



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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*****FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS*****

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 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, 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 Zeliszczuk, 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.

Every day is a new day to do something good for God!

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 28 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS
*****BLESSING OF FLOWERS AND HERBS AFTER THE PARASTAS*******

Tone 1

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

Litany in Blessed Memory of Rae Ruth Batch—Harry Batch and family

**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

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; BEHEADING OF THE GLORIOUS PROPHET,
FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST JOHN**

*******STRICT FAST DAY*******

Tone 3

1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Acts 13:25-32

Matthew 19:16-26; Mark 6:4-30

Litany in Blessed Memory of Those Killed on 09-11-2001—Fr. bob

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 28 AUGUST 2016

**10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY
THEOTOKOS**

*******BLESSING OF FRUIT & HERBS AFTER THE PARASTAS*******

TROPARION—TONE 1

In giving birth, you preserved your virginity!

In falling asleep, you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos!

You were translated to life, O Mother of Life,

And by your prayers you deliver our souls from death!

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

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,

Who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.

For, being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life by the one

Who dwelt in her virginal womb!

PROKIEMENON—TONE 3

READER: My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my
Savior!

PEOPLE: My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God
my Savior!

READER: For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

PEOPLE: My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

READER: My soul magnifies the Lord!

PEOPLE: And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 2

Arise, O Lord, and go to Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy might!

The Lord swore Truth to David from which He will not turn back!

THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS—(REPLACES IT IS TRULY MEET)

The limits of nature are overcome in you, O Pure Virgin:

For birthgiving remains virginal and life is united to death!

A virgin after childbearing and alive after death!

You ever save your inheritance, O Theotokos!

COMMUNION VERSE

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.



Susan Schneider, August 13 at 12:35pm

The Dormition/Icon of Hope

The miraculous transportation of the Apostles is shown in the top of the Icon, though the main scene depicted within the icon is the funeral procession itself. The Apostles are shown reverencing the body of the Mother of God: St. Paul at her feet; St Peter at the head with censer in hand.

Together with the Apostles are several bishops – indicated by their white sashes with crosses embroidered upon them – and women. The bishops traditionally represented are James, the brother of the Lord, Timothy, Heirotheus, and Dionysius the Areopagite, who first recorded the story of the Dormition in the 2nd century AD. The women are Sepphora, Abigail, and Jael, along with other members of the church in Jerusalem.

At the top center of the icon, the unwitnessed assumption of Mary's resurrected body into the open gates of Heaven. At the bottom. Archangel Michael severs the impious hands of Athonios.

The main aspect of the Icon is the image of Christ in Glory holding the pure soul of Mary in His arms, shown as an infant. The parallel between the image of the God-Man Jesus holding the child-like soul of Mary and the image of the Mother Mary holding the Christ-child in her own arms is, of course, deliberate. The title of "God-bearer" is given to other Saints, such as St. Ignatius. To carry the Word of God, Jesus Christ, within us is the calling of all Christians: to bear Him spiritually within us during our lives, and shine with His glory. The "reward" for this in our earthly life is suffering at the hands of enemies, even to the point of martyrdom, as in the case of St. Ignatius. Yet the reward after our repose is that God bears our soul into His own hands and carries us into eternity, as we carried Him, for just a short time.

And just as we look to Mary's life for an example, we look to her bodily death – in this Icon – for hope as to where such an example leads us. The hope is in the bodily Resurrection and the life of the age to come. Both are shown in the Icon: the bodily assumption of Mary into Heaven, as well as the commendation of her soul into the hands of Jesus Christ. (Iconreader)



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Protocol No. 151/16 August 15/28, 2016

Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

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,

On this blessed feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, we continue to give thanks to God for His blessings upon our gathering in Nashville for our 43rd Clergy-Laity Congress. Throughout the week in our worship, meetings, and deliberations we witnessed unity and commitment to the sacred work of the Church and dedication to faithful ministry in meeting tremendous needs.

We were inspired by the theme of our Congress, "You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World," and as we commemorate this holy day of August 15, we are also inspired by one who knew, followed and shared the voice of Christ. The Virgin Mary knew the voice of Christ because she shared a unique relationship with Him as His mother. She heard His voice from birth throughout His life and ministry; she heard His words as He grew; she marveled at His wisdom as a youth; she listened to His teaching; she was burdened with great sorrow when He cried out from the Cross; and she was filled with great joy following His resurrection and hearing His promises.

The Virgin Mary also followed the voice of Christ because of her commitment to the will of God. In her dedication to a life of holiness and purity, she was obedient to His calling to become the Theotokos and to carry the Son of God in her womb. In faithfulness she nurtured Jesus, trusting in the promises of God to fulfill His plan for our salvation. She followed in hope and faith as Christ proclaimed and revealed divine grace. She listened and found great strength in His words as His teaching offered assurance of abundant blessings and eternal life.

As she knew and followed the voice of Christ, the Theotokos also shared His voice. Through her life of holiness, many others found new life in Christ. Many were able to see the power of God's presence and blessings through her witness. She shared His voice through her love of God and others, her sacrifice, and her faith. Generation after generation has called her blessed because the example of her life continues to lead people to God.

This witness of faith and sanctity of life was celebrated on her repose, a celebration we continue today as we cherish her life and witness. Through her life we see the power of knowing and following the voice of

Christ. We affirm the need for a direct relationship with Him so that we hear His voice. Through worship, prayer, and reading the Holy Scriptures, we know His words, we commune with Him, and acknowledge His presence. From this foundation of knowing Christ we are able to share Him and His message of truth and love with others. We are able to be the voice of Christ in a changing world filled with challenges. Through our daily lives, our words and actions, and our parishes, we offer His invitation to grace and eternal life, to all that was known and experienced by our Most Holy Mother, the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary.

On this blessed day we give thanks to God for her holy life and repose, for her faithful intercessions for mercy and protection, and for her witness of our Lord. As she inspires us in our journey of faith, may we also be witnesses of Him so that all will hear His voice!

With paternal love in Christ,

†**DEMETRIOS**, Archbishop of America



Susan Schneider August 19 at 5:58am

Alms is not only giving money out of your wallet. Alms is to accept a fellow human being to sit next to you, without alienating him/her with your thoughts.

Do you have a colleague who is going through a tragedy in his life? You should know how to comfort him, how to soothe his pain. For the poor you can do a short prayer: "Lord have mercy on so and so", if you cannot give them something, because you are on the bus and they on the street.

The true question is in what state is our heart regarding the pain that is all around us.

The largest sin that we will have to apologize during Judgement is this: " Why I did not give more attention to my fellow human beings? - Elder Arsenios Papacioc



A monk, the poor, you know... while he was pushing the door shut, the devil was also pushing it against... and the devil was stronger...

He said: "Lord Jesus, Lord Jesus!" But the devil was pushing it harder and prevailed...

As soon as he saw himself beaten, shouted: "Looooord Jesus!" and Jesus appeared.

The monk said, "Lord, I have called you..."

But Jesus said to him, "I came only when you called me for real..." - Fr. Arsenie Popacioc



Susan Schneider August 21 at 7:30am

About a year ago I was sitting in a Seattle coffee house, laptop open and working on correspondence. Two young college-age men were sitting at a table about two feet away. One of them made a rude remark that was obviously meant for my ear. He suggested to his friend that only a stupid old man would believe in God. I smiled at them and continued to work on my laptop.

Before leaving the café, I purchased two gift cards and asked the young woman to give it to the two young men sitting at the table next to mine, but only after I left.

About two weeks later, I again visited the same café. There they were, the two young men. They both came to my table asking if they could sit with me. I smiled broadly and said I would be delighted to have them join me. One of the young men then asked me why I'd purchased gift cards for them, when I'd obviously heard their slam against me.

I told them that God had told me to buy them the cards, and that the gifts were from God. One of the young men teared up and asked for my forgiveness. I told him I'd forgiven him the very moment he'd uttered those words because Christ loved them. How could I not love them, if God loved them? I asked.

God gives all of us chances to show his love for people. Sometimes the most unlovable are the very ones who need signs of love the most. - Abbot Tryphon



The Church gave us the living Bread, in place of the unleavened bread that Egypt had given. Mary gave us the refreshing Bread, in place of the fatiguing bread that Eve procured for us. *Saint Ephraim the Syrian*

Wisdom of the Fathers

The principle and source of the virtues is a good disposition of the will, that is to say, an aspiration for goodness and beauty. God is the source and ground of all supernal goodness. Thus the principle of goodness and beauty is faith or, rather, it is Christ, the rock of faith, who is principle and foundation of all virtues. On this rock we stand and on this foundation we build every good thing (cf. I Cor. 3:11). **St. Gregory of Sinai** *On Commandments and Doctrines no. 83, Philokalia Vol. 3 edited by Palmer, Sherrard and Ware; Faber and Faber pg. 228, 14th century*

The very fire which purifies gold, also consumes wood. Precious metals shine in it like the sun, rubbish burns with black smoke. All are in the same fire of Love. Some shine and others become black and dark. In the same furnace steel shines like the sun, whereas clay turns dark and is hardened like stone. God is a loving fire, and He is a loving fire for all: good and bad. There is, however, a great difference in the way people receive this loving fire of God. The difference is in man, not God. **Dr. Alexandre Kalomiros** *The River of Fire, pp. 17 & 19, 20th century*

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 14:22-34

The Lord Jesus Christ welcomes individuals coming to Him. Christ welcomes individuals of all backgrounds. He welcomes sinners desiring to change their lives for the better.

Christ welcomes individuals feeling their lives incomplete. Christ welcomes the depressed, the sick and suffering. He welcomes the stranger and the imprisoned. Christ listens to those on the battlefield and those that are lost.

God's Holy Church is ever-present for persons seeking mercy, truth and God's love. God's Holy Church is present for persons seeking healing of the soul and body.

The prayers of God's Holy Church offer nourishment for the heart, the mind and the soul. The teachings in God's Holy Church offer direction to the Kingdom of God and for use in daily life.

In the current Gospel, Jesus told Peter to come to Him. Peter started towards Jesus and then began to doubt. When doubt took hold, Peter began to sink. How many Christians begin to doubt and lose faith in Christ during the storms of life?

When storms arise in life, it is time to increase personal faith. When severe illnesses or tragedies occur, it is time to draw near to Christ. When difficulties arise in life, it is time to immerse oneself in Christ.

God's Holy Church offers the safe haven to sort through the difficulties of life. God's Holy Church provides the protective environment to seek personal peace and healing.

God's Holy Church offers the supportive collective love of Christians necessary during the toughest moments of life. God's Holy Church offers light for the future when darkness seems to be in our lives.

The Holy Apostle Peter was reassured of the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in the stormy times of life. The current Gospel is a lasting lesson teaching the value of firm faith.

Firm faith is developed by drawing near to Christ. Strong faith is nourished by attending the Divine services of the Church. Lasting faith occurs when life is Christ is primary in life.

Christ is valued in life when the mind thinks carefully about Christ. Christ is valued in life when Christ is studied honestly with an open heart and attentive mind. God's Holy Church is where Christ can be found easily and immediately.

The Holy Gospel offers Christ's known recorded words. The Holy Gospel provides known facts about Christ. The Holy Gospel is rich in nourishment for individuals seeking healthy hearts, minds and souls.

The current Gospel is proclaimed each year in the Holy Orthodox Church. This Gospel is proclaimed in Serbian Orthodox churches and monasteries throughout the world.

The current Gospel has immediate and lasting value. The Church in her wisdom desires believers to find newness in this Gospel message each time it is heard and proclaimed.

Christ is ever-new for the attentive. Christ is unchanging and beyond known time. Christ does not disappoint. Christ is always present for love, healing and learning.

Effort is necessary to draw closer to Christ. The mind must be utilized to draw closer to Christ. The heart and mind need to be open to welcoming Christ. Peter exercised his voice to cry out to Christ to save him.

Individuals need not languish in despair or depression. Persons need not remain in conditions of hopelessness. The Crucified and Risen Christ demonstrated once and for all there is always reason to hope.

The Crucified and Risen Christ proved once and for all that all barriers including death are not beyond the power changing ability of Christ. Today's Gospel lessons summons each person to strengthen personal faith in Christ.

Today's Gospel lesson reveals the amazing ability of Christ. Individuals limit their lives when they fail to commit fully to the life in Christ. Individuals deny themselves fullness of life when not loving and seeking Christ completely.

*St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania. August 8/21, 2016,
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost. St. Emilianus the Confessor. Venerable Zosim of
Tuman. Father Rodney Torbic*