



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church
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Great Lent—Venerable Mary of Egypt

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 Smoly nec, Father Lawrence & Matushka Sophia Daniels, Father Joe Cervo, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Pani Mary Ann Chubenko, Father Jim Orr, 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, 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, Michelle, Patrick, Linda Morris, Howard Simpson, Chris, David Hiles, Jennifer, 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 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 & Gordon Grant, Debbie & Jerry Novosel, Noah Willard, Sandra Dillard, Danielle McCann, Barry [Father Jim Orr's cousin], Tim Joyce, Mike Pawlyshyn-Jeannie Stutchell's brother, 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, Tim Sams, Mike Ruzzi, Cindy M., Stephen Popichak—Fr. Bob's brother, Mary Kay Ludovicy, Pastor

Sara Irwin, George Dilendorf, Andy Torick, Carol Behun, Erv Frye, William Lusherand, Bill Boretsky, Colin Kirton—Stage 4 pancreatic cancer, Clifford, Joe Veto, Paul Riley, Tonee & Sydnee Turner, Annette Paluh, Cathy Lotinsky, Monk Andrew, Jeff & Buschra Kerr, 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 April babies: Robert Chicka on the 13th, Alexander Popichak on the 15th, Matthew Popichak [21!!!] on the 18th, and Kim Shirley on the 18th. May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M'nohaya Lita! God Bless!

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, APRIL 05 Saint Basil-NO SERVICE IN SLICKVILLE 10:30 AM
FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT; VENERABLE MARY OF EGYPT; MONK-MARTYR NICON & 199 DISCIPLES IN SICILY; MARTYRS PHILETAS THE SENATOR, WIFE LYDIA, SONS MACEDON & THEOPREPIUS, NOTARY CRONIDES, & AMPHILOCHIUS THE CAPTAIN IN ILLYRIA; VENERABLE NICON OF THE PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

Tone 1

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 10:32-45

Having attained angelic life, you defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross!

Therefore, O most glorious Mary, you are a Bride of the Kingdom!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 4

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: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel!

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—TONE 1

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!

The Lifegiving Cross

John 19:17-And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: (KJV)

The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John wrote lasting words about the Cross. Generations have benefitted from the writings of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist. Christian believers draw life-sustaining nourishment from the Gospel of St. John. Believers' souls are forever changed by St. John's description of the Crucifixion. St. John's Gospel has been spread around the world and through the centuries. The Holy Gospel is always new and relevant to every age, location and person.

John 19:19-And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was Jesus Of Nazareth The King Of The Jews. (KJV)

Believers in the free world have ready access to the Holy Gospel and learn from it. Gratitude is due to saints and martyrs defending the Gospel through the centuries. Give God thanks for the message of the Cross being available for believers today. God's Holy Church proclaims the lasting lessons of the Cross throughout the year. Lasting value exists in seriously studying St. John's Gospel during our entire lives. The Cross profoundly affects believers' souls and brings out the best in their lives.

John 19:25-Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene (KJV)

The Evangelist made written record of the courageous women at the Crucifixion. Centuries of believers have benefitted from the strong witness of these women. Great strength and courage were exhibited by the women present at the Cross. Current believers are challenged to apply the lessons of the Cross to daily life. Great and serious attention are required to immerse the mind in St. John's Gospel. The Gospel of St. John is a treasury of the Church that keeps on giving and giving.

John 19:31-The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. (KJV)

Human minds cannot fathom the full pain and suffering Jesus Christ experienced. Only Jesus knows the full measure of suffering He experienced in the Crucifixion. One has to wonder about the mentality involved in seeking to break Jesus' legs. The severe gruesomeness of Jesus Christ's Crucifixion is remembered until today. The Lord Jesus Christ is crucified in different ways in each succeeding generation. Christ's love for all of humanity is manifested in His willingness to be Crucified.

St. Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem. March 11/24, 2020. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

From Archbishop Anastasios: Resistance to the Pandemic
by Archbishop Anastasios of Albania (3/24/2020)

We are all astounded, as if a new World War has been declared by an invisible enemy, the Coronavirus.

We are all standing uneasily before the unforeseen changes, brought about by this unprecedented pandemic, to the life of the rich and poor, to the educated and simple people, to health, to the economy, to transportation, to the various forms of leisure, and to celebrations.

It behooves us to avoid panic, depression, and despair. Composure, sobriety, and careful concern and discipline towards the instructions and health directives of the responsible governments are required of us. Likewise, we owe wholehearted thanks to those who are tasked with maintaining public cleanliness, order, and information, and especially to the healthcare professionals who are on the vanguard of the battle for the care of the infected.

Remaining inside our homes, let us not permit irritations and conflicts to fester, but let us cultivate creativity, a peaceful disposition, kindness, understanding, affection, and love.

All who are faithful, let us intensify our prayer for the period of this trial to not be protracted, for the recovery of those who are seriously afflicted, and for the spread of the pandemic COVID-19 to be limited. Even more, let us pray that God enlightens the researchers to swiftly determine the proper preventive and therapeutic processes.

Primarily, it is imperative to strengthen our trust in God. Faith and love are the most powerful defensive weapons against the attack of this invisible virus that threatens humanity. Something good will ultimately come out of this crisis and we hope that human societies will reexamine their values and priorities.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters: No anxiety, no disquiet! Let us have more courage, an agreeable attitude, obedience to the instructions, and above all sincere solidarity. The peace and the hope of God strengthen our patience and resistance and let them guide us to make the required choices and changes in our lives after this grave crisis.

+Anastasios, Archbishop of Tirana, Durres and all Albania

Posted on March 18, 2020 | by Fr. Andrew Yefhanov

Question: *Can I kiss icons during the coronavirus epidemic?*

Answer: There is no sin in the fact that a person is afraid of getting infected, because this is a natural and completely justified fear. Another thing is that some of our fears take the form of panic horror.

There are a huge number of viruses in the world, and a considerable number of them cause diseases that can, under certain conditions, lead to death of a person. But this knowledge does not cancel communication with each other and does not make most people panic. Another thing is epidemics, when a person succumbs to the general mood and begins to be afraid of everything. This is the way things are and will always be. People easily give in to the common mood. And if one person can overcome his fears, then in a situation when panic spreads among his environment, whether it's real or virtual, it's hard to keep calm.

The tradition of kissing icons is quite ancient. In this way, we show our reverence for God and the saints depicted in these icons. This is a pious tradition, but no one obliges a Christian to kiss icons, especially if there is a fear of becoming infected during an epidemic.

Icons are regularly wiped and most often this is done with a special alcohol-containing liquid. But, if you have concerns, you can take a clean handkerchief with you, soak it in a disinfectant and wipe the icon, before kissing it, there is nothing forbidden in it. There is also the possibility to temporarily abandon this custom for the duration of the epidemic.

I add that not only isolated cases of healing and cessation of epidemics are associated with many miraculous images. For example, the Shuiskaya-

Smolenskaya icon was painted during the epidemic, and by the veneration of this image the disease stopped. And in general, it is worth remembering that God has care for each of us and such an important moment as a serious disease will not happen without God's permission.

Therefore, there is no obligation to kiss the icons, and in many ways the practice of your behavior in this regard depends on your faith: if you sincerely believe that nothing will happen and you are calm, then kiss icons with prayer to God, the Mother of God and saints, pray also for the deliverance of the world from the epidemic; if you are afraid and cannot overcome your fear, do not be confused by this. Just bow to the holy image, or if you want, touch it with your forehead, or just pray next to it about your needs and that the Lord will help us all to overcome the misfortune that has now come into the world. God bless you!

Translated by The Catalogue of Good Deeds

Source: <https://pravlife.org/ru/content/mozhno-li-celovat-ikony-vo-vremya-epidemii-koronavirusa>

We are unsure of the status of Holy Week Services at this point. We MAY be able to live-stream them, and we are exploring this—assuming we can get an internet connection at the church. Stay tuned. Be SAFE! God Bless! Fr. Bob, Alex, Pani Gina, Alex, and Matt