



## Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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# CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

**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 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, 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, 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, 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 Zeliszczyk, 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, Tori Reade-Henry's niece, Derick-Glen Burlack's neighbor, Michael, Nichole & Christopher, Sam Bonnell, Cheryl Pomeroy, Ben Douglas, Dianne Donahue, 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, JANUARY 15 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM  
30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY; SAINT SYLVESTER-POPE OF ROME; HIEROMARTYR THEOGENES-BISHOP OF PARIUM ON THE HELLESPONT; SAINT SYLVESTER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

*Tone 5*

2 Timothy 4:5-8; Colossians 3:12-16; Galatians 5:22-6:2  
Mark 1:1-8; Luke 18:18-27; Luke 6:17-23

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 19 THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM  
31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY; MARTYR POLYEUCTUS; PROPHET SHEMAIAH; SAINT PETER-BISHOP OF SEBASTE IN ARMENIA; SAINT EUSTRATIUS THE WONDERWORKER OF TARSUS; VENERABLE JONAH OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

**\*\*\*\*\*BLESSING OF WATER AFTER SERVICES\*\*\*\*\***

*Tone 6*

Ephesians 4:7-13; Timothy 1:15-17; Galatians 5:22-6:2  
Matthew 4:12-17; Matthew 26:14-30; Matthew 11:27-30

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM  
32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS CHAINS OF THE APOSTLE PETER; MARTYRS SPEUSIPPUS, ELEUSIPPUS, & MELEUSIPPUS,**

**THEIR GRANDMOTHER LEONILLA, AND WITH THEM NEON, TURBO, & JOVILLA;  
MARTYR DANAX THE READER**

*Tone 7*

1 Timothy 4:9-15; Acts 12:1-11  
Luke 19:1-10; John 21:15-25

**BULLETIN INSERT FOR 15 JANUARY 2017  
30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY;  
SAINT SYLVESTER-POPE OF ROME; HIEROMARTYR THEOGENES-  
BISHOP OF PARIUM ON THE HELLESPONT; SAINT SYLVESTER OF  
PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

**TROPARION—TONE 5**

Let the faithful praise and worship the Word,  
Coeternal with the Father and the Spirit;  
Born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
For He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,  
To endure death,  
And to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever,  
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

**KONTAKION—TONE 5**

Thou didst descend into Hell, O my Savior,  
Shattering its gates as almighty;  
Resurrecting the dead as Creator,  
And destroying the sting of death.  
Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse,  
O Lover of Man,  
And we all cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

**PROKEIMENON—TONE 5**

**READER:** Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this  
generation forever.

**PEOPLE: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this  
generation forever.**

**READER:** Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

**PEOPLE: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this  
generation forever.**

**READER:** Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us...

**PEOPLE: From this generation forever.**

## **ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 5**

I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.

Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever, and my truth will be prepared in the heavens.

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### **Protocol No. 01/17**

***As the Father has sent me, so I send you. (John 20:21)***

**January 1/14, 2017--Feast of Saint Basil and New Year**

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,

As we welcome the new year on the Feast of Saint Basil, we are strengthened and inspired by the mighty acts of God in 2016. One of our tremendous blessings was the gathering in Nashville for the 43<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Clergy Laity Congress of our Holy Archdiocese. Our theme for the Congress was "You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World," and we continue our focus on this theme as we plan our ministry and service in the year to come.

The commemoration of Saint Basil the Great on this day provides us with an example of holiness, leadership, and service that embodies this theme. From his prayerful manner of life and his deep faith and spiritual insight, we see a man who knew Christ and lived in His presence. Through his sermons, theological treatises, and pastoral diakonia he was the voice of Christ. He lived during a time marked by theological controversies and transitions related to Christianity and the Church. Many people had significant physical and spiritual needs. In this very challenging and changing period, Saint Basil offered wisdom, comfort, and guidance by the grace of God.

In following the witness of Saint Basil and many other Fathers of the Church who have been the voice of Christ, we are sent by our Lord into the world and into this new year to share the Gospel of faith and love, to bring comfort and healing with God's grace, and to help others know Christ and His blessings of peace and life.

He sends us as His voice into a world that continues to change. At the beginning of each calendar year we are reminded of this rapid change as we survey the events of the last twelve months. We are called as Orthodox Christians to meet this change with grace and truth. We do this as we commit to the timeless mission of the people of God to live and proclaim the Gospel. We also do this as seen in the breadth and substance of our ministries and through expanding and adapting our work to meet contemporary needs. We are sent by Christ with a message of hope and life and with the wisdom to navigate a changing and challenging world while sharing His grace in effective ways.

On this Feast of Saint Basil we also share the voice of Christ through our support of our beloved Saint Basil Academy. For over seventy years this has been a place of peace, faith, and nurture for children and youth, offering them love and care in the name and presence of Christ. May we offer our prayers for the directors, benefactors, and residents of the Academy. As we participate in the cutting of the Vasilopeta in our communities, may we respond generously to the call of our Ladies Philoptochos Society to support this vital ministry.

May we also affirm our commitment to be the voice of Christ in all that we do. Certainly, we will be His voice through the witness of our worship; but let us also be His voice through the growth and quality of our ministry to families, children, youth, and senior adults. Let us be His voice through the quality of our educational work and resources. Let us be His voice in our outreach to the unchurched. Let us be His voice in our homes, schools, and workplaces. Let us be His voice in traditional, unique, and inspiring ways so that others will find life and peace in Him.

With paternal love in Christ,

†DEMETRIOS Archbishop of America

**The Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries**

**Five Resolutions You Can Keep**

The beginning of a new year is a time to start fresh. Yet many people do not stick to their [New Year's resolutions](#), and others don't even begin. We tend to shape these resolutions based on what we want to do in the coming year. Yet there's a more important question that should be on our minds and hearts: who do we want to be?

With that in mind, here are a five simple things that the Y2AM Team is resolving to accomplish this year. We hope you will join us!

### **Open Our Hearts to God's Presence**

Our relationship with God is central to our lives; and it takes work. Even though God is present in all places and filling all things, this may not be obvious to us, especially when times are tough. That's why Be the Bee is dedicated to helping us find God in everything, every day. As we make the most of the year ahead, we can develop the ability to see every person we meet as an icon of Christ, and every situation we encounter as being guided by God's loving Providence.

### **Focus on God's Love**

You may have heard people talk about the importance of "starting with why" to help stay focused on the purpose behind our actions. We can use a similar strategy in our spiritual lives. Taking a few moments every day (maybe even multiple times a day) to reflect on God's blessings can help us develop deeper gratitude and focus on the Lord's unwavering love for us. Staying mindful of God's love can keep us focused on Who He Is, and why we need to keep moving towards Him.

### **Share the Faith**

In a recent episode of Be the Bee, Steve and special guest Sister Vassa focused on the importance of spreading the Good News of Christ and His Gospel. While we don't need to be obnoxiously preachy, we also shouldn't be purposefully silent.

### **Walk With Others**

Our relationship with God exists in the wider community of the Church. And our walk to the Kingdom is not a solo effort, but something we can (and should) do with others. We can take time to pray and read Scripture with others, or share our spiritual goals with others. Having an accountability

partner is more than a good strategy: it's a way we, as Christians, can offer each other support and encouragement on our walk towards Christ.

### **Be Not Afraid**

Again and again, Christ reminds us to be brave and unafraid. This courageous attitude is especially helpful when it comes to making changes in our lives. Whether we're struggling with bad habits or to develop good habits, we can count on the steady love of the Lord and the support of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

The new year is a new chance for repentance, and a development of our true selves in Christ. So be encouraged, be of good cheer, and be not afraid. May God grant us peace, humility, patience, and strength in the year ahead.

Peace,

Steve—Director, Y2AM

### **The Sunday after the Nativity—Matthew 2:13-23**

*And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not. But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life. And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene. (KJV)*

**МИР БОЖИ ХРИСТОС СЕ РОДИ! DIVINE PEACE CHRIST IS BORN!**



Today is the second day of the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rejoicing continues over the birth of the Christ Child. The present Gospel directs attention to Herod's evil desire to destroy Him.

As the current celebration of Christ's birth occurs in the God's Holy Church, many children in today's world still suffer from evil. Christ offers direction and wisdom in addressing harm to today's children.

Christ provides hope for believers seeking a better world. Christ is the light to overcome darkness in today's world. Christ is the healer when hearts need joy and minds seek understanding.

Joseph, Mary and the newborn Christ Child escaped danger. The Lord Jesus Christ selected the time much later in earthly life when He would acquiesce to being harmed.

Jesus determined when He would voluntarily yield to ascend the Cross. Between His earthly birth and eventual death on the Cross, Jesus' earthly presence, teaching and miracle working changed the world forever.

Christ's earthly birth was a beginning never previously experienced. Christ offered and continues to offer newness in life. Christ is the inexhaustible source of newness in life.

Each Feast of the Nativity brings newness. Christ is the passage through dangers of all kinds. Christ is the door to eternal life. Christ is the answer to the most compelling questions.

Joseph heeded the messages of the Lord as guidance for safe travel. Serious and attentive believers seek and find wisdom and direction from Christ for life's daily journeys.

God's Holy Church is where to best find direction for life. God's Holy Church is where to learn to face the evil still existing in the world. God is the most secure foundation for combating earthly evil.

Believers are not immune to violence. Strength for combating earthly evil comes from being united to Christ and being prepared in Christ. Harm to innocents did not end at the time of Christ's earthly birth.

Christ is the lasting foundation for life. Christ is inexhaustible nourishment.. Living in Christ is the greatest experience. Being fully united with Christ makes joy and peace possible.

Prayer keeps the believer united with Christ. The Jesus Prayer particularly keeps the relationship with Christ strong. Holy Communion increases the unity with and joy in Christ.

Celebrating Christ's Nativity emphasizes the new life possible in Christ. The human mind is awakened to think about Christ humbling Himself and taking on human flesh.

Christ did not choose opulent circumstances for His earthly birth. Christ chose a humble location at a time when daily living was much simpler. Christ entered the world in earthly form at a time of His choosing.

Christ ascended at a time of His choosing. He will return when He is ready. Every person does well to think carefully about Christ. Every person is encouraged to participate in the joy present today.

Thank God for the Church celebrating Christ's birth. Thank God for the instructional and celebratory services of the Church. Thank God for Christ's followers through the centuries.

During the days of the Nativity, may Christ's joy radiate in our hearts, homes and daily lives. May our neighborhoods and communities benefit due to the Church's celebration of Christ's birth.

Christ's joy, love and peace are greatly needed in today's world. Christ is present today to fill open hearts, minds and souls. Let each of us open and keep open our hearts, minds and souls to Christ.

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania. December 26, 2016/January 8, 2017. Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos. Sunday after the Nativity.

Father Rodney Torbic





## PEACEFUL DEPARTURES

(Thursday, December 29)

*“Let us depart/go forth in peace!”* (Ἐν εἰρήνῃ προέλθωμεν. С миром изыдем.)” (Priest’s exclamation, end of Divine Liturgy)

Yesterday I reflected on accompanying all our “*entrances and exits*” with prayer. Today I’m thinking about our “*exits*” in particular, including the one to which the above-quoted exclamation refers, the one at the end of Divine Liturgy. I am called to exit (the church-building) “in peace.” And that means, “in peace” both with myself and the church-community with which I just had communion, and with the rest of my relations, relationships and responsibilities, to which I now “go forth.”

Today let be mindful of all my daily little “*exits*,” – like the moment I leave the house to go to work, or when I get up from the table after a meal, or when I leave the office to go home, or when I prepare for bed to leave this day. All these “*little*” exits can prepare me for the “*big*” one, my departure from this world, as I learn to accomplish them “in peace” with God, myself and others. And this means prayerful acceptance, forgiveness, and gratitude for people and things as they are. Let me embrace His “*peace from above*” today, also as I prepare to exit the Old Year and embrace the New one. *“Let us depart/go forth in peace!”*

Holy Ghost wall calendars for 2017 are available downstairs for your use—take one home and put it on the refrigerator or wall to keep track of daily bible readings and Feasts and Fasts of our church!

All Saints Camp "Calendars" are available from Pani Gina. Please see her downstairs after services or let Fr. Bob know you'd like one...they are \$25.

**UPDATE ON SLICKVILLE TICKET WINNERS:**

We have had several winners last year—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>