



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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APOSTLES' FAST—SAINTS PETER & PAUL 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 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 Smolynech, Father Bazyl Zawierucha, 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, 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, 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, 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, Tori Reade-Henry's niece, Derick-Glen Burlack's neighbor, Michael, Nichole & Christopher, Cheryl Pomeroy, Ben Douglas, Dianne Donahue, Zachary, Natasha, Noah Willard, Jodi Hanczar, Gregory Cervo, Lisa Bruce, Martha Nezolyk, Kathy Cvetkovich, Frances Gebet, Sheryl Smith Haraczy, Judy,

Will, Emma, Ginny, Ye-Jin, Maria, John & JoAnn, Jim & Kitty, and Ian Brick.
ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

"You do not have to be a saint to do good. We must do good to become a saint."

In conjunction with Slickville's Centennial Celebration in August, 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 have questions. We have had several winners!

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, JUNE 25 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SYNAXIS OF HALYCH SAINTS; SYNAXIS OF
ODESSA SAINTS; VENERABLE ONUPHRIUS THE GREAT; VENERABLE PETER OF
MOUNT ATHOS; VENERABLES JOHN, ANDREW, HERACLEMON, & THEOPHILUS-
HERMITS OF EGYPT**

Tone 2

Romans 5:1-10

Matthew 6:22-33

**SUNDAY, JULY 02 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY APOSTLE JUDE-BROTHER OF THE LORD;
MARTYR ZOSIMAS THE SOLDIER AT ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA; VENERABLE PAISIUS
THE GREAT OF EGYPT; VENERABLE JOHN THE SOLITARY OF JERUSALEM
*****BAPTISM OF VICTORIA ROSE CHICKA*****

Tone 3

Romans 6:18-23; Jude 1:1-10
Matthew 8:5-13; John 14:21-24

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Olga Stock, Anna Kitch, Sophie Carrera, Susan
Justina Sredich, Stella E. Cherepko, Joseph Paouncic, Igumen George [Owen],
& Claudia Horvath—Fr. Bob***

**SUNDAY, JULY 09 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT DAVID OF THESSALONICA; SAINT
JOHN-BISHOP OF THE GOTHES IN CRIMEA**

Tone 4

Romans 10:1-10
Matthew 8:28-9:1

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 25 JUNE 2017

**3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SYNAXIS OF HALYCH SAINTS;
SYNAXIS OF ODESSA SAINTS; VENERABLE ONUPHRIUS THE GREAT;
VENERABLE PETER OF MOUNT ATHOS; VENERABLES JOHN,
ANDREW, HERACLEMON, & THEOPHILUS-HERMITS OF EGYPT**

TROPARION—TONE 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
All the powers of heaven cried out:
O Giver of Life! Christ our God! 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 2

Hell became afraid, O Almighty Savior,
Seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam,

Beheld this and rejoiced with Thee!
And the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 2

READER: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.

PEOPLE: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.

READER: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but he has not given me over to death.

PEOPLE: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.

READER: The Lord is my strength and my song.

PEOPLE: He has become my salvation.

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 2

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you!

Save the king, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!

Synaxis of the Saints of North America



Commemorated on June 18, 2017

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of

North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ.

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant Gregory I. Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America.

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. Saint Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, Saint Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were Saint Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and Saint Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive Saint Alexis Toth

(May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

Saint Tikhon (Belavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent, Saint Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

Saint Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. Saint Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at Saint Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, Saint Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to Saint Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. Saint Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915. The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was "How to expand the mission." Guidelines and directions for missionary activity, and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In the twentieth century, in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, countless men, women, and children received the crown of martyrdom rather than renounce Christ. Saints John Kochurov (October 31) and Alexander Hotovitzky (December 4 and August 7) both served the Church in North America before going back to Russia. Saint John became the first clergyman to be martyred in Russia on October 31, 1917 in Saint Petersburg. Saint Alexander Hotovitzky, who served in America until 1914, was killed in 1937.

In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.

In Christ Service,

Fr. George Livanos

One Athos monk received a message from Russia that his friend had died. He took the prosphora, went into the altar and gave to the Hieromonk who was serving: "Father, remember the reposed" and named the name. Only he took the prosphora in his left hand, and in his right hand the spear, the monk to the right of the altar saw the deceased. She had such a desire to see the sacrifice of herself! As soon as the particle was taken out, a happy smile appeared on the face of the deceased, and she was gone. The Hieromonk gives the monk the prosphora, however he was not able to take it in his hands. He is asked: "What's the matter with you?" He, barely gathering strength, told what he had seen. You understand what a great strength the proskomedia has, how important it is for those who have moved into that world! They can not pray for themselves, they wait for the prayers of relatives and friends.

The Second Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 4:18-23

And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. (KJV)

No greater joy exists than to following the Lord Jesus Christ. This joy is found in the experience with Christ. The proof is in the experience. Christ leads the way for those willing to follow.

The Gospel describes Peter, Andrew, James and John immediately leaving their way of life to follow Christ. Peter, Andrew, James and John quickly concluded Jesus was worth following.

The Gospel states Christ preached the gospel of the kingdom. Christ healed sickness and diseases. Peter, Andrew, James and John would be blessed to witness the healings. They would hear Christ preaching.

Being present with Christ changed the Apostles' lives. Listening to Christ and seeing the miracles performed made them first-hand witnesses. The Apostles were strengthened from their experiences with Christ.

Individuals seeking a better way of life will find betterment in following Christ. The proof is in the experience. Seriously reading, listening to and living by the Holy Gospel makes a decided difference.

Living by the Gospel changes personal life. The Church proclaims Christ's teachings. The Church proclaiming the Gospel teaches attentive listeners Christ's standards, goals and practices for daily life.

The Gospel proclaims the accounts of Christ's miracles.. Individuals immersed in God's Holy Church learn of authentic miracles. The Gospel is the richest treasury to explore and experience.

Casual Christians fail to experience the fullness of the life in Christ. Too often unhealthy daily choices are made. Too often individuals depart from the way of Christ.

Peter, Andrew, James and John followed Christ straight away. They did not hesitate to follow Christ. Attentive ears and open hearts willingly and joyfully receive Christ's message.

The Church wants believers of each generation to know of the calling of the Holy Apostles. The Church wants believers to know the immediacy with which Peter, Andrew, James and John followed Christ.

Each moment is a calling from Christ to forsake ways that hinder care of the soul. Each moment is a calling from Christ to seek nourishment for the soul and peace for the heart.

The Holy Gospel is widely available in today's world. Individuals are free to examine the Gospel with great care and attention. The challenge for each person is to take the Gospel seriously.

Contemporary society offers many paths to take in daily life. Following Christ in God's Holy Church is the supreme choice with a proven record through the centuries.

The merits of following Christ have withstood challenges and attacks. Persecutions through the centuries have not diminished the value of following Christ. Christ's kingdom and His miracles prevail.

Individuals are barraged with advertising to engage in activities and ways contrary to the life in Christ. Following the path of Christ requires discernment.

All that is not of Christ needs to be cast away and excluded from daily living.

Each decision needs to be measured against the teachings of Christ. Each thought and contemplated effort require being weighed with great care. Peril to the soul can come quickly.

Too many lives are being lost. Too many injuries are occurring because of poor decision making. Too many souls are in peril because erroneous choices are made. Care for the soul must always be the priority.

Peter, Andrew, James and John were attentive when Christ spoke. Every person hearing the Gospel decides if he or she is will conclusively follow Christ.

Every decision brings a person either closer to Christ or further from Christ.

In the Divine services, listeners decide whether to heed the call to: "Let us attend." Believers decide if they will "in the fear of God and in faith draw near." Peter, Andrew, James and John did not hesitate to be attentive to Christ.

Too often believers do not follow Christ with fullness of conviction. Too often believers are lukewarm in faith. Peter, Andrew, James and John are examples for contemporary Christians to seriously consider.

The Gospel strengthens believers for daily life. The Holy Gospel is nourishing. Let us learn from the Holy Apostles' immediate conviction and fully follow Christ with certainty.

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, Carmichaels, Pennsylvania. June 518, 2017. The Second Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Hieromartyr Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre. Venerable Peter of Korish. Father Rodney Torbic

Miracle of St.Nicholas "The Footstool"

When my spiritual daughter Lidia Karaseva was still a youngster, one winter she went sledding with her younger brother and some other children..At the bottom of a hill, in a valley, there was an old well which was covered with snow. Lidia's brother slid down the hill and tumbled into the well.When the adults arrived on the scene to help and pulled the child out, they were amazed to see that the boy had not drowned: the well was very deep. They brought the child home, warmed him by the fire and rubbed him down with alcohol. The boy fell asleep. When he awoke, the adults demanded to know what happened. He said that inside the well there was old man who put a footstool under him, and there he stood until his rescue. He said that the old grandpa was the one whose is depicted on the icon in

the corner. The child was three years old at the time.
(Hieromonk Anastasius, Orthodox Life)

Susan Schneider posted in Ask About The Orthodox Faith:

June 19 at 11:04am

On Mondays we commemorate the Bodiless Powers—(Troparion, Tone 4)
Supreme Leaders of the Heavenly Hosts,
we implore you that by your prayers you will encircle us,
unworthy as we are,
with the protection of the wings of your immaterial glory
and guard us who fall down before you and fervently cry:
deliver us from dangers,
for you are the commanders of the powers above.

Fasting is an amazing time when we need to learn again and again simple and almost childish questions, which we sometimes forget:

Heavenly Father, tell me, do I spend my life in vain? And if so, then let it stop.

Heavenly Father, tell me, do I correctly behave towards the world you gave me? To the people with whom you put me in contact with?

Heavenly Father, tell me, what do I lack to be closer to You?

With such questions the fast begins..

While people all over the world are in awe of the construction of Russian northern churches, Clement Smith believes that the main secret to their long-lasting success is quite simple: in contrast to British architecture Russian churches are built with boards that lie horizontally, not vertically!

Once I was on a train, and one person, learning that I was a priest, began to cry and asked me to take confession from him. I confessed him, and then just laid my hands on his head, prayed and crossed his head with a cross sign.

This is a perfectly correct form of confession. Covering the head with epitachelion began in recent centuries. Prior to this, the confessors simply laid their hands on the repentant's head and asked God to forgive him for his sins.

UPDATE ON SLICKVILLE TICKET WINNERS:

We have had several winners this year—you may be next! Our latest winners are Bob Pytlak and Harry Batch! Congratulations to both of them!

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>

Slickville Centennial hats and clothing are now available—see Bill for order forms for hats, t-shirts, polo shirts, and sweatshirts!!! Show your Slickville pride to everyone!