 16th century after breaking off from the Roman Catholic Church. The reformers in Protestantism became their own popes and began preaching another Christ. The circle on the right is false ecumenism. Who is the father of lies? Who is the author of confusion?

The term 'Protestant' signifies the amorphous mass of non-Roman Catholic heresies formed since the 16th century in the West in contradiction or retaliation to the Roman Catholic Church.

Whereas the one dogma that binds all Roman Catholics past and present together is submission to the Pope as sole authority (thereby abolishing every other authority), the one dogma that all Protestants have in common is the rejection of the need for submission to any rule for salvation, other than one's own private opinion (about everything).

Undoubtedly, within Evangelicalism there are many opinions and contrary beliefs, but they all base their religion ultimately in a rejection of external authority as needed for salvation. What Rome began with rejection of all authority except that of the Pope, Protestantism finished by rejecting the authority of the Pope as well. This results in an indifference to and a severance from the Body of Christ, the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, the sole Church founded by Him and His Apostles.

Among the innumerable heresies found among Protestants (the number of 'denominations' in the world currently exceeds 26,000), there are: denial of the priesthood and all mysteries (Holy Baptism, Holy Eucharist, etc.), denial of the Saints and their ability to intercede for us, assertion that the character of one's life is a matter indifferent for salvation - only confession or lack of confession that Jesus is your Savior affects one's salvation, rejection of Apostolic tradition and the Church as authorities, predestination or the arbitrary election and damnation of men by nothing but a divine whim, millennialism or chiliasm, and many others.

One must ask him or herself which circle was present when the early church fathers wrote in the Nicene Creed, the words "the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church." In regards to popular opinion the word "Catholic" does not mean "Universal." It means whole, complete and lacking in nothing. This implies that the Church needed not to add anything to its teachings. Orthodoxy is the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church and it remains One with no divisions. John 17:21: ²¹"...That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."

A Final Remembrance Prayer for the Faithful

Remember, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Thy mercies and compassions which are from the ages, for the sake of which Thou didst become man and didst will to endure crucifixion and death for the salvation of those that rightly believe in Thee; and having risen from the dead didst ascend into the heavens and sittest at the right hand of God the Father, and regardest the humble entreaties of those that call upon Thee with all their heart; incline Thine ear, and hearken unto the humble supplication of me, Thine unprofitable servant, as an odor of spiritual fragrance, which I offer unto Thee for all Thy people. And first, remember Thy Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, which Thou hast provided through Thy precious Blood, and establish, and strengthen, and expand, increase, pacify, and keep Her unconquerable by the gates of hades. calm the dissensions of the churches, quench the raging of the nations, and quickly destroy and uproot the rising of heresy, and bring them to nought by the power of Thy Holy Spirit.

One of the fathers said that there were two neighboring bishops who had an altercation with each other. One was rich and the other was more lowly. The rich one sought to do the other a mischief. The lowly bishop heard of this and, knowing what he was going to do said to his clergy: "We shall triumph, by the grace of Christ." They said to him, "My lord, who could possibly prevail against that one?" He said to them, "Wait and you shall see."

He bided his time and when his fellow bishop was celebrating a feast in honor of some holy martyrs, he gathered his clergy and said to them, "Follow me, and we shall triumph." They said to themselves, "What can he be going to do?" He came to the other bishop, and when he came near in the liturgical procession, the lowly bishop fell at his feet together with the clergy, saying, "Forgive us; we are your lordship's humble servants." The other bishop was amazed at what he had done and a stab of remorse went through his soul. God gave him a change of heart, and he now grasped his colleague's feet, saying, "It is you who are my lord and father." From that time on, there was a strong bond of love between them.

The lowly bishop said to his said to his clergy, "Did I not tell you that we should triumph, by the grace of God? When there is any ill feeling between you, do you likewise—and triumph." The elder also said that a humble man has more glory than the emperor himself; for the emperor is only praised in his presence, whereas a humble man is praised and said to be blessed both in and out of his presence.

John Moschos, Leimonarion (The Spiritual Meadow) 210

Abba Ammon of Raithou asked Abba Sisoës, "When I read the Scriptures, my mind is wholly concentrated on the words so that I may have something to say if I am asked." The old man said to him, "That is not necessary; it is better to enrich yourself through purity of spirit and to be without anxiety, and then to speak."

Abba Xanthias said, "The thief was on the cross and he was justified by a single word; and Judas who was counted in the number of the apostles lost all his labor in one single night and descended from heaven to hell. Therefore let no one boast of his good works, for all those who trust in themselves fall."

SPECIAL NOTICE: NEXT SUNDAY'S COFFEE HOUR WILL BE HELD AT EVELYN BURLACK'S NEW KITCHEN COMPLEX! See Evelyn for more details and please carpool to avoid traffic congestion!