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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 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 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 Stroz [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 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, 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 Slausenhaupt, 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.

"We deceive ourselves when we think that we communicate with each other through the word. If there is no silence between us, the words convey almost nothing. Understanding takes place at the level where two people meet deeply in silence, beyond all verbal expression." —Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh+

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, OCTOBER 27 READER SERVICE DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY FATHERS OF THE 7TH ECUMENICAL
COUNCIL; MARTYRS NAZARIUS, & GERVASE, PROTASE, AND CELSUS OF MILAN;
HIEROMARTYR SILVANUS OF GAZA; VENERABLE PARASCEVA OF EPIBATIMA-
THRACE, WHOSE RELICS ARE IN IASI, ROMANIA; SAINT MYKOLA SVIATOSHA-
PRINCESS OF CHERNIHIV & WONDERWORKER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

Tone 2

2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9; Hebrews 13:7-16

Luke 8:5-15; John 17:1-13

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 03 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM

**20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT HILARION THE GREAT OF PALESTINE;
MARTYRS DASIUS, GAIUS, & ZOTICUS AT NICOMEDIA; VENERABLE HILARION
OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA-FIRST UKRAINIAN METROPOLITAN OF KIEV**

Tone 3

Galatians 1:11-19; 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

Luke 16:19-31; Luke 6:17-23

***Litany in Blessed Memory of John Lopushanski, Sam Kerr, Helen Likar, Harry
Bunio, Mary Pekich, Constantine Hanczar, Anna Lotinsky, & Julia Golofski—Fr.
Bob***

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM
21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; GREAT-MARTYR PARASCEVA OF ICONIUM;
MARTYRS TERENCE & NEONILLA OF SYRIA & THEIR CHILDREN-SARBELUS,
PHOTUS, THEODULUS, HIERAX, NITUS, BELE, & EUNICE; SAINT STEPHEN OF
SAINT SAVVAS MONASTERY-HYMNOGRAPHER; REPOSE OF THE VENERABLE JOB
OF POCHAIV, SAINT DEMETRIUS-METROPOLITAN OF ROSTOV**

Tone 4

Galatians 2:16-20; Galatians 5:22-6:2

Luke 8:26-39; Luke 6:17-23

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 27 OCTOBER 2019

READER SERVICE DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM

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ECUMENICAL COUNCIL; MARTYRS NAZARIUS, & GERVASE,
PROTASE, AND CELSUS OF MILAN; HIEROMARTYR SILVANUS OF
GAZA; VENERABLE PARASCEVA OF EPIBATIMA-THRACE, WHOSE
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PRINCESS OF CHERNIHIV & WONDERWORKER 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!

The Presbytera: A Ministry of Support

October 9, 2019 by Fr. Matthew



This is *my* Presbytera, Jennifer. I call her PJ.

The other day I was talking with a good friend of mine about some particular difficulties we encounter in ministry. Along the way we got onto the subjects of ministering to our wives, who we in the Greek Orthodox tradition call the Presbytera (generally pronounced *presvytera*). He said something that struck me.

You know, I know our wives love us, but I don't think they'll ever truly understand how difficult our ministry can be.

My friend

I told him that's an interesting (read: frustrating) statement, because I honestly believe the ministry of the Presbyteria is quite difficult for a number of reasons. I sincerely think that the ministry of our wives, both to the parish and to we priests, is indelible, and requires a great deal of grace and savvy to navigate. And to that, my dearest sisters in Christ, I would use my tiny platform to brag on you, the women who out of love for their husbands and parishes, willingly take on the mantle of presbyteria-hood, and provide a firm support for us. Here's a purposely effusive telling of all the things I know, or have learned, about being a Presbyteria.

Your ministry begins before ordination even happens. Some of you followed us all the way to seminary (in our Archdiocese, ours is in Boston), disrupting your entire life to support us. Some of you were newlyweds, and your very first years of marriage were spent under the eyes of 30 other families. (Some of you met in school and then got married right before ordination—another unique challenge.) You might had not seen us meaningfully for a couple of days at a time, depending on the season. This can be particularly difficult for those of us who have children, because parenting duties fell on your shoulders. For most of you, seminary was a beautiful time, where you forged very deep relationships with other families. But it can be excruciatingly difficult sometimes to live in a large community and not see your husband. It's important to note: *you didn't do it because you were pining for an upheaval in your life*, but because you love us, saw something in us when we talk about God's pull in our lives, and decided to support us in this call. Heck, you even made a statement that you support us and will follow us to wherever we're assigned.



St. Tatiani of Rome

Fast-forward to the parish life where your ministry changes. Although your husband serves the parish, it's *your* home parish. It's your primary

source of other Orthodox Christians, it's where you, an Orthodox Christian, encounter Christ in the sacraments. And yet, because you are a Presbyteria people look to you as an example of Christian living. If you have children people are going to watch you parenting your children. Even on Sundays! I can't imagine how stressful that is. Because while most people aren't scrutinizing, they still see what's going on when your kids are being kids. I know you've heard post-Liturgy commentary about the kids, good and bad. But even we priests can move behind the iconostasis for a moment. We don't feel like we have to answer for our children's behavior in the service.

Even knowing the parish is your home parish it can be hard to plug in as a "regular" member, because you know you aren't precisely a "regular" member. Even as a young woman you will find yourself, in some ways, feeling like a mother to the community. People trust you and sometimes will tell you something they might not tell the priest. As a woman, other women may feel more comfortable around you. Everyone will feel comfortable around you. And why wouldn't they? You're pretty incredible. You're great listeners, and have a compassionate ear. If there's friction among members you have to be impartial. You may have also practiced the phrase, "...have you talked to Father about that?" or something similar to it, because you're mortified at the thought of contradicting your husband, or in some other way undermining his ministry. You're left trying to hold that balance, and that requires a lot of strength.



St. Phoebe

While I'm on the subject of husbands, I'd be remiss if I didn't mention your ministry to us. Church work can be stressful, it's true. It's not always bad stress; just the busy-ness of things can wear on a person. But we do come home from maybe working all day and/or a long evening of meetings, and we still don't shut off. We're always noodling around some ministry idea, thinking about how to teach stewardship, or any number of other things related to parish administration. We don't want to bother you with it, but you try to let us bounce ideas off of you, give your observations, and

even offer to lead a ministry that we really want to start but don't have the time or brain space for. I couldn't tell you how many priest wives I've met who are the choir director at the parish, or the chanter. If we're beat down you endeavor to raise us up.

So from where I see it, you live a life where not only do you strive to be an holy Orthodox Christian woman, but also live a life as an example of that striving to an entire parish community. You concern yourself not only with your family in the flesh, but you're aware of your place in the immortal spiritual family that is in all of our parishes. You don't just worry about yourself and your children but the wholeness of your husband. The Presbytera juggles a lot of different roles in the parish. I know most of us appreciate you but it probably sometimes feels thankless.

And so I'd tell my friend that I could never understand how hard *your* ministry is. Thank you for your love, your support, and for your example that you set for all of us in the parish. And **thank you** to all the parishes who love their Presbyteres.

Epilogue: Hilarious to me, PJ's response to me when I told her what I wrote about the important ministry of the Presbytera.

Jeesh. It's really not that hard.

Ok, love. Ok.