

Holy Ghost Orthodox Church 714 Westmoreland Avenue PO Box 3 Slickville, PA 15684-0003

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Very Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Pastor 23 Station Street Carnegie, PA 15106-3014 [412] 279-5640 home [412] 956-6626 cell

ON THE MEND: Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Metropolitan Antony, Metropolitan Yurij, Anastasia [Metropolitan Yurij's mom], Metropolitan Theodosius [OCA], Archbishop Jovan, Bishop Robert, Father George & Pani Lillian Hnatko, Father Jakiw Norton, 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 & Pani Mary Anne 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, Father Lawrence & Matushka Sophia Daniels, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Joshua Agosto and his family, Eva Malesnick, Stella Peanoske, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, Virginia Bryan, Joseph Sliwinsky, Gary & Linda Mechtly, 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, 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, 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 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], 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, Jennifer, Jerry Quinn, Cher Mount, Frank & Janet Horrell, Jim Wandling, Gail, Sirena Sharp, Ron Paulovich, Sandi Anderson, Lina, 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 Pyrch, 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, Kristy, Elaine Ellenberger, Brandon, Anna Tranchine, Demetra, Blase Urban, Catherine Hogel & children, Jennifer & Dylan, Ron Schwartz, Lydia Wilson, Flora Tomlin, 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, 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, Ben Douglas, Dianne Donahue, Zachary, Natasha, Noah Willard, Jodi Hanczar, Gregory Cervo, Lisa Bruce, Martha Nezolyk, Kathy Cvetkovich, Judy, Will, Emma, Ginny, Ye-Jin, Maria, John & JoAnn, Jim & Kitty, Phil Bouse, Ralph & Beverly Stoker, Noah Willard, Nikola, Natalie, Nikola, & Nevenka Jovonovich, Julia Collier, Amy Kemerer, Thomas Smith, Tracy Slaugenhaupt, Louis & Teresa Bercelli, Tom Nolan, Silvia Martin, Sarah Dorning, Evelyn Burlack, Dena & George, Georgia, Lawanda [Evelyn's niece], Maureen Sams, John Kendall, Judi Danser, Darcy, Denis Strittmatter, Nancy, Ian Brick, Cecilia Barnhart, Logan Magorien, Pam

Grant, and Susan Pulcini—Father Ted Pulcini's mom. ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

Intending to offer up your prayer to God, cast aside all earthly thoughts and cares. Do not engage in the thoughts which come to you at that time, however important or brilliant or necessary they might seem. Render to God the things that are God's and you will have time to render what is necessary for temporal life in its own time. St. Ignatius Brianchaninov

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 <u>ALWAYS</u> <u>FREE!</u>

<u>Communion Fasting:</u> 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, OCTOBER 14 OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH 10:30 AM 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; POKROVA—PROTECTION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY; APOSTLE ANANIAS OF THE 70; SAINT ROMANUS THE MELODIST OF CONSTANTINOPLE; MARTYR DOMINUS OF THESSALONICA; MARTYR MICHAEL-ABBOT IN ARMENIA & 36 FATHERS WITH HIM

Tone 3

Galatians 1:11-19; Hebrews 9:1-7 Luke 6:31-36; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Litany in Blessed Memory of Helen & Ed Pytlak—Pytlak & Behun Families
Parastas in Blessed Memory of George Luciow—Sonia Luciow

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH 10:30 AM 21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; FATHERS OF THE 7TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL; VENERABLE PELAGIA THE PENITENT OF THE MOUNT OF OLIVES; VIRGIN-MARTYR PELAGIA OF ANTIOCH; VENERABLE THIAS OF EGYPT

Tone 4

Galatians 2:16-20; Hebrews 13:7-16 Luke 7:11-16; John 17:1-13

Litany in Blessed Memory of Father John Harvey—40 days—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28 OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH 10:30 AM 22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; VENERABLE EUTHYMIUS THE NEW OF THESSALONICA-MONK OF MOUNT ATHOS; MARTYR LUCIAN-PRESBYTER OF GREATER ANTIOCH; MARTYRS SARBELUS & BEBAI OF EDESSA; SAINT SABINUS-BISHOP OF CATANIA; HIEROMARTYR LUCIAN-PRESBYTER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

Tone 5
Galatians 6:11-18
Luke 8:5-15

Litany in Blessed Memory of Stancy Popichak & Father Dragan Filipovic-40 days—Fr. Bob

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 14 OCTOBER 2018

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; POKROVA—PROTECTION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY; APOSTLE ANANIAS OF THE 70; SAINT ROMANUS THE MELODIST OF CONSTANTINOPLE; MARTYR DOMINUS OF THESSALONICA; MARTYR MICHAEL-ABBOT IN ARMENIA & 36 FATHERS WITH HIM

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—TONE 4

Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy Illumined by your coming, O Mother of God. Beholding your pure image, we fervently cry to you: "Encompass us beneath the precious veil of your protection; deliver us from every form of evil by entreating Christ, Your Son and our God that He may save our souls."

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

KONTAKION—TONE 3

Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church And with choirs of saints she invisibly prays to God for us. Angels and bishops worship, Apostles and prophets rejoice together, Since for our sake she prays to the pre-eternal God.

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!

"Anyone who let's himself be distracted from the work I plan for him is not fit for the Kingdom of God."

Have you ever spoke to people that say that they want to be used by God, but never are? Maybe we have our own agenda, we make our plans and never consider if it's God will for us. We don't have time, we're too busy, or if everything is going well why do we need God at all. If we are really serious about being used by God, then He must become first in our lives. "Lord what do I need to let go of? What keeps me from you?" Maybe you refuse to let go of your past, whether it's guilt or resentment or grief. If we are stuck in the past, we cannot get on with the present. Our past is past. Its over! We need to let it go, so that God can heal us from the inside out. Someone once told me, "Son if the devil can't make you bad, he'll make you busy. He'll get you so busy that you won't have time for the most important thing, time with God alone. We need to simplify our lives and eliminate distractions so God can use us for His Glory. Remember the sick and those who continue to suffer.

Have a peaceful and undistracted day! Lazarus—Samantha Lopez's husband

A confession of faith based upon the symbol of faith.

By St. Theophan the recluse (This should be a text in any catechesis course —via e-mail from Father George Livanos)

We must believe all that God, in His good pleasure, has revealed to us, without adding or removing anything, just as it is preserved in Holy Orthodoxy.

Specifically: God is one in substance, but in three distinct persons. The Father, through the Son, made the world and provides for it. He created man in His image to live in paradise. By the disobedience of the first-created man we lost paradise, and it became impossible for us to be saved. The Son of God took pity on us, undertook the work of redemption and restitution, came to earth, assumed flesh, suffered, died on the cross, rose from the dead, ascended to Heaven, and sat as God-man at the right hand of the Father, Who thus showed that He accepts the sacrifice of the Son and the power of His mediation for the salvation of the faithful.

The Son Himself sent the Holy Spirit who proceeds from the Father, and the Holy Spirit came down to the apostles, filling them with divine wisdom and power. Then they, full of the Holy Spirit, The Christian faith and established the church from all the faithful and with Christ being the head. The same apostles, according to the commandment of God,

performed the Divine Mysteries, which provide Divine Grace to the faithful, and left the bishops and priests as their successors in the apostolic work and as caretakers of the heavenly, spiritual treasures that the Holy Spirit entrusted to the church.

Through the special grace of ordination, the successors of the apostles continued the work of salvation throughout the centuries, and so this work continues uninterrupted till our days. The faithful, who receive divine grace through the divine mysteries, are saved in the bosom of the church, not alone, but are all joined together in the true, living faith, and under the guidance of the shepherds.

The salvation of each soul is worked out mystically, and every believer anticipates another life full of light, for the sake of which he endures voluntary and involuntary deprivations. He also believes that those who have fallen asleep do not cease to be in the body of the church, but they communicate with us, not visibly, of course but invisibly.

You must believe in all of this wholeheartedly. We confess that they by studying the creed often. These are the truth of our faith and it cannot be otherwise.

"Preaching another Christ," An Orthodox view of evangelization" from a letter by St. Theophan the recluse, Page 32–33

The Church Calendar—The Church Calendar and our spiritual maturation One of the most spiritually profitable discoveries for me, personally, was when I started, as a new Orthodox Christian, the observance of the liturgical calendar. Each day of the year I was carried along with the cycle of commemorations that brought to life various events in the life of Christ. The calendar provided me with daily scripture readings that quenched my thirst. The historical memory of the Church...

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Like a flower, a parish comes to be what it is through many stages and is not easy to keep healthy. Flowers need sun and rain, the right balance of fertilizers, and occasionally pesticides. What is true of plants is true of parishes: if they do not continue to constantly grow, they quickly die. New stems must come forth from the old ones, so that growth begets growth, and the plants build upon their previous seasons.

—His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH, via Father Ted Pulcini

Let's face it, grammar wasn't my best subject in school! I've always been impatient with the rules, wanting to get to the end without having to mess with all that "process" nonsense! And yes, that is a problem because the process is part of the solution! A bit of wisdom that has cost me quite a lot in my life! Now, having studied other languages, I have a growing appreciation (if not a full implementation) of grammar. Take for instance antonyms.

Antonyms are words that mean the exact opposite of another word-decent vs. indecent, able vs. unable, and so on.

The use of antonyms in any language is a powerful way to communicate.

This is especially true when it comes to the wisdom of the faith. The Orthodox Christian Faith is primarily a paradox–to save your life, you have to lose it; to be rich; you must become poor; to live, you have to die. You know, all the wisdom that still confuses us today!

Just look at our Gospel Lesson in Luke 6:24-30:

The Lord said to the Jews who had come to him, "But woe to you that are rich, for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you that are full now, for you shall hunger.

"Woe to you that laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

"Woe to you, when all men speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

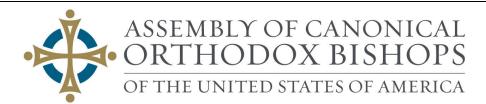
"But I say to you that hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to every-one who begs from you; and of him who takes away your goods do not ask them again."

Our Lord Jesus had just declared the Beatitudes earlier in this chapter, you know the "blessed are the poor..." And now He is declaring woes! Woes are the opposites of blessings. So if the hungry are blessed and will be filled then woe to the full because they will end up hungry! Woe to those who think they have it all and are actually poor in spirit. Woe to those who "laugh now" because they will weep later. Turns out the dangers of the fantasy of illusion is terrible indeed!

So, how do we avoid the woes and embrace the blessings? By doing the opposite of what the "conventional wisdom" suggests. The conventional wisdom says to hate those who hate you. The conventional wisdom says possessions equals prosperity. The conventional wisdom says being popular equals being good. The conventional wisdom isn't wisdom at all. In fact, conventional "wisdom" is actually foolishness! So much so that the Lord paradoxically calls us to do the opposite: Love our enemies! Do good to those who mistreat you! Do not return physical violence! If someone takes something from you, give them more (why does this make me think of the IRS?) Why is this the best way to live? Because this way of living frees you from the caustic temptations of revenge, hatred, greed, and self-centeredness. If this is your attitude in life, you are blessed by freedom and joy!

And you are free from the poverty of both flattery and insult! Sounds great! Today, are you gripped in places in your life by woes? Are you tempted by the false illusion of prosperity to be content with mere things? This path only leads to sorrow and disappointment. Why not embrace the paradox of the Faith and dare to entrust your daily living to the wisdom of eternal truth and discover blessings where the blind world only sees poverty? Why not choose to be Orthodox on Purpose?

https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/faithencouraged/2018/10/do-good-to-those-who-hate-you-2/



Thursday, October 04, 2018

Remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Thes. 1:3). Beloved Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

We, the members of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, gathered in Cleveland, Ohio, for our ninth annual meeting on October 2-3, 2018, greet you all with love in Christ as we offer glory and gratitude to Him.

Twenty-five Hierarchs assembled in order to remember and reaffirm our unity in the Orthodox faith. We express our deep gratitude to all those who planned and prepared for this year's Assembly. The Assembly opened with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at St. Sava Serbian Cathedral. We extend special appreciation to our host, Bishop Irinej, and the community, especially the Circle of Serbian Sisters, for their hospitality.

Once again, we called to mind our brother Hierarchs kidnapped in Syria, the Greek Orthodox Metropolitan Paul Yazigi (brother of His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Antioch) and the Syriac Orthodox Archbishop John Ibrahim.

The officers of the Assembly, Metropolitan Gregory (Secretary) and Archbishop Michael (Treasurer) also presented their official reports.

Afterward, the staff of the Assembly ministries and Chairmen of the Assembly committees offered an overview of their work during the last year. The assembled Hierarchs discussed how to further support these ministries as well as how to strengthen the organization and effectiveness of the committees. We heard presentations from Rev. Dr. Alkiviadis Calivas, Professor Emeritus of Liturgics at Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology, and V. Rev. Dr. John Morris, Pastor Emeritus. They presented on baptism, chrismation and the reception of converts. Metropolitan Gregory presented highlights of the study entitled "Go and Make Disciples: Evangelization and Outreach in US Orthodox Parishes (Part 1)." Archbishop Nicolae, Chairman of the Committee on Canonical Regional Planning, presented a summary report of the study entitled "Places of Greater Orthodox Unity in America: State of Local Parish-to-Parish Inter-Orthodox Cooperation and Communication."

After due deliberations on the role and responsibility of the Church in contemporary society, we reached the following conclusions, which we convey to our communities throughout America:

- 1. Echoing the discussion and desire of last year's Assembly regarding the instruction of children and involvement of young adults in the Church, the Hierarchs underlined the importance of the formation of all ages of youth in parish programs and pastoral outreach, recognizing and realizing their contribution as 'an example for believers' (1 Tim. 4:12). Therefore, we urge our faithful and especially our youth to learn and live the commandments of the Gospel and the traditions of the Church, which illumine and sustain our lives and decisions in order that we might be the 'salt of the earth, as taught by our Lord' (cf. Matt. 5:13). To this end, we encourage our parishes to develop educational programs for baptism and chrismation of children and adults entering the Orthodox Church so that our parishioners may acquire and nurture a deeper understanding of the faith.
- 2. We express our compassion and support for refugees and their families, who face immense suffering and encounter severe displacement throughout the world and even in our own country.

Additionally, we denounce all violence, whether caused by senseless acts related to weapons and shootings or instigated by abhorrent acts of discrimination and prejudice. Orthodox Christians are called to demonstrate their solidarity with and hospitality to all people, irrespective of race and religion, to welcome and embrace the image of God in the least of our brothers and sisters, as instructed in the parable of our Lord (cf. Matt. 25:40-45). Our God is a God of love and forgiveness, of reconciliation and fellowship.

- 3. We convey our heartfelt and prayerful compassion to those who have lost loved ones and experienced devastation or deprivation caused by diverse natural disasters over the last year, from Hurricanes Harvey in Texas to Maria in Puerto Rico and Florence in the Carolinas, and most recently the Tsunami in Indonesia. We pray that God may preserve the world from such calamities, and appeal to our faithful, and all people of good will, to respect God's creation and protect its natural resources.
- 4. We do indeed confirm our unity as Orthodox Christians, for which we must carefully albeit constantly, but also prayerfully albeit passionately, strive to practice and exercise. While we acknowledge and appreciate that unity is a sacred gift from the Triune God, we are also aware and conscious that 'we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us' (2 Cor. 4:7). In this regard, we refuse to surrender to the temptation of disruption of unity or division among us. For, while 'we are afflicted in every way, we are not crushed; we are perplexed, but not driven to despair; ...[we may be] struck down, but not destroyed, inasmuch as we always carry within us the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies' (2 Cor. 4:8-10). Therefore, we remain committed to the fullness of unity in faith that we enjoy as Orthodox Christians in this country.

In conclusion, we extend our paternal prayers for all of our faithful. May the abundant blessings of our all-merciful God be with you all.

'Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the dominion now and to the day of eternity' (2 Peter 3:18).

Archbishop Demetrios, Chairman

Metropolitan Gregory, Secretary Archbishop Michael, Treasurer Metropolitan Methodios Metropolitan Alexios Metropolitan Nicholas

Bishop Longin Bishop Maxim Bishop Irinej Metropolitan Nicolae Bishop Saba Metropolitan Savas
Bishop Sevastianos
Metropolitan Antony
Bishop Ilia
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Metropolitan Tikhon Archbishop Nathaniel Archbishop Nikon Archbishop Benjamin Archbishop Melchisedek Bishop David Bishop Paul