



## **Holy Ghost Orthodox Church**

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## **ADVENT/PHILIPKIVA/SAINT PHILIP'S FAST**

**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, Father Silouan Rolando, Hieromonk Vasyl (Janick), Father Gabriel Rochelle, Joshua Agosto and his family, Mike Holupka, Eva Malesnick, Stella Peanoske, Joe Nezolyk, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, Virginia Bryan, Joseph Sliwinsky, Maria Balo, Linda Mechtly, Mary Mochnick, Evelyn Misko, Jeanne Boehing, Alex Drobot, Rachelle, Jane Golofski, Doug Diller, Harry Krewsun, 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, 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, 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, Robin Young, Mckayla, Rachel, Carl & Margaret Reed, Theodore Demopoulos, Jillian Bowman [10-year old with cancer], Lydia Wilson, Robert Pointon, Walter Cecelia, John Persico, Jeff Miller, Mary Kernick, Glenn Miller, Jean Marie, Evan Elliott, and Daria Masur. ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

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, December 25                      NO SERVICE IN SLICKVILLE**  
**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY OF THE HOLY**  
**FOREFATHERS; SAINT SPYRIDON THE WONDERWORKER OF TREMITHON;**  
**HIEROMARTYR ALEXANDER-BISHOP OF JERUSALEM; MARTYR SYNESIUS OF ROME**

*Tone 3*

Colossians 3:4-11

Luke 14:16-24

**Sunday, January 1, 2012      Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom      10:30 AM**  
**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY;**  
**MARTYR BONIFACE AT TARSUS IN CILICIA; MARTYRS ELIAS, PROBUS, & ARES IN**  
**CILICIA; MARTYR POLYUEUCTUS AT CAESAREA IN CAPPODOCIA; MARTYR TIMOTHY**  
**THE DEACON IN MAURETANIA; SAINT BONIFACE THE MERCIFUL-BISHOP OF**  
**FERENTINO; SAINT GREGORY-ARCHBISHOP OF OMIRITS; SAINT ELIAS OF MUROM-**  
**WONDERWORKER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

*Tone 4*

Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Matthew 1:1-25

*Litany in Blessed Memory of Stephen Kuzman & Nicholas Vetosky—Fr. Bob  
Parastas in Blessed Memory of John Holupka—Mike Holupka*

**Friday, January 6**                      **Grand Compline for the Nativity of Christ**                      **6:30 PM**  
**Followed by Holy Supper**  
**STRICT FAST DAY!**

**Saturday, January 7**                      **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom**                      **10:30 AM**  
**NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**  
*Festal Tone*  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Matthew 2:1-12

**January 7<sup>th</sup> through January 17<sup>th</sup> is FAST FREE! January 18<sup>th</sup> is a STRICT FAST DAY!**

**Sunday, January 8**                      **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom**                      **10:30 AM**  
**THIRTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY;**  
**AFTERFEAST OF THE NATIVITY; SYNAXIS OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS,**  
**RIGHTEOUS JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, HOLY RIGHTEOUS DAVID THE KING, &**  
**JAMES THE BROTHER OF THE LORD; HIEROMARTYR EUTHYMIUS-BISHOP OF**  
**SARDIS; SAINT CONSTANTINE-MONK OF SYNNADE; SAINT EVARISTUS OF THE**  
**STUDION MONASTERY ON MOUNT ATHOS**  
*Tone 5*  
Galatians 1:11-19  
Matthew 2:13-23

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

**BULLETIN INSERT FOR 25 DECEMBER 2011**  
**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY OF**  
**THE HOLY FOREFATHERS; SAINT SPYRIDON THE**  
**WONDERWORKER OF TREMITHON; HIEROMARTYR**  
**ALEXANDER-BISHOP OF JERUSALEM; MARTYR SYNESIUS**  
**OF ROME**

**Troparion of St Spyridon    Tone 1**

Thou wast a champion of the First Council and a wonderworker,  
O Godbearing Father Spyridon.

Thou didst speak to one dead in the grave, and change a serpent to gold;  
and while thou wast chanting the holy prayers the Angels were serving with  
thee.

Glory to Him Who has glorified thee; glory to Him Who has crowned thee;  
glory to Him Who through thee works healings for all.

**Troparion of St Herman of Alaska    Tone 4**

Blessed ascetic of the northern wilds  
and intercessor for the whole world;  
teacher of Orthodoxy, instructor of piety,  
adornment of Alaska and gladness of America,  
holy Father Herman, pray to Christ our God that He may save our souls.

**Troparion of the Holy Forefathers    Tone 2**

Thou didst justify the Forefathers by faith,  
when of old through them Thou didst betroth Thyself to the Church of the  
nations.

The Saints rejoice in the glorious fruit of their seed,  
even in her who bore Thee seedlessly.

By their prayers, O Christ our God, save our souls.

**Troparion of the Twenty-Eighth Sunday—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.

**Kontakion of St Spyridon    Tone 2**

Thou didst lend wings to thy mind with the fire of the Spirit,  
wounded by love for Christ.

Thy practical work was the practice of contemplation,/ O inspired Spyridon.  
Thou didst become a divine altar, imploring illumination for all.

**Kontakion of St Herman of Alaska    Tone 8**

Monk of Valaam and beloved of the Mother of God,/ new zealot of the old  
desert-dwellers in thy labours;/ armed with prayer as thy sword and shield,  
thou wast terrible to demons and pagan darkness./ O St. Herman, we cry to  
thee: pray to Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

**Kontakion of the Holy Forefathers    Tone 2**

An image made with hands you would not worship, O thrice blessed three;/  
but protected by the ineffable Essence you were glorified in your ordeal by  
fire./ From the midst of the devouring flames you called upon God, crying:/  
Hasten, O compassionate One,/ in Thy mercy come to our aid,/ for if Thou  
willest Thou canst.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **Kontakion of the Twenty-Eighth Sunday—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!

#### **The Nativity of Christ: Points to Consider**

- The Nativity Fast begins on November 15/28 and continues until the Feast of the Nativity on December 25/January 7.
- Believers are expected to abstain from meat and dairy products during the Nativity Fast.
- The mind, the heart, the soul and the body are to prepare for the celebration of the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ
- Christ's birth is celebrated as a "present event."
- The greeting on the Feast of the Nativity is: Christ is Born!"
- The services declare: "God is with us!"
- Believers are expected to maintain perspective.
- The birth of Christ is the guiding event giving reason to the Fast.
- The reason to celebrate comes on the Feast itself.
- Attending the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Nativity and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of Christ is most fitting.
- The celebration of the Feast of the Nativity continues until December 31/January 13.

- Maintaining a demeanor of love, kindness and peace.
- Being joyful due to the birth of Christ.
- Being grateful for the birth of Christ.
- Sharing the message of Christ's love.
- Being rooted in the Gospel of Christ.
- Being appreciative of forefathers and mothers having kept the Faith through the centuries.
- Being firmly united with Christ.
- Firmly rejecting the ways that dilute the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity.
- Being vigilant and careful to protect and care for the soul.
- Exhibit conduct pleasing to Christ.
- Abstain from thought and actions abhorrent to Christ and others.
- Share the love of Christ in daily relationships.
- Think carefully about the birth of Christ.
- Think about the humility of Christ.
- Consider the physical growth Christ experienced.
- Remember the Virgin Birth of Christ.
- Be appreciative of the Holy Spirit.

*St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania. December 1/14, 2011. Holy Prophet Nahum. Father Rodney Torbic*

From the sayings of St. Theonas of Alexandria, Epistle to Lucianus, I: "But the glory of the Father and of the Son, who for our salvation was nailed to the cross, makes us safe for the everlasting redemption; and that is the greatest hope of Christians."

Let us place all our hope in Him alone. And let us cast all our care on Him alone, He will deliver us from every trouble, and all our life He will support us. Let us love every man sincerely, but put our hope in none; because insofar as the Lord keeps us, all friends also respect us and no enemy can do anything to us. But when the Lord deserts us, then every friend deserts too and every enemy grows strong against us. Even more, he that relies on himself will fall a mighty fall, while he that fears the Lord will be exalted.  
*St. Maximus the Confessor*

Our rented Temple has been sold.  
St. Raphael's, Quincy, is raising money for our building fund.  
You can help us in one (or more) of four ways.  
First and most important,

pray for us that we may find a suitable location for our Temple so that God may be glorified.

Second,

buy our hand crafted items on-line at [etsy.me/straphaelwomen](http://etsy.me/straphaelwomen)

Third,

buy a novel about the Theotokos written by one of our members. This is sold through Amazon.com at <http://amzn.to/motherseyes>

Fourth,

send a donation designated for the building fund to St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Christian Mission, PO Box 115, Quincy, Illinois 62306

***For those of you who will be traveling over the western church's celebration of Christmas—please be careful! Enjoy family and friends, but we want to see you all back safe and sound!***

**REMINDER: The donation envelopes for 2012 are downstairs in the church hall. Please make sure your address is correct—that's the one we use for "official mailings" when the need arises. Also, please update contact information—address, phone, e-mail, emergency contacts, etc.—with Alexander when you get a moment. We hope to print a new church directory early in the year. Any questions—PLEASE ASK! God Bless!**