



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

SAINT PHILIPS'S FAST—ADVENT—PILIPKIVA—NATIVITY FAST

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 John Harvey, 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, 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, Patrick, Linda Morris, Howard Simpson, Chris, Pastor Ed Bowen, David Hiles, Karen Johnson, Jennifer, Jerry Quinn, Cher Mount, Frank & Janet Horrell, Jim Wandling, Susan Bertram, Gail, Sirena Sharp, Ron Paulovich, Fred DeNorscia, Sandi Anderson, Donald Uebing, Sabrina, Shirley, Denny Mader, Ella Campbell, Tom Hyatt, Bill Janiro, Jean Symanko-Andy's sister, William Lemonakis, Barbara McDougall, Alma Wyke, Lindsay Romanczak & family, Virginia Catherine Pynch, 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, Nancy Heinbaugh, Judi Danser, Mira Filipovic, Lynn, Jacqueline, Irma Opacic, Sharon, Zan Cheng, Debby Novak, Jeff Jones, Kristy, Elaine Ellenberger, Margaret Thurston [Evelyn's sister], Donna Cacioppo [Evelyn's niece], Brandon, Anna Tranchine, Demetra, Blase Urban, Catherine Hogel & children, Jennifer & Dylan, Ron Schwartz, Greg Schwing, Lydia Wilson, Flora Tomlin, Stella Rossi, Howell Swarm, Jane Bielewicz Allred, and Daria Masur
ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

Please remember in your prayers—our dear 'Little Father' Emilian, who returned to Romania to undergo surgery for back pain. This particular procedure is not offered here in the United States. He asked for our prayers and expressed his thanks for the love and fellowship he has shared with the Holy Ghost Parish Family. He said he looks forward to returning to us pain-free in the springtime...may God watch over him and heal him...Fr. Bob

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, NOVEMBER 30 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT GREGORY THE WONDERWORKER OF
NEO-CAESAREA; VENERABLE LAZARUS THE ICONOGRAPHER OF
CONSTANTINOPLE**

Tone 8

1 Corinthians 4:9-16; Galatians 1:3-10
Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 9:57-62

Parastas in Blessed Memory of George Luciw—Sonia & Family

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 07 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE MOST
HOLY THEOTOKOS; GREAT-MARTYR MERCURIUS OF CAESAREA IN
CAPPADOCIA; GREAT-MARTYR CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, MARTYRS
AUGUSTA THE EMPRESS, PORPHYRIUS & 200 SOLDIERS AT ALEXANDRIA WITH
HER; MARTYR PHILOTHEA OF ROMANIA; VENERABLE MERCURIUS THE FASTER
OF THE PERCHEVSKY LAVRA—FAR CAVES**

Tone 1

Ephesians 5:9-19; Ephesians 6:10-17
Luke 13:10-17; Luke 21:12-19

***Litany in Blessed Memory of John Lopushanksy, Samuel Kerr, Helen Likar,
Harry Bunio, Mary Pekich, Constantine Hanczar, Anna Lotinsky, and Julia
Golofski—Fr. Bob***

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Victor Burlack & Stancy Popichak—40 days—Fr. Bob

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; PROPHET NAHUM; RIGHTEOUS PHILARET THE
MERCIFUL OF AMNIA IN ASIA MINOR; MARTYR ANANIAS OF PERSIA**

Tone 2

Ephesians 6:10-17

Luke 18:18-27

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 30 NOVEMBER 2014

**25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT GREGORY THE
WONDERWORKER OF NEO-CAESAREA; VENERABLE LAZARUS THE
ICONOGRAPHER OF CONSTANTINOPLE**

TROPARION—TONE 8

Thou didst descent from on high, O Merciful One!
Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings!
Our Lord, our Life and Resurrection, 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 8

By rising from the tomb,
Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.
Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,
And the world celebrates Thy Rising from the dead,
O greatly Merciful One!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 8

READER: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

PEOPLE: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

READER: In Judah, God is known; His name is great in Israel!

PEOPLE: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

READER: Pray and make your vows.

PEOPLE: Before the Lord our God!

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 8

Come let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our
Savior!

Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.

The Silent Sermon by Father John Bakas

A member of a certain parish, who previously had been attending services regularly, suddenly stopped coming to church. After a few weeks, the priest decided to pay him a visit.

The priest found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for the priest's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The priest made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning log. After some minutes, the priest took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone.

Then he sat back in the chair, still silent. The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As one lone ember's flame flicked and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon, it was cold and lifeless. The priest glanced at his watch and realized it was time to leave; he slowly stood up. Picked up the cold dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow, once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the priest reached the door to leave, his host said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I shall be back in church next Sunday."

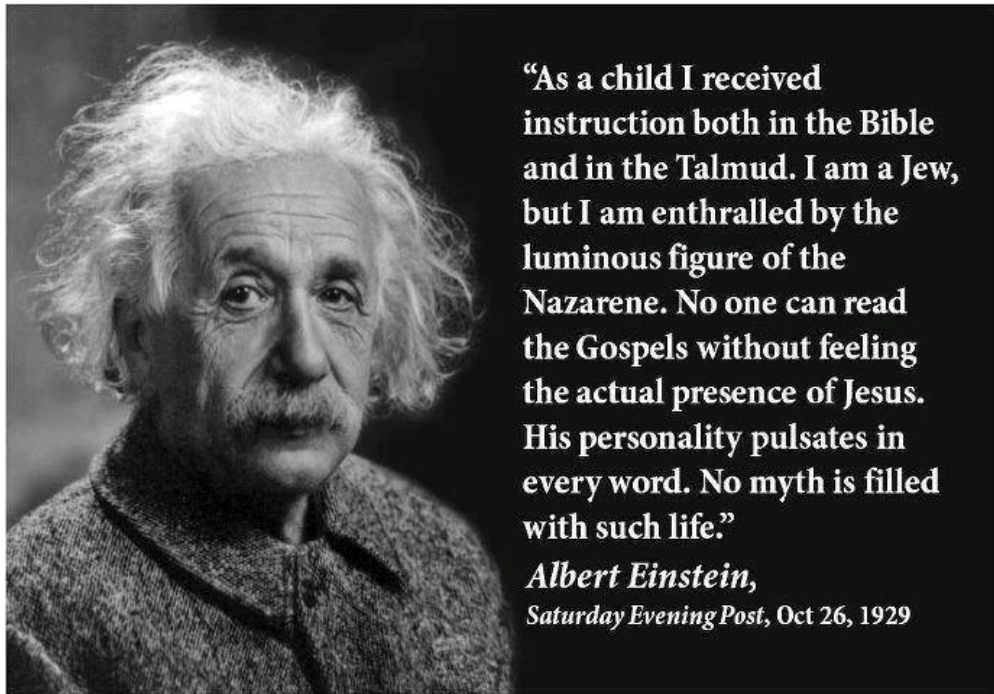
Christians are called to belong, not just to believe. God created us for community. That is what the "Ecclesia" or Church is all about. It is fellowship in prayer with one another. We are formed to be part of God's family and none of us can fulfill God's purposes isolated and by ourselves removed from the fellowship of the church. Our alone we are as dying "embers" cut off from the sacred fire of fellowship which gives warmth and light.

It is a fact that if an organ is somehow severed from its body, it will shrivel and die. It cannot exist on its own, and neither can we. Disconnected and cut off from the life blood of our faith, our spiritual life will wither and eventually cease to exist. This is why the first symptom of spiritual decline is usually inconsistent or infrequent attendance at worship services and the life enhancing gatherings of fellow believers.

Isolation into the self...into the I...me...mine, cuts off the oxygen supply line that is provided in community. We become isolated; in a sense surround ourselves with "mirrors". All we see is ourselves. When we are connected to a community, we surround ourselves with windows. We look through a window, but at a mirror.

We look in a mirror to see how we look, but we look through a window to see how others are. "Mirror people" look at themselves a great deal. "Window people" look beyond themselves at others. They are open to enjoy fellowship, shared lives and growth, which can be encouraged in a loving community.

Whatever your faith, community or denomination, join your brothers and sisters in church, temple or mosque and experience the warmth and light of the living fire of belonging.



“As a child I received instruction both in the Bible and in the Talmud. I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene. No one can read the Gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life.”

Albert Einstein,
Saturday Evening Post, Oct 26, 1929

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

8-10 East 79th St. New York, NY 10075-0106 * Tel: (212) 570-3530 Fax: (212) 774-0237

www.goarch.org - Email: communications@goarch.org

Contact: **PRESS OFFICE** Stavros Papagermanos pressoffice@goarch.org

Date: Nov. 20, 2014

POPE FRANCIS WILL VISIT ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE AND MEET WITH HIS-ALL HOLINESS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW NEW YORK— His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew will welcome Pope Francis to the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople on

November 29 and 30, 2014. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew extended the invitation to the Pope during His Holiness' inaugural Mass in March 2013.

Pope Francis is scheduled to attend a Doxology at 4:00 p.m. (UTC/GMT + 2 hours) on November 29, on the eve of the Feast of St. Andrew, after which he will meet privately with the Ecumenical Patriarch. The following morning, Nov. 30 at 9:30 a.m. (UTC/GMT + 2 hours) Pope Francis will attend the Divine Liturgy in honor of the Feast day of St. Andrew. Following the Divine Liturgy, the two spiritual leaders will sign a Common Declaration.

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios has been invited to attend this historic occasion. He will be accompanied by a large number of Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, distinguished faithful from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and the Archdiocesan Byzantine Choir.

This visit follows a tradition established by Pope Francis' predecessors, Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI, to visit the Ecumenical Patriarchate for the Thronal Feast of St. Andrew, the first-called of the Apostles and founder of the Church of Constantinople.

Both church services will be broadcast by the Vatican's live broadcast services and through the official Vatican website at <http://en.radiovaticana.va/live-rv>. Fr. John Chryssavgis will oversee the Press Office for the Ecumenical Patriarchate while Fr. Chris Metropulos will serve as one of six language commentators to analyze the live worldwide broadcast from the Vatican.

For more information on the visit please log onto www.patriarchate.org.

+ + Our Birth in This World and in the Next + +



Each human being is born on earth with the life and cooperation of a man, of a woman, and of God. Without this life and cooperation, there can be no true personal life manifest here to join the human race. This is a given. Life, however, that is more than temporal and earthly has to be entered consciously by those born from parents to become Heavenly and

everlasting. This is not a given, but a great journey with Eternal dimensions. It is the reason that we are born according to the Gospel: to discover and turn to God, to love Him, and then to live beyond this place and time in God's holy presence and to fully partake of a divine life forever. St. Peter expresses this in his second general epistle, *"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature...."* (2 Peter 1:4)

Christ is born on earth not just to fix the problem of our presently distorted human nature, or just to forgive our human sins, or even to just give us a static or legalistic redemption. Christ is born on earth to give us life—an exceedingly full life—a life full of glory and love to overflowing. He came to bring His Life right into our life and our inmost being, and thus have us reborn into the fullness of Godliness, so becoming Heavenly men and women here on earth and throughout all of Eternity. The Lord said to Nicodemus, *"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."* (John 3:5)

May we ponder deeply how to live such a full life each day, and then beg Christ to come into the cave of our hearts and be truly born there through life in His Holy Church, seeking first the Kingdom of God before all things. As the Lord says to St. John in His Revelation of things to come *"He Who testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."* (Rev. 22:20)

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

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Web: <http://www.goarch.org> - Email: communications@goarch.org

Protocol Number 218/14

November 27, 2014 Thanksgiving Day

We give thanks to You, Lord God Almighty! Revelation 11:17

To the Most Reverend Hierarchs, the Reverend Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, the Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils of the Greek Orthodox Communities, the Distinguished Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Day, Afternoon, and Church Schools, the Philoptochos Sisterhoods, the Youth, the Hellenic Organizations, and the entire Greek Orthodox Family in America

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The tradition of Thanksgiving Day has a long history in this country, beginning with the celebrations of early settlers who offered thanksgiving to God for safe passage to this land, for their freedom from religious persecution, for the strength to endure many hardships, and for the opportunities that were before them. In 1789 following a resolution passed by Congress, President George Washington issued a Thanksgiving Proclamation designating November 26 as a day "for rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; ...and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us."

The institution of Thanksgiving Day as a annual national holiday followed in 1863, when in the midst of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for the people "to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens...and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union."

These foundations of Thanksgiving Day, and its place within the history and life of this nation as a regular observance have made this a holiday shared by many as well as a time for families to gather in fellowship and gratitude. The focus on giving thanks to God, the attitude of gratefulness for the blessings in our lives, and the traditions centered upon the family resonate with our emphasis on the family as a dwelling of Christ and a witness of His Gospel.

On this day when families gather to give thanks to God, they are gathering in His name, and Christ is in their midst (Matthew 18:20). As a day of Thanksgiving, it is a day of worship and prayer. It is a day to celebrate the life that comes from our Creator and is transformed by our Resurrected Lord. It is a day when the fruits of the Holy Spirit are shown in the fellowship of the home. Thanksgiving Day is a day when families share in what the family and home should be throughout the year – a place of praise and thanksgiving and a dwelling of Christ.

This strong relationship between our faith and the observance of Thanksgiving Day also shows that this is a time when families can offer a witness of the Gospel. Through the commemoration of this day, families have the opportunity to offer a witness of the Gospel by acknowledging that Christ is in their midst and by offering visible gratitude to God for His abundant blessings. In addition, the fellowship among members of the family nurture the bonds that are shared, affirming that the family is a place of love, care, healing, and forgiveness. In a home that is a dwelling of Christ with a family that is connected to God, each member can experience the love that flows from God's love for each of us. Friends and guests can see a testimony of the power of faith and grace, and lives can be drawn by this witness to the Gospel of salvation, which renews, transforms, and saves.

On this blessed Thanksgiving Day may we offer our deep gratitude and jubilant thanksgiving to our Almighty God. May His abundant blessings be upon your gatherings and fellowship, and by observing this strong and vibrant tradition of our nation, may Christ be in your midst as you offer a witness of His Gospel of truth and love.

With paternal love in Christ,

†DEMETRIOS, Archbishop of America

COUNCIL OF BISHOPS OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA THANKSGIVING 2014



Beloved in Christ – GLORY BE TO OUR LORD!

As 2014 year of our Lord draws to a close, and the sacred Season of St. Philip's (Pre-Nativity) Fast begins, we in the U.S. come again to a peculiar weekend. Our national day of Thanksgiving is perhaps the only remaining civic holiday with an overtly religious purpose: the entire nation is meant to pause and thank God for the blessings bestowed upon it. Of course, many will spend this day without any thought of God whatsoever; since they don't think of God at other times, why should this day be any

different? This is a day for the people of God to delight in, however. We are a Eucharistic people; thanksgiving is our way of life. We are never more truly ourselves than when we are conscious of our dependence upon God, and God's loving providence at work in our lives.

The Greek word, Eucharist, means 'thanksgiving'. Each time, as we celebrate the Holy Eucharist, we, your hierarchs, offer our gratitude to Almighty God for His love and mercy. We thank our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the blessings received through the ministry of our forefathers, both clergy and laity, ensuring the blessed present for all of us. However, we are most thankful for you, the clergy and the faithful of our Metropolia – our extended family, as our most important blessing.

Of course, God's gifts are never given merely for our own enjoyment, but to equip us and empower us to do God's work in the world. Looking at our world, especially in this time of war in our ancestral homeland Ukraine, war in Syria, unrest in the Israel and Palestine and great need all around, may we offer even more profound thanks, give more generously, and serve more effectively.

When we celebrate Thanksgiving Day this year, let us do so in the spirit of our ancestors. Let us make it more than a day to enjoy family fellowship, fine food and football, by taking time to count our blessings as individuals, as families, and as a nation. Let us begin the day properly, by attending the liturgical service – hopefully at least a Moleben – in all our parish churches to worship and thank our God.

Let us offer special gratitude for our religious freedom and remember in prayer all who have ever helped us in a time of need. Finally, as “one nation under God”, we cannot forget those who have less or nothing at all. Let us reach out to those in need – for example, through the Ukrainian Orthodox League’s Thanksgiving Tithe Event – to share our bounty, however humble, with them. The very best way to give thanks to God for His abundant blessings upon us is to imitate Him by providing blessings to others.

We know well that God is good; may we be helped to tell of God's mercy and loving kindness to all we meet in this sacred holiday season. May the peace of Christ dwell with you abundantly.

With thankful hearts in prayer, we are those who pray for you unceasingly,

+ **Antony**, Metropolitan

+ **Daniel**, Bishop