



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

www.holyghostorthodoxchurch.org

Very Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Pastor

23 Station Street

Carnegie, PA 15106-3014

[412] 279-5640 home

[412] 956-6626 cell

DORMITION FAST

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 Joe Cervo, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Joshua Agosto and his family, Eva Malesnick, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, 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, 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, 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, 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 Philpa, 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, 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, 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, Mike Pawlyshyn-Jeannie Stutchell's brother, Marianne Mulroy, Joe Samchuck—vocations, Albert Heckman, Brianna Stumpf, Stanley Porembka, David & Terry Coyne Hartnett, Mike C., Jennifer

Scheirer [Nick Behun's daughter], Catherine Beecham [Father Bob's cousin], JoAnne & Dave Andrews, Rev. Peg Bowman, Pat Jennings, and Susan Pulcini—Father Ted Pulcini's mom. ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline and Walter Sakol. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

**We humbly ask for your prayers today for the repose of the soul of Howard Simpson, husband of Father Bob's cousin Rosemary, who Fell Asleep in the Lord last Sunday and was buried on Friday. May God grant him the Kingdom of Heaven and Life Everlasting!
Vechnaya Pam'yat**

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, AUGUST 25 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION;
MARTYRS ANICETUS & PHOTIUS OF NICOMEDIA; HIEROMARTYR ALEXANDER-
BISHOP OF COMANA; MARTYRS PAMPHILUS & CAPITO**

Tone 1

1 Corinthians 4:9-16

Matthew 17:14-23

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28 DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 01 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE DORMITION; MARTYR
ANDREW STRATELATES & 2593 SOLDIERS WITH HIM IN CILICIA; MARTYRS
TIMOTHY, AGAPIUS, & THECLA OF PALESTINE**

Tone 2

1 Corinthians 9:2-12

Matthew 18:23-35

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Josephine Roman, Father John Harvey, Father
Dragan Filipovic, Frank Gazella, Sr., and Suzie Pelczar—Fr. Bob***

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 08 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYRS ADRIAN, NATALIA, & 33
COMPANIONS OF NICOMEDIA**

Tone 3

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Matthew 19:16-26

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 25 AUGUST 2019

**10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION;
MARTYRS ANICETUS & PHOTIUS OF NICOMEDIA; HIEROMARTYR ALEXANDER-
BISHOP OF COMANA; MARTYRS PAMPHILUS & CAPITO**

TROPARION—TONE 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews;
While the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body;
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life:
Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom!
Glory to Thy Dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

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

KONTAKION—TONE 1

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with
Thyself.

Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished!

Adam exults, O Master!

Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:

Thou are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 1

READER: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

PEOPLE: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

READER: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

PEOPLE: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

READER: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

PEOPLE: As we have set our hope on Thee.

ALLELUIA VERSES

God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me.

He magnifies the salvation of the king, and deals mercifully with His Christ, with David and his seed forever!

Fruit of the Spirit-Joy

Matthew 2:10-When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. (KJV)

The Lord Jesus Christ's birth is always reason for enduring joy in our lives. Christ's birth is celebrated in the present every year and brings renewal to life. The mystery of the Virgin Birth is worthy of wonder about the glory of God. The humble place of Christ's birth deserves serious contemplation by believers. Christian personal desires and goals in life should conform with Christ's humility.

Matthew 13:44-Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

Discovering and embracing the life in Christ is all consuming and never ending. Living in Christ entails filling the heart, mind and soul always with love and joy. Christ makes possible the experiences of love and joy as well as other fruit in life. The fruit of the Spirit comes upon the believer in ways worthy of great wonder. Faithfulness to Christ has a place in the life of believers seeking peace and joy.

Matthew 25:21-His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will

make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Committing to follow Christ and adhering to Christ's teaching requires vigilance. The period from Baptism to departure from this life can be many decades in length. Repentance and recommitment to Christ is necessary throughout the years of life. Every day is the day to prepare for Christ's return and the great and final judgment. Joy in the Lord comes at the end for those remaining faithful in all circumstances.

Matthew 28:8-And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

The Empty Tomb and Christ's Resurrection creates the immutable joy for all ages. Christ's Resurrection is celebrated in God's Holy Church with the greatest of joy. Words are not sufficient to convey the extent of joy derived from the Resurrection. Hearts, minds and lives overflow with joy filled by knowledge of Christ arising. The abundant joy entering into believers is by the divine action of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 24:52-And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:

Let us learn from the examples of the Holy Disciples and always be filled with joy. God's Church offers the opportunity to learn about the abundant joy in the Lord. The Apostles went throughout the world teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ. Appreciation is due to God's Holy Church and the faithful through the centuries. We learn and experience the joy of Christ today because of the God's great love.

Holy and Righteous Eudocimus; Holy Martyr Julita. July 31/August 13, 2019.
Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 14:22-34

And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And

when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God. And when they were gone over, they came into the land of Gennesaret. (KJV)

We live in a time of great social turmoil. Mass shootings occur with great frequency. Places previous considered safe havens have been targeted. Rancor is common in the public forum.

Church affiliation and attendance is down in many areas. Societal norms previously held to be good are falling by the wayside. Suicide is much more common. Drug overdoses are very high.

The waves of the sea in the current Gospel apply to the waves of daily life. Too often the waves of daily life become threatening. Assurance and reassurance are found in Christ.

Christ has the ability to calm the waves of life. Christ has the ability to walk upon the water. Christ responded to the frightened Peter when Peter said: "Lord save me."

The current Gospel applies to daily life. We are saved only by the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ will allay all fears. The Lord Jesus Christ brings internal peace to the believer.

Jesus Christ brings believers to the solid ground. Jesus Christ provides the foundation and direction for life. Christ is the nourishment of life. Christ offers eternal life.

The current Gospel is prescribed to be proclaimed in God's Holy Church each year. The Church wants believers to be reminded of the saving power of Christ in the scary moments of life.

It is important to recognize that before Jesus walked on the water and rescued Peter from the sinking, Jesus went to the mountain to pray.

Believers benefit when taking time to pray with great seriousness.

By prayer and fasting, believers will find peace and direction in Christ. Christ is immediately available for believers turning to Him in prayer. Christ is directly accessible during the storms of life.

Believers need not flounder and be afraid in the open sea of life when the wind is furious and the waves are treacherous. Believers do well to always be united with Christ in fervent prayer.

Christ leads believers to the Kingdom. Christ nourishes believers with His Precious Body and Blood. Christ brings peace in ways beyond human understanding.

Reaching out to Christ in prayer is an act of faith and trust in Christ. Peter set out on the water and was able to walk until he doubted. Jesus invites each person to draw near to Him as He told Peter to come to Him.

Strong faith in Christ, without hesitation and doubt, is necessary, to travel through the difficulties in daily life. The Lord's love for each person is manifested when the believer draws near.

Jesus allayed Peter's fear of sinking. Jesus saved Peter's life. We benefit from savoring the saving power of Christ. Christ deserves constant gratitude from believers for being ever available through prayer.

God's Holy Church is a refuge for believers to come to when life gets difficult. God's Holy Church offers the peace of Christ. Believers entering and remaining in the Church in faith will find the peace desired.

Christ's peace exceeds human understanding. Christ's peace changes a person forever. Christ's peace is unmistakable. Love Christ and draw near to Him to experience His peace.

In St. John's Gospel we find Jesus' words: "**Peace** I leave with you, **my peace** I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (Jn.14:27)

The world offers different activities supposedly capable of providing peace for the hurting. Real peace exists in Jesus Christ. Do not be fooled by the world. Seek peace in God's Holy Church and experience the peace of Christ.

Fill the hunger in the soul with Christ each day. Draw nourishment from Christ in prayer and the reading of the Holy Scriptures. Emulate the love of Christ in daily relationships.

Fear not. Experience the joy in Christ at all times. Give thanks to the Triune God. Be grateful for God's continuous and immeasurable love. Be kind and forgiving, always giving thanks for God's love and mercy.

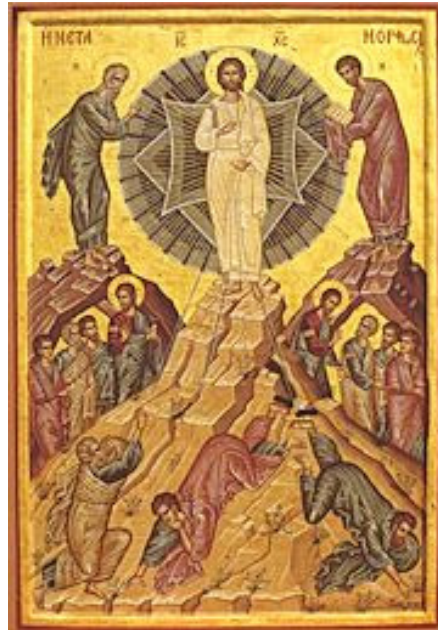
*The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost. Martyr Eusignius. Forefeast of the Transfiguration.
August 5/18, 2019. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic*



I know five languages. The first is the smile; the second is tears. The third is to touch. The fourth is prayer, and the fifth is love. With these five languages you can travel the whole earth, and all the world is yours.

+ Mother Gavriilia

Transfiguration



The Transfiguration of Christ

The **Transfiguration** of Christ is one of the Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church, celebrated on August 6 and August 19 (according to Old Calendarists), using the Gregorian Calendar, Julian Calendar, and Revised Julian Calendar.

Jesus had gone with his disciples Peter, James, and John to Mount Tabor. Christ's appearance was changed while they watched into a glorious radiant figure. There appeared Elijah and Moses, speaking with Jesus. The disciples were amazed and terribly afraid.

This event shows forth the divinity of Christ, so that the disciples would understand after his Ascension that He was truly the radiant splendor of the Father, and that his Passion was voluntary (Mark 9:2-9). It also shows the possibility of our own theosis.

This event was the subject of some debates between Gregory Palamas and Barlaam of Calabria. Barlaam believed that the light shining from Jesus was created light, while Gregory maintained the disciples were given grace to perceive the uncreated light of God. This supported Gregory's larger argument that although we cannot know God in His *essence*, we can know Him in his *energies*, as He reveals Himself.

Accounts of the Transfiguration are found in the Bible: Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-9, Luke 9:28-36, and II Peter 1:16-19.

Celebration of the feast

Like all feasts of the Master, the Transfiguration is a vigil-ranked feast, though in parish practice a full All-Night Vigil is usually not celebrated. Typically, Great Vespers is conducted on the eve of the feast, and on the

morning of the feast, the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom celebrated, traditionally preceded by the Matins service.

The Vespers service includes the readings: Exodus 24:12-18, 33:11-23, 34:4-6, 8; I Kings 19:3-9, 11-13, 15-16. The Matins service includes the reading: Luke 9:28-36. And the Divine Liturgy: II Peter 1:10-19; Matthew 17:1-9.

It is believed that Christ's transfiguration took place at the time of the Jewish Festival of Booths, and that the celebration of the event in the Christian Church became the New Testament fulfillment of the Old Testament feast. Presently it is celebrated on the sixth of August, forty days before the feast, Elevation of the Holy Cross. Just as Peter, James, and John saw the transfiguration before the crucifixion so that they might know who it is who will suffer for them, the Church connects these two feasts to help the faithful understand the mission of Christ and that his suffering was voluntary.

The feast of the Transfiguration of Christ once belonged to the season of Great Lent, but may have been considered too joyous for that time. Saint Gregory Palamas, a great teacher of the Transfiguration, is now celebrated on one of the Sundays of Lent instead.

Traditions

In Greece and Romania, the harvest season traditionally began on the Transfiguration. Grapes, in particular, were not eaten before August 6. In some parishes, the first grapes would be brought to church for a blessing and distributed to parishioners.

Hymns

Troparion (Tone 7)

You were Transfigured on the Mount, O Christ God,
Revealing Your glory to Your disciples as far as they could bear it.
Let Your everlasting Light shine upon us sinners!
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to You!

Kontakion (Tone 7)

On the Mountain You were Transfigured, O Christ God,
And Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it;
So that when they would behold You crucified,
They would understand that Your suffering was voluntary,
And would proclaim to the world,
That You are truly the Radiance of the Father!

Forefeast hymns

Troparion (Tone 4)

Come, you faithful, let us welcome the Transfiguration of Christ,
And let us joyfully cry as we celebrate the prefeast:

"The day of holy gladness has come;
The Lord has ascended Mount Tabor
To radiate the beauty of His divinity."

Kontakion (Tone 4)

Podoben: "Today You have shown forth..."

Today all mortal nature shines with the divine Transfiguration
And cries with exultation:

"Christ the Savior is transfigured to save us all!"



