



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, Archbishop Antony, Bishop Robert, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Dragan Filipović, Father Stevo Rocknage, Father Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, Father Michael Mihalick [MS], Father Joseph Kopchak, Father Cuthbert Jack, Father Elias Warnke, Archimandrite Lev, Father Nestor Kowal, Father Paul Bigelow, Father Emilian Balan, Father Silouan Rolando, Hieromonk Vasyl (Janick), Deacon Dennis Lapushanski, 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, 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 Olynik, 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 Kuznik, 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, Donna & Walter McCrackin, Shirley Tkacik, Sabrina Sudol, Doug Smith [Millie Kerr's son-in-law], Bonnie Blair [Pani Gina's mother], Mel & Charlotte Malik, Paula Pasquinelli, David Hoenshell, Barbara Macino, Shelley Hill, and Daria Masur. ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

Anyone who tries to describe the ineffable Light in language is truly a liar—not because he hates the truth but because of the inadequacy of his description.
St. Gregory of Nyssa (c.330-c.395), commemorated 10/23 January

From the sayings of The Great Abba Antony: "...let us not lay the blame for the sins we have committed either on our birth or on anyone else, but only on ourselves."

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, February 12 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM
SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON; SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS:
SAINT BASIL THE GREAT, SAINT GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, & SAINT JOHN
CHRYSOSTOM; HIEROMARTYR HIPPOLYTUS, POPE OF ROME, & THOSE WITH HIM-
MARTYRS CENSORINUS, SABINUS, ARES, THE VIRGIN CHRYSSE, & 20 OTHER

MARTYRS; SAINT ZENO-HERMIT OF ANTIOCH & DISCIPLE OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT; MARTYR THEOPHILUS THE NEW IN CYPRUS; SAINT PETER-KING OF BULGARIA; SAINT ZENO THE FASTER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

Tone 2

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Luke 15:11-32

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Emil Paouncic—John & Debbie Paouncic

Sunday, February 19 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM
MEATFARE SUNDAY—SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT; AFTERFEAST OF THE MEETING OF THE LORD; SAINT BUCOLUS-BISHOP OF SMYRNA; VIRGIN-MARTYR DOROTHEA & MARTYRS CHRISTINA, CALLISTA, & THEOPHILUS AT CAESAREA IN CAPPODOCIA; VIRGIN-MARTYR FAUSTA & MARTYRS EVILASIVUS & MAXIMUS AT CYZICUS; MARTYR JULIAN OF EMESA; VIRGIN-MARTYRS MARTHA & MARY & THEIR BROTHER MARTYR LYCARION IN EGYPT; SAINTS BARSANUPHIUS THE GREAT & JOHN THE PROPHET-MONKS OF PALESTINE; SAINT PHOTIUS-PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Tone 3

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Matthew 25:31-46

Sunday, February 26 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM
CHEESEFARE SUNDAY—FORGIVENESS SUNDAY
SAINT MARTINIAN-MONK OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE; THE HOLY WOMAN ZOE OF BETHLEHEM & VIRGIN PHOTINA; SAINT EULOGIUS-ARCHBISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA

Tone 4

Romans 13:11-14:4

Matthew 6:21

FORGIVENESS SUNDAY VESPERS—POKROVA IN ARNOLD—4:00 PM

Monday, February 27 GREAT LENT BEGINS

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 12 FEBRUARY 2012

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON; SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS: SAINT BASIL THE GREAT, SAINT GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, & SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM; HIEROMARTYR HIPPOLYTUS, POPE OF ROME, & THOSE WITH HIM-MARTYRS CENSORINUS, SABINUS, ARES, THE VIRGIN CHRYSSE, & 20 OTHER MARTYRS; SAINT ZENO-HERMIT OF ANTIOCH & DISCIPLE OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT; MARTYR THEOPHILUS THE NEW IN CYPRUS; SAINT PETER-KING OF BULGARIA; SAINT ZENO THE FASTER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

TROPARION—TONE 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!

And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
All the powers of heaven cried out:
O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

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

KONTAKION—TONE 2

Hell became afraid, O Almighty Savior,
Seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam,
Beheld this and rejoiced with Thee!
And the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 2

READER: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.

PEOPLE: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.

READER: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but he has not given me over to death.

PEOPLE: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.

READER: The Lord is my strength and my song.

PEOPLE: He has become my salvation.

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 2

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you!

Save the king, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!

People who have the same goal and who strive towards the one thing needful have oneness of soul, and they never feel the distance of separation. And no matter how great that distance is, it can never be the cause of hindrance to that spiritual closeness uniting these people in oneness of soul. *St. John Maximovich*

Talk about a SENIOR moment!

Several days ago as I left a meeting at our church, I desperately gave myself a personal TSA pat down. I was looking for my keys. They were not in my pockets. A quick search in the meeting room revealed nothing.

Suddenly I realized, I must have left them in the car. Frantically I headed for the parking lot. My wife, Diane, has scolded me many times for leaving the keys in the ignition. My theory is the ignition is the best place not to lose them. Her theory is that the car will be stolen. As I burst through the doors of the church, I came to a terrifying conclusion. Her theory was right. The parking lot was empty. I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen.

Then I made the most difficult call of all, "Honey," I stammered. I always call her "honey" in times like these. "I left my keys in the car, and it has been stolen."

There was a period of silence. I thought the call had been dropped, but then I heard Diane's voice, "Ken," she barked, "I dropped you off!"

Now it was my time to be silent. Embarrassed, I said, "Well, come and get me."

Diane retorted, "I will, as soon as I convince this policeman I have not stolen your car!"

The Sunday Victory

A Super Bowl Message: *by Fr. Christopher Makiej*

When we think about a Sunday victory during this time of year, it is usually a thought about who is going to win the Super Bowl. But I want to declare that as we watch the Super Bowl and view the battle and then the exhilaration of victory of the winning team, let us become even more aware of the greater Sunday victory which takes place *every* Sunday in the Orthodox Christian Church!

As a priest, when Sunday Liturgy is over and our parishioners are enjoying fellowship during the family hour, when I walk back into the quiet church, reflecting upon what just took place in the Liturgy, with the fragrance of incense still hovering above, like the dust settling after a great battle, I always feel a tremendous sense of victory. I call it the Sunday victory.

I believe Sunday is a victory because on that day nothing else matters; we have put everything aside and we've made the decision to come to Church and be with Christ. On that day we defeat the worldly influences of society, and the devil who operates through them, which continuously seek to draw us away from our Church and our Faith, isolating us away from Christ and other believers. And make no mistake, we will surely see these influences in vivid high definition during many of the commercials of the Super Bowl: worldliness, secularism, mega-materialism – all the same things of which the great King Solomon spoke of, who had all

the wealth the world had to offer, but summed up his life by saying: "Vanity, vanity, it's all vanity, emptiness, it's a bubble that bursts." (Book of Ecclesiastes).

Saint Paul talked about the feeling of triumph and victory when he wrote his second letter to the Corinthians (2:14-17), "Now thanks be to God who always leads us in victory in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of his knowledge in every place....." The commentary in the Orthodox Study Bible says the following about this passage: "The victory is Christ, the captives are the powers of darkness; His fragrance is the apostolic ministry. Christians are the winning forces who triumph through the hearing of the word of God and joining the great procession of thanksgiving leading to life."

I believe each Sunday to be a victory for us as individuals and families as we gather as the body of Christ, worship Jesus, hear the Gospel of truth, grow in faith, and receive the Body and Blood of Christ, our children are taught the faith, and we all grow closer to one another in faith and in love, becoming the people God has called us to be in this world. And that, my brothers and sisters, is a great victory!

Sunday is a victory because on that day we have stood firm against the wiles of the enemy, and made the effort to attend Liturgy and put ourselves into an environment of faith which blesses, sanctifies and strengthens our lives! However, too many people today, including young parents are spiritually sleeping. Permissive and absentee parenting today has become epidemic. While many modern parents are chasing their own self-fulfillment, their children are being emotionally neglected and morally ravaged through the wireless tentacles of television, computer video games, and corrupt music and entertainment. The result, a desensitized, joyless, selfish, stoic young generation.

But Sunday can turn this defeat into a victory! So many people today are searching for something real because the vanity and emptiness of worldly secularism has left them spiritually bankrupt. What is truly *real* in our world is Jesus, His Church and the Liturgy of life in which bread and wine become the very real body and blood of Christ. However, the Sunday decision is ours. I truly believe there is a spiritual battle in every Orthodox Christian home every Sunday morning about whether to come to church or not. But it's our call. God will not force us. To use a football analogy, the coach is calling the play, as the Quarterback we hear it in our headphones: "Go to Church, go to Jesus, bring your children, receive Communion, commit your life to Christ." Friends, that's the winning call! But it's our decision.

Dear brothers and sisters, today, let us make it our commitment to be triumphant in Christ by participating in the Sunday victory every Sunday!

We need Jesus. We *need* to be in Church and in His holy environment of Faith with other believers every Sunday. The mall, the lawn, the home decorating, the Sunday newspaper - everything else in our life should close down on Sunday morning and our total focus should be on Christ. Truly every *day* is a constant battle to do good and follow Christ, but every *Sunday at Church* is a great victory from which we can then tap into for strength during the week. Jesus rose from the dead on this day, and there is a power and holiness on this day unlike any other.

Enjoy the Superbowl, and let it remind us of the great victory that awaits us and our families every Sunday. Amen.

Fr. Christopher Makiej is parish priest of Saints Constantine & Helen Church of Andover, MA

REMINDERS FOR YOUR CALENDAR—PLAN TO JOIN US!

The Pittsburgh Deanery, along with His Beatitude, Metropolitan Constantine, invite you to join them to celebrate Forgiveness Sunday Vespers at Pokrova Parish in Arnold—Sunday, February 26, 2012, at 4 PM, followed by light Lenten refreshments.

Also, the Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh will celebrate the Triumph of Orthodoxy the following Sunday, March 4, 2012, at 4 PM in Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh. Please plan to join us to begin Great Lent with prayers and forgiveness as your schedule permits.

Any questions—please see Father Bob.