



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: 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, Father Nestor Kowal, Father Paul Bigelow, Father Emilian Balan, Father John Nakonachny, Deacon Dennis Lapushanski, Protopresbyter Peter Hotrovich, Protodeacon Joseph Hotrovich, Pani-Dobrodijka Sonia Diakiw, Joshua Agosto and his family, Mike Holupka, Eva Malesnick, Stella Peanoske, Joe Nezolyk, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, Virginia Bryan, Joseph Sliwinsky, 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, Ethel Thomas, Donna, Erin, Michael Miller, Dave May, Grace & Owen Ostrasky, Alverta, 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, Halyna Zelinska [Bishop Daniel's mother], Charlotte, Andrew Mark Olynyk, Deborah Finley, Claire Senita, Eleanor Kelly, Bryan, Doris Artman, Nancy Barylak, Patrick Keenan, Khrystyna Chorniy, Anthony Cormier, 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, 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, Diane McDaniel, Loretta, Nancy, Carol, & Michael Sheliga, Gaelle Kelly, Irma McDivitt, Robin Young, Mckayla, Rachel, Tony Butecoff, Carl & Margaret Reed, Theodore Demopoulos, Jillian Bowman,

Lydia Wilson, Robert Pointon, Walter Cecelia, John Persico, Jeff Miller, Mary Kernick, Glenn Miller, Jean Marie, Donna & Walter McCrackin, Doug Smith [Millie Kerr's son-in-law], Bonnie & Eugene Blair [Pani Gina's parents], Mel & Charlotte Malik, Paula Pasquinelli, David Hoenshell, Barbara Macino, Shelley Hill, Mikaela Kapeluck, Linda Cawley, Gerald Cogley, Helen Bozo, June Miller, Corey Guich, Monica Salvatore, Glenda Tickerhoof, Robert Vangrin, Juliana Leis, Susan "Billie" Mason, Pauline Witkowsky, Sera White, LuAnne [Mike Horvath's daughter], Donald Griffey, Martin Kapusta, Deborah Smith, Nancy & Eric Dunik, Julian Stroz [child with cerebral palsy], Thomas Stutzman, Dr. Kirsten Ream, 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 SEPTEMBER BABIES: Debbie Paouncic on the 4th, Liz Obradovich on the 5th, Stella Peanoske on the 5th, Nickolas Andrew Davis on the 12th, Mark Brunermer on the 13th, and Troy Scott on the 22nd. May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous and Blessed Years!

PRAYER LIST: Please help update our prayer list. If you or someone you know no longer needs to be on the prayer list or if there is someone who needs to be on the list please let Father Bob know. Remember—Prayers are ALWAYS FREE! Thank you!

Please remember Ryan Fuller, 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, SEPTEMBER 02 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM
**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—AFTERFEAST OF THE DORMITION;
PROPHET SAMUEL; MARTYRS SEVERUS, MEMNON, & 37 SOLDIERS AT PLOVDIV
IN THRACE**

Tone 4

I Corinthians 16:13-24

Matthew 21:33-42

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Josephine Roman & Suzie Pelczar—Fr. Bob
Parastas in Blessed Memory of Maxine Kitch—Rosemary and Andrea***

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 09 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM
**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT POEMEN THE GREAT; SAINT
HOSIUS THE CONFESSOR-BISHOP OF CORDOVA; SAINT LIBERIUS-POPE OF
ROME; SAINT POEMEN OF PALESTINE; MARTYR ANTUSA; HIEROMARTYRS
PIMEN & KUKSHA OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

Tone 5

II Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Matthew 22:1-14

Litany in Blessed Memory of the victims of 09-11-2001—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM
**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HIEROMARTYR ANTHIMUS-BISHOP OF
NICOMEDIA & THOSE WITH HIM; SAINT THEOCTISTUS-FELLOW-FASTER WITH
SAINT EUTHYMIUS THE GREAT; SAINT PHOEBE-DEACONESS AT CENCHREAE
NEAR CORINTH; MARTYR BASILISSA OF NICOMEDIA; HIEROMARTYR
ARISTION-BISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA IN SYRIA**

Tone 6

II Corinthians 4:6-15

Matthew 22:35-46

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Milos Pekich—Millie Kerr & Family

**BULLETIN INSERT FOR 02 SEPTEMBER 2012
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—AFTERFEAST OF
THE DORMITION; PROPHET SAMUEL; MARTYRS SEVERUS,
MEMNON, & 37 SOLDIERS AT PLOVDIV IN THRACE**

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.

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Date: August 14, 2012

THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE
COMMUNIQUÉ

The Ecumenical Patriarchate expresses profound concern about the resurgence of violence currently spreading throughout the world. From America to Africa and throughout Europe and Asia, continents are

confronted with the phenomenon of intolerance that not only undermines world stability and peace, but also constitutes a denial of human dignity. Racial murders, genocide, ethnic cleansing, anti-semitism, destruction of places of worship etc, constitute barbaric acts that must be denounced publicly, particularly when they are masked with the veil of religion in an effort to justify them.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate is particularly concerned about the situations in the Middle East, as well as in Nigeria and Sudan. Clashes between Christians and Muslims in these parts of the world must be overcome by promoting love for one's neighbor as the peaceful expression of the bond uniting every human being. Furthermore, the Ecumenical Patriarchate is deeply concerned about the future of the people of Syria, as well as for the future of Christianity in that country. Therefore, we are calling on all parties involved in this conflict to lay down their weapons, especially given the urgency of the humanitarian situation.

The solution to such conflicts requires dialogue above all else. Dialogue constitutes more than merely a better understanding or toleration of our differences, indeed, dialogue is the essence of reconciliation and transformation. Therefore, religious leaders should be working together, through dialogue, to affirm God's peace in the world. We, as religious leaders, have a moral obligation to resist war and promote peace as a vital and fundamental necessity for all humanity. Religion cannot and should never be a basis for war and conflict, nor should it be used as an instrument of fundamentalism and fanaticism for purely political motives and ends. With great resolve, we have repeatedly emphasized that any crime in the name of religion is a crime against religion. In this respect, dialogue is the only hope for attaining peace.

Finally, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and the Ecumenical Patriarchate express their solidarity with and compassion to all communities affected by violence, addressing a fervent appeal to all autocephalous Orthodox Churches, all Christian Churches and religious communities, as well as to international organizations and states, as well as every person of good will, to contribute to the triumph of peace over war and hatred.

At the Ecumenical Patriarchate, August 14, 2012
The Chief Secretariat of the Holy and Sacred Synod

Feast Day of the Holy Mandilion (the Holy Napkin)

Today is the Feast Day of the Holy Mandilion (Aug 16/29). I was greatly moved this morning as I read the August 16 entries from *The Prologue of Ohrid*

<http://www.westsrbdio.org/prolog/my.html?month=August&day=16&Go.x=>

[18&Go.y=18](#). King Abgar had written to Christ, asking for His healing for his affliction of leprosy, through which the Lord worked a miracle via the Holy Mandilion, an icon made without hands.

Along with King Abgar's request for healing, my heart was especially touched by his invitation to our Lord Jesus Christ before His Passion, offering him shelter in his own city lest he be harmed by His enemies.

On *Full of Grace and Truth blogspot*, I found an extensive entry on the Holy Mandilion and encourage everyone to read there. The information is expansive and a true blessing for anyone who takes the time to peruse the entry. <http://full-of-grace-and-truth.blogspot.com/2010/08/holy-mandylion-napkin-of-christ-not.html>

Years ago, I first saw an icon of the Holy Mandilion on the cover of the book *Orthodox Dogmatic Theology* published by St. Herman Press. I was deeply moved by its beauty and desired a copy of that same icon. I will share with you that I now do have a copy of that lovely icon—it revealed itself to me on a shelf at a local thrift store a couple months ago. I treasure it!



[Made without Hands \(Holy Napkin\) - 19th c. Russian, Platina - \(11R12\)](#)

Icon courtesy of [Uncut Mountain Supply.com](#)

May we never cease to be amazed by the miracles of Christ our Savior! *Pres. Candace*

Virgin Mary 'crosses the finish line' with Olympic gold runner

by OCP on August 12, 2012 in [Featured News, News](#)



12/8/2012

London, England, Aug 10, 2012 / 04:25 pm (CNA/EWTN News).- Ethiopian athlete Meseret Defar provided one of the most emotional moments of the London 2012 Summer Olympic Games when she crossed the finish line in the 5000 meter race to win the gold.

She then pulled a picture of the Virgin Mary out from under her jersey, showed it to the cameras and held it up to her face in deep prayer.

An Orthodox Christian, Defar entrusted her race to God with the sign of the cross and reached the finish line in 15:04:24, beating her fellow Ethiopian rival Tirunesh Dibaba, who was the favorite to win.

A teary-eyed Defar proudly showed the picture of the Virgin Mary with the Baby Jesus that she carried with her for the entire race.

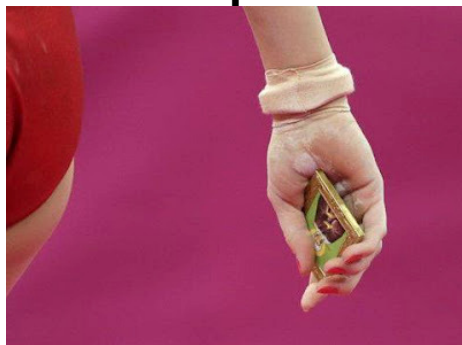
Throughout the event, Defar kept pace with three other Ethiopian runners and three from Kenya, until speeding past them on the homestretch to win gold.

The silver medal went to Vivian Cheruiyot of Kenya and the bronze to Dibaba.

Defar is also a two-time world champion in the 3000 meters. In Athens in 2004 she won the gold in the 5000 meters and in Beijing in 2008 she won the bronze.

On June 3, 2006 she broke the world record for the 5000 meters set previously by Turkish runner Elvan Abeylegesse, with a time of 14:24:53.

Russian Olympians Place Their Hopes in Their Orthodox Faith



Ksenia Dmitrievna Afanasyeva (b. September 13, 1991) is a Russian artistic gymnast. She is the 2011 World Champion on the floor exercise, and represented Russia at the 2008 and 2012 Summer Olympics.

In the photo above, Ksenia Afanasyeva holds an icon of her patron Saint Xenia of St. Petersburg after her performance during the artistic gymnastics women's floor exercise final at the 2012 Summer Olympics, Tuesday Aug. 7, 2012, in London. Afanasyeva placed the icon near the mat prior to her performance.



Prior to the Olympics, Ksenia Afanasyeva and her teammates Viktoria Komova and Aliya Mustafina, lit candles at a Russian Orthodox Church on media day.

The Fervent Orthodox Faith of Greek Olympians



By John Sanidopoulos

Good news came to the Greek people when the Men's Four Sculls Coxless rowing team qualified for the finals this Saturday. They ended second in their category with the time 6:02.61 after USA (6:01.72) and before Germany (6:04.61). These four men are Stergios Papachristou, Yiannis Tsillis, Giorgos Tsialas, and Yiannis Christou.

After their victory, Stergios Papachristou said: "This is the first time in a heavy category that Greece enters the finals at the Olympic Games. I want to mention Father Joseph of Mount Athos. He sent a letter with wise words, which we had with us today and it helped us a lot. We believe in God, we believe in people who are near us. We will give it all now in the finals."



Below is the letter which Fr. Joseph wrote the athletes:

ΙΕΡΟΝ ΗΓΟΥΜΕΝΕΙΟΝ
ΑΓΙΟΥ ΠΑΡΜΕΝΑ
ΕΚΤΩΣ ΤΩ 32
ΕΣΩΣΕ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΟΥΦΩΣ

Οσιος Πατριάρχης Κωνσταντινουπόλεως
Καθηλίκου

Μεταφράση
2012

Μεταφράση
2012

ΙΕΡΟΝ ΗΓΟΥΜΕΝΕΙΟΝ
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Μεταφράση
2012

Μεταφράση
2012



Fr. Joseph, an ascetic from Mount Athos of the Hermitage of Saint Minas, is the spiritual father of the female Olympic rower Christina Giazitzidou. His letter is full of encouragement for the Greek athletes. It ends with the following words: "Children of Greece, immortal for both your victories and ethos, Olympic rowers who will become songs, examples and myths!!!!"



Ilias Iliadis put aside his disappointment at missing out on a judo gold medal at the London Olympics and said he hoped the bronze he won on Wednesday will bring some joy to those suffering in crisis-hit Greece.

"Really I am happy for this medal because Greece needs this medal at this time. Greek people need this medal," he told *Reuters*. "Everybody knows about the hard times in Greece. I want to say thanks to everybody in Greece who was watching my fight. It would have been good if it was gold but no bad thing that it's bronze."

When Iliadis was asked by Greek reporters to whom he dedicated his metal, he said: "I dedicate it first to God, then to all the Greeks." Iliadis went on to say: "I thank God! This metal (*sic*) will go to Mount Athos."

Our humility is our surest intercessor before the face of the Lord. It is by dint of humility and penance that the last shall be first. *St. Macarius of Optina*

**Byzantine Art and Culture Tour
September 29, 2012**

The Greater Monessen Historical Society is pleased to carry on the work of making Byzantine art and culture better known to Western society. Fifteen years ago in 1997, the prestigious Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York presented an art display entitled "The Glory of Byzantium: Art

and Culture of the Middle Byzantine Era, A.D. 843-1261." Twenty years earlier in 1977, the Museum explored the early centuries of Byzantium's history in the landmark exhibition "The Age of Spirituality." Unfortunately, many people in the United States know only Western art and culture from Rome and Western Europe. Byzantine art and culture has the highest artistic and cultural value. One aspect of this culture is the icon.

In the City of Monessen there are five Eastern Christian Churches—St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church, St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Church, St. John the Divine Russian Orthodox Church and St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church—that have outstanding examples of the art and culture of Byzantium, especially in the form of their icons, that are on the tour.

An icon is a Greek word meaning image. It is the same word used in the Bible in Genesis 1:27, "God created man in His image," and in Colossians 1:15, "Jesus is the image of the invisible God." In Eastern Christianity, an icon is a sacred image, which represents biblical personalities or stories, or saints in the history of the Church, written (painted) according to Church tradition.

Unlike much Western art, such as that of the great Renaissance painter Michelangelo, many icons may appear serious, almost scary and strange because icons are written (painted) in order to help the faithful get from this world to the next world. As an art form that is used to increase one's piety, icons follow strict technical rules that enhance the beauty of their other worldly images. Thus, they become not only superb examples of Byzantine art, but also objects that help the Christian believer grow closer to Christ.

In the Eastern Christian Church, icons have been called "theology in pictures." Since icons reflect the Christian belief that man is created in the image of God, each person carries the image (icon) of God within his soul. Just as the Bible and holy Scripture help us become better Christians, so too icons are written to nourish our growth in holiness. By contemplating the artistic beauty of the sacred images of Christ, the Blessed Mother, and the Saints, Christians may be inspired to pray and do good works; as a result they may grow closer to God.

We hope that by your journey through our Eastern Christian Churches in Monessen, you may not only appreciate the cultural and artistic beauty of the Byzantine icon, but also come to appreciate that the icon is an aid to the Christian trying to live in holiness.

Tickets are \$20 and include a light lunch; tickets may be purchased at the Greater Monessen Historical Society, 505 Donner Ave, Monessen, Pa. 15062 or by calling us at 724-684-8460 Wed thru Sat from 10AM thru 2PM. Ticket sales benefit the Greater Monessen Historical Society.

The tour will be September 29, 2012; it will be approximately 5 hours long and will be by Motor Coach. The coach will leave the **Greater Monessen Historical Society** promptly at 10AM the tour allows for 45 minutes at each church, where you will be given a brief history of that church and its art works and you may ask questions and take photographs and also 45 minutes for the prepared lunch. As a note the churches are mostly handicapped accessible.

Many of the works of art on this tour were created by masters in their field and are in the style that can only be described as a look back into the early beginnings of Christianity, some have said that it was like being back in the old world churches of Eastern Europe. You will want to bring your video or still camera to preserve the memories of this experience.

If you are not familiar with the Monessen area, we are located on the eastern bank of the Monongahela River, 20 miles due south of Pittsburgh, just north of Interstate 70 with easy on and off from both ends of town to I-70. Route 906 runs through Monessen and it is easily accessible from Route 51. **The Greater Monessen Historical Society is located in downtown Monessen at 505 Donner Avenue (state route 906); near the corner of Donner Ave and 5th Street there is a parking lot and street parking available. The Greater Monessen Historical Society and Heritage Museum are open Wednesday through Saturday from 10AM through 3 PM; admission to the Museum is free.**

God measures out affliction according to our need. *St. John Chrysostom*

Let your afflictions be books to admonish you. *St. Ephraim of Syria*