



## Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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Very Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Pastor

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**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 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.

**In conjunction with Slickville's Centennial Celebration next year, the Centennial Committee is selling tear-off raffle tickets to help finance the celebration and fireworks. Bill Kuznik is the keeper of the tickets which cost \$2 and are sold every week. Please see Bill if you are interested or with any questions. We will have a list of winning numbers in the bulletin soon! 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, SEPTEMBER 11 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM  
12<sup>TH</sup> 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 6:14-30

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

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM  
13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY PROPHET ZACHARIAS AND RIGHTEOUS  
ELIZABETH-PARENTS OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST; MARTYRS THIPHAEL &  
SISTER THIVEA; VIRGIN-MARTYR RHIAS; MARTYRS URBAN, THEODORE,  
MEDIMNUS, & 77 COMPANIONS AT NICOMEDIA; MARTYR ABDAS; MARTYRDOM  
OF HOLY PASSION BEARER HLIB OF RUS-IN BAPTISM DAVID; MARTYRDOM OF  
SAINT ATHANASIUS-ABBOT OF BREST**

*Tone 4*

1 Corinthians 16:13-24; Hebrews 6:13-20

Matthew 21:33-42; Matthew 23:29-39

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 DEDICATION OF MIKE HOLUPKA PAVILION  
12:00 NOON**

**SLICKVILLE AMERICAN LEGION—ALL ARE WELCOME  
PLEASE BRING A COVERED DISH—LEGION SUPPLYING BURGERS, HOT DOGS,  
CORN**

**Please see Judy Previc with any questions...**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM**

**14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE MOST HOLY CROSS; APODOSIS OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS; HIEROMARTYR AUTONOMUS-BISHOP IN ITALY; HIROMARTYR THEODORE-ARCHBISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA; SAINT CORONATUS-BISHOP OF ICONIUM; MARTYR JULIAN OF GALATIA & 40 MARTYRS WITH HIM**

*Tone 5*

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4; Galatians 6:11-18

Matthew 22:1-14; John 3:13-17

## **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 11 SEPTEMBER 2016**

**12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; BEHEADING OF THE GLORIOUS PROPHET, FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST JOHN**

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

### **TROPARION—TONE 3**

Let the Heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm!  
He has trampled down death by death!  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
And has granted the world great mercy!

### **TROPARION OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST—TONE 2**

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise  
But the Lord's testimony is enough for thee, O Forerunner,  
For thou wast shown to be more wonderful than the Prophets  
Since thou wast granted to baptize in the running waters  
Him Whom thou didst proclaim.  
Then having endured great suffering for the Truth,  
Thou didst rejoice to bring, even to those in hell  
The good tidings that God Who had appeared in the flesh  
Takes away the sin of the world  
And grants us the great mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

### **KONTAKION OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST—TONE 5**

The beheading of the glorious Forerunner/ was a divine dispensation  
That the coming of the Savior might be preached to those in hell.  
Lament then, Herodias,  
That thou didst demand a murder  
Despising the law of God and eternal life.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **KONTAKION—TONE 3**

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One!  
Leading us from the gates of death.  
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;  
With the prophets and patriarchs  
They unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power!

### **PROKEIMENON—TONE 3**

**READER:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King,  
sing praises!

**PEOPLE: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our  
King, sing praises!**

**READER:** Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of  
joy!

**PEOPLE: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our  
King, sing praises!**

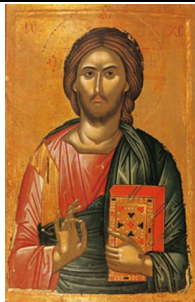
**READER:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises!

**PEOPLE: Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

### **ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 3**

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!

Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge, in order to save me!



*Christ Blessing (Theophanes)-J16*

**++Creative Hope—Thy Kingdom Come++**

Hope here on earth is usually tied to getting whatever we desire in this life, which is too often either passive or mere fancy. We hope that we get a better job, more things, a better relationship, or more personal success, recognition, and accomplishments. We can even spiritualize this and hope to go to Heaven or have a fuller life in God. Mostly it is always hope in this passive tense—not actively sought—just wished for or hoped for.

Creative Hope is different. It is alive. It brings the power and will of Heaven down to Earth, just as is said in the Lord's Prayer as we pray to seek and act in "Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors...." When we pray correctly, then we unite our small human will to Christ's great Heavenly Will, and moreover then ask, and hope, and wish, and choose to have our hopes and desires change and become blessed and holy, and creatively dependent on Him for all things. This hope then becomes truly creative, active, and living. It is the gate to a Heavenly life. O Lord, may we choose this Creative Hope, enter it, and live it each day. Amen.

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



### **Father Theophan Kenyon Mackey**

September 4 at 10:14pm

I had to tell someone about the blessings we experienced today. First we had a wonderful Divine Liturgy with some new people and some guests. Then our next door neighbor volunteered to look after the girls while Kristi and I went on a date. We had a great time and we ended up grocery shopping at the end. We picked out the regular stuff we needed, but also some treats and a new toaster. While in the store we met a Greek gentleman and his son who go to the Greek church in Santa Fe. He said he will visit our parish sometime and he was very nice. Then, while we were checking out, a man got in line behind us and introduced himself as a Roman catholic and asked if I was the orthodox priest. When I said I was, he asked if he could pay for our groceries. When I asked why, he said, because I had given my life to the church. My wife cried, I almost did.

I hope that you all had as good a Sunday as I did. And if not today, I pray that next week you will.

### **The Tale of the Three Trees**

An American Folktale as told to Nicholas Oldziewy by his mother [Vasiliki Oldziewy is editor of The Children's Magazine]

Long ago in the far away land of Palestine, three trees stood on a hillside overlooking a seaport town.

Each tree had great hopes and dreams of what it would be when fully grown. The first tree boasted that its lumber would be used to make a great and beautiful treasure chest. The chest would be decorated with bright golden hinges and polished to a fine and shiny finish. Inside it would hold great riches, jewels which were the colors of the rainbow and gold and silver coins.

The second tree claimed that it would be fashioned into a fine sailing ship. The ship would sail the high seas and travel to far and exotic places. The passengers would be kings and soldiers and statesmen who would marvel at the beauty of such a wonderful ship and the smooth and safe voyages it gave them.

The third tree declared that it would not be cut down and used by man for any of his needs. This tree would be left standing because of its beauty and strength. People would look at the reach of this tree's branches and would think of God and all His glory as they gazed upward to the sky.

Then one day three men with axes came to the hill where the trees stood tall and full. As each tree stood in anticipation of their fate, the first man approached the first tree. He examined it and decided it was a good tree for his uses and so he cut it down. The second man looked at the second tree and assessing its sturdiness and good quality proceeded to chop it down. The third man stood looking at the third tree who reached its branches ever upward, hoping he would leave the tree alone to live its days on that hill. However, the third man judged the tree to be perfect for his needs, and cut it down.

Now the first tree that had dreamed of being a beautiful treasure chest was instead made into a manger. It was sold to a farmer who used it in his cave where he kept and fed his animals. From this manger the animals of the farm ate the hay that lay in it. Until one night a young woman and her husband came to the cave looking for shelter for themselves and their newborn baby. In that manger, they laid their infant son. It was at that moment that the tree knew that it held the greatest treasure in the world, God's gift to mankind. And as the child lay sleeping in the manger, the angels sang and the stars shown brightly in the sky.

Sometime later, the second tree was made into a small fishing boat. Its dreams of becoming a great sailing ship were gone. Now it carried fishermen and the quantities of fish that they caught each day from a small sea. Suddenly a great storm arose and waves rocked the boat back and forth as it tried to steady itself to keep from being wrecked. The man who led the others had no fear. He admonished His friends for being frightened and having so little faith. Then He stood in the boat and raised his hand saying, "Peace." As suddenly as the storm had come up, it went away and all was calm around them. At that moment the second tree knew that it carried a man greater than any worldly king, soldier or statesman and that it sailed a greater adventure than it could ever have dreamed of.

The third tree spent many years in a lumber yard until one Friday morning it was yanked out of the pile of lumber it had lain in. It was made into a crucifix and put on the shoulders of a tired man who had been badly beaten. The man was forced to carry the crucifix to a mountain top and there it was planted into the ground. The man was then put upon the cross and his hands and feet were nailed to it. The tree shuddered with fear and sorrow as it felt the man's pain. The tree was filled with shame at what it had become a part of. Then as the man died upon the cross a great storm descended from heaven and the earth shook. At that moment the tree felt the power of God radiating through it.

Two days later, on Sunday morning the sun rose and joy and warmth filled the air as God's love changed all that had gone before.

God's love made the first tree beautiful.

It made the second tree strong.

And each time people looked upon the third tree they thought of God.



I WALK THE LINE





From Coffee with Sister Vassa (Saturday, September 3)

*"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you."* (Jn 14: 15-18)

I thought of this passage recently, not because I was reading the Gospel, but because I was listening to a song by Johnny Cash, "...because you're mine, I walk the line."

Is that strange, to be led to Scripture from a song by Johnny Cash? No, I don't think so. After all, if the High-Priest Caiaphas, an important voice of his time, was given to prophesy about our Lord's redemptive death (Jn 11: 49-52), then great artists of our time can give voice to vital truths about us; e.g., about the nature of human love and its consequences, like mindfulness and obedience: "*I keep a close watch on this heart of mine,*" says Johnny Cash, "*I keep my eyes wide open all the time...*"

It's my imperfect, human love that our Lord appeals to, when He says to me: "*If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*" And He says this to all of us, just before His arrest and trial, when most of us scattered and left Him desolate: "*I will not leave you desolate...*" Because His perfect, divine love is willing to make perfect my imperfect, human kind: "*I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor...*"

So let me embrace His love for me today, as He embraces mine, despite its imperfections. He sends me "another Counselor" despite my betrayals to "other" counselors, time and again. Today let me "*walk the line,*" His line, not because I have to, and not because I'm "worthy" to, but simply because He's mine, and I'm His. Glory be to Him.

In 1960 a Deacon went to a religious bookstore in order to buy a book. There he met Fr. Leonidas, who used to be the preacher of his church. Two minutes had not gone by when an old granny who was 75 years of age entered. She said good morning, took Fr. Leonidas' blessing and asked for a Holy Bible.

Fr. Leonidas: "My Dear do you know how to read?"

Granny: "Oh ... no!"

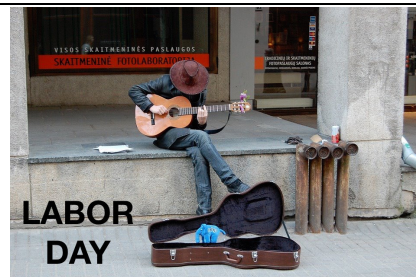
Fr. Leonidas: "Are you buying it as a gift for your children or for a grandchild of yours?"

Granny: "No! No!"

Fr. Leonidas (intensely): "Well then, what are you going to do with it? For you do not know how to read. Are you going to put on the iconstand?"

Granny: "You see, Father I will take it in the morning and at night, I will be standing before the icon of Christ with the vigil-lamp lit, I will open it from the beginning and tell Christ: "My Little Christ, I do not know how to read, however, whatever is written here on this page maybe on my mind (and she pointed to her head) and illuminate me so that I may say whatever you have written in here, first to my children and grandchildren and then to those who thirst for Your Word."

The Deacon and Father remained speechless for a while for they were astonished. Later, Fr. Leonidas blessed that holy person and offered her a big book of the New Testament. (from Experiences During the Divine Liturgy)



(Monday, September 5)

*"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Mt 4: 1-4)*

I don't know much about the history of "Labor Day," but I do know it's celebrated today in my home-country, the United States. It makes me think about my own daily "labor," or the work I do for my "daily bread." I need to do it, in order to "make a living," and to "provide" for myself and others. Today my Lord deepens my understanding of what it means to "make a living," reminding me that *"one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."* I do, in fact, need to see to my daily nourishment by His word, in order to "provide" for myself and, when need be, for others, as I manage the small business of my everyday life. I need the humbling, grace-filled encouragement of His gentle reminders, written down for me, and handed down to me, in the pages of Scripture, that I may shed His light on my activities and relationships, and whatever else is going on.

So, while He does give us *"the power to become children of God"* (Jn 1: 12), let me not abuse this power to make *"loaves of bread"* at all costs, just as the Son of God did not. Let me "labor" in, and be empowered by, His word, that it may provide for me and others "famished" in our wilderness.

### **REMINDERS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Next Sunday, September 18, the Slickville Presbyterian Church will have a picnic and fellowship at the Firemen's Park, beginning at 3 PM. All are welcome to join them for some end-of-summer fun.

Saturday, September 24, at noon the Slickville American Legion will dedicate their new pavilion in memory of Mike Holupka. Father Bob will bless the pavilion with a very brief prayer and a few words about Mike, then the Legion will have a picnic afterwards—they'll supply hamburgers, hot dogs, and corn, they ask that you bring a side dish. Judy Previc has a sign-up sheet downstairs and will answer any questions. We hope you can make it to honor our long-time parishioner.

