



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: 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, Father Michael Smolynec, 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 Luciw, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial, Mary Pelino, Yvonne Christy, Myron & Barbara Spak, 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 Pynch, 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 Filipović, 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 Zeliszczyk, Donna Davis, Jackie Crimbchin, Marta Charron, Mary [Corba], Stella McKeag, Margie Sekelsky, and Ian Brick. ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

A "Garden of churches" ceremony was held on August 7 at the park Holy Cross Church Khvalynsk (Saratov region), which are ceramic models of the

five destroyed sometime ago Orthodox churches in the city - the Cathedral of the Kazan Icon of the Mother of God, Holy Cross Church, St. Nicholas Church, the church in the name of three Hierarchs and the Ascension edinovercheskogo temple.

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 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 21 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION;
SAINT EMILIAN THE CONFESSOR-BISHOP OF CYZICUS; SAINT MYRON-BISHOP
OF CRETE; MARTYRS ELEUTHERIUS & LEONIDES OF CONSTANTINOPLE & MANY
INFANTS WITH THEM; VENERABLE GREGORY-ICONOGRAPHER OF PERCHEVSKY
LAVRA; VENERABLE GREGORY OF SINAI-MOUNT ATHOS**

Tone 8

1 Corinthians 3:9-17

Matthew 14:22-34

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 28 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS**

Tone 1

1 Corinthians 4:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 17:14-23; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 04 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE DORMITION; MARTYRS
AGATHONICUS, ZOTICUS, THEOPREPLUS, ACINDYNUS, SEVERIAN, ZENO, &
OTHERS; HIEROMARTYR ATHASIVS-BISHOP OF TARSUS IN CILICIA; SAINT
ANTHUSA OF SYRIA AND MARTYRS CHARISIMUS & NEOPHYTUS; VIRGIN-
MARTYR EULALIA OF BARCELONA**

Tone 2

1 Corinthians 9:2-12
Matthew 18:23-35

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Josephine Roman, Frank Gazella, Sr., & Suzie
Pelczar—Fr. Bob***

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 21 AUGUST 2016

**9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE
TRANSFIGURATION; SAINT EMILIAN THE CONFESSOR-BISHOP OF
CYZICUS; SAINT MYRON-BISHOP OF CRETE; MARTYRS
ELEUTHERIUS & LEONIDES OF CONSTANTINOPLE & MANY INFANTS
WITH THEM; VENERABLE GREGORY-ICONOGRAPHER OF
PERCHEVSKY LAVRA; VENERABLE GREGORY OF SINAI-MOUNT
ATHOS**

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.

A Christian Ending to Our Life

A Christian ending to our life; painless, blameless, and peaceful; and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord *The Divine Liturgy according to St. John Chrysostom. Editor-Rev.Fr.*

Svetozar Veselinovich with the Blessings of His Grace The Right Reverend MITROPHAN, Serbian Orthodox Bishop of Eastern America, Edgeworth, Sewickley, Pa 1992, p.86

Orthodox Christians pray at each Divine Liturgy for a Christian ending to their lives. The precise moment when the end of life will take place is known only to God.

Each Christian benefits from keeping the end of life in mind. Knowing that earthly life is time limited increases the appreciation of life. Each moment of life is gift from God to be cherished and used wisely.

No moment of life beyond the present moment being lived is certain. Life needs to be lived consistent with Christian teachings and standards to end in ways pleasing to Christ. Each life will be judged based upon the way it is lived.

Prayers make a difference in the direction of life. Prayers make a difference in the content of life. Prayers reflect the values in life. Whether God is valued becomes apparent in the prayers and actions of daily life.

The moment the last breath will be taken is not known. The moment the heart will cease functioning is not known. The way a person lives determines if a Christian ending will occur.

The Psalmist describes the length of life to be seventy to eighty years.(Ps.89/90) Individuals are known today to live to a hundred years. One person in this parish lived a hundred and two years.

Earthly life as it is known always comes to an end. Christians expect Christ's return and a final judgment. Every moment of life is a time of preparation for the final judgment.

Every moment of life will affect the final judgment. How a person lives from the time of Baptism until departure from this life determines if the person ends life as a Christian.

The mind and the heart determine the way life is lived. A conscious determination to live as a Christian throughout life makes a decided difference.

Sinful ways are rejected by individuals seeking a Christian ending.

Daily vigilance is necessary to follow the teachings of Christ. Conscious decisions to love and to forgive are required for a Christian ending. The nature of personal relationships will affect life's ending.

Being mindful of death throughout life is a way to prepare for the final judgment. Keeping death in mind will influence decision-making. Being mindful of the final judgment will shape the daily course of life.

Believers concerned about having a Christian end will seek always to be united with Christ. The desire for Christ must be strong to hold first place in the heart, mind and soul.

The world is full of evil. The world is full of peril to the soul. Multitudes of temptations occur that can derail a Christian's good intentions. Christian's less than vigilant can put their soul in peril at the last moment of life.

The icon of St. John Climacus' Ladder of Divine Ascent depicts that a person can fall as the Ladder is ascended. Life can end in non-Christian ways when a person yields to temptations or succumbs to sin.

To be close with Christ, to be united with Christ means to fight the temptations that battle for the soul. For a Christian ending to life, all that negatively affects the Christian identity must be excluded.

The life in Christ is intended to include, peace, love and joy. Peace, love and joy are acquired through being serious about Christ. Seriousness includes cherishing Christ above all else in life.

Cherishing Christ guides relationships. Cherishing Christ sets the standard for personal values. Cherishing Christ brings love, peace and joy to the fore. Being united with Christ brings confidence in times of stress.

Christ frees the mind to focus clearly. Stresses pull at the mind and heart.

Christ lights the path through dark moments. Christ is the solid road in times of uncertainty.

Christ is ever-present. Christ is noticeable in daily life for those having eyes to see. Christ fills the minds and hearts open to Him. Christ remains in the hearts and minds making room for Him.

When the heart and mind are cluttered, no room exists for Christ. When life is full of activities having nothing to do with Christ, the end of life may be far from Christian.

Being united with Christ requires constant effort and personal force of effort. Personal barriers need to be overcome to be united with Christ. Honest personal assessment will reveal personal barriers hindering the relationship with Christ.

Sloth can keep a person from remaining faithful to Christ. Effort is necessary to learn about Christ. Effort is necessary to value Christ and maintain the values set forth by Christ.

Gluttony can deter a person from drawing near to Christ. Gluttony can slow efforts to seek Christ. Gluttony can reduce interest and intensity in seeking Christ.

Gluttony can cause a false contentment.

Memories are part of life. Not all memories may be pleasant. A desire for a Christian ending to life will include turning to Christ for assistance in putting relationships and memories into perspective.

Family relationships, relationships with friends or co-workers can move a Christian person to reflect deeply. Serious believers look to Christ for the guidance necessary to end life in Christ pleasing ways.

Confession is available to Orthodox Christians seeking reconciliation with Christ. Confession affords the opportunity to express remorse for hurts caused to others. Confession can lead to efforts to make things right when possible.

The daily demands of life vary depending on a person's age. Youths seem to have many years ahead of them. This is normally true but not

always. Unfortunately, accidents occur. Some youths get depressed and commit suicide.

People die young and often unexpectedly from physical ailments. The joys of youth are not to be clouded by the fear of death. Doing the best to live in ways pleasing to Christ is preparation for a Christian ending at any age.

The life in Christ offers fullness and joy. Every moment of time brings a person closer to the end of earthly life. The way a person lives each day determines the outcome.

Decisions made throughout each day accumulate and influence the direction of life. The quality of life is determined by decisions made. Individuals experiencing great hardships often overcome them through great faith.

Serious illnesses can be important turning points in a person's life. Life can be more greatly cherished when it is threatened or known to be rapidly approaching the end.

When the end of earthly life arrives, the person falling asleep in the Lord will have established a record. The person's relationships with the people met in daily life become part of life's record.

Relationships with strangers, the sick, the suffering and the imprisoned are part of a person's life record.(Mt.25:31-46) Attitudes and judgments regarding others become part of a Christian's record.(Mt.7:2)

The content of a person's heart, mind and soul reveal the relationship with Christ. Outward appearances of faithfulness to Christ need to have corresponding inward faithfulness to Christ.

Jesus said:" This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.(Mt.15:8) Jesus' words need to be carefully considered when preparing for a Christian ending to life.

God knows whether a person is sincere and faithful in the heart, mind and soul. God knows if Christ is the primary interest in life. The whole person is dedicated to Christ at Baptism and is to live the whole life in Christ.

St. George Serbian Orthodox Healthcare Seminar-August 9, 2016 St. Panteleimon
Father Rodney Torbic

The parable of the little cup of tea by St. Arsenie Boca:

“One family went on a trip to England to buy something from a beautiful antique shop, for the celebration of their 25th anniversary of marriage. The husband and wife liked antiques and clay products, ceramics, especially cups of tea. They observed an exceptional cup and asked: “Can we see that cup? We’ve never seen anything so beautiful!”

While the selling lady gave them what they had demanded, the cup of tea began to speak: – You can not understand. I was not from the beginning a cup of tea. Once, I was just a lump of red clay. My Lord took me and I ran, I fought hard, I kneaded repeatedly, and I shouted: “Do not do that!”, “I don’t like it!”, “Leave me alone!”. But he just smiled and said gently: “Not yet.” Then, ah! I was seated on a wheel and I was spun, spun, spun. “Stop! I feel dizzy! I will be sick!” I cried. But my Lord just shook his head and said quietly: “Not yet.” He swirled me, kneaded me and hit me and he shaped up my form until He liked it... and then I was put in the oven. I never felt so much warmth! I cried, I knocked and slammed the door ... “Help! Get me out of here!” I could see my Lord through an opening and I could read his lips while he slowly shook his head from side to side: “Not yet. ”

When I thought I will not stand another minute more, the door was opened. Carefully He pulled me out and put me on the shelf ... I started to cool off. Oh, I felt so good! “Well, so much better”, I thought. But after I cooled down, He took me, brushed and stained me all over ... the smells were horrible. I thought I will not breathe anymore. “Oh, please, stop, stop!” I cried. He just nodded and said, “Not yet!” Then suddenly I was put back in the oven. But now it was not as the first time. It was twice as hot and I felt I would suffocate. I asked him. I insisted. I screamed. I cried ... I was convinced that I will not escape! I was ready to quit. Just then... the door opened and He pulled me out and again placed me on the shelf, where I cooled and waited and waited, wondering, “What will He do with me next?”

An hour later, he gave me a mirror and said: “Now look at you.” And I looked. “That’s not me; it cannot be me ... It’s beautiful. I’m beautiful! He spoke to me softly: “I want you to remember, I know you were hurt when you were mingled, hit, spun... but if I would have left you alone, you’d be dry. I know you felt dizzy when I spun the wheel... but if I had stopped, you would be broken into pieces, you would have crumbled. I know it hurt and it

was very hot and uncomfortable in the oven... but I had to put you there, otherwise you would have cracked. I know it did not smell good when I brushed and I stained all over, but if I had not done that, you'd never really hardened. You would not have glow in your life. If I would not have stuck you for the second time in the oven, you would not have survived much, because that reinforcement would not hold. Now you are a finished product. You're what I had in mind the first time I started working with you. "

Moral of the story:

"God knows what He makes from each of us. He is the potter and we are His clay. He will mold us, He will do and He will expose us to the needed pressures to be perfect to do his good, pleasant and holy will. If life seems hard and you are hurt, beaten, and pushed mercilessly; when your world seems spinning uncontrollably; when you feel that you are in a terrible suffering, when life seems dire, do yourself a tea and drink it in the prettiest cup, sit down and think about what you read here and then discusses a little with The Potter ". **via Susan Schneider**

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of the Procession of the Holy Cross

The Gospel of St John for today describes the death of the Lord Jesus Christ upon the Cross. Christ's voluntary death upon the Cross deserves daily attention among believers.

In contemporary life it is too easy to focus the mind on other than Christ and the Cross. Thinking seriously about Christ benefits Christians. Thinking about the humility and love shown by Christ through His suffering has meaning today.

Christ's death on the Cross has not lost significance with the passing of time.

Christ's suffering for each person has healing power. People hurting today to the depths of their being can find healing for the hurt by turning to Christ.

Christ suffered unto death. He rose from the grave and showed He was greater than death. Crucifixion did not limit Christ. Crucifixion revealed Christ's divinity.

Too easily individuals are immersed in daily life and fail to hold onto Christ.

Too often life seems hard and perhaps too stressful and difficult. Turn to Christ in prayer. Hold onto Christ in the heart, the mind and the soul.

Love Christ with the fullness of the heart, the mind and the soul. Life gets better with Christ. Life improves with Christ. Christ's Resurrection followed the Crucifixion and made all the difference in the world.

Suffering is not to be minimized. Christ helps individuals who are suffering to maximize their lives. Intense prayer makes a difference in time of suffering. The putting aside of frivolous pursuits has a place in times of suffering.

Insurmountable joy came with Christ's Resurrection. Resurrection joy exists today. Resurrection joy exists at every moment of time. Savor Resurrection joy not only in the time of Pascha but throughout all the days of life.

The Crucified and Resurrected Christ fills the soul with love. The Crucified and Resurrected Christ heals the hearts and minds turning to Him in faith. Effort is necessary to reach out to Christ in faith, love and hope.

Christ does not reject sincere efforts of individuals drawing near to Him. Christ does not rebuff the hopeful turning to Him. Christ welcomes sinners seeking to repent and begin anew.

Earthly life is time limited. Earthly life is not to be wasted on frivolous pursuits. Christ offers life in the fullest. Christ offers life that is lasting. Now is the time to fully immerse the self in the life in Christ.

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania. August 1/14, 2016. The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost. The Feast of the Procession of the Holy Cross.

Maccabeans.

Father Rodney Torbic

"My dear, beware at any cost to be stuck in a mediocrity, that is, in a way to call yourself a Christian only by the fact that you do this or that. God doesn't help you... because in what God has put in man there is solely heroism... and there are no beggars in the Kingdom of Heaven... You know, it was ingrained that God is merciful... there is no question about that, we have no words to show how merciful He is and how much He loves us... but He wants us to be people of the Cross!" (*Fr. Arsenie Papacioc*)

"Water flows from high mountains onto low places": "We see that water gravitates from the mountains to low-lying areas; so too, the grace of God is poured out from the Heavenly Father upon humble hearts." -*St. Tikhon of Zadonsk* (A Spiritual Treasure Gathered from the World)

