

#### **Holy Ghost Orthodox Church**

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# CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

**ON THE MEND:** Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Archbishop Jovan, Bishop Robert, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Dragan Filipović, Father Stevo Rocknage, Father Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, 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, Linda 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, 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 Luciow, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial, Mary Pelino, Yvonne Christy, Myron & Barbara Spak, Pete Niederberger, Julia Duda, Lisa Pandle, Kris & Julie Hanczar, John Kennedy, Diane McDaniel, Loretta,

Nancy, Carol, & Michael Sheliga, Gaelle Kelly, Irma McDivitt, Robin Young, Mckayla, Rachel, 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, Corey Guich, Robert Vangrin, Juliana Leis, Susan "Billie" Mason, Pauline Witkowsky, Sera White, Donald Griffey, Deborah Smith, Nancy & Eric Dunik, Julian Strozh [child with cerebral palsy], Dr. Kirsten Ream, Patricia Corey, Michelle, Katie Swarm, Richard Dunst, Michelle, Jamie Gardner, Patrick, Linda Morris, Howard Simpson, Ronald Graham [Evelyn's nephew], Chris, Pastor Ed Bowen, David Hiles, Karen Johnson, Jennifer, Ann Quinn, Cher Mount, Frank & Janet Horrell, Jim Wandling, Susan Bertram, Rita McConnell, Millie Kerr, Stancy Popichak [Fr. Bob's mom], Gail, Pete Special, Sirena Sharp, and Daria Masur ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

That I am a monk and you are a layman is of no importance...rather that we are both in the light of the Holy Spirit...Acquire peace, and thousands around you will be saved. *St. Seraphim of Sarov* 

A man who is angry, even if he were to raise the dead, is not acceptable to God. *Abba Agathon*, **The Sayings of the Desert Fathers**, Cistercian Publications, pg. 23

# REMINDER—NO KNEELING UNTIL PENTECOST!

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 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 <u>ALWAYS</u> <u>FREE!</u>

<u>Communion Fasting:</u> 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 ask 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.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM FIFTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA; SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN; MARTYR THALELAEUS AT AEGAE IN CILICIA & COMPANIONS MARTYRS ALEXANDER & ASTERIUS; MARTYR ASCAIAS OF EGYPT

Tone 4
Acts 11:19-26, 29-30
John 4:5-42

Litany in Blessed Memory of Ann Roman, Mary Maoli, Joe Karas, Walter Burlack, Diane Waryanka, & Maxine Kitch—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, JUNE 9 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM SIXTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA; SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND; HIEROMARTYR THERAPON-BISHOP OF SARDIS; VIRGIN-MARTYR THEODORA & MARTYR DIDYMUS THE SOLDIER OF ALEXANDRIA

*Tone 5*Acts 17:1-15
John 11:47-57

THURSDAY, JUNE 13 ASCENSION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

SUNDAY, JUNE 16 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM SEVENTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA; FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL; MARTYR LUCILLIAN & THOSE WITH HIM AT BYZANTIUM; HIEROMARTYR LUCIAN THE BISHOP, MAXIANUS THE PRESBYTER, JULIAN HIS DEACON, & MARTYRS MARCELLINUS & SATURNINUS IN BELGIUM

Tone 6
Acts 20:16-18, 28-36
John 14:27-15:7

# **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 02 JUNE 2013**

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA; SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN; MARTYR THALELAEUS AT AEGAE IN CILICIA & COMPANIONS MARTYRS ALEXANDER & ASTERIUS; MARTYR ASCAIAS OF EGYPT

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Христос воскрес! Воістину воскрес! Χριστός ἀνἑστη! Άληθῶς ἀνἑστη! (Khristós Anésti! Alithós Anésti!)

> Hristos a înviat! Adevărat a înviat! إقام المسيح! (al-Masīḥ qām! Ḥaqqan qām!) Kristo Amefufukka! Kweli Amefufukka

#### **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.

# **KONTAKION—TONE 8**

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; She saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom, and drank abundantly! She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified.

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 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**

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

You love righteousness and hate iniquity.

#### THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS (Replaces "It Is Truly Meet")

The angel cried unto Mary, who was full of Grace Hail, oh pure virgin, oh pure virgin once again I hail Thee
Thy Son has risen from His three days in the grave, and He has raised the dead with Him,
Oh rejoice, all ye people.

Oh shine with clear radiance, shine on new Jerusalem For the glory of the Lord is shining up on you. Rejoice! Rejoice! now and be joyful--oh Zion, and though oh pure one and adorable birthgiver of God, in the rising again of HIM who was born of Thee.

# **COMMUNION HYMNS**

Receive ye the Body of Christ; taste ye the fountain of immortality.

## **Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!**

COUNCIL OF BISHOPS OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA
CONSISTORY OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
PRESS RELEASE

Prayers Urged, Metropolia Reaches Out, as Deadly Tornadoes Hit Oklahoma

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ!

Just yesterday, our entire country witnessed the horrors of another natural disaster: this time striking in the form of a mammoth tornado at our fellow citizens living in Oklahoma.

Even after the initial death toll was cut by more than half, the human and material devastation of a string of tornadoes that buffeted areas of Oklahoma City on May 19-20, 2013 was incalculable. As we type the words of this note, we think of the loss of human life – some 24 people to this moment, as well as numerous reports of dislocation and misery. Even as we observe the images of destruction from the safety of our homes, it is painful to know that we are witnessing the sorrow and loss of our fellow Americans.

Our hearts go out to the victims, and to all the people of that entire region.

Please join us in offering prayers for their relief, safety, and consolation. We have been in touch with Archimandrite Raphael, pastor of our Dormition of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox parish community in Jones, OK, who reports that the roof on the church building and the parish hall have been heavily damaged and will need to be replaced. In addition, a number of parishioners of our community and other Orthodox parishes in that region have lost electricity and witnessed major destruction to their property.

While Insurance companies will be involved to assist the parish community with the relief efforts, we ask you to pray for the pastor and the parish community of Dormition of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Jones, OK as well as our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ of that region.

We ask you to consider sponsoring a special collection on their behalf in your parish communities. In the meantime, may God bless the victims in Oklahoma, and may He answer the prayers of all people who call out to Him from the depths of their suffering.

With prayers,

## +Antony

Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

#### +Daniel

Bishop and

President of the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

# **Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives**

"Our life depends on the kind of thoughts we nurture. If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek, and kind, then that is what our life is like. If our

attention is turned to the circumstances in which we live, we are drawn into a whirlpool of thoughts and can have neither peace nor tranquility (Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica)".

Saint Saraphim of Sarov said that if we "acquire peace, a thousand around us will be saved", for having been created in the image of God, and we are part of the Divine thought that was made material in time and space. We not only influence those around us with our thoughts, but we even influence the cosmos. If we focus on the negative, those negative thoughts impact everyone around us, and even the whole world. The Elder Thaddeus tells us we can be either very good, or very bad, depending on the thoughts and desires we breed.

There is a lot that is wrong with the world, but it begins with us. If there is to be peace in our world, it must begin with me. If hatred, anger, envy, lust, and spite, are to end, it must end with me. When we allow destructive thoughts to destroy our peace, the peace around us is destroyed. We can not blame the world, or even those around us, for that which happens around us, radiates from us. Blame for all that is wrong with the world, can not be placed beyond our own hearts.

Love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon

Address of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew—Message of Pope Francis
Religious Freedom Today: A Seminar commemorating the 1700th anniversary of the Edit
of Milan–Address of the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and message of Pope
Francis.

Istanbul, 17.05.2013. "The anniversary that we are celebrating and honoring provides occasion for us to consider and reflect on the development of the contemporary world 1700 years after the divinely-inspired Emperor established in action and legislation the fundamental principles, on which modern Christian societies – and by extension and analogy, the entire world – are based to this day" – said His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who this morning declared open the Seminar on Religious Freedom Today celebrating the 1700th anniversary of the Emperor Constantine's Edit of Milan. The Seminar, organized by the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople in cooperation with the Council of European Bishops' Conferences (CCEE), is being held in Istanbul (17-18 May) with the participation of international speakers and delegations representing the Orthodox Churches and the Catholic Church in the European continent. The seminar will explore the historical, legal and political aspects of religious freedom in Europe and throughout the world.

In his address, the Ecumenical Patriarch reminded participants that "the basic human rights, for which all peoples and societies strive, but which are frequently perceived in a sense of retribution that does not resemble the spirit of the Gospel or Christianity, comprise spiritual values, which the Emperor Constantine planted within the governance and structure of his empire because he discerned and predicted that this was the only way of securing progress and

preserving peace." His All-Holiness also stressed: "It is essentially the same values that the modern world has inherited, except that titles have been altered, while humanity now formally declares that it does not believe in God and the hour of Christianity has passed. Nevertheless, despite these cries, Christianity and the Truth are not only not out-dated, but have in fact increasingly matured." He also added that, for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, "faith is not a social phenomenon or mere ideology. It is the sanctifying grace, which descends upon us and visits us eternally and silently, ... something discernible among those who obey God's will but even recognizable among those who disobey his commandments. Despite frequent and dangerous reformations, which sometimes destroy the very foundations of society, such as a lack of respect for the sacred institution of family and marriage, the legal recognition and regulation of serious mortal sins or unnatural conditions, contemporary state institutions are deeply permeated by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the blood of the Church Martyrs."

"This is why we Christians are not dragged down and do not despair. We know – stated Bartholomew – that people make mistakes in their judgments, thoughts, programs, ideologies and considerations. However, the Church does not; the Church is not abolished, even when Christian nations are dissolved, even when the Church lives and exists in (sometimes harsh) captivity, even when the Church is persecuted. The Church is in the world and serves the world, but it is not controlled by the world, which is the reason why evil does not affect it. The spirit conquers the flesh. Christ reigns forever. The Lord is victorious over all".

Through a message from the Secretary of State, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Pope Francis sent his "fraternal good wishes to His Holiness Bartholomaios, Archbishop of the city founded by Constantine himself", stressing that he is looking forward "in hope to the day when the divisions of the second millennium will be definitively consigned to the past." Concerning the theme of the Seminar, the message states that "Pope Francis is eager that the common witness of Christ's disciples in Europe should help to spread the good news of salvation to the ends of the earth. He calls on civil authorities everywhere, in the light of Constantine's historic decree, to respect the right of believers to worship freely and to express their faith publicly. At the same time he invites all European citizens to recognize the role that Christianity has played in shaping our culture, and to remain open to the continuing contribution that Christian believers can make in this regard."

# **The Holy Apostles**

Luke 6:13-16: And when it was day, He called unto Him his disciples: and of them He chose twelve, whom also He named apostles; Simon, (whom he also named Peter,) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes, And Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor.

The Holy Apostles are at the heart and foundation of the spreading of the Holy Gospel. They were blessed to be in the presence of Christ, to hear His teachings, and see His actions. They were blessed to be called by Christ. In this time of celebrating the Resurrection of Christ, the experiences of the Holy Apostles comes to mind. The Apostles had diverse experiences with Christ. Not all of the apostles had the same experiences.

Judas demonstrated that being with Christ does not guarantee continued faithfulness. The Apostles who died for Christ showed the depth of their commitment and their full love of Christ.

The Apostles remaining faithful to their last breath remain living witnesses to Christ. The faithful Holy Apostles are inseparable from the Church today. The steadfast Holy Apostles are celebrated in the Church throughout the year.

When Christ ascended into heaven, the Holy Gospel of St. Luke states: "They worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen." (Lk.24:52-53)

The Holy Apostles are identified by name. Their experiences with Christ are documented in the New Testament to make them identifiable. The documents of the Church provide a frame of reference and basis for learning and perspective. Peter, James and John were with Jesus at His transfiguration (Mt.17:1-2). Jesus spoke to Peter about the durability of the Church (Mt.16:18). Jesus entrusted His mother to the beloved disciple at the time of His death (Jn.19:26-27).

The Holy Apostles' witness for Christ is well-recorded. In Acts we read: "With great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all." (Acts.4:33)

The Psalmist tells us to number our days that we may gain a heart of Wisdom (Ps.89/90:12). Learning about the Holy Apostles factors into gaining wisdom from and about the Lord Jesus Christ.

The lives of the Holy Apostles will teach us much about the Lord Jesus Christ. The impact Jesus made on the Holy Apostles is reflected in the changes in their lives.

At the outset Jesus said: "Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." (Mk.I:17). The work for the Holy Apostles was cut out for them. It would be a different kind of work. Jesus made clear the importance of focus and intended commitment when He said: "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. (Lk.9:62)

Individuals baptized into Christ are responsible for following Christ. At Baptism, the believer accepts Christ as King and as God. Serious followers of Christ will demonstrate that commitment in their daily lives.

Believers consistently make choices regarding Christ. The choice is to follow the way of Judas and betray Christ or the way of the faithful apostles. Joy comes from living in Christ. The joy in Christ is shared in love with others.

Christ's love for His apostles was expressed in the Gospel of St. John when He said: "I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou hast given me; for they are Thine."(Jn.17:9)

The life in Christ intends continued growth. The Holy Apostles grew in Christ in their following of Christ during His earthly life. The Holy Apostles grew in Christ after His ascension.

The Holy Apostles facilitated the growth of countless numbers of individuals during their earthly lives. The Holy Apostles change lives now by their examples and intercession.

Many individuals have taken the names of the Holy Apostles. Many individuals pray to and learn from the Holy Apostles. Contents of the Divine services often direct believers' minds to the Apostles.

Individuals seeking to satisfy the hunger of the soul will be attentive to the lives of the Holy Apostles. Christ saw in the Holy Apostles the necessary criteria to carry forth His message. Christ also saw the weaknesses that existed.

Christ knows our capabilities. Christ knows our weaknesses. Believers benefit by drawing near to the faithful Apostles to intercede for us. Believers do well to draw strength from the examples of the faithful Apostles.

Today is the day to heed the Holy Apostles. Today is the day to be attentive to their lives. Imagine the nearness of the Holy Apostles to Christ. Imagine dining with Christ. Imagine the experience of Christ washing their feet.

The Apostles knew of Christ's death on the Cross. They knew of His Ascension. They were blessed beyond measure by His Resurrection. The message of His Second Coming was well known.

Each day is a day to prepare for the Second Coming. Each day is preparation for the end of earthly life. Each day is a day to seek the Kingdom of God. Each day is a gift from God to be used wisely.

The Holy Apostles serve as Christian educators for those with ears to hear and eyes to see. The Holy Apostles teach the benefits of being loyal to Christ.

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St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania May 9/22, 2013. Translation of the Relics of St. Nicholas. Father Rodney Torbic

Nothing troubles the man who is given over to the will of God, be it illness, poverty or persecution. He knows that the Lord in His mercy is solicitous for us. The Holy Spirit, whom the soul knows, is witness therefore. But the proud and the self-willed do not want to surrender to God's will because they like their own way, and that is harmful for the soul.

Abba Pimen said: 'Our own will is like a wall of brass between us and God, preventing us from coming near to Him or contemplating His mercy.' We must always pray the Lord for peace of soul that we may the more easily fulfill the Lord's commandments; for the Lord loves those who strive to do His will, and thus they attain profound peace in God. He who does the Lord's will is content with all things, though he be poor or sick and suffering, because the grace of God gladdens his heart. But the man who is discontent with his lot and murmurs against his fate, or against those who cause him offense, should realize that his spirit is in a state of pride, which has taken from him his sense of gratitude towards God. *St. Silouan the Athonite* 

We all receive God's blessings equally. But some of us, receiving God's fire, that is, His word, become soft like beeswax, while the others like clay become hard as stone. And if we do not want Him, He does not force any of us, but like the sun, He sends His rays and illuminates the whole world, and he who wants to see Him, sees Him, whereas the one who does not want to see Him, is not forced by Him. And no one is responsible for this privation of light except the one who does not want to have it.

God created the sun and the eye. Man is free to receive the sun's light or not. The same is true here. God sends the light of knowledge like rays to all, but He also gave us faith like an eye. The one who wants to receive knowledge through faith, keeps it by his works, and so God gives him more willingness, knowledge and power. *St. Peter the Damascene* 

You should secretly give from what you have to those in need, so that you receive from God, Who sees in secret, a hundred times more, as well as life eternal in the age to come, (cf. Mt 6:4, Mk 10:30). *St. Gregory Palamas*, **The Philokalia, Vol.4,** Faber and Faber, pg. 329

REMINDERS: <u>NO KNEELING</u> until the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost Sunday. Instead of "Vechnaya Pam'yat" at the end of a Parastas or during a funeral service *until Ascension Thursday*, we sing "Christ is Risen!" Also, we do not say the prayer to the Holy Spirit "O Heavenly King" until Pentecost Sunday.