



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

DORMITION 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 Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, Father Joseph Kopchak, 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, Father Paisius McGrath, Joshua Agosto and his family, 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, 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, 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, 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, Donna Cacioppo [Evelyn's niece], Brandon, Anna Tranchine, Demetra, Blase Urban, Catherine Hogel & children, Jennifer & Dylan, Ron Schwartz, Lydia Wilson, Flora Tomlin, Stella Rossi, Howell Swarm, Jane Bielewicz Allred, Carol Mensing's Family, Manny "Lazarus" Lopez, Glenn & Lucas Burlack, Katie Elizabeth, Mileva, & Michael, Deirdré Straughan, Terri Paluh, Lori & Steve Lucier, Billy Sinclair, Evelyn Felouzis, Kyranna Cherpas, Lawrence Deuce Skurcenski, Pastor Bruce Nordeen, Millie Koss Good, Mary Haraczy, Heather Ried, and Mother Ana. 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!

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, AUGUST 16 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; VENERABLE ISAAC, DALMATUS, & FAUSTUS;
VENERABLE ANTHONY THE ROMAN; VENERABLE COSMAS-EUNUCH & HERMIT
OF PALESTINE**

Tone 2

1 Corinthians 9:2-12

Matthew 18:23-35

Litany in Blessed Memory of Walter & Victor Burlack—Evelyn & family

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION;
HOLY MARTYRS ARCHDEACON LAURENCE & POPE SIXTUS, FELICISSIMUS &
AGAPITUS-DEACONS, AND OTHERS WITH THEM**

Tone 3

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Matthew 19:16-26

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28 DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 30 OBEDNITZA—DOWNSTAIRS IN CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE DORMITION; MARTYR
MYRON OF CYZICUS; MARTYRS THYRUS, LAUCIUS, & CORONATUS WITH
OTHERS AT CAESAREA IN BITHYNIA; MARTYRS PAUL & SISTER JULIANA OF**

**SYRIA; MARTYR PATROCLUS OF TROYES; MARTYRS STRATON, PHILIP,
EUTYCHIAN, & CYPRIAN OF NICOMEDIA; VENERABLE ALYPIUS THE
ICONOGRAPHER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

Tone 4

1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Matthew 21:33-42

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 16 AUGUST 2015

**11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; VENERABLE ISAAC, DALMATUS, &
FAUSTUS; VENERABLE ANTHONY THE ROMAN; VENERABLE COSMAS-
EUNUCH & HERMIT OF PALESTINE**

TROPARION—TONE 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
All the powers of heaven cried out:
O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever,
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

KONTAKION—TONE 2

Hell became afraid, O Almighty Savior,
Seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam,
Beheld this and rejoiced with Thee!
And the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 2

READER: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my
salvation.

PEOPLE: **The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my
salvation.**

READER: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but he has not given me over
to death.

PEOPLE: **The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my
salvation.**

READER: The Lord is my strength and my song.

PEOPLE: **He has become my salvation.**

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 2

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you!

Save the king, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!

Growing in Truth: Lessons Learned and Given in Alaska

by Andrew Wythe (8/5/2015)



This year's team to Kasigluk had the opportunity to teach Alaskan youth about the Orthodox Faith and a life in Christ. Team members like Andrew Wythe also came away having grown from the experience as well.

During Vespers in the village parish at Kasigluk, a young girl named Heather came into church, looking for our mission team. She ran up to me and began to hang off the pockets of my cassock. Now, in Holy Trinity, as with many parishes in Alaska, the faithful are separated with men on the right side of the church and women on the left side. So here I was, trying to focus on Vespers with a child hanging off of me, and worse yet, she was on the "wrong" side of the church! What if she got in trouble? What if I got in trouble? Order was broken, and in my mind the sky was falling. So I did what any order-loving Orthodox would do, and I pointed her to the proper side of the church. That was where all the young women were standing, right near the door. Unfortunately, Heather got the wrong message and thought I was showing her the door. She left immediately.

In the Orthodox Church we have rubrics and rules for almost everything. Unfortunately, sometimes these rules shift from an outward display of piety into making sure all Christians are "good soldiers" who "play by the rules". Stand up here, sit down there, kneel here, eat this but not that. There is a reason for this order in maintaining holy tradition, but

there's no "magic formula" that makes a service a service. In the lower 48, we can obsess about these things to the point at which they become a superstition, and correction for breaking a rubric can often be more concerned with the fact that the rule was broken than with the fact that there is an underlying spiritual reason for the rules. It's almost as if having water before receiving Holy Communion is a greater transgression than forgetting you are about to receive the Body and Blood of the Jesus Christ later in the morning. In Alaska, I was immediately struck by the fact that they do not obsess over rules like we often do. I was served moose on nearly every fasting day I was there. If you are practicing subsistence living, you have to eat what you catch. At the same time, they exhibited a care for one another and a humility unlike anything I'd ever seen.

Kasigluk is a small subsistence village along a spot where two rivers meet. Kasigluk literally means "the meeting place" in Yup'ik, their native language. They live off fish, berries, and moose, which have to be hunted during the summer. Very few things are purchased like the rest of the United States. But they understand what it means to be a part of the body of Christ. As Saint Paul tells the Corinthians, "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it." If you don't forage, you don't eat. Worse yet, if you don't forage, those around you suffer as well. Fr. Larsen, the village priest, constantly preached against laziness, because if it doesn't get done now, he would say, it won't get done later. The villagers of Kasigluk rely on one another to survive, and if one part suffers, the whole village suffers. There is a single village police officer, but other than that, they are all responsible for one another's safety and survival. Their lives are in one another's hands.

Back to where we began, with accidentally asking a child to leave the church building. I thought about how a lot of correction in the Church happens this way. We think we're showing people the right way, but we're actually showing them to the door. We forget that our lives are in one another's hands and that we are all in God's hands. In the Gospel of Mark, Christ tells us if we drive someone out of the Church for not being like us, we'd be better off having a millstone hung around our neck and being thrown into the sea. When we forget that we lack compassion and say "Your way is wrong, you're not one of us, we don't need you unless you can learn

to be like us," that's essentially what the Pharisees said to Christ, and whatever we do unto the least of us we do unto Christ.

Maybe when I corrected Heather, it would have been more appropriate to use the tone Saint Paul used with his problem parish in Corinth when he said, "Let me show you a more excellent way." Your way isn't wrong, but I have a more excellent one, and then maybe we can incorporate it into your already excellent way together. There is no other way to approach instruction in the Church when we realize that correcting someone during worship is taking their salvation, their life, in our hands.

I kept an eye out for Heather for the rest of our stay in Kasigluk. She always enjoyed when our team did arts and crafts with her, so I made sure to give her some leftover crafting supplies I had found as we cleaned up. I tossed them into a bag and set them aside in case I ran into her. I only saw her briefly before leaving, just enough time to hand her the bag of yarn and styrofoam shapes. Unfortunately we were off to somewhere else, and I didn't get to speak to her about my mistake. On my way to catch up with the team, I looked back and saw Heather running around the playground hugging the gift bag close to her chest. Hopefully she'll remember the Christian missionaries that helped her make Spongebob characters, and not me telling her what to do during worship.

In hindsight, I realize that when people are aware we are Christians, the majority know who we are, what we're about, and what we think is right and wrong. We don't really have to worry about people or things that they have certainly already heard. If they know who we are, then all we need to do is be a good and loving ambassador for Christ. Christ is as good an argument as there ever was, and He will teach and speak for Himself in His own time. **1-877-GO-FORTH** (463-6784) missions@ocmc.org

Please remember in your prayers Olivia Sinclair and Alexander Popichak as they start their college careers—Olivia at West Virginia University and Alex at Point Park on Monday. May God watch over them and help them enjoy their time at university and get a great education! God Bless them and all college, high school, and elementary students as they begin fall classes!

Please remember our Jeannie Stuchell in your prayers...she was in the hospital again for more surgery and would really appreciate our prayers. If you'd like to send her a card, her address is:

Jean Stuchell
5244 Brinker Road
Greensburg, PA 15601-8232