



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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NATIVITY FAST—SAINT PHILIP'S FAST—PILIPKIVA

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 George & Pani Lillian Hnatko, 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, Gary & 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, Gary Howell, Fran Fulton, Gina Catanese, Bill Vizza, Jamie Swarm, Kevin Allen (from Ancient Faith Radio), Kathy Flaherty, Michael Woloschak, Tori Reade-Henry's niece, Derick-Glen Burlack's neighbor, Michael, Nichole & Christopher, Sam Bonnell, Cheryl Pomeroy, Ben Douglas, 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 have a list of winning numbers in the bulletin insert! 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, DECEMBER 11 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYR STEPHEN THE NEW OF MOUNT
SAINT AUXENTIUS; MARTHYR HIRENARCHUS & 7 WOMEN-MARTYRS AT
SEBASTE; MARTYRS BASIL, STEPHEN, 2 GREGORIES, JOHN (NEAR
CONSTANTINOPLE), ANDREW, PETER, ANNA, & MANY OTHERS**

Tone 8

Ephesians 4:1-6

Luke 13:10-17

Litany in Blessed Memory of Thomas Bryan, John Hanczar, Edward & Helen Pytlak, Mary Blitzkan, Marjorie Yarmeak, Mary Sharon, Rose Pyrch, Frank Barankovich, Mary Krevanich, Katherine Holowaty, & Robert Vetosky—Fr. Bob

Parastas in Blessed Memory of Brenda Jamison, Helen & Edward Pytlak—Pytlak Family

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT SABBAS THE SANCTIFIED; MARTYR
ANASTASIAS, SAINT KARION, & HIS SON SAINT ZACHARIAH OF EGYPT**

Tone 1

Ephesians 5:9-19; Galatians 5:22-6:2
Luke 17:12-19; Matthew 11:27-30

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM
27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; THE SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS;
SAINT SPYRIDON THE WONDERWORKER OF TREMITHON; HIEROMARTYR
ALEXANDER-BISHOP OF JERUSALEM; MARTYR SYNESIUS OF ROME**

Tone 2

Colossians 3:4-11
Luke 14:16-24

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 11 DECEMBER 2016

**25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYR STEPHEN THE NEW OF
MOUNT SAINT AUXENTIUS; MARTHYR HIRENARCHUS & 7 WOMEN-
MARTYRS AT SEBASTE; MARTYRS BASIL, STEPHEN, 2 GREGORIES,
JOHN (NEAR CONSTANTINOPLE), ANDREW, PETER, ANNA, & MANY
OTHERS**

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.

Two nuns from a certain convent once came to visit Saint Seraphim. Suddenly a bear lumbered unexpectedly out of the woods and frightened the visitors with his appearance. "Misha," – said the saint, - "why do you frighten the poor orphans! Go back and bring us a treat, otherwise I have nothing to offer to my guests." Hearing these words, the bear went back into the woods, and two hours later he tumbled into the holy elder's cell and gave him something covered with leaves. It was a fresh honeycomb of purest honey. Father Seraphim took a piece of bread from his bag, gave it to the bear, pointed to the door – and the bear left immediately



"Be in the world like Lot was in Sodom and Gomorrah, where everyone was living in sin and instead of following their example, he lived a life pleasing to God. You do the same, do not imitate what the evil world does." - St. Tikhon of Zadonsk.



(Monday, December 5)

"Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, on account of the Son of man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets." (Lk 6: 22-23)

Can we relate to these verses today? Most of us do not endure major persecution "on account of the Son of man." But occasionally, I think, we must relate unpopular truths to, say, a rebellious teenage child, to an abusive spouse, to someone who works for us, or even to an ageing parent... And we may be "excluded and reviled," at least temporarily, for speaking the truth rather than people-pleasing in these cases.

So today let me speak the truth where I am called to do so, according to my responsibilities. Because my Lord is a Lord Who does not shy away from unpopular truths. Nor does He give me responsibilities or a "vocation" to be carried without His participation and without His reward, even when my responsibilities make me unpopular in the here and now. So let me ask for His guidance and wisdom today, that I not "overdo it" or slip into self-reliance, on the one hand, nor shy away from my responsibilities, on the other hand, as He calls me to do, in His grace.



(Sunday, November 20)

"Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for

those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.” (Gal 6: 13-16)

The Judaisers among the early Christians insisted on external adherence to this one detail of the Law, circumcision, in order to make their new faith more palatable to the Jews. At the same time, they “played down” the message of the Cross, thus circumventing persecution from those Jews who did not accept a crucified Messiah.

But St. Paul insists on “*boasting of the Cross*” alone. He will not water down the new, and the radical, in the New Way. And that way is of the Spirit of Christ, made accessible to us by His victorious journey through death; by His “*trampling death by death.*” Henceforth we do not “boast” of externals, however “Orthodox” they make us look. We rather embrace an entirely-new Way, walking through our trials and difficulties, as “new creation” in Him, instead of avoiding them or “appearing” to be above them. Let me embrace unity today, with the Body of Christ, and Him crucified, rather than just appearances. Glory be to Him.

+ + The Fullness of Time + +

How do we reckon time? Do we think to measure all things in relationship to a beginning? What is the polestar or focus of our mind and heart, and to the universe? We all in our own way answer these questions by the way we live each day and moment of our lives. We can answer with an impersonal idea of the beginning of the universe, or even ignore all time as quite meaningless. But we can also answer these questions with a living faith that recognizes that all time is made meaningful and blessed when God is born on Earth and changes and redeems all time. He blessed it when He entered it personally, sharing our human frailties. He redeemed it when He opened the door to our sanctification and Eternal life. St. Paul says, “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son...” (Gal. 4:4). Why is this so important? Because God is not distant but close: so close that we can see Him in our hearts, and know Him until we shine with the Light of Christ within. St. Paul also said so clearly, “Behold, now is the accepted time, behold, now is the day of salvation” (II Cor. 6:2). May we turn our faces toward that blessed cave where Christ

awaits us, to be part of the wise men and women of this new generation of faith. 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

UPDATE ON SLICKVILLE TICKET WINNERS:

We have now had several winners—you may be next!

Check your tickets and contact Bill Kuznik if you have a winning ticket!

Remember, the tickets are the main way to finance the fireworks display for the Slickville Centennial Celebration next August. Any left over money will be divided among the three churches and the volunteer fire department!

More details on the Centennial will be forthcoming—please check the Centennial website for more information: <http://slickville100.com>