

Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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APOSTLES' FAST—SAINTS PETER AND PAUL FAST

ON THE MEND: Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Metropolitan Theodosius [OCA], 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, Archpriest Dionysi Vitali, Protodeacon Joseph Hotrovich, Father Adam Yonitch, Pani-Dobrodijka Sonia Diakiw, Father Paisius McGrath, Joshua Agosto and his family, Eva Malesnick, Stella Peanoske, 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 Luciow, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial, Mary Pelino,

Yvonne Christy, Myron & Barbara Spak, Pete Niederberger, Julia Duda, Lisa Pandle, Kris & Julie Hanczar, John Kennedy, 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 Strozh [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 Pyrch, Susan Lucas, Neil Carter & family, James Paluh, Mickie Weikel, Evelyn Krempasky, Tammy Strunk, Loida Esbry, Darlene Chicka Deskins, Drew, Alice & Keith Philipa, Kateryna Kocelko, Nancy Heinbaugh, Mira Filipovic, Lynn, Jacqueline, Irma Opacic, Sharon, Zan Cheng, 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, Manny "Lazarus" Lopez, Glenn & Lucas Burlack, Katie Elizabeth, Mileva, & Michael, Deirdré Straughan, Terri Paluh, Lori & Steve Lucier, Kyranna Cherpas, Pastor Bruce Nordeen, Millie Koss Good, Heather Ried, Carla Perry, Linda Elliot, Dennis McDaniel, Mike Mangan, Luke Tinsley, Brent, Tricia, Katherine Gorman, Pamela Jaquette, Michael Pawlyshyn, Sherri Walewski, Marika Zeliszczuk, Donna Davis, Jackie Crimbchin, Marta Charron, and Ian Brick. ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our July babies: Natasha Sudol on the 2nd, Zach Sudol on the 2nd, Andy Torick on the 13th, Matthew Brunermer on the 15th, Sabrina Sudol on the 19th, and Katrina Scott on the 25th. May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M'nohaya Lita! God Bless!

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 at some time in the future...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!

REMEMBER-PRAYERS ARE <u>ALWAYS</u> <u>FREE!</u>

<u>Communion Fasting:</u> 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 10 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM 3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SYNAXIS OF HALYCH/GALICIAN SAINTS; SYNAXIS OF ODESSA SAINTS; VENERABLE SAMPSON THE HOSPITABLE; SAINT JOANNA THE MYRRH-BEARER; VENERABLE SEVERUS-PRESBYTER OF INTEROCREA IN ITALY

*Tone 2*Romans 5:1-10
Matthew 6:22-33

TUESDAY, JULY 12 FEAST OF THE HOLY APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL

SUNDAY, JULY 17 NO SERVICE IN SLICKVILLE

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT ANDREW-ARCHBISHOP OF CRETE; VENERABLE MARTHA-MOTHER OF SAINT SYMEON STYLITES THE YOUNGER; MARTYRS THEODOTUS & THEODOTA; HIEROMARTYR THEODORE-BISHOP OF CYRENE

*Tone 3*Romans 6:18-23
Matthew 8:5-13

SUNDAY, JULY 24 OBEDNITZA—DOWNSTAIRS 10:30 AM 5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MIRACLE OF GREAT-MARTYR EUPHEMIA THE ALL-PRAISED OF CHALCEDON; HIEROMARTYR CINDEUS OF PAMPHYLIA; BLESSED EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES OLHA-PRINCESS OF KIEV-IN BAPTISM HELEN

Tone 4
Romans 10:1-10; 2 Corinthians 6:1-10
Matthew 8:28-9:1; Luke 7:36-50

Litany in Blessed Memory of Helen Pytlak & Brenda—Robert & Rena Pytlak

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 10 JULY 2016

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SYNAXIS OF HALYCH/GALICIAN SAINTS; SYNAXIS OF ODESSA SAINTS; VENERABLE SAMPSON THE HOSPITABLE; SAINT JOANNA THE MYRRH-BEARER; VENERABLE SEVERUS-PRESBYTER OF INTEROCREA IN ITALY

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!

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA CONSISTORY OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS PRESS RELEASE

Statement of the Council of Bishops of the UOC of the USA on the 240th Anniversary of US Independence

Beloved brethren in the Lord:

This weekend we celebrate Independence Day as one nation under God. Whether you call it the Fourth of July or Independence Day, the tradition goes back to the American Revolution. As students of history we know about the representatives of the 13 colonies gathering in June 1776, to consider a resolution that would declare that independence from Great Britain. First, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence on July 2nd and then just two days later, its delegates adopted the document drafted by Thomas Jefferson - Declaration of Independence.

The signatories affirm that since all people are creatures of God, they have certain natural rights and liberties, that cannot be violated. Historically speaking, the change did not come easy for the colonies. The war was long and bitter. And even after the British surrendered, the young nation struggled on every front.

As years went by and a united nation came into being, we have benefitted as individuals who have the freedom to practice our Faith, enjoy the diversity of multi-culturalism, and celebrate the blessings given to a free people. Yet, it is disheartening when we pick up the newspaper and read about churches being burned to the ground or worshippers being

gunned down at a prayer meeting, amongst many other attacks. This holiday weekend reminds us of the freedoms we enjoy, which we can never take for granted.

As citizens of America, perceived as the greatest nation the world has ever known, we define our identity outside the boundaries of geography or common ethnic ancestry. The stories of how our grandparents or great grandparents immigrated to the United States, most at a very young age, simply amaze us. They yearned for a life that would bring fulfillment and blessings and they were willing to sacrifice everything for a taste of what America might provide for them and their families. Our ancestors were people from every corner of the globe, most in the last two centuries, in pursuit of a most noble and remarkable vision – that they could live in freedom with their God-given rights respected.

It is, therefore, a common creed, not common ancestral roots, which binds us together. That creed was best expressed in the Declaration of Independence that announced, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Americans are forever indebted to those who pledged their lives, fortunes and sacred honor to make this experiment in ordered liberty possible.

As Americans, Ukrainian-Americans and most importantly as Christians, we have reason to be filled with gratitude at all times. We must express that gratitude to God, Who gave our forefathers the opportunity to find a home in America, to our Founding Fathers who set forth those principles that constitute our creed and to all the generations and those that who have defended our nation and still do today. Beloved in Christ! We cherish our rights and freedoms. We must be willing go to great lengths to preserve them for ourselves, for our children, and for generations to come. As you celebrate Independence Day, thank God for all He makes possible in your life!

Perhaps this Independence Day, we might go one step further and offer this prayer for our country:

Almighty God you have given us this great land of the United States of America as our heritage. We humbly pray that we may always remember your generosity and faithfully do your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education and an honorable way of life. Defend our liberties and strengthen the resolve of all those who have come from various places in the world to make the United States of America their home. Lead us to choose the sometimes more difficult "correct" instead of the sometimes much easier "wrong". Help us to appreciate the opportunities that are ours as we struggle to bring harmony to an unsettled

world. May we balance our concern for justice with a willingness to display mercy. May our concern for security be tempered with a willingness to take risks that will produce worthwhile change for the good of all people. O Lord, we pray for your guidance as we work together in the best interests of our communities, our nation, our world. When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful and in troubled times, let our deepest trust and faith be forever in You. For You are a Merciful and Loving God and we give glory to You – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

+Antony,

By the Grace of God Metropolitan of the UOC of the USA and Diaspora +Daniel,

By the Grace of God Bishop of the UOC of the USA

"We ought to have the most lively spiritual union with the heavenly inhabitants: all the saints, apostles, prophets, martyrs, prelates, the venerable and the righteous, as they are all members of the single Body, the Church of Christ, to which we sinners also belong, and the living Head of which is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. This is why we call upon them in prayer, converse with them, thank them and praise them. It is urgently necessary for all Christians to be in union with them, if they desire to make Christian progress; for the Saints are our friends, our guides to salvation, who pray and intercede for us." - St. John of Kronstadt

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA CONSISTORY OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

PRESS RELEASE

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA Offers Prayers Following the Terrorist Attack at Istanbul Ataturk International Airport

Following the most horrific, deplorable, and senseless acts of violence and terror at Istanbul's International Airport, the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA expresses its solidarity with the people of Turkey and those of other nations, whose citizens traveled through the one of the busiest airports in the world, and extends heartfelt prayers to the families of those who were killed or injured as a result of the attack. Our hearts and minds are prayerfully also with the emergency responders, law enforcement agents, and security officers.

Following his safe return to the United States of America from Crete (Greece) via Istanbul International Airport earlier today, and upon learning about the tragic events in Istanbul from Bishop Daniel, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony stated, "Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA stands"

alongside all people of faith and good will, and supports the efforts of religious leaders—especially His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew—to forge mutual understanding, respect and reconciliation among all people... During this time of tragedy, as we experience pain, sorrow, and indignation, we must remain inseparably connected to our faith, especially to the salvific events of Cross and Resurrection, the ultimate source of comfort, solace and peace."

The Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, speaking on behalf of the entire plentitude of the Church condemns the blind violence that causes so much suffering and implores God for the gift of peace. Sadly, this murderous attack is only the latest in a series of attacks aimed at killing of innocent civilians. Such attacks must reinforce the determination of the worldwide community to work closely with each other to counter the scourge of terrorism and support all those across the planet who are working to promote peace and reconciliation.

We pray that the Lord's mercy will be upon us during this time of sadness. We urge the clergy and faithful of our UOC of the USA and people of good will throughout the world to turn their hearts and souls to Christ the Savior, Who consoles and guides us through suffering with mercy and tenderness. The healing power of Christ goes beyond our physical wounds but touches every level of our humanity: physical, emotional, social, spiritual. The eternal call of Christ to us all is to remain fervent in our protection of life and human dignity and to pray unceasingly for peace in our world.

With prayers in Christ, the Merciful Savior and Counselor of our souls, +Antony, Metropolitan of the UOC of the USA +Daniel, Bishop of the UOC of the USA

About Saints Peter and Paul icons

In the Orthodox tradition there are three primary icons of the two apostles.

In the first icon, Sts. Peter and Paul are supporting a model church building.

In the second icon, Sts. Peter and Paul are in close-up, embracing each other. The two icons go together. They remind us that in the Church competing opinions and visions are always present and sometimes come in conflict. But the Church is built on forgiveness and reconciliation. Sts. Peter and Paul are shown supporting the Church jointly. Their reconciliation makes it possible to draw this icon.

The third icon is less common. St Peter is holding keys and St. Paul is holding a sword. In Matthew 16:13-19 Christ gives Peter "the keys of the kingdom of heaven." In Ephesians 6:10-17, Paul encourages his readers to put on the "whole armor of God." The final piece in the armor is "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

The keys and the sword go together, they complement each other. And they too, need reconciliation, just like the apostles themselves. Keys unlock something that is closed. The apostles were commanded to unlock the kingdom of God. But how is the kingdom unlocked? By preaching the word of God – but not just words; rather words that cut like a sword with the power of the Holy Spirit. (by Kostas Sarantidis)

Sometimes the Lord overwhelms us with some particular event in order to turn us to Him, to remind our sinful hearts that the Lord is above us, and that we are all on our way to death's threshold, which we will pass over to enter eternal life. Sometimes the Lord jolts us with sorrow, that we might thereby recall that we are sinners before the Lord, that we have departed from the Lord, and that the Lord wishes to use these means to awaken us from the spiritual slumber in which we found ourselves before this grief struck. The Lord calls us in different ways. But the goal of this call – both the way in which He called the Apostles Peter and Paul and the way in which He speaks with each of us – is the same: to draw us to follow Him until the end of our days on earth. - Metropolitan Nikolai (Yarushevich) of Krutitsa

The Apostle's Fast (also known as St. Peter's Fast) occurs on the Monday after the Sunday of All Saints and continues until the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul. The Fast is among the oldest Christian traditions and the least well-known. The Apostle's Fast is not as strict as the other fasts and there are different traditions regarding the fasting rule.

Like all Fasts in the Orthodox Church, the Holy Apostles' Fast aims to help us put on the "armor of light" against the attacks of the enemy that may befall during our spiritual journey to become united with God through His grace. The Fast of the Apostles can be an occasion for reflection upon the lives and example of the Holy Apostles. The Fast is also an occasion to remember that in Christ, we have a unity that goes far beyond our personal opinions, likes or dislikes. *Iconographer Nikolai Tsai*

CLOTHED WITH POWER-from Coffee With Sister Vassa

(Sunday, July 3)

"Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Christ is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance (μετάνοιαν) and forgiveness of sins (ἄφεσιν ἀμαρτιῶν) is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you the promise of my Father; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." (Lk 24: 45-49)

They are to proclaim two vital things, in His name: 1. "Repentance" (a change of mind or change of focus); and 2. "Forgiveness" (ἄφεσις, a "letting go," or "setting free from") of sins. (The English word "for-give," similar to the Vulgar Latin "per-donare" and German "ver-geben," means to give "completely," or to give "through and through.") – In other words, the two things I need most: A release from whatever was/is "wrong," and a capacity to change, making it "right."

Are these extravagant promises? Yes. For any human power, they are. But my God is a God backing up His promises with His own "power," the gift of the Holy Spirit. I can be "clothed" with His power today, not just by reading or hearing about Him, but by opening up to His guidance, love and care, in a daily dependence on Him. Just as He "opened their minds to understand," it is He Who opens my mind, when I open up to Him. Because He teaches us through experience. "Thy will be done," I say to Him today, and let Him "clothe" and protect me in ways that I can't myself.

Either we are fools for the world because of Christ, or we are fools for Christ because of the world. - St. Nikolai Velimirovich

The Power to Become—from Coffee with Sister Vassa

(Monday, July 4)

"He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God." (Jn 1: 10-13)

It is through faith that I receive "power," on a daily basis, "to become" who I am meant to be, according to the intention of my Creator: His child. And that means – one who is in the process of growing. Just as "the world came into being through Him," so do I truly "come into being," as I grow on my cross-carrying journey of ups and downs, through Him.

So let me "receive Him" today, letting Him into my day, that I may grow, rather than stand in place or go around in circles, according to the predictable "will of the flesh" or "will of man." It is only the creative energy of God that makes me capable of change; of breaking out of old patterns and embracing the ever-new, which He brings into my world, "full of grace and truth." (Jn 1: 14) Glory be to Him.

Sacramental Life vs. Magic—from Coffee with Sister Vassa (Tuesday, July 5)

"Now a certain man named Simon had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he was someone great. All of them, from the least to the greatest, listened to him eagerly, saying, 'This man is the power of God that is called Great. And they listened eagerly to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. But when they believed Philip, who was proclaiming the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." (Acts 8: 9-12)

Both Simon the Sorcerer and the Apostle Philip worked certain, miraculous acts in Samaria, impressing the people of Samaria. But all Simon's magic offered them was the thrill of spectators, observing a "man," Simon, whom they equated with "the power of God." There is no clear direction, nor message of any consequence for the people's lives in Simon's powers, except "that he was someone great." Philip, on the other hand, proclaims to them a kingdom, and a name not his own, of Jesus Christ, and offers them rebirth in baptism.

The truly amazing sacramental life of the Church does not reduce me to a passive spectator. Because it's not "magic." I am called to a new direction, a new life, in which I participate, engaging and internalizing "the good news about the kingdom of God" on a daily basis. I have a God Whose name I know, and Who knows mine, as He calls me daily not to empty thrills, but to the productive adventure of a relationship with Him. So today

let me call, once again, on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, as I begin a new day with Him and in Him.

Rejoice, O mountains of Pennsylvania, leap for joy, O waters of Great Lakes; rise up, O fertile plains of Canada; for the elect of Christ who dwelt in you are glorified, men and women who left their homes for a new land! With faith, hope, and patience as their armor, they courageously fought the good fight. Comforted by the beauty of the Orthodox Faith, they labored in mines and mills, they tilled the land, they braved the challenges of the great cities, enduring many hardships and suffereings. Never failing to worship God in spirit and truth and unyielding in devotion to His most pure Mother, they erected many temples to His glory. Come, O assembly of the Orthodox, and with love let us praise the holy men, women and children, those known to us and those known only to God, and let us cry out to them: "Rejoice, all Saints of North America and pray to God for us!"

REMINDER—NO SERVICE IN SLICKVILLE NEXT WEEK! Father Bob will be out of town, but available by cell phone if you need him! Have a blessed week, and visit one of our sister Orthodox parishes!