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ON THE MEND: Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Archbishop Daniel, 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 [Archbishop 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—young man 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 [young lady 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 Slaughaupt, 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, Noah Willard, Sandra Dillard, Danielle McCann, Barry [Father Jim Orr's cousin], Tim Joyce, James Spear, Mike Pawlyshyn-Jeannie Stutchell's brother, and Susan Pulcini—Father Ted Pulcini's mom. ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

Each Christian home represents an infinitely great home – the universe, heaven and earth, in which the Lord dwells. Therefore, in every Christian home you see images of the Savior and the Mother of God, heeding the prayers of those who live in the house and resort to Him. - *St. John of Kronstadt*

St. John Chrysostom says: "A man, who does not go to church because of inevitable obligations, can always turn himself into an Altar Table by praying." Many people in the world cannot attend church services on Saturday or Sunday because of their jobs. However, by saying a prayer, one can make himself an Altar Table. - Elder Ephraim of Katounakia

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, FEBRUARY 10 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
37TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; ZACCHAEUS SUNDAY; SAINT EPHRAIM THE
SYRIAN; SAINT PALLADIUS THE HERMIT OF ANTIOCH; SAINT ISAAC THE
SYRIAN-BISHOP OF NINEVEH; SAINT EPHRAIM-BISHOP OF PEREYASLAVL-
PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

Tone 4

1 Timothy 4:9-15

Luke 19:1-10

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE; AFTERFEAST OF THE MEETING
OF THE LORD; VENERABLE ISIDORE OF PELUSIUM-MONK; MARTYRS JADORUS
& ISIDORE; HIEROMARTYR ABRAMIUS-BISHOP OF ARBELA IN ASSYRIA;
VENERABLE NICHOLAS THE CONFESSOR-ABBOT OF THE STUDIOIN**

Tone 5

2 Timothy 3:10-15

Luke 18:10-14

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON; HIEROMARTYR BLAISE-BISHOP OF SEBASTE;
SAINT THEODORA-WIFE OF EMPEROR THEOPHILUS THE ICONOCLAST**

Tone 6

1 Corinthians 12-20

Luke 15:11-32

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 10 FEBRUARY 2019

**37TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; ZACCHAEUS SUNDAY; SAINT
EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN; SAINT PALLADIUS THE HERMIT OF
ANTIOCH; SAINT ISAAC THE SYRIAN-BISHOP OF NINEVEH; SAINT
EPHRAIM-BISHOP OF PEREYASLAVL-PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

TROPARION—TONE 4

When the women disciples of the Lord
Learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection;
They cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles:
Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen,
Granting the world great mercy.

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

KONTAKION—TONE 4

My Savior and Redeemer,
As God rose from the tomb
And delivered the earthborn from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of Hell,
And as Master, He has risen on the third day!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 4

READER: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

PEOPLE: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

READER: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

PEOPLE: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

READER: O Lord, how manifold are thy works!

PEOPLE: In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 4

Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness.

You love righteousness and hate iniquity.

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News Release

Contact: PRESS OFFICE Stavros Papagermanos pressoffice@goarch.org

Date: January 28, 2019



Protocol No. 06/19 **January 30, 2018**

Feast of the Three Hierarchs and Greek Letters Day

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,

We give glory and thanksgiving to God on this blessed commemoration as we honor the memory of three holy luminaries who continue to guide and inspire us through the wisdom of their teaching and the sanctity of their lives. Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom, recognized in the tradition of our faith as the Three Great Hierarchs and Ecumenical Teachers, offer to us through the witness of their lives beautiful examples of commitment to God and service to Him and others through the power of His divine love. Through their work as pastors and faithful stewards of the people of God, they are true images of the grace revealed to us by Christ. As skilled and prayerful theologians, they show us that the path of faith and truth is followed by those who are transformed by God's love and offer it to others.

The Three Hierarchs understood and experienced the love of God as revealed in Christ, and this love was the foundation of their service and teaching. In advancing and applying the work of earlier theologians and defenders of the Christian faith, they often used the word *philanthropia* to express the relationship of God's love for us to our calling to show this love in our response to the needs of others. Basil the Great uses the word *philanthropia* when speaking of God's revelation through Christ, "Shall it strike us with amazement at the mighty power and love to humankind of the Savior, in that He both endured to suffer with us in our infirmities and was able to come down to our weaknesses" so that He might end our "conflict with death" and give us "freedom from suffering." (*On the Spirit*)

Gregory the Theologian addresses the love of God for us throughout many of his writings, and he expresses the meaning of *philanthropia* as the "manifold love of God toward humankind" in following the use of the word by the Apostle Paul in his letter to Titus. In his exhortation Paul states, *But when the goodness and lovingkindness of God appeared, He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of His own mercy...which He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior so that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.* (Titus 3:4-7)

For the Three Hierarchs the revelation of the abundant and saving love of God through Christ and His love for humankind was the foundation of our love for others. The grace revealed should be known and expressed through our response in love to the needs of our fellow human beings. St. John Chrysostom also used the word *philanthropia* to express this essential truth of our faith. At the conclusion of many of his homilies, he exhorted his hearers to be filled with the "grace and love for humanity of Jesus Christ." Chrysostom also shared with his other contemporaries the understanding that our *philanthropia* is our response to the grace of God expressed through our worship and through the Holy Eucharist. As our worship is an

expression of love, and as through the Eucharist we receive the love of God, that love guides us to confirm our shared humanity and respond to the poor, the sick, and any who have need. For Chrysostom, just as the love of God for us has no boundaries, our *philanthropia* should be unlimited.

The use of the word *philanthropia* by the Three Great Hierarchs affirms another aspect of our commemoration of this day. Our tradition is to join the feast of these Saints with the celebration of Greek Letters Day in recognition of the rich and beautiful connections between our Orthodox faith and our Hellenic heritage. This relationship is deep and meaningful in so many ways, especially in language. *Philanthropia* in ancient Greek culture was seen as a primary virtue of rulers, embodying the expression of benevolence and kindness to their subjects. Following its use by the Apostle Paul, the word was applied by Christian theologians, and as seen above, by the Three Hierarchs to describe both the love of God for humanity and the love we should also have and share for humanity. On this day of Greek Letters, we have before us a beautiful example of how language and its application can expand the meaning of our faith and broaden our understanding of our relationship with God and our calling to be witnesses of His Grace.

In our celebration of this Feast of the Three Hierarchs and our observance of Greek Letters Day, let us be thankful for the relationship of our faith and heritage and the multitude of connections that we see and experience. In our *philanthropia* toward others, may we continue to share this relationship as we engage and understand our human experience and purpose, and especially as we are witnesses of God's limitless and transforming love that is offered to each and every human being.

With paternal love in Christ,

† D E M E T R I O S, Archbishop of America

The Path

Mt. 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.(KJV)

Does the Kingdom of God dominate our thoughts and intentions at all times? Are our actions and intentions directed toward reaching the Kingdom of God? Do we repel thoughts and actions that take us far from God's Kingdom? Are we serious at all times without fail in seeking first the Kingdom of God? Do we engage in prayer and fasting to aid us in the journey to God's Kingdom?

Jeremiah 6:16-Thus saith The Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.(KJV)

Do we give utmost attention to the care, nourishment and protection of our souls? Do we look to Jesus Christ, the Mother of God and saints for daily direction? Do the Scriptures and writings of the Holy Fathers and Mothers guide our lives? Are we sufficiently interested in finding rest for our souls to repent of our sins? Do we incorporate into our daily lives the teachings found in God's Holy Church?

John 14:6-Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.(KJV)

The Lord Jesus Christ is absolutely clear He is the way, the truth and the life. Our responses to the Lord Jesus Christ reveals the extent we conform to His way. Repentance enables us to return to following Christ when we have sinned. Life's length is uncertain and requires we constantly remain faithful to Christ. Discerning the path to follow Christ requires discipline, focus and strong interest.

Mt. 7:14- Because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.(KJV)

Distractions and dangers to the soul are plentiful and arise in the Christian journey. Serious Christians devotedly learn from Christ, the Mother of God and the saints. Too often believers carelessly yield to temptations resulting in harm to the soul. Every person exposed to the Holy Gospel has the opportunity to follow Christ. A small portion of hearers of the Gospel actually adhere to the Gospel teachings.

I Tim. 6:12- Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, where unto thou art called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. (KJV)

Never give up in the journey to God's Kingdom even when difficulties arise. Draw strength from martyrs and saints having endured great hardships for Christ. Joy arises in the heart when prayerful appeals to God for strength are answered. Remain true to the profession of faith and be nourished by Christ in the journey. Experience the lasting joy found in always being faithful to The Lord Jesus Christ.

Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. St. Athanasius the Great; St. Maximus, Archbishop of Serbia. January 18/31, 2019. Father Rodney Torbic