



## 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: 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, Father Steve Repa, 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, 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 Luciw, 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, Gail, Pete Special, Sirena Sharp, Ron Paulovich, Patty Sinicki, Fred DeNorscia, Sandi Anderson, and Daria Masur ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

**Since the icon talk last week was so well received, Alex and Pani Gina suggested having Fr. Bob answer questions of interest to our parish family. Alex will be constructing an "Ask Your Priest" box for your questions that will be placed in the parish basement hall. If you have a question, please write it down and place it in the box. Father Bob will try to answer as many questions as he can at Coffee Hour after Liturgy...if he doesn't know the answer, he will research it and have an answer for the next Sunday! We are all learning every day, so we will continue to learn together! God Bless! Fr. Bob**

**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 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 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.**

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**SUNDAY, JULY 14**                      **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM**  
**SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS OF GALICIA, HALYCH, & ODESSA; THIRD SUNDAY**  
**AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY AND WONDERWORKING UNMERCENARIES COSMAS &**  
**DAMIAN-MARTYRS AT ROME; MARTYR POTITUS AT NAPLES; PETER THE**  
**PATRICIAN-MONK OF CONSTANTINOPLE; SAINT ANGELINA-DESPOTINA OF**  
**SERBIA**

*Tone 2*

Romans 5:1-10

Matthew 6:22-33

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Helen Pytlak—Bob & Rene Pytlak***

**SUNDAY, JULY 21**                      **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY GREAT-MARTYR PROCOPIUS OF**  
**CAESAREA IN PALESTINE**

*Tone 3*

Romans 6:18-23

Matthew 8:5-13

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Millie Kerr—Kerr Family***  
***Parastas in Blessed Memory of Emil Paouncic—Debbie & John Paouncic***

**SUNDAY, JULY 28**                      **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST 6**  
**ECUMENICAL COUNCILS; HOLY EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES GREAT PRINCE**  
**VOLODYMYR [IN BAPTISM BASIL] ENLIGHTENER OF KYIV-RUS; MARTYRS**  
**CYRICUS & HIS MOTHER JULITTA OF TARSUS; MARTYR ABUDIMUS OF THE ISLE**  
**OF TENEDOS**

*Tone 4*

Romans 1:1-10; Hebrews 13:7-16; Galatians 1:11-19

Matthew 8:28-9:1; John 17:1-13; John 10:1-9

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Millie Kerr—40 days—Fr. Bob***

**BULLETIN INSERT FOR 14 JULY 2013**  
**SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS OF GALICIA, HALYCH, & ODESSA;**  
**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY AND**  
**WONDERWORKING UNMERCENARIES COSMAS & DAMIAN-**  
**MARTYRS AT ROME; MARTYR POTITUS AT NAPLES; PETER**  
**THE PATRICIAN-MONK OF CONSTANTINOPLE; SAINT**  
**ANGELINA-DESPOTINA OF SERBIA**

**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!

A NOTE FROM FATHER KEN...via Judy Previc!

### **DECIDING...**

Outside my window, a new day I see,  
And only I can determine what kind of day it will be.  
It can be busy and sunny, laughing and gay,  
Or boring and cold, unhappy and gray.  
My own state of mind is the determining key,  
For I am only the person I let myself be.

I can be thoughtful and do all I can to help,  
Or be selfish and think just of myself.  
I can enjoy what I do and make it seem fun,  
Or gripe and complain and make it hard on someone.  
I can be patient with those who may not understand,  
Or belittle and hurt them as much as I can.

But I have faith in myself and believe what I say,  
And personally intend to make the most of each day!

"The commemoration of each of the saints on the appointed feastday is an occasion for town and country, citizens and their rulers to share in rejoicing, and brings great benefit to all who celebrate. "The memory of the just is praised", says the wise Solomon (Prov. 10:7 Lxx), "When the righteous is praised the people will rejoice" (cf. Prov. 29:2 Lxx). If a lamp is lit at night, its light shines for the service and enjoyment of everyone present. Similarly, through such commemorations, each saint's God-pleasing course, his blessed end, and the grace bestowed on him by God, because of the purity of his life, bring spiritual joy and benefit to the whole congregation, like a bright flaming torch set in our midst. When the land bears a good harvest everyone rejoices, not just the farmers (for we all

benefit from the earth's produce); so the fruits which the saints bring forth for God through their virtue delight not only the Husbandman of souls, but all of us, being set before us for the common good and pleasure of our souls. During their earthly lives, all the saints are an incentive to virtue for those who hear and see them with understanding, for they are human icons of excellence, animated pillars of goodness, and living books, which teach us the way to better things. Afterwards, when they depart this life, the benefit we gain from them is kept alive for ever through the remembrance of their virtues. By commemorating their noble deeds, we offer them that praise which, on the one hand, we owe them for the good they did our ancestors, but which, on the other, is also fitting for us at the present time, on account of the help they give us now.

"When we call to mind what they accomplished we add nothing to their good deeds. How could we, given that we are not even competent to depict their virtue as it really is? For the sake of the sublime rewards promised by God, they strove honourably to the limit of human nature and showed us a way of life that was equally sublime. We certainly do not augment their treasures by praising them - not at all! But we do increase their bounty to us by looking up towards them as lanterns aglow with divine light, and by understanding better and welcoming the beautifying power which comes from them.

"If, as we have said, we commemorate each of the saints with hymns and appropriate songs of praise, how much more should we celebrate the memory of Peter and Paul, the supreme leaders of the pre-eminent company of the apostles? They are the fathers and guides of all Christians: apostles, martyrs, holy ascetics, priests, hierarchs, pastors and teachers. As chief shepherds and master builders of our common godliness and virtue, they tend and teach us all, like lights in the world, holding forth the word of life (Phil. 2:15-16). Their brightness excels that of the other radiantly pious and virtuous saints as the sun outshines the stars, or as the heavens, which declare the sublime glory of God (cf. Ps. 19:1), transcend the skies. In their order and strength they are greater than the heavens, more beautiful than the stars, and swifter than both, and as regards what lies beyond the realm of the senses, it is they who reveal things which surpass the very heavens themselves and indeed the whole universe, and who make them bright with the light "in which there is no variableness neither shadow of turning" (cf.

Jas. 1:17). Not only do they bring people out of darkness into this wonderful light, but by enlightening them they make them light, the offspring of the perfect light, that each of them may shine like the sun (Matt. 13:43), when the author of light, the God-man and Word, appears in glory.

"The appearance to us this day of both these luminaries together brightens the Church, for their meeting produces..."

*"On SS. Peter and Paul", in On the Saints: Sermons by St Gregory Palamas, pp. 31-33.*

### **ANGELUS: "IF GOD DIDN'T FORGIVE EVERYONE, THE WORLD WOULD NOT EXIST."**

Vatican City, 17 March 2013 (VIS) – "Never forget this: the Lord never tires of forgiving us. Have you thought about the patience that God has with each of us?" These were the words that Pope Francis addressed to the nearly 200,000 people who had travelled from around Italy and from around the world in previous days to be able to live this first Angelus with the new Pope.

The event lasted only 15 minutes, many of which passed in attentive silence from the people assembled. "If God did not forgive us all, the world would not exist," the Holy Father affirmed. The Roman Pontiff, Francis, spoke only in Italian. In the crowd, on his father's shoulders, three-year-old Francesco said, in his child's language: "I like. My Pope."

The event was days in planning. Through the media—above all TV and the radio—many already had an idea of who the new Pope is. "I saw him on TV and I was moved ... by his humility. ... He is one of us," commented 30-year-old Angelica who had gotten up at 6:00am this morning to arrive at St. Peter's.

The Holy Father commented on the day's Gospel reading, the passages that recount the story of the adulterous woman. "God's face is that of a merciful father who is always patient. ... He never tires of forgiving us if we know how to return to him with a contrite heart. 'Great is the Lord's mercy'," was the new Pope's profound message. He combined his written text with spontaneous, off-the-cuff comments, which were full of good humour. Following is the complete text of the Pope's words.

“Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!”, the Pope began. After our first meeting last Wednesday, today I again give my greetings to you all! And I am happy to do it on Sunday, the Lord's Day! This is beautiful and important for us Christians: to meet on Sunday, to greet one another, to talk as we are doing now, in the square. This square that, thanks to the media, takes on worldly dimensions.”

“In this Fifth Sunday of Lent, the Gospel presents us with the story of the adulterous woman whom Jesus saves from being condemned to death. It captures Jesus' attitude: we do not hear words of contempt, we do not hear words of condemnation, but only words of love, of mercy, that invite us to conversion. 'Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more!' Well, brothers and sisters! God's face is that of a merciful father who is always patient. Have you thought about God's patience, the patience that He has with each of us? That is His mercy. He always has patience, is always patient with us, understanding us, awaiting us, never tiring of forgiving us if we know how to return to him with a contrite heart. 'Great is the Lord's mercy', says the Psalm.

“In these days, I have been able to read a book by a cardinal—Cardinal Kasper, a talented theologian, a good theologian—on mercy. And it did me such good, that book, but don't think that I'm publicizing the books of my cardinals. That is not the case! But it did me such good, so much good... Cardinal Kasper said that hearing the word mercy changes everything. It is the best thing that we can hear: it changes the world. A bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just. We need to understand God's mercy well, this merciful Father who has such patience... Think of the prophet Isaiah who asserts that even if our sins were scarlet red, God's love would make them white as snow. That is beautiful, [this aspect of mercy]. I remember when, just after I was made bishop, in 1992, the Madonna of Fatima came to Buenos Aires and a large Mass for the sick was celebrated. I went to hear confessions at that Mass. Near the end of the Mass I got up because I had to administer a confirmation. An over 80-year-old woman came up to me, humbly, very humbly. I asked her: 'Nonna [grandmother]—because that's how we address our elderly—Nonna, you want to confess?' 'Yes', she told me. 'But if you haven't sinned...' And she said to me: 'We have all sinned...' 'But perhaps the Lord will not forgive you...' 'The Lord forgives everyone', she told me, with certainty. 'But how do you know that,



ma'am?' 'If the Lord didn't forgive everyone, the world would not exist.' I wanted to ask her: 'Tell me, have you studied at the Gregorian [Pontifical University]?', because that is the wisdom that the Holy Spirit gives: the inner wisdom of God's mercy. Let us not forget this word: God never tires of forgiving us, never! 'So, Father, what is the problem?' Well, the problem is that we get tired, we don't want to, we get tired of asking forgiveness. Let us never get tired. Let us never get tired. He is the loving Father who always forgives, who has that heart of mercy for all of us. And let us also learn to be merciful with everyone. Let us call upon the intercession of the Madonna who has held in her arms the Mercy of God made human."

After praying the Angelus, the Pope greeted the tens of thousands of faithful who overflowed St. Peter's Square: "Thank you for your welcome and your prayers," he said. I ask that you pray for me. I renew my embrace to the faithful of Rome and extend it to all of you who have come from various parts of Italy and the world just as to those who are joining in with us by means of the media. I have chosen the name of the Patron Saint of Italy, St. Francis of Assisi, and this reinforces my spiritual ties to this land that, as you know, is where my family originated. But Jesus has called us to be part of a new family: his Church. [He has called] this family of God to walk together the paths of the Gospel. May the Lord bless you and the Virgin protect you! And don't forget this: The Lord never tires of forgiving. We are the ones who tire of asking forgiveness."

### **+++Our Earthly Confession and Denial+++**

*"Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in Heaven. But whosoever shall deny Me before men, him will I also deny before My Father which is in Heaven."*  
(Matt 10:32-33)

We often think that God looks at everything like we do here on earth, and that in fact He is just like us, and His humanity understands our humanity with acceptance and approval. It is true that He does understand our humanity, and fully at that. He loves us completely, but without the excuse of sinful choices, which He never made when He lived here on earth. In fact, He has retained His true expression of our risen humanity forever when He brought His full humanity to Heaven when He ascended forty days after He died. God is not the God of compromise and excuses, but the God

of Truth. He is also the God of Love. How can we reconcile these two and live a Godly life now?

Actually, these two great attributes of God are not irreconcilable but complementary. The Fathers of the Church say clearly that there is no love without truth, and that there is no truth without love. For us then we need to delve deeply into this mystery of truth and love in a way that brings us closer to Heaven, and thereby to all men and women in this world with a clear and present understanding. When we are closer to God, we are closer to all reality, and the cobwebs of fantasy and deceit are pushed away. When we are closer to God, our mind and heart start to see with clarity and understanding all things: Nature, Man, and ourselves. This is only painful when we prefer our selfish fantasies to Heavenly understanding.

Christ taught the Holy Apostles that all here on earth have to confess Him before others and not deny Him, which was a challenge to them at the time. He didn't mean just to say words, or even to just act outwardly, even though we should be careful to do these things in a Godly and God affirming way. He also meant that we must confess Him and His Kingdom as present and real and meaningful and important, which, of course, they are. He and His Kingdom are not just a future event, that we will have to deal with someday, but a present reality if we choose to live there in fact now. How can we do this? By first consciously choosing to act as if Christ is immediately present before us, not just imaginatively, or with images, but as a real presence and fact, which is actually so. Then we need to live by this awareness, which is a deeper form of confession, for who would not be ashamed to sin if Christ was standing right before them, and watching them choose?

Lastly we need to confess Him by acting inwardly and outwardly with great compassion for others, and great carefulness about ourselves. St. John told us that we cannot love God Whom we cannot see, if we don't love men first whom we can. He also told us that if we truly love God we will follow His Commandments and they will not be grievous. It takes practice to do these things, but they are not impossible. The Holy Apostles were changed because they tried to do what Christ taught them, and then with their sincere efforts and also their strong awareness of their own helplessness to change without Him, He changed them. Christ can and wants to do the same thing for us. Let us turn to Him today and confess at

least that we want to try, and that we really need His help. All of Heaven is looking at us with love and warmth to encourage us to try. Let us begin today! Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Amen

*"Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden light."* (Matt 11:28-30)

The Monks of St. Isaac of Syria Skete  
the Nuns of the Convent of St. Silouan  
the Faithful of St. Nicholas Church  
and the Staff of Orthodox Byzantine Icons and St. Isaac's Bookstore

If you keep the way of innocence, the way of righteousness, if you walk with a firm and steady step, if, depending on God with your whole strength and with your whole heart, you only 'be' what you have begun to be, liberty and power to do is given you in proportion to the increase of your spiritual grace. For there is not, as in the case with earthly benefits, any measure of stint in the dispensing of the heavenly gift. The Spirit freely flowing forth is restrained by no limits, is checked by no closed barriers within certain bounded spaces; It flows perpetually, It is exuberant in Its affluence. Let our hearts only be athirst, and be ready to receive: in the degree in which we bring to it a capacious faith, in that measure we draw from It an overflowing grace. *St. Cyprian of Carthage*

**If you plan to vacation away from the suburban Slickville area this summer, please see Father Bob for information on Orthodox Churches that are in your vacation destination area. Visiting another parish is always a great learning experience...just be sure to contact the priest there prior to Liturgy if you would like to receive Holy Communion!**

**A BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR JULY BABIES:** Harry Batch on the 1<sup>st</sup>, Matthew Brunermer on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and Katrina Scott on the 25<sup>th</sup>. May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M'nohaya Lita!