

Holy Ghost Orthodox Church 714 Westmoreland Avenue PO Box 3 Slickville, PA 15684-0003 www.holyqhostorthodoxchurch.org Very Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Pastor 23 Station Street Carnegie, PA 15106-3014 [412] 279-5640 home

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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 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 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 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, 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, 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 Jaguette, 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, 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, Patrick Felice [Melanie's husband] Tim Sams, 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our October babies: Rachel Shirley on the 6<sup>th</sup>, Rich Previc on the 8<sup>th</sup>, Mother Alexandra on the 11<sup>th</sup>, Henry "Jack" Tkacik on the 14<sup>th</sup>, Henry Tkacik on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Harley Katarina Frances Rahuba on the 24<sup>th</sup>, Greg Luciow on the 27<sup>th</sup>, and Michael Sheliga on the 28<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** <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 <u>CALL FATHER BOB</u> at [412] 279-5640.

#### **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM 16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; CONCEPTION OF THE HONORABLE & GLORIOUS PROPHET AND FORERUNNER-JOHN THE BAPTIST; SAINTS XANTHIPPA & POLYXENA; VIRGIN-MARTYR IRAIS OF ALEXANDRIA; MARTYRS ANDREW, JOHN, PETER & ANTONINUS

> *Tone 7* 2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Galatians 4:22-31 Luke 5:1-11; Luke 1:5-25

Litany in Blessed Memory of Father Theodore Forosty, Johnathan Dorning, Catherine Behun, Mary Medich, Daniel Chicka, Mary Evaniuk, and Stancy Popichak—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HIEROMARTYR GREGORY-BISHOP OF GREATER ARMENIA; MARTYRS RHIPSIMA, GAIANA, & COMPANIONS OF ARMENIA; SAINT MICHAEL-FIRST METROPOLITAN OF KIEV

Tone 8

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1; Hebrews 7:26-8:2 Luke 6:31-36; John 10:1-9

Litany in Blessed Memory of Nicholas & Catherine Behun--Behun Family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYR SERGIUS & BACCHUS IN SYRIA; MARTYRS JULIAN-PRESBYTER & CAESARIUS-DEACON AT TERRACINA; VIRGIN-MARTYR PELAGIA OF TARSUS; MARTYR POLYCHRONIUS OF GAMPHANITUS; SAINT SERGIUS THE OBEDIENT OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

> *Tone 1* 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 Luke 7:11-16

# **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 06 OCTOBER 2019**

16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; CONCEPTION OF THE HONORABLE & GLORIOUS PROPHET AND FORERUNNER-JOHN THE BAPTIST; SAINTS XANTHIPPA & POLYXENA; VIRGIN-MARTYR IRAIS OF ALEXANDRIA; MARTYRS ANDREW, JOHN, PETER & ANTONINUS

#### TROPARION-TONE 7

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death! To the thief, Thou didst open Paradise! For the Myrrhbearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy. And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, To proclaim that Thou art 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 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, For Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers! Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: The Savior has come to those in faith! Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!

#### PROKEIMENON-TONE 7

**READER:** The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

# **PEOPLE:** The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

**READER:** Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

**PEOPLE:** The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

**READER:** The Lord shall give strength to His people!

**PEOPLE:** The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

### ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 7

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High!

To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night!

#### Two different mirrors; two different perspectives

By Fr. John Angelis

I came home from a funeral and the reality of the two different mirrors on the front doors of the car triggered my thinking. With the left mirror we see close; with the right we see far. But objects that seem small and far away are much closer than we think they are and we need to pay close attention to them.

This reality and picture is a Parable of our daily life, of its material and spiritual sides. Its material side consists of what we need to eat, drink, wear, reside in, and other material things that are very close to us and we spend the majority of our time to acquire them.

The spiritual items, prayer, going to Church, reading the Bible and other spiritual books, thinking about eternal life, etc., seem difficult, less important, in comparison to our material and emotional needs. They seem to be far away. We procrastinate and say to ourselves that we can deal with them later.

Like the rich man of the other parable of the Bible, who spent an enormous amount of energy and time for his material goods, we discover that our end is much closer than we think. We cannot then exchange our material things for our spiritual well-being. All our material and intellectual achievements are earthbound and they will remain behind us when our end comes, as the funeral hymn proclaims: "All human endeavors are futile that do not exist after death: riches, glory..."

In our car we also have our rearview mirror to see what is behind us and what we left behind. Through our large windshield window, we see clearly what lies ahead of us, near and at a distance. We need to plan in our life to reach not only our earthly destination which is temporary but also our heavenly destination, life with our Savior, Jesus Christ. Out of love for us, He came to visit us on earth and show us the way to eternal life. After all, He is the "Way, the Truth and the Life." Let us follow Him!

...And since we have spoken sharply to those who partake unworthily of the Sacred Mysteries, it is necessary that we speak also to you who minister them, that you may dispense those Gifts with great carefulness: for otherwise your chastisement will not be light. For should you while knowing that a man is unworthy permit him to partake of the Sacred Table, his blood will be required at your hands. And should he be a general of the imperial army, or a Prefect, or even one whose...



**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**, Matthew 22:1-14 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with quests. And when the king came in to see the quests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.(KJV)

The Sunday before the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, John 3:13-17

And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (KJV)

Today is a time of great joy in the Holy Orthodox Church. God's Holy Church is continuing to celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God. The Church always expresses great wonder, love and joy in the Mother of God.

Mary was chosen from among all women of all centuries to give birth to the Christ-Child. She holds a special place of honor. The Church celebrates, honors and reverences the Birth-giver of God, the Ever-virgin Mary.

Believers are mindful of Mary's obedience to the Lord and the singular relationship she holds with the Lord Jesus Christ. Believers greatly benefit when praying to the Mother of God and learning from her purity. St. Matthew's Gospel for today speaks of the king extending invitations for his son's wedding celebration. Many ignored the king's invitation as do many ignore Christ's invitation come to His Holy Church.

The king in the Gospel extended his invitation to those in the highways and many accepted. One came dressed inappropriately to the wedding and was cast out. Individuals coming to God's Holy Church are to honor the Lord appropriately.

The Lord God is good, kind and merciful. Persons drawing near for nourishment and salvation are to be mindful of the teachings and ways of the Lord. The Lord's welcoming love and kindness deserve the greatest reverence.

Today the Church gives attention to the forthcoming celebration of the Exaltation of the Lord's Precious Life-Giving Cross. The Cross is a sign of victory over death. The Cross brings joy to the world.

Believers of every century draw strength and inspiration from Christ's Cross. Believers experience hope and victory in the Cross. The Cross is a constant guide in the Christian life.

Growth in Christ requires great introspection. The heart, mind and soul benefit from careful examination. Repentance, purification from sin and nourishment for the Lord God are necessary throughout life.

The journey from the Baptismal font to departure from this life can be many decades in duration. Faithful embracement of the ways of the Lord is to take place from Baptism to departure from this life.

Vigilance is necessary in being faithful to the Lord. Joy exists in pursuing faithfulness and the rigors of faith. Joy exists in dealing with the hardships in this life knowing that Christ set the example on the Cross in facing hardship.

Saints and martyrs are treasures of the Church having held fast to the ways of the Lord in the most trying circumstances. Prayers to the saints and martyrs bring strength and direction for today and the future.

Believers in God's Church through the centuries have faced hardships, trials and tribulations. The Church has prevailed. Faithful believers prevail by the grace and power of God.

Believers are blessed to have the experiences of the saints and martyrs to learn from. The Church's rich history in times of persecution reveals that God's ways always prevail.

When saints and martyrs are tortured and persecuted, others draw near inspired by their examples. Today is the day for believers to be faithful and zealous for the Lord. Faithfulness to the Lord entails continuing to repent and to embrace the ways of the Lord. God's Holy Church welcomes, nourishes and protects persons seeking, loving and following the ways of the Lord.

God never abandons persons earnestly following Him. God cares greatly for persons coming to Him with an open and pure heart. Purity of heart and mind with true repentance brings peace and joy.

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost. The Holy and Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna. The Sunday before the Exaltation of the Precious Life-giving Cross. September 9/22, 2019. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

# Fruit of the Spirit-Meekness

# I Corinthians 4:21-What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness? (KJV)

When reaching the limits of understanding, turn to the Lord God for direction. Begin the search for personal direction by coming to the Lord God in meekness. The Lord God is the source of life and is all the good in life for all the days of life. Without the Lord God, nothing good occurs and not even a breath will be taken. Joy in life begins with meekness in approaching the Lord God and our neighbor.

# 2 Corinthians 10:1-Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you: (KJV)

In today's world, boldness is required to embrace the value of meekness in life. Faith in the Lord God is necessary in being meek in daily personal relationships. Acknowledging that all good comes from God is a beginning step in meekness. Meekness enables believers to draw strength and understanding from the Lord. Turning to God in meekness is a reaching out beyond the self to Life's Source.

# Galatians 5:23-Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. (KJV)

No law exists as a barrier for believers to embrace meekness in daily relationships. Meekness changes personal relationships and the believer's perception of others. The Lord Jesus Christ taught very explicitly the meek shall inherit the earth. (Mt.5:5) Christ's example and teachings on meekness have lasting value for believers. Meekness becomes a part of daily life through repentance and change of heart.

### Galatians 6:1-Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. (KJV)

Christ's example of gentleness and meekness are hallmarks for daily relationships. The world improves one person at a time when meekness and gentleness occur. Believers learn the value of meekness directly from the Lord Jesus Christ. (Mt.11:29) Meekness becomes a part of the believer's life as a fruit of the Holy Spirit. (Gal.5:22-23) The healing process in personal relationships begins when meekness is embraced.

#### **Ephesians 4:2-With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;** (KJV)

Meekness and love work together with God's help to heal troubling relationships. We learn of the Lord God's healing power through patience, meekness and love. Faith, hope, and trust in the Lord God enable meekness and love to be embraced. Love never fails and meekness facilitates the healing of troubling relationships. Joy results from God's healing power when believers are meek and fully loving.

*Venerable Theodora of Alexandria; Venerable Sergius and Herman of Valaam. September 11/24, 2019. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic* 

"Our wickedness shall not overpower the unspeakable goodness and mercy of God; our dullness shall not overpower God's wisdom, nor our infirmity God's omnipotence." *St. John of Kronstadt, My Life in Christ* 

#### The "acid test" for a Christian, according to the epistles of Saint John the evangelist by Fr. John Angelis

"And the Word became flesh," St. John wrote in his gospel. Jesus was truly incarnate, became a real man, a God-Man, to save us. Unfortunately, some philosopher-Christians did not accept the true incarnation of the Logos, because for them matter was evil. God for them could not be united with evil. They did not believe that God created the world; that what God created was "good" and man "very good."

After the fall of Adam and Eve, human nature was weakened, but it did not lose its original goodness. Jesus was incarnate of the virgin Mary and the Holy Spirit and became a God-Man to save us from sin, death, and corruption through His Cross, Resurrection from the dead and His Ascension to heaven.

We die that sin will not become eternal. Jesus reassured us that He will raise us up with a spiritual body at His 2nd Glorious Return. We will be like the Angels of God.

Saint John the evangelist, as an eyewitness of Christ, stressed the true incarnation of the Logos in his epistles to strengthen the faith of all Christians, against the false teachings of some philosopher-Christian teachers. In addition, St John re-enforced the paramount Christian teachings of the Church, namely the importance of our love for God and our fellow man. Furthermore, he stressed that the Christians are obliged to keep and live all the Commandments of God in their daily life.

Fruits of keeping the Commandments of God are our gracious response to the needs of the poor, the widow and orphan. Our philanthropy has its roots and is motivated by God's love for us. We only share with others what God has graciously given to us.

As Christians, we need to discern the true faith and avoid falsehood. There are many false prophets and teachers in the world today as they were then. We need to heed the correct teachings of the apostles who were eye-witnesses of the incarnation, the teachings, miracles, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Our Church has preserved the authentic teaching of the Apostles for us.

Our challenge as Orthodox Christians is to know, love and put into practice our Christian Faith. Orthodoxy, true Faith, needs to become Orthopraxy, right Christian Living. God stands by, ready to help us with His all-powerful Grace in our effort. But He awaits our free response.

"Our life is child's play, only not innocent, but sinful, because, with a strong mind, and with the knowledge of the purpose of our life, we neglect this purpose and occupy ourselves with frivolous, purposeless matters. And thus, our life is childish, unpardonable play." *St. John of Kronstadt, My Life in Christ.* 

And the devil said..."I have nothing to fear except what you eat on Sunday in the Church of the Holy Communion". Do you hear what Satan said? I'm not telling you ... these are made known to us by God Himself...so my children confess and commune!!! Saint Iakovos (Jacob) Tsalikis of Evia

