



## 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 George Yatsko, Father Paul Bigelow, Father Emilian Balan, Father John Nakonachny, Father Steve Repa, Deacon Dennis Lapushanski, Protopresbyter William Diakiw, Protodeacon Joseph Hotrovich, Father Adam Yonitch, 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, Grace & Owen Ostrasky, Patti Sinecki, David Genshi, Sue Segeleon, Mike Gallagher, Liz Stumpf, Theodore Nixon, Michelle Corba Kapeluck, Linda Hippert & family, Margaret Vladimir, Luke Emmerling, John Sheliga, George Rocknage, Robert McKivitz, Liz Obradovich, Halyna Zelinska [Bishop Daniel's mother], Charlotte, Andrew Mark Olynyk, Deborah Finley, Claire Senita, Eleanor Kelly, Bryan, Nancy Barylak, Patrick Keenan, Khrystyna Chorniy, Anthony Cormier, Nathan Forbeck, Sarah Doyle, Samuel Peters, Jean Stutchell, Charles & Esther Holupka, Wanda Mefford, David Vallor, Henry Faraly, Betty O'Masta, Julie Eiler, Vince Ferro, 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, Bonnie & Eugene Blair [Pani Gina's parents], Mel & Charlotte Malik, David Hoenshell, Barbara Macino, Shelley Hill, Mikaela Kapeluck, Linda Cawley, Gerald Cogley, Helen Bozo, Corey Guich, Robert Vangrin, Susan "Billie" Mason, Pauline Witkowsky, Sera White, Donald Griffey, Deborah Smith, Nancy & Eric Dunik, Julian Stroz [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, Jerry Quinn, Cher Mount, Frank & Janet Horrell, Jim Wandling, Susan Bertram, Rita McConnell, Gail, Pete Special, Sirena Sharp, Ron Paulovich, Fred DeNorscia, Sandi Anderson, Donald Uebing, Sabrina, Shirley, Denny Mader, Kareen Milcic, Ella Campbell, Kurt Smith, Tom Hyatt, Kenneth Miller [double-lung transplant], Joan Szymonifka, Jeaneen McCartney Thomson, Peggy Uhring [Eddie Behun's girlfriend], Bill Janiro, Jean Symanko & Wilbur Camback-Andy's sister and uncle, William Lemonakis, Barbara McDougall, Roy & Alma Wyke, Lindsay Romanczak & family, Virginia Catherine Pynch, Ema Jean Piper, and Daria Masur  
ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

Noah's Ark marked out by its course the sign of its Preserver. The Cross of its Steersman and the Wood of its Sailor Who has come to fashion for us a Church in the waters of baptism: with the three-fold name He rescues those who reside in her, and in place of the dove, the Spirit administers her anointing and the mystery of her salvation. Praise to her Savior. *St. Ephraim the Syrian*

When you see your body wasted away through sickness, do not murmur against God, but say, *The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord*, Job 1:21. You are accustomed to look upon your body as upon your own inalienable property, but that is quite wrong, because your body is God's edifice. *St. John of Kronstadt*

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: All Christians and the others in the Middle East who are suffering during this time of great tragedy and unrest. May God watch over and keep them safe! Lord have mercy!**

**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, JANUARY 26** Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM  
**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY;  
MARTYRS HERMYLUS & STRATICONUS AT BELGRADE; MARTYR PETER OF  
ANIUM AT ELEUTHEROPOLIS; VENERABLE JAMES-BISHOP OF NISIBIS**

*Tone 6*

Ephesians 4:7-13; Timothy 1:15-17  
Matthew 4:12-17; Matthew 15:21-18

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 02** Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM  
**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; ZACCHAEUS SUNDAY;  
VENERABLE EUTHYMIUS THE GREAT; MARYTRS INNA, PINNA, & RIMMA;  
MARYTRS BASSUS, EUSEBIUS, EUTYCHIUS, & BASILIDES AT NICOMEDIA;  
VENERABLE LAURENCE THE RECLUSE & EUTHYMIUS THE SILENT OF  
PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

*Tone 7*

1 Timothy 4:3-15  
Luke 19:1-10

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Milton G. Chicka, Daniel Pysh, Sara Chicka, Nikolai Pivtoraiko, Anne Cherepko Mazock, & Robert Vetosky—Fr. Bob***

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 09** Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM

**SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE  
TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

*Tone 8*

2 Timothy 3:10-15

Luke 18:10-14

## **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 26 JANUARY 2014**

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY AFTER  
THEOPHANY; MARTYRS HERMYLUS & STRATICONUS AT BELGRADE;  
MARTYR PETER OF ANIUM AT ELEUTHEROPOLIS; VENERABLE  
JAMES-BISHOP OF NISIBIS**

### **TROPARION—TONE 6**

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men.  
Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body.  
Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it.  
Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life.  
O Lord who didst rise from the dead: 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 6**

When Christ God, the Giver of Life,  
Raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His might hand,  
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.  
He is the Savior of all,  
The Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all!

### **PROKEIMENON—TONE 6**

**READER:** O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.  
**PEOPLE:** **O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.**  
**READER:** To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me.  
**PEOPLE:** **O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.**  
**READER:** O Lord, save Thy people.  
**PEOPLE:** **And bless Thine inheritance.**

### **ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 6**

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of  
the heavenly God.

He will say to the Lord: My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in whom I trust.

A priest, a Pentecostal preacher, and a Rabbi all served as chaplains to the students of the University of Montana in Missoula. They would get together two or three times a week for coffee and to talk shop.

One day, someone made the comment that preaching to people isn't really all that hard. A real challenge would be to preach to a bear. One thing led to another and they decided to do an experiment. They would all go out into the woods, find a bear, preach to it, and attempt to convert it.

Seven days later they're all together to discuss the experience.

Father Flannery, who has his arm in a sling, is on crutches, and has various bandages, goes first. "Well," he says, "I went into the woods to find me a bear. And when I found him I began to read to him from the Catechism. Well, that bear wanted nothing to do with me and began to slap me around. So I quickly grabbed my holy water, sprinkled him and, Holy God, he became as gentle a lamb. The bishop is coming out next week to give him first communion and confirmation."

Reverend Billy Bob spoke next. He was in a wheelchair, with an arm and both legs in casts, and an IV drip. In his best fire and brimstone oratory he claimed, "WELL brothers, you KNOW that we don't sprinkle! I went out and I FOUND me a bear. And then I began to read to my bear from God's HOLY WORD! But that bear wanted nothing to do with me. So I took HOLD of him and we began to wrestle. We wrestled down one hill, UP another and DOWN another until we came to a creek. So I quick DUNKED him and BAPTIZED his hairy soul. And just like you said, he became as gentle as a lamb. We spent the rest of the day praising The Lord."

They both looked down at the rabbi, who was lying in a hospital bed. He was in a body cast and traction with IV's and monitors running in and out of him. He was in bad shape. The rabbi looks up and says, "Looking back on it, circumcision may not have been the best way to start."

### **The Feast of Theophany**

*Matthew 3:13-17: Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad Him, saying, I have need to be baptized of Thee, and comest*

*Thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered Him. And Jesus, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.*

The Feast of Theophany focuses on the baptism of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan. Believers consider the meaning of Jesus' baptism and the singularly important place of John the Baptist.

God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit occupy the attentive mind. Believers consider the far-reaching nature of Jesus' baptism. The Holy Gospel of St. Matthew is specific in the description of the baptism.

The Jordan River is named. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are identified. John the Baptist is identified. God's Holy Church assigns great importance to Jesus' baptism.

The great and lasting liturgical festal celebration has developed known as Theophany. Bodies of water are commonly blessed on the Feast of Theophany. The beginning of home blessings occurs with the arrival of the Feast.

Holy Water is inseparably identified with the Feast of Theophany. Believers attach great importance to Holy Water. Holy Water is used for the blessing of homes and for personal benefit.

Jesus' baptism took place when He was an adult. Jesus' decision to be baptized was a conscious decision. John was resistant to baptize Jesus. John ascribed great honor to Jesus. John viewed himself as not being worthy.

Believers benefit from experiencing the liturgical celebration of the Feast of Theophany. Believers learn of the immeasurable transformation that takes place in the world.

Each Feast of Theophany is a point of transformation. Celebrating believers are changed. The environment is changed and viewed differently. Each home that is blessed becomes new and different.

Each person using Holy Water for personal benefit experiences change. Blessed Water is differentiated and treated with certain care. Dedicated uses are ascribed to Holy Water and occur throughout the year.

The indoors and outdoors are affected by the celebration of the Feast of Theophany. The celebration of the Feast of Theophany extends over a period of days. The Feast of Theophany is celebrated around the world where believers exist.

Individuals seeking to nourish their souls are drawn to the Feast of Theophany. Commonly the same believers can be found at each liturgical celebration of the Feast.

The Feast of Theophany arrives shortly after the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of Christ. The period from the Feast of the Nativity of Christ through the celebration of Theophany is a period of extended joy.

Lasting joy is found in the Lord by those who seek it. Unequaled growth and fulfillment is found in the Lord by those turning to Him in faith. Love of God is compelling for the believer tasting of God's love and nourishment.

The celebration of the Feast of Theophany affects the way a believer views the environment. The Feast of Theophany changes the way believers treat water.

The Feast of Theophany inspires believers to examine their personal lives.

Care of the self and care of the environment as God would have them cared for are called into mind with the Feast of Theophany. The personal relationship with God is brought into consideration with each Feast of Theophany.

The lasting influence and meaning of personal baptism comes to mind with each Feast of Theophany. Believers are set apart from others by the baptismal experience. Jesus being baptized in the Jordan serves as a standard and an example.

The Feast of Theophany compels attentive believers to look beyond themselves to God and creation. The Trinity's manifestation recorded in the Holy Gospel is a source of constant interest.

The newness taking place at the Feast of Theophany is a source of inspiration and guidance. Celebrating believers are renewed and strengthened.

God nourishes and strengthens believers turning to Him in faith.

The Lord Jesus Christ said: "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Mt.6:21) Individuals placing the greatest value in their relationship with God, give their hearts and minds to God proportionately.

Individuals valuing and cherishing their relationship with God give personal time, talents and effort to God and the ways of God. The personal relationship with God is inseparable with the relationships in daily life.

The Epistle of St. John states: "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" (1Jn.4:20)

The Feast of Theophany is a point of great change for believers. With the arrival of the Feast of Theophany, individuals freely choose whether to be renewed in Christ. The life in Christ is a life of love and choices.

Long ago a critical decision was recorded in the Book of Joshua and serves as guidance for believers today. The words were these: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15)

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*St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania. January 6/19, 2014.  
Feast of Theophany. Father Rodney Torbic*

Of the beliefs and practices whether generally accepted or publicly enjoined which are preserved in the Church some we possess derived from written teaching others we have received delivered to us "in a mystery" by the tradition of the apostles; and both of these in relation to true religion have the same force.

And these no one will gainsay;—no one, at all events, who is even moderately versed in the institutions of the Church. For were we to attempt to reject such customs as have no written authority, on the ground that the importance they possess is small, we should unintentionally injure the Gospel in its very vitals; or, rather, should make our public definition a mere phrase and nothing more.

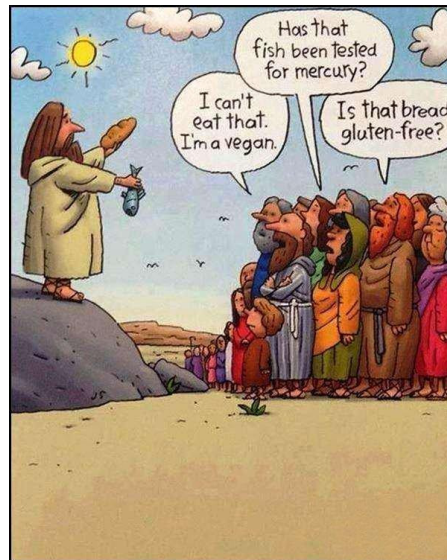
For instance, to take the first and most general example, who is thence who has taught us in writing to sign with the sign of the cross those who have trusted in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ? What writing has taught us to turn to the East at the prayer? Which of the saints has left us

in writing the words of the invocation at the displaying of the bread of the Eucharist and the cup of blessing? For we are not, as is well known, content with what the apostle or the Gospel has recorded, but both in preface and conclusion we add other words as being of great importance to the validity of the ministry, and these we derive from unwritten teaching.

Moreover we bless the water of baptism and the oil of the chrism, and besides this the catechumen who is being baptized. On what written authority do we do this? Is not our authority silent and mystical tradition? Nay, by what written word is the anointing of oil itself taught? And whence comes the custom of baptizing thrice? And as to the other customs of baptism from what Scripture do we derive the renunciation of Satan and his angels? Does not this come from that unpublished and secret teaching which our fathers guarded in a silence out of the reach of curious meddling and inquisitive investigation?

Well had they learnt the lesson that the awful dignity of the mysteries is best preserved by silence. What the uninitiated are not even allowed to look at was hardly likely to be publicly paraded about in written documents. *St. Basil the Great, The Book of Saint Basil on the Spirit, Chapter XXVII*

### IF JESUS WERE TO FEED THE MASSES TODAY:



### Europe's last Apartheid is Kosovo

Greetings in our Lord,  
Christ is Born! Hristos Se Rodi!



*No peace and good will among all men in Dakovica, but peace of the soul for the four dedicated Serbian Orthodox loving nuns in the region.*

Thank you most kindly for sharing this report with me as president of the Decani Monastery Relief Fund USA.

God bless the Minister of Serbia: Alexksandar Vulin a well done cry out that the Serbs who differently have the right to exist in their own country even in Dakovica and the Serbs throughout the region have the right to return home.

In order to have independence as those who are not occupying the region of Kosovo/Metohija is destroy all that is dear to the Serbs including the Serbian Orthodox Church then tell the free world there are no Serbs and no more Serbian Orthodox Churches in the region??? Why because they have been chased out of the region, and 155 Serbian Orthodox Churches and monasteries have been destroyed. Less ten have been repaired and the fear is that they too will be destroyed, as constant threats are happening on regular basis such as the Decani Monastery itself recently had to lock it doors from recent protest from the village of Decani. Thank God there were some Italian Peace keeping troops in the region who protected the holy monastery!

I know the area of Dakovica very well as I have been to this town on several occasions and the Decani Monastery Relief Fund has supported these four women indicated who are nuns and novices. I have been to this Church indicated.

What we have before us is four brave women who have refused to leave their monastery and Church. God bless these four loving Christians who are offering for us all a great example of their love for their country and for their Orthodox Christian faith.

What it all comes to is this no love and no peace can exist without honor and human rights for all people in the region when we destroy one another and tear away the great beauty of Kosovo Serbia by hatred and destruction.

Let us return back to love and learn we can do so with no more pain and sufferings towards one another.

Peace to your soul! God love and bless you!

Humbly in Christ our Lord,

+ Very Reverend Archimandrite Nektarios Serfes

Who prays for you and with you!

O Lord Jesus Christ Son of God have mercy on me a sinner! The Jesus Prayer

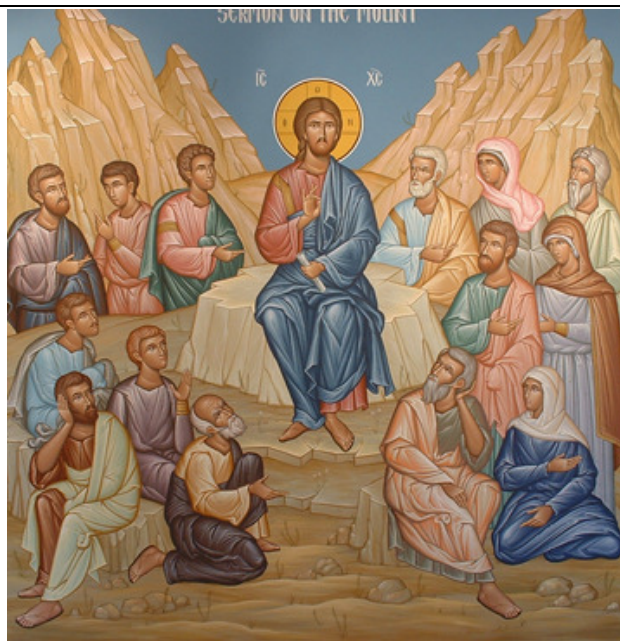
From the January 5, 2013 posting on Full of Grace and Truth blogspot, "The Heavens opening on Theophany":



*Icon depicting the Gate of Heaven, surrounded by Angels, from the Phiale of Great Lavra on Mount Athos ([source](#))*

In Mesologi lived a most-pious woman named Vasiliki (they called her Koula), who was married to Demetrios, a fisherman by trade. The two were very pious and very simple people.

When Vasiliki was young, on the day of Theophany, she saw "the heavens opened", and the Angels of God chanting. Because of this she said: "This day, do not leave from church, even if your house is burning, because the heavens open."



God our Savior wants all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4). Grace does not compel anyone. Men have the God-given freedom to accept it and to work with it or to reject it. Those

who embrace it are saved and those who withdraw from it are lost. *Elder Cleopa of Romania*

External circumstances can never serve as excuses for the deficiencies in our interior life. *Elder Sergei of Vanves, Life & Teachings, pg 97*

The more someone seems to us to be unworthy of any respect, the more we need to respect them. *Elder Sergei of Vanves, Life & Teachings, pg 133*

**Holy Ghost Parishioners, friends, and relatives:**

I have recently been contacted by a nice lady in Canada who is looking for photos of Lemko villages in the Carpathian Mountains that were taken before 1947. It can be families, homes, churches, cemeteries, etc. Her information is below...if you are interested, please let me know. Thanks!  
Fr. Bob

**To:** 'Father Bob Popichak'

**Subject:** Lemko Links

**Importance:** High

Here is my e-mail [diannamelnyk@hotmail.com](mailto:diannamelnyk@hotmail.com) in case there are any Lemko people who would like to find their roots and connect with others who search. So many of our ancestors went to PA. Also if anyone has any old photos before 1947 of the villages. This Lemko Connections-English site is also good to join. thank you! Dianne Galatowsky Melnyk in Canada



[Dianne Galatowsky Melnyk](#) to [FatherBob Popichak](#)

Thank you Thank you! I know that every search helps! If you would like I can help you with your search for your ancestors. There is Lemko community in Serbia too. I found the village on my map of Lemkivschyna. Bednarka [bɛd'narka] (Ukrainian: Боднарка, Bodnarka) is a village in the administrative district of Gmina Lipinki, within Gorlice County, Lesser Poland Voivodeship, in southern Poland. It lies approximately 5 kilometres (3 mi)

south-east of Lipinki, 13 km (8 mi) east of Gorlice, and 111 km (69 mi) south-east of the regional capital Kraków.[1]