



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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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 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 Smoly nec, 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 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], 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, 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, Bill Baronie, and Ian Brick. ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

As Einstein...by all accounts a bright guy...put it, **"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted."** Shamelessly stolen from "KJR 7/10/2017: Business loopiness" by Bob Lewis

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, JULY 23 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY 45 MARTYRS AT NICOPOLIS IN
ARMENIA-INCLUDING LEONTIUS, MAURICE, DANIEL, ANTHONY, ALEXANDER,
ANICETUS, SISINIUS, MENEUS, & BELERAD; MARTYR APOLLONIUS OF SARDIS;
MARTYRS BIANOR & SILVANUS OF PISIDIA; VENERABLE ANTHONY OF
PERCHEVSKY LAVRA; VENERABLE SILOUAN OF THE FAR CAVES IN PERCHEVSKY
LAVRA**

Tone 6

Romans 15:1-7; Galatians 5:22-6:2
Matthew 9:27-35; Matthew 4:25-5:12

**SUNDAY, JULY 30 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST 6 ECUMENICAL
COUNCILS; GREAT-MARTYR MARINA OF ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA**

Tone 7

1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Hebrews 13:7-16
Matthew 14:14-22; John 17:1-13

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYR CHRISTINA OF TYRE; HOLY MARTYRS
AND PASSION-BEARERS BORYS & HLIB OF RUS-IN HOLY BAPTISM ROMANUS &
DAVID; VENERABLE POLYCARP-ARCHIMANDRITE OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

Tone 8

1 Corinthians 3:9-17; Romans 8:29-39

Matthew 14:22-34; John 15:17:16:2

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Father Peter Natishan; Samuel Mrvos; David Yenni;
M. Denise Lawrence; Rudy Obradovich; Mike Horvath; Anna Harte; Millie Kitch;
Agnes Rossi; Mary Milanovich; Michael Cherepko; & Mary Vigani—Fr. Bob***

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 23 JULY 2017

**7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY 45 MARTYRS AT NICOPOLIS
IN ARMENIA-INCLUDING LEONTIUS, MAURICE, DANIEL, ANTHONY,
ALEXANDER, ANICETUS, SISINIUS, MENEUS, & GELERAD; MARTYR
APOLLONIUS OF SARDIS; MARTYRS BIANOR & SILVANUS OF
PISIDIA; VENERABLE ANTHONY OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA;
VENERABLE SILOAN OF THE FAR CAVES IN PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

TROPARION—TONE 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body.
Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it.
Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life.
O Lord who didst rise from the dead: 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 6

When Christ God, the Giver of Life,
Raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.
He is the Savior of all,
The Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 6

READER: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

PEOPLE: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

READER: To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me.

PEOPLE: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

READER: O Lord, save Thy people.

PEOPLE: And bless Thine inheritance.

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 6

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

He will say to the Lord: My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in whom I trust.

America Ablaze: The Holy Fire & The Future of Orthodoxy in America

July 5, 2017 · Elissa Bjeletich



The most beautiful thing happened in America this year.

As it does every year, on Pascha the Holy Fire burst out of Christ's Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, to the jubilant cheers of thousands of pilgrims. The Holy Fire spread through the crowd and was carried home — down the street, across town, over borders... as far as Greece and Russia, and this year, as far as New York. With the support of the Russian St. Andrew First-Called Foundation, The Holy Fire arrived at JFK airport at 12:05pm on Pascha Sunday. There's a great YouTube video showing the fire in Jerusalem, Russia and New York. The video ends with a promise: *the Holy Fire is spreading across America.*

Fr. Patrick O'Rourke, a young Greek Orthodox priest in New York state, had an idea: *what if we really spread the Holy Fire across America? What if we could pass the flame across our nation, across our continent?*

Fr. Patrick went to work—he signed into Facebook, and asked the internet: *would you help spread the Holy Fire across America?* Several people liked the idea and offered to help, so they began by creating a Facebook group called "Come Receive the Holy Fire!" Interested parties could identify themselves and mark their location on a huge Google Map—black for those hoping to receive the fire, orange those who have successfully received the fire, green for those with a plan in place to receive the fire. Users could find a location near them, and hatch a plan to receive the fire.

The group quickly exploded with conversation—how would you carry the fire? Is it legal to drive on an interstate with an open flame? What type of candle, lamp or lantern would best transport the flame? People offered to drive RVs across the nation, delivering the Holy Fire to interested parishes along the road. Stories began to appear—victorious narratives of long trips taken, as well as sad stories of those who drove for hours only to see their flame extinguished when they opened their car doors at home. People shared experiences and offered solutions. Soon, the group was a community.

What's more, the group got to work. The Google Map began to light up orange across the Northeast, into the Midwest. The flame travelled South and continued West. A couple reported that they drove down to Montana and carried the flame North to Canada—they confirmed that it's legal to carry a flame over the border, and that the agents they met were delighted and amazed to hear why they had an open flame in the car. Highway Patrol officers and border agents alike learned about the Holy Fire and about Orthodoxy, and the flame continued to spread across the nation.

From one little light in New York, the Holy Fire spread from sea to shining sea, and continues even now to fill in the empty spaces, still working its way through the Southwest. God willing, those hoping for the flame in Alaska and Cuba will find a way to receive it too.



Watching the flame move swiftly across the nation, I was struck by the state of Orthodoxy in America. As each person set up his little marker on the map, as people hopped into RVs and set off across the country, no one asked what their jurisdiction was. Lay ROCOR drivers handed the flame to priests at Antiochian churches and to lay people at Greek churches. We didn't even *notice* jurisdiction or title; we were all just watching the flame.

It was exactly like the midnight service at Pascha. You stand in the dark with your candle, expectantly watching. The flame comes out from the altar, and slowly it is passed around by all of the expectant, joyful people who surround you. When someone offers the flame, you take it—you don't ask for credentials or wonder if it would be nicer to receive the flame from a Russian or a Serb! You don't ask if the person is a catechumen or native Orthodox. You light your candle. *We simply pass the flame.*

Here in America, there are many of us who wonder whether we'll ever see a united American Orthodoxy. We are split among various patriarchs around the world—in Constantinople, in Moscow, in Damascus, and in Belgrade. Our parishes may sit just a few blocks from each other, but we speak different languages and answer to different bishops. Orthodoxy is united in theology, but will we ever be united in America?

When a person becomes interested in Orthodoxy in America and goes online to learn more, they're greeted with several canonical jurisdictions as well as several others that simply aren't really Orthodox (though they look Orthodox and claim to be Orthodox). Who's to say which is right? We on the inside, we already-Orthodox, mostly know who is canonical and who is not, that it's ok to commune in an Antiochian or Serbian Church, but that you should steer clear of that self-proclaimed bishop who has only one parish under him and seems to use the words *true* and *right* too often. The difference in their websites is subtle, and you have to be in the club to know who is in the club. Those who wish to convert look at this array of ethnic jurisdictions and say, well that one is for Russians and this one is for Greeks, so I guess there isn't a jurisdiction for me (unless they happen upon an OCA church, in which case we hope they'll say—hey, I'm American and I'm invited!) We explain to them that we're all in communion, all professing the same Creed and believing the same doctrine, but we must admit that it's a little fishy that we divide ourselves so much.

After the Great Council last summer, world Orthodoxy seems like it may be less united than it was before the Council (or perhaps, those divisions that pre-existed the Council are just clearer now). Many Americans who dreamt of a single jurisdiction over this nation had their hopes dashed—or at least delayed—when the Council left us not closer, but somehow even farther away from that goal.

For those among us who were pained to see hope for *administrative unity* fall apart, take heart: there is a grassroots unity, a true brotherhood, at work among the Orthodox in America, and ultimately, this will pave the way for one jurisdiction. In the end, we'll be glad that rather than receive change from the top down, with a bureaucratic restructuring of bishops first, we experienced the changes organically, becoming truly connected and united at the grassroots level, with administrative unity following naturally and appropriately.

When you love the people in the other Orthodox parishes around town, you'll be glad to be joined to them under a single bishop. We can't do much

about the pacing of administrative unity in America, but we can get to know each other and create a grassroots unity today. May we follow the example of those who spread the Holy Fire, with their eyes on Christ and their hearts wide open, their excitement and love driving them across the miles to connect with one another, spreading the Light of Christ as they go.



About Elissa Bjeletich

Elissa Bjeletich is a mother and Sunday school director in Austin, Texas. She's also author of the Raising Saints podcast. Blueprints for the Little Church: Creating an Orthodox Home, co-authored with Caleb Shoemaker, is available at the Ancient Faith Store, as is her first book, In God's Hands. You'll find her latest book, Welcoming the Christ Child at the Sebastian Press bookstore.

How detailed is God is? Interesting facts...

via Cindy Horstmann

When GOD solves our problems, we have faith in HIS abilities.

When GOD doesn't solve our problems, HE has faith in our abilities.

One may observe God's accuracy in the hatching of eggs...

those of the canary in 14 days;

those of the barnyard hen in 21 days;

eggs of ducks and geese in 28 days;

those of the mallard in 35 days;

the eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in 42 days.

(NOTICE, THEY ARE ALL DIVISIBLE BY SEVEN,
THE NUMBER OF DAYS IN A WEEK!)

See God's wisdom in the making of an ELEPHANT...

The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction. No other quadruped is so made.

God planned that this animal would have a huge body - too large to live on two legs.

For this reason:

He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily.
The HORSE rises from the ground on its two front legs first.
A COW rises from the ground with its two hind legs first.

HOW WISE THE LORD IS IN ALL HIS WORKS OF CREATION!

Each Watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind.

Each Orange has an even number of segments

Each Ear Of Corn has an even number of rows.

Each Stalk Of Wheat has an even number of grains.

Every Bunch Of Bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number. AMAZING!

THERE'S MORE...

The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather.

All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks.

God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day.

Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture, and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed.

The lives of each of us may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if we will only entrust Him with our lives. If we try to regulate our own lives, we will have only mess and failure.

Only God, who made our brains and hearts, can successfully guide them to a profitable end.

Of all people, the atheist is the most misfortunate person...because he has been deprived of the only good thing upon the earth: faith—the one true guide toward the truth and happiness.

The atheist is a most misfortunate person because he is deprived of hope: the essential staff needed to journey through life's lengthy path.

The atheist is a most misfortunate person because he is deprived of human love, which caresses the aching heart.

The atheist is a most misfortunate person because he has been deprived of the divine beauty of the Creator's image, which the Divine Artist has etched within man and which faith unveils.

The eye of the atheist sees in creation nothing other than the operation of natural processes. The brilliance and magnificent beauty of the Divine Creator's image remain hidden and undetectable to him. As he glances aimlessly at creation, nowhere does he discover the beauty of God's wisdom, nowhere does he see God's omnipotence, nowhere does he observe God's goodness and providence, nowhere does he discern the Creator's righteousness and love for creation. His mind is neither capable of ascending higher than the visible world nor reaching beyond the boundaries of physical matter.

His heart remains anesthetized and indifferent before God's ever-present divine wisdom and power.

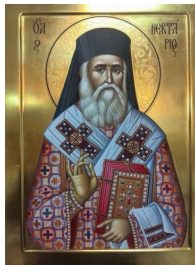
Within it, not even the slightest desire to worship the Lord exists. His lips remain closed, his mouth silent, and his tongue frozen. His soul voices no hymn, doxology, or praise as an expression of gratefulness to God.

The peace of the soul and the serenity of the heart have been removed by disbelief; instead, mourning has inundated the depth of his being. The delight, which the faithful person experiences from executing God's divine commandments, and the great pleasure that he enjoys from an ethical way of life are unknown feelings for the atheist.

The elation which faith bestows to the believer has never been felt by the atheist's heart.

The assurance that arises from faith in God's providence, which relieves man from the anxiety of life's worries, is a power unknown to him.

St. Nektarios of Pentapolis—via *Patty Martinovich*



A story—Susan Schneider--July 13 at 5:00pm

A hermit prayed with much power and perseverance, wanting to meet God. After a great deal of trouble he managed to establish a meeting with Him.

Tomorrow, up the mountain! An angel told him.

The next day, the hermit rose up early in the morning and looked at the mountain. It was totally clear without cloud. So happily he started with fear to the top of the mountain.

At one point, as he walked along the path, he met a man who had fallen into the bush and asked for his help.

"I'm sorry, but I'm in a hurry because I have a meeting with God" said the hermit answered and continued his journey.

A little higher up he met a woman crying beside her sick son. Help me please!

I'm sorry, but I do not have time, for God is waiting for me at the top of the mountain.

And he started to go faster for not to delay. But where the path had become steeper, he saw an exhausted old man who, stretching out his hand, said, I can not go any further. Therefore, please go and fill my bucket with water from the spring below.

Have patience, man. I have a meeting with God and I do not want to be late.

When, finally, the hermit had reached the top of the mountain, at the door of the hut where he had to meet God, he found a paper hanging which read: Forgive me for not being here, but I went to help those you did not help on your way to Me.

"He who is able to suffer wrong with joy, though having means at hand to rebuff it, has consciously received from God the consolation of his faith." - St. Isaac the Syrian

BASKET RAFFLE REMINDER! Pani Gina is putting together several baskets to be raffled off at the Slickville Centennial next month. If you are interested in donating some items—or even an entire basket—please touch base with her to be sure we are not duplicating our efforts. With only about a dozen parishioners, we must work together and effectively! Thank you all for your support and

cooperation in keeping our parish a shining star in Slickville for over 90 years!
God Bless you all!

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!