



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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WELCOME, BISHOP DANIEL! EIS POLLA, ETI DESPOTA!

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 George Yatsko, 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.

A SPECIAL WELCOME to those who have come from Millie Kerr's family and friends for her memorial service...welcome to "Millie's Church!"

THANK YOU ALSO to those who have come to attend Father Bob's elevation to the dignity of Protopriest [Protoirea] and awarding of the gold cross from the Holy Ghost Parish Family! Please join us downstairs for coffee, refreshments, and fellowship!

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 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

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 **Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM**
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY MYRRH-BEARER & EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES MARY MAGDALENE; TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF HIEROMARTYR PHOCAS-BISHOP OF SINOPE; SAINT CORNELIUS-MONK OF PEREYASLAVL & CONFESSOR OF THE OLEXANDRIV CONVENT

Tone 5

Romans 12:6-14; 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

Matthew 9:1-8; Luke 8:1-3

Litany in Blessed Memory of Father Peter Natishan, Samuel Mrvos; David Yenni, M. Denise Lawrence, Rudy Obradovich, Mike Horvath, Anna Harte, Millie Kitch, Agnes Rossi, Mary Milanovich, Michael Cherepko, & Mary Vigani—Fr. Bob

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 21 JULY 2013
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY GREAT-MARTYR
PROCOPIUS OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE

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

KONTAKION—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!

There is joy in heaven over those who are being saved, and Christ, like the
father of the prodigal son, makes a feast for his rescued child. *St. Gregory
of Nyssa*

The Challenge of Effectiveness

Romans 10:14- How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

The Holy Apostles had the responsibility of spreading the Holy Gospel. The Lord Jesus Christ sent them to go throughout the world.(Mt.26:19-20) . It is interesting to think about the forming of relationships between the teachers and the taught.

The Holy Apostles would encounter individuals never having heard about the Lord Jesus Christ. The challenge they faced was to teach about Christ in ways that were convincing.

The task of the Holy Apostles is a current task and challenge. Some people the Holy Apostles would have encountered would have heard good things about the Lord Jesus Christ. They would have heard about the miracles Jesus performed.

For those having heard well about Christ, they might be receptive to the teachings coming from the Holy Apostles. Individuals never having heard of Christ might have been skeptical and reserved about listening to what the Apostles said.

The Apostles faced the challenge of speaking in a way to hold the interest of the listeners. The Holy Apostles faced the challenge of teaching in a way that facilitated growth in the listeners.

The Church has grown through the centuries. The early beginnings of the Church are traced to the time of the Holy Apostles. The Holy Apostles had to be effective in honoring their commission from Christ for growth to have occurred.

The interaction between the Holy Apostles and the individuals they came in contact with is worthy of thought. The interaction that took place resulted in change in a sufficient amount of people for the Church to solidify and form.

Today as at the time the Holy Apostles were sent forth, the challenge is to share Christ. For the Holy Apostles to honor their commission from Christ, they had to be faithful and obedient to Christ. They had to work in earnest.

Listeners to the Holy Apostles and listeners to the successors of the Holy Apostles share the common need of hearing the authentic word of God. If the Holy Apostles were ineffective, how would the Church be present today?

If current preachers of the Gospel are ineffective, how will Church growth occur? How will the Church nourish those interested and in need of hearing more about the Lord Jesus Christ ?

Centuries have passed since the Holy Apostles were commissioned to go forth by the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Gospel has been communicated through the centuries in ways that have changed lives and have enabled growth in Christ.

The challenge to preach the Gospel with effectiveness is renewed in each era until the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Adult Class. St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, PA, June 26/July 9, 2013. St. David of Thessalonica. Father Rodney Torbic

Via Facebook from Diana Latella-Uzar:

As a guitarist, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the back country. As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost.

I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch.

I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late. I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man.

And as I played 'Amazing Grace,' the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished I packed up my guitar and started for my car. Though my head hung low, my heart was full.

As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen nothin' like that before and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

Apparently, I'm still lost...

When a sailor travels across the sea, he watches the stars and by them he steers his ship, using them to direct him to harbor.

But a monk watches prayer because it sets him on the right course, directing him to that harbor towards which his way of life should lead.

A monk gazes at prayer at all times so that it may show him some island where he can moor his ship without fear, and then take on provisions. Then, once again he will set his course to another island.

Such is the voyage of the solitary while he is in this life. He sails from island to island, that is, from knowledge to knowledge, and by his successive change of islands, that is, of states of knowledge, he progresses

until he emerges from the sea and his journey terminates at that true city whose inhabitants no longer engage in commerce, but where each one rests upon his riches.

Blessed is he whose voyage has not been put off course on this great sea! Blessed is he whose ship has not broken up, and who has reached the harbor with joy!

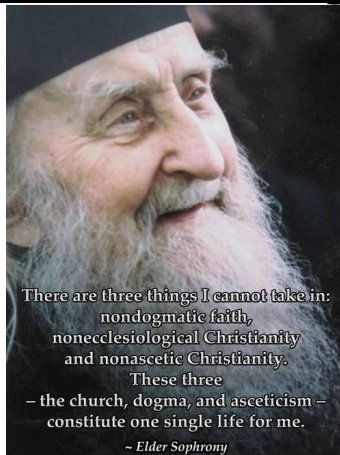
St. Isaac of Nineveh, 7th century

Monk Nikandros the Konstamonitan was once asked, "Even though we daily read the biographies of saints and pious monks and do our rule of prayer, why don't we become like them?"

"When a metal worker wants to apply pewter on copper," he answered, "first he must scrape the copper clean and put it through fire. Unless the rust is removed, the pewter does not stick on copper.

The same applies to us. We enter a monastery to become monks, but the rust we gathered while in the world comes with us. Thus until it is removed, God's grace does not come to sanctify and make us shine." *from An Athonite Gerontikon*

The Orthodox Understanding of Salvation



In St. Silouan the Athonite and Elder Sophrony of Essex

"Coming into contact with Father Sophrony was always an event of a most especial kind. His monastics, first and foremost, but also those who made up his wider spiritual family, "lived", as Father Zacharias put it, "in an abundance of the word of God".

As a young boy, I had the blessing of serving each Sunday in the altar of the Monastery of Saint John the Baptist, Essex, England. One day when I was still a lad of only fifteen or sixteen years of age, following the Divine Liturgy, and whilst standing in the Prothesis of All Saints Church, Father Sophrony asked me why I was looking so thoughtful. Embarrassed that I was preoccupied with such mundane matters, I had to confess that school examinations were on the horizon, and that I wanted to do well in them. To

my surprise, however, Father Sophrony did not belittle my worldly anxiety, but gently nodded his head, and agreed that it was indeed important to do well in examinations, and that to do so required much toil and sacrifice. But then he also added, as though to a friend, that "in this world there is nothing more difficult than to be saved."

"The force of the truth of these words struck deep in my heart. We often encounter, in ourselves and in others, the attitude which suggests that Salvation is something that we can leave until later; once, that is, we have taken care of more pressing matters. Father Sophrony's perspective was quite different, however. By pointing to the incomparable difficulty of attaining to Salvation, he was clearly placing it at the very top of our list of urgent priorities. And when one pauses to consider all the great achievements of mankind, past and present, whether they be of a scientific or literary character, in the world of politics or finance or physical endeavour, Father Sophrony's words seem bold and even provocative—"a hard saying" (John 6:60)—but nevertheless fundamentally quite true.

"Upon later reflection, I realized that the reason why Father Sophrony's words rang so true that day is because of the wealth of meaning which Salvation has for us in the Orthodox Church. By others, Salvation is often understood simply in terms of "deliverance from sin and its consequences and admission to heaven", in terms of escaping damnation, that is, and reaching a safe place where we can no longer be tormented by the enemy. According to the Fathers of the Church, however, Salvation is ..."

Dr. Christopher Veniamin is a spiritual child of Elder Sophrony of Essex, holds the four-year first degree in theology from the University of Thessalonica in Greece, his doctoral degree in theology from the University of Oxford in England, and, since 1994, has been the Professor of Patristics at St. Tikhon's Seminary in Pennsylvania, USA.

The Holy Fathers say that the Lord has permitted mankind to be born of woman and to multiply on the earth in this manner because of the Fall of our forebears. God had ordered everything perfectly, and He is the Father of all. However, after the Fall this harmony was disturbed. Our very nature became corrupt, for our forebears were created immortal. When man fell, death came and the order of the universe was disturbed, for Adam had been created as the crown of the universe and the master of all created things. In every man can be found the entire material world of the universe and all the noetic powers. This is why it has been said that man is a microcosm. We must return to the bosom of our Heavenly Father and our faith must grow stronger in order that we might get strength from Him, and we shall see His Kingdom.

After the Fall, everything fell apart. God, being Love, knew that created beings would not be able to remain in the state they were created in, and so He

gave them all the time from the Creation to the Dread Judgment to come to their senses and return to the bosom of their Heavenly Father, to become one with Absolute Good and Absolute Love.

Mankind, however, prefers evil to good. Such is the result of our fallen nature! It is easier for us to think evil than good. But when we think evil, we have no peace or rest from such thoughts. How great is our fall! It is a strange thing indeed...We cannot seem to come to our senses, neither can we do good of our own selves. We have no idea how very much our thoughts are tyrannized by the fallen spirits. We think those are our thoughts. We are tormented by hatred, envy, and malice. Unsurpassed tyranny! Our soul does not want this, but it cannot free itself. It becomes accustomed to this tyranny from a very early age, so that it has become rooted firmly in the soul. One must strive to conquer this tyranny of thoughts! We must be transformed into love and acquire peace. It is not easy, for our fall is very great.

Man cannot do this without God's help. Man thinks very highly of himself. But everything that is revealed to him comes from eternity. We are surrounded by God's mysteries. We ourselves are the greatest mystery. We don't even know who we are, where we came from, and where we are going. What sort of a being is this that thinks, moves and talks without knowing how or why? What a great mystery this is! How is it possible that our internal organs function without our will—and they function perfectly at that? And how is it that we can disturb this perfect harmony with our thoughts? *Elder Thaddeus of Serbia*, *Our Thoughts Determine our Lives*, pp 129-30



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Some say that they are atheists, but there is no such thing as an atheist...No such thing. Even the devil believes and trembles (cf. James 2:19), but he refuses to do good. There is no such thing as a person who does not believe in God, and there is no rational being on earth that does not long after life with all his heart. We will give anything to live eternally, and we all long after perfect love, love that never changes but lasts forever. God is life, He is love, peace and joy. There are those who oppose Him, but they can do nothing to hurt Him. It is we who complicate our own lives with our negative thoughts. *Elder Thaddeus of Serbia*, **Our Thoughts Determine our Lives**, pg 147

Love little things and strive for that which is modest and simple. When the soul is mature, God will give it inner peace. The Lord watches over us and He is pleased that you long for His peace. Until the soul is ready, He will only sometimes allow us to see that He is present everywhere and fills all things. At these moments the soul feels such joy! It feels as though it has everything! But then the Lord conceals Himself from us again, in order that we might long for Him and seek Him with our hearts! *Fr. Thaddeus of Serbia, **Our Thoughts Determine our Lives**, pg 48*

THE FORM AND MANNER OF MAKING AN ARCHPRIEST

He who is to be advanced to the rank of Arch priest is conducted by a Proto-Deacon, or by two Deacons, to the Right Reverend Bishop, in the middle of the Church, at the time when the Little Entrance with the book of the Holy Gospels is made. He boweth before the Bishop, even to the girdle, thrice, and bendeth his head. And the Bishop, as he sitteth, signeth him, thrice, upon the head, in cross-form, with his hand. Then, rising, he layeth his hand upon the Priest's head. And after the Proto-Deacon hath said:

Let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord have mercy.

The Bishop saith the following Prayer:

O Master, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, who hast bestowed the priesthood upon our race, and hast endued us with the grace of this gift and honour, and hast appointed us who are duly devout to exercise command over the members of the Priesthood, and the other servitors in lesser degree of thy Mysteries: Endue thou now, also, with thy grace, our brother Robert, and adorn him with integrity; that he may stand at the head of the Priests of thy people. And enable him to set a good example to those who are with him; and graciously grant that he may attain, in piety and veneration, unto a good old age; and have mercy upon us all, inasmuch as thou art a good God. For thou art the bestower of wisdom; and unto thee doth all creation sing praises unto ages of ages.

Then the Bishop signeth him upon the head with the sign of the cross, saying:

Blessed is the Lord. Lo, the servant of God, Robert, is made an Archpriest of God's holy Church, Holy Ghost: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Then, laying his hand upon the Priest's head, the Bishop exclaimeth:

Axios! Axios! Axios!

People: Axios! Axios! Axios!

Then they place the Archpriest with the other clergy, according to their rank, and enter the Sanctuary through the holy Door, and minister with the Clergy.

The grace of God comes swiftly to the soul when endurance is no longer possible. *St. Dorotheos of Gaza, Discourses and Sayings*, Cistercian Publications, pg. 127

Since the icon talk 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

Some notes: As Alex calls it, the Bishop's Theme Song, "Eis Polla, Eti Despota," is an ancient Greek hymn. Translated into English, it is roughly "Many Years, O Master" reminding us that we are all children of our bishop and that, as shepherd, we look to him for guidance and to lead us to the Kingdom of Heaven by "rightly divining the Word of Thy Truth." "Axios!" is also Greek, translating as "He is worthy!" and indicates that the candidate for ordination or elevation is deemed worthy of that position by the people as well as the bishop. By the same token, "Anaxios" translates to "He is NOT worthy!" and indicates that the person knows of a canonical problem with the candidate. Should someone shout "Anaxios!" the ordination or elevation would immediately stop and that concern addressed by the bishop(s) before the ordination or elevation continues. The affirmation of the people is a vital part of the selection process of the clergy—the support of the Royal Priesthood for the clergy and episcopate is absolutely necessary for the Church to exist.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

To His Grace, Bishop Daniel, for taking time out of his extremely busy schedule to pray with us today;

To my family and friends for coming out to join in the joy of my elevation and awarding of the gold cross.

To my parish family—you welcomed us to pray with you over 17 years ago when I was a deacon and for the past 15 years have allowed me to serve as your priest. You have made this our home and have welcomed us into your family. I will always treasure the gift of this gold cross, but even more your love and prayers.

May God reward you all a thousand-fold for your kindness, generosity, love, and especially your prayers...God Bless you all!

Fr. Bob, Pani Gina, Alex, Matt, and Stancy [my mom]