



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

714 Westmoreland Avenue

PO Box 3

Slickville, PA 15684-0003

[724] 468-5581

www.holyghostorthodoxchurch.org

Very Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Pastor

23 Station Street

Carnegie, PA 15106-3014

[412] 279-5640 home

[412] 956-6626 cell

*****GREAT LENT*****

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, 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], Jeaneen McCartney Thomson, Peggy Uhring [Eddie Behun's girlfriend], Bill Janiro, Jean Symanko-Andy's sister, William Lemonakis, Barbara McDougall, Alma Wyke, Lindsay Romanczak & family, Virginia Catherine Pynch, Ema Jean Piper, Susan Lucas, Manny Lopez, Neil Carter & family, James Paluh, Mickie Weikel, Evelyn Krempasky, Tammy Strunk, Loida Esbry, Darlene Chicka Deskins, Drew, Alice & Keith Philipa, Kateryna Kocelko, Joe Matts, Nancy Heinbaugh, Harry Bohichik, Judi Danser, Mira Filipovic, Vicki Rathbun, Lynn, Irma Opacic, Sharon, and Daria Masur ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR APRIL BABIES: Robert Chicka on the 13th, Alexander Popichak on the 15th, Matthew Popichak on the 18th, Kim Shirley on the 18th, and John Sheliga on the 24th! May God Grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M'nohaya Lita! God Bless!

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, APRIL 06 Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great 10:30 AM

FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT—VENERABLE MARY OF EGYPT

VENERABLE ZACHARIAS THE RECLUSE OF EGYPT; SAINT ARTEMON-BISHOP OF SELEUCIA; VENERABLE JAMES THE CONFESSOR-BISHOP OF CATANIA; VENERABLE ZACHARIAH-THE FASTER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

Tone 8

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 10:32-45

Litany in Blessed Memory of John Cherepko, Rose Lopushanski, Michael Brittan, Frank & Ollie Pendlyshok, & Vladimir Hanczar—Fr. Bob

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Walter, Victor, Jacob, Katarina, & Baby Jacob Burlack—Evelyn

THURSDAY, APRIL 10 SLICKVILLE ECUMENICAL SERVICE 7:00 PM

HOLY GHOST HOSTING—FATHER SAM LAMENDOLA SPEAKING

SATURDAY, APRIL 12 LAZARUS SUNDAY—OBEDNITZA 10:30 AM

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 10:30 AM

SIXTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT—PALM SUNDAY—ENTRY OF THE LORD INTO JERUSALEM

SAINT HYPATIUS THE WONDERWORKER-BISHOP OF GANGRA; VENERABLE APOLLONIUS-ASCETIC OF THE THEBAID; MARTYRS ABDAS-BISHOP &

**BENJAMIN-DEACON OF PERSIA; VENERABLE HYPATIUS THE HEALER OF
PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

*****Page 170 in the Black Divine Liturgy Books*****

Tone 1

Philippians 4:4-9

John 12:1-18

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

HOLY UNCTION

6:30 PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 18 PLASCHENYTSIA—BURIAL SERVICE OF OUR LORD 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

PASCHAL DIVINE LITURGY

10:30 AM

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA OF THE LORD

**THE BRIGHT AND HOLY RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS
CHRIST**

*****Page 179 in the Black Divine Liturgy Books*****

Paschal Tones

Acts 1:1-8

John 1:1-17

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 06 APRIL 2014

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT—VENERABLE MARY OF
EGYPT; VENERABLE ZACHARIAS THE RECLUSE OF EGYPT;
SAINT ARTEMON-BISHOP OF SELEUCIA; VENERABLE JAMES
THE CONFESSOR-BISHOP OF CATANIA; VENERABLE
ZACHARIAH-THE FASTER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

TROPARION—TONE 8

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Mother,
For you took up the Cross and followed Christ.

By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh, for it passes away;
But to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal.

Therefore your spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

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

Having been a sinful woman, you became through repentance a Bride of
Christ.

Having attained angelic life, you defeated demons with the weapon of the
Cross!

Therefore, O most glorious Mary, you are a Bride of the Kingdom!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 4

READER: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

PEOPLE: **Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.**

READER: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

PEOPLE: **Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.**

READER: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel!

PEOPLE: **Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.**

READER: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

PEOPLE: **As we have set our hope on Thee.**

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 1

God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me.

He magnifies the salvation of the king, and deals mercifully with His Christ, with David and his seed forever!

Points on Prayer

- Prayer is a drawing closer to God, a desire to be in the presence of God.
- Being mentally conscious of God is essential in prayer.
- Recognizing the goodness, glory and mercy of God is integral to prayer.
- Acknowledging personal sin and limitations shapes personal prayer.
- Prayer to God is the way to reject and remove sin from life.
- Resoluteness and strong faith are needed for effective and continuous prayer.
- Weak faith is strengthened and improved through prayer.
- Prayer helps a believer to come to know more about God.
- Prayer affects the heart, the mind, and the soul.
- Prayer influences the whole body.
- Prayer can be exhausting and requires considerable effort.
- Concentration is necessary for prayer to be effective.
- Thoughts not pleasing to God need to be eliminated during prayer.

- Discipline and commitment are necessary for regular daily prayer.
- Prayer has a place throughout each day and throughout life.
- Prayer keeps the person connected with God.
- A person benefits by reaching deep into the self to think about prayer.
- Prayer is a sound investment of time and effort.
- Prayer benefits the person praying.
- Prayer has multiple benefits.
- Unity with God comes through prayer.
- Prayer is the way to seek God's mercy and forgiveness.
- Use of the Jesus Prayer is of continued benefit.
- Using the Lord's Prayer is beneficial throughout the day.
- Prayer has a place in life until the last conscious moment of life.
- Warding off distractions improves prayer.
- A person benefits from continuing pray throughout the day.
- Great Lent is a time for increased prayer.
- The ideal goal is to pray without ceasing.
- Written prayers of the Church put words to unexpressed feelings.
- Being silent can be a way of prayer.
- Seeking to satisfy the hunger of the soul involves prayer.

Adult Class. St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania. March 7/20, 2014. Holy Seven Hieromartyrs of Cherson. Very Rev. Father Rodney Torbic

BLESSED FEAST OF ST. PATRICK, ENLIGHTENER OF IRELAND

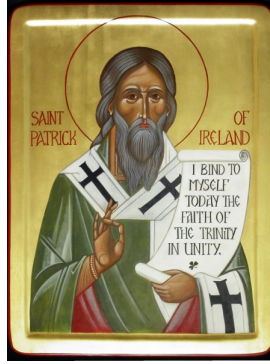
March 17/30 marks the feast day of Saint Patrick – Bishop of Armagh and Enlightener of Ireland. This may come as a surprise to many that St. Patrick **was** and **is** an Orthodox Saint centuries before Rome split from the Holy Apostolic Church.

The rule of thumb for Orthodox Christians is that a Latin Christian who lived after the Great Schism of 1054, while they may have lived exemplary lives, are not saints in the full sense of the Church's understanding. But because he lived from c. 385 to 17 March 460/461 Patrick is considered part of the undivided Church and therefore **is** an Orthodox saint.

St. Patrick's Life

The name "Patrick" is derived from the Latin "Patricius" which means "highborn." He was born in the village of Bannavem Taburniae. Its location is uncertain; some scholars place it on the west coast of England, while others place it in Scotland. His father was Calpurnius, a Roman Decurion

(an official responsible for collecting taxes) and a deacon in the church. His grandfather, Potitus, was a priest.



<http://iconsbyfathervladimir.com/post-pentecost-saints-saints-of-great-britain/342-st-patrick-of-ireland-2/>

This means that Patrick had a solid Christian upbringing and was well acquainted with the refinements of Roman civilization. But he lived on the edge of civilization at a time when the Roman Empire was under siege by barbarians. When Patrick was sixteen he was kidnapped by pirates, taken to Ireland, and there sold as a slave. He was put to work as a herder of swine on a mountain in County Antrim.

Looking back on his youth, he recounts: *I was at that time about sixteen years of age. I did not, indeed, know the true God; and I was taken into captivity in Ireland with many thousands of people, according to our deserts, for quite drawn away from God, we did not keep his precepts, nor were we obedient to our priests who used to remind us of our salvation.*

[\(Confessio §1\)](#)

Although Patrick had a Christian upbringing, he took his faith for granted. This complacency would be shaken by the calamity of being taken into exile. For the next six years he spent much of his time in solitude and prayer which would prepare him for life as a monastic. During this time Patrick also learned the local language which would prepare him for his future work as a missionary bishop.

But after I reached Ireland I used to pasture the flock each day and I used to pray many times a day. More and more did the love of God, and my fear of him and faith increase, and my spirit was moved so that in a day [I said] from one up to a hundred prayers, and in the night a like number...

[\(Confessio §16\)](#)

His escape from slavery resulted from two visions. In the first vision it was revealed that he would return home. The second vision told him his ship was ready. He then walked two hundred miles to the coast, succeeded in boarding a ship, and reunited with his parents.

Sometime later Patrick studied for the priesthood under St. Germanus in Gaul (France). Eventually, he was consecrated as a bishop and entrusted with the mission to Ireland. Patrick had a dream in which he heard the Irish people begging him to come back to them. There were other missionaries in Ireland but it was St. Patrick who had the greatest success. For this reason, he is known as "The Enlightener of Ireland."

Evangelizing the Irish people was not an easy task. The Irish populace regarded him with hostility and disdain. He was a foreigner and, worst yet, a former slave. Despite the opposition, Patrick persevered in his missionary calling and baptized many into Christ. This resulted in churches and monasteries all across Ireland.

In his autobiography Patrick described his motivation for doing missionary work: *I am greatly God's debtor, because he granted me so much grace, that through me many people would be reborn in God, and soon after confirmed, and that clergy would be ordained everywhere for them, the masses lately come to belief, whom the Lord drew from the ends of the earth, just as he once promised through his prophets: 'To you shall the nations come from the ends of the earth. . . .* ([Confessio §38](#))

St. Patrick's missionary labors would result in a blessing, not just to the Irish, but to humankind as well. [How the Irish Saved Civilization](#) by Thomas Cahill tells how Ireland became an isle of saints and scholars, preserving Western civilization while the Continent was being overrun by barbarians.

American culture has been richly blessed by the presence of the Irish. In the US, March 17th has become something close to a national holiday. While in many instances St. Patrick's day has become more of an excuse for partying, it can also be made into an occasion for renewing our faith in Christ.

Lessons From the Life of St. Patrick

One, Patrick was blessed with being born into a family of committed believers but had drifted away from God. He saw his captivity as punishment for his earlier sins but also as an opportunity to return back to God. Similarly, we need to remember to be vigilant in our spiritual life but also to be mindful that God can use hardships as a means of spiritual growth.

Two, life is often more fragile than we know. Patrick lived on the edge of Roman civilization where life was often far from stable or secure. He was among the thousands who were taken captive by the barbarians. For those of us who feel like the world as we know it is on the verge of collapse, we need to remember God rules over human history even while this sovereignty seems hidden from our eyes.

Patrick lived in a time when the Roman world was under siege by barbarian forces and at a time when a new Christian society was emerging. In 410 Rome was sacked by Alaric and soon after that the western half of the Roman Empire slid into the dark ages. But thanks to Emperor Constantine's foresight the Roman Empire continued in the New Rome of Constantinople which was founded in 330. Roman civilization would endure another thousand years in the East until the Ottoman conquest in 1453.

Three, God worked through the tragedies in Patrick's life. Patrick's abduction took him away from his Christian surroundings into an unreached people group. His time as a slave gave him a knowledge of Irish culture and language that would later enable him to preach Christ. The practical skills acquired now can be used for God's kingdom in the future.

Four, trials and hardship can become a means of spiritual growth. The lonely work as a goatherd prepared Patrick for the monastic life of solitude and prayer. In our life are hidden opportunities for prayer and meditation waiting to be discovered.

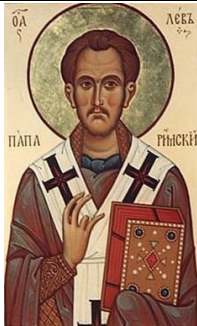
Five, the earlier hardships gave Patrick an inner toughness and steadfastness that would enable him to preach Christ in the face of fierce opposition. Rather than complain about our current hardships we can allow them to teach us the inner strength to persevere and prepare us for some future task ordained by God.

Six, Patrick's life and mission teach us the importance of the Great Commission to Orthodox Christianity. The Christian faith is broad and catholic, it is meant for all peoples, not just for particular ethnic groups.

Finally, I would be remiss not to notice the challenge Saint Patrick presents to our Protestant friends who are so interested in the early church fathers and the lives of the pre-schism saints. This interest is also based on the fact that these saints did not embrace Rome's later innovations like forbidding priests to marry, Mary's immaculate conception or her being co-redemptrix for our salvation, papal supremacy over all bishops, and papal

infallibility. St. Patrick (385-460/461) lived around the time of other great saints like Ambrose of Milan (c. 339-397), Augustine (354-4300, Basil the Great (c. 329-3790, Athanasius (329-373), Jerome (c. 345-c. 419), Cyril of Jerusalem (c. 310- c. 386). Saint Patrick embraced the Orthodoxy of his day, e.g., the Liturgy, the office of the bishop, the first and second Ecumenical Councils, the Nicene Creed without the Filioque, the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, and monasticism. It is commendable that Protestants are using St. Patrick to rediscover their historic roots, but one should stop to ponder whether it is wise to pick and choose their heroes of the faith. Are they doing it because it is the cool thing to do today or because it is part of Holy Tradition? Wouldn't it be better to embrace the Holy Tradition taught and proclaimed by St. Patrick? And wouldn't it be wiser to embrace the entire communion of saints recognized by historic Orthodoxy? Wishing you all a blessed St. Patrick's Day! *Text above excerpted from an article by Robert Arakaki titled "**Is Saint Patrick an Orthodox Saint?**" www.orthodoxbridge.com*

Pasting postings about St. Patrick from the Ortho Thought for the Day blogspot: <http://otftd.blogspot.com/2012/03/st-patrick-of-ireland.html>
<http://otftd.blogspot.com/2012/03/st-patricks-call.html>



St. Leo the Great, Pope of Rome / February 18/March 03

Sainted Leo I the Great, Pope of Rome (440-461), received an exceedingly fine and diverse education, which opened for him the possibility of an excellent worldly career. But his yearning was in the spiritual life, and so he chose the different path of becoming an archdeacon under holy Pope Sixtus III (432-440)—after whose death Saint Leo in turn was chosen as Pope of the Roman Church, in September 440.

These were difficult times for the Church, when heretics besieged the bulwarks of Orthodoxy with their tempting false-teachings. Saint Leo combined within himself a pastoral solicitude and goodness, together with

an unshakable firmness in questions of the confession of the faith. He was in particular one of the basic defenders of Orthodoxy against the heresies of Eutykhios and Dioskoros – who taught that there was only one nature in the Lord Jesus Christ, and he was a defender also against the heresy of Nestorius. He exerted all his influence to put an end to the unrest by the heretics in the Church, and by his missives to the holy Constantinople emperors Theodosius II (408-450) and Marcian (450-457) he actively promoted the convening of the Fourth OEcumenical Council, at Chalcedon in 451, for condemning the heresy of the Monophysites.

At this OEcumenical Council at Chalcedon, at which 630 bishops were present, there was proclaimed a missive of Saint Leo to the then already deceased Sainted Flavian, Patriarch of Constantinople (447-449). Saint Flavian had suffered for Orthodoxy under the Ephesus "Robber Council" in the year 449. In the letter of Saint Leo was posited the Orthodox teaching about the two natures [the Divine and the human] in the Lord Jesus Christ. And with this teaching all the bishops present at the Council were in agreement. The heretics Eutykhios and Dioskoros were excommunicated from the Church.

Saint Leo was likewise a defender of his fatherland against the incursions of barbarians. In the year 452, by the persuasive power of his word, he stopped a pillaging of Italy by the dreadful leader of the Huns, Attila. And again in the year 455, when the leader of the Vandals [a Germanic tribe], Henzerich, turned towards Rome, he boldly persuaded him not to pillage the city, burn buildings, nor spill blood. He knew about his death beforehand and he prepared himself by ardent prayer and good deeds, for the passing over from this world into eternity.



He died in the year 461 and was buried at Rome, in the Vatican cathedral. His literary and theological legacy is comprised of 96 sermons and 143 letters—of which the best known is his missive to Saint Flavian.

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<http://www.holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/los/February/18-01.htm>

READ ST. LEO'S HOMILIES ON THE SEASON OF GREAT LENT HERE:

Whoever has faith in God and a sacrificial spirit does not consider himself. When someone does not cultivate the spirit of sacrifice, he thinks only of himself and wants everybody to sacrifice themselves for him. But whoever thinks only of himself is isolated from others as well as God—a double isolation—in which case he cannot receive divine Grace. He becomes a useless person. One can readily see that he who thinks constantly of himself, his difficulties and troubles, and so on, will not find even some human assistance when a need arises... On the contrary, someone who does not think of himself but thinks constantly of others, in the good sense, will be thought of constantly by God, and then others will also think of him.

Elder Paisios of the Holy Mountain, Athos