



**Holy Ghost Orthodox Church**  
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## **NATIVITY FAST [SAINT PHILIP'S FAST-PILIPKIVA]**

**ON THE MEND:** Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Metropolitan Antony, Metropolitan Yuriy, Anastasia [Metropolitan Yuriy'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 Smolynech, 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 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 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 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, 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, Debbie & Jerry Novosel, and Susan Pulcini—Father Ted Pulcini’s mom. ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our December babies: Shirley Tkacik on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Scott Brunermer on the 14<sup>th</sup>, and Donna Karas on the 18<sup>th</sup>! May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M’nohaya Lita! God Bless them all!**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: All Christians and the others in the Middle East who are suffering during this time of great tragedy and unrest. May God watch over and keep them safe! Lord have mercy!**

Please remember ALL American service men and women in your prayers. May God watch over them and all American service men and women—and bring them all home safely!

**REMEMBER—PRAYERS ARE ALWAYS FREE!**

Communion Fasting: nothing to eat or drink after midnight, EXCEPT in cases where your doctor tells you to eat or drink something for medical reasons: medication, diabetes, etc. If you have a question, please ask Father Bob.

**AT ANY TIME—if there is an emergency, if you have questions, or if you just need to talk, please CALL FATHER BOB at [412] 279-5640.**

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 02      OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS [CHURCH HALL]      10:30 AM**  
**27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; PROPHET OBEDIAH, MARTYR BARLAAM;**  
**MARTYR HELIODORUS; MARTYR AZES & 150 SOLDIERS WITH HIM; VENERABLE**  
**BARLAAM & MONK IOASAPH-PRINCE OF INDIA & SAINT ABENNER THE KING-**  
**FATHER OF IOASAPH; VENERABLE HILARION OF GEORGIA-WONDERWORKER**  
**OF THESSALONICA; VENERABLE BARLAAM-ABBOT OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

*Tone 2*

Ephesians 6:10-17

Luke 12:16-21

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

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 09      OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS [CHURCH HALL]      10:30 AM**  
**28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT ALYPIUS THE STYLITE OF ADRIANOPOLIS; SAINT JAMES THE SOLITARY OF SYRIA; DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH OF SAINT GEORGE AT KIEV**

*Tone 3*

Colossians 1:12-18

Luke 13:10-17

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16      READER SERVICE DOWNSTAIRS [CHURCH HALL]      10:30 AM**  
**29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; PROPHET ZEPHANIAH; VENERABLE THEODULUS-EPARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE; VENERABLE JOHN THE SILENT OF SAINT SABBAS MONASTERY; HIEROMARTYR THEODORE-ARCHBISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA**

*Tone 4*

Timothy 1:15-17

Luke 18:18-27

## **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 02 DECEMBER 2018**

**27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; PROPHET OBEDIAH, MARTYR BARLAAM; MARTYR HELIODORUS; MARTYR AZES & 150 SOLDIERS WITH HIM; VENERABLE BARLAAM & MONK IOASAPH-PRINCE OF INDIA & SAINT ABENNER THE KING-FATHER OF IOASAPH; VENERABLE HILARION OF GEORGIA-WONDERWORKER OF THESSALONICA; VENERABLE BARLAAM-ABBOT OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

### **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!

### **Gracefully Broken!**

I was in Dollar Tree last night, and there was a lady and two kids behind me in the LONG line. One was a big kid, and the other one was a toddler. The bigger one had a pack of glow sticks, and the toddler was screaming for them. The Mom opened the pack and gave him one which stopped his tears. He walked around with it smiling; but then the bigger boy took it, and the...

### **The Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost** Luke 12:16-21

*And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God. (KJV)*

We know neither the day nor the hour we will take our last breath. We don't know when the Lord Jesus Christ will return and we will face the last judgment. Care of the soul belongs in every moment of life.

Loving God and the people in our lives at all times is of paramount importance. The excessive possession and accumulation of material goods has no place of importance in our lives.

Purity of heart, mind and soul deserves immediate and continuous attention. Living in God-pleasing ways has a place throughout the Christian life. Violence is cutting life short for too many people and is becoming all too common.

Deep prayer and seriously turning to God merits the greatest attention in earthly life. Daily relationships are to correspond to Christ's teachings founded and based in love.

Forgiveness and patience taught and exemplified by Christ have become far removed from everyday human interaction. Turning to guns and to violence to resolve personal issues is on the upswing.

Too many lives come to a swift and tragic end in today's world. The tranquility of daily life is often shattered with innocent children and adults losing their lives to violence.

When will the daily tragedies of violence in the news be reduced and eliminated? When will a permanent and lasting peace in this land be achieved? When will Christian love take hold across the world?

Believers cannot wait for others to begin the change for a better and more tranquil society. The Church sets forth the Nativity Fast at this time of the year for Christians to undergo dramatic and serious change.

The Church calls believers to turn to Christ with utmost attention. Believers are to prepare themselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Believers are to look inward to their hearts and make room for Christ to be dominant.

The world is polluted in many different ways. Sinful pollution infects individual hearts and minds. Bizarre and violent behavior are too commonly the result.

Constant themes of violence filling movie and television screens needs challenged. Serious parental thought has to focus on the effects of violent video games promoted commercially in stores across the land.

How vibrant and focused are the lives of Christians baptized into Christ? How many Christians will enter into the Nativity Fast with fervor? How many Christians will honor the Nativity Fast entirely?

How many Christians will complete the Nativity Fast more united with Christ and welcoming of Christ? The Nativity Fast is for all believers. The Nativity Fast is essential for the Christian life each year.

Entering the Nativity Fast and honoring it is fully voluntary. Each believer has the opportunity to freely choose to honor the fast. Honoring the fast is an expectation of the Church.

If a believer is serious about life in the Church, the believer will do his or her best to honor the fast. Believers benefit from the fast to the degree the fast is treated with honor and intended purpose.

Honoring the fast is not a matter for personal pride. Honoring the fast is intended for the care and benefit of the soul. Commercialism and societal activities have taken the focus far away from Christ's birth.

Social activities and holiday parties having no basis in Christ often occur and are promoted at this time of the year. The Nativity Fast expects each believer to look deeply at the birth of Christ and the lasting meaning of Christ's birth.

Believers' eyes can easily stray from being firmly focused on Christ. Believers' hearts can readily be infected with societal poisons. Christians are to appreciate and manifest God's love in daily relationships..

Love of God is realized through devotion to God and concentration on God every day and night. Prayer is not only the expression of words during the day and night.

Prayer is manifested in daily actions and relationships. Parish churches alive with prayer not only on Sundays but during the week have a far reaching impact. Communities improve when parish churches are filled with prayer.

Believers change their communities for the better when they come to church with fervor. Believers improve their families and their personal lives when Christ dominates the heart and mind.

Violence and societal decadence will not be reduced if Christians remain lukewarm. The Nativity Fast is upon us. This is the time to turn completely to Christ with fullness of mind and heart.

*The Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. November 12/25, 2018. St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria. Venerable Nilus of Sinai. HiddenValley, Pennsylvania.*

*Father Rodney Torbic*