



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
rpopichak@alumni.cmu.edu

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, Archbishop Jovan, Bishop Robert, Metropolitan Savas, Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia, Father George & Pani Lillian Hnatko, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, Father Joseph Kopchak, Father Elias Warnke, 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], Father George Livanos, Igumen Patrick, Pani Mary Ann Chubenko, Father Jim Orr, Father Rick Seilier, Panimatka Laryssa Charest, Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, Father Steve Hutnick [COVID-`9], Father Victor Wronskyj [COVID-19], Father George & Dobrodijka Oksana Bazylevsky, 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, 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, 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, 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 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 & 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, 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, Steven—Harry Batch's cousin, Rose Mary Pavlovich—Mary Anne Kuznik's Cousin, Stella McKeag, Margaret Sekelsky, Robert Sekelsky, Robert Rodriguez, Dollie Irvin, Joe Mrvos, Alexandra & Bowen, Katherine Kulik, Micky Delans [COVID-19], Pastor Terry Polen, Eleanor Kitt, Stacie & Gary, Dolores Wachnowsky, Maria Warholak, Stacie & Gary, Anna Sekelik, Christy, Mariruth, Rich & Judy Previc, Ben Williams, Denis Strittmatter, Deacon Joe Uzar—vocations, Tim—surgery, Archimandrite Raphael—COVID-19, John Wakin, Olivia—young girl with a brain tumor, Rick & Sharon Morgan, John Stasko [triple by-pass], John, Kris & Kait, Jeff & Mary Jane Double [COVID-19], Barbara Shegat & Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, 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.

Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [His] purpose...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ... There is NOTHING to keep us from praying...for each other, for our family and friends, and most of all for the first responders—EMTs, nurses, doctors, firefighters, police officers, and members of our military who keep us safe. Be well, and be SAFE!!! God Bless!

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.

SERVICES IN SLICKVILLE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM

34TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT ATHANASIUS THE GREAT & SAINT CYRIL-ARCHBISHOPS OF ALEXANDRIA; VENERABLE MARCIAN OF CYRRHUS IN SYRIA-MONK

Tone 1

Colossians 3:12-6; Hebrews 13:7-16

Luke 18:18-27; Matthew 5:14-19

Litany in Blessed Memory of Cecilia Pysh—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 07 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM

35TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN-ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE; MARTYRS FELICITAS OF ROME & 7 SONS-JANUARIUS, FELIX, PHILLIP, SILVANUS, ALEXANDER, VITALIS, & MARTIAL; VENERABLE PUBLIUS-ASCETIC OF SYRIA; VENERABLE MARES THE SINGER OF SYRIA

Tone 2

Timothy 1:15-17

Luke 18: 35-43

Litany in Blessed Memory of Milton G. Chicka, Daniel Pysh, Sara Chicka, Nickolai Pivtoraiko, Evelyn Burlack, Anne Cherepko Mazock, Roy Wyke, & Katherine Debick—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM

36TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYR TRYPHON OF CAMPSADA NEAR APAMEA IN SYRIA; MARTYRS PERPETUA & SATURUS, REVOCATUS, SATURNINUS, SECUNDULUS, & FELICITAS; VENERABLE PETER OF GALATIA; VENERABLE VENDEMIANUS-HERMIT OF BITHYNIA

Tone 3

1 Timothy 4:9-15

Luke 19:1-10

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 31 JANUARY 2021

34TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT ATHANASIUS THE GREAT & SAINT CYRIL-ARCHBISHOPS OF ALEXANDRIA; VENERABLE MARCIAN OF CYRRHUS IN SYRIA-MONK

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.

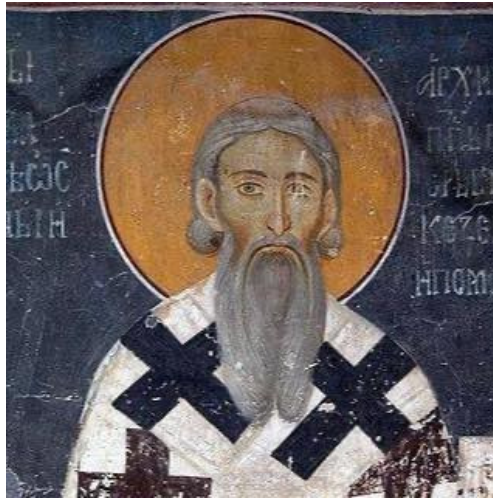
He magnifies the salvation of the king, and deals mercifully with His Christ, with David and his seed forever!

Once someone had been hunting wild animals in the desert, and saw Abba Anthony joking with the brothers [and was scandalized]. And the elder, wanting to fully convince him that it was sometimes necessary to relax (or “condescend” συγκαταβαίνειν) with the brothers, he said to him, Put an arrow to your bow, and shoot. And he did thus. He said to him, Shoot again. And he shot. And he said again, Shoot. The hunter said to him, If I shoot without limit, the bow may break. The elder said to him, So it is with the work of God. If we shoot more than the limit of the brothers, they will promptly shatter. Therefore it is necessary for one to relax with the brothers. The hunter heard these things, was pierced by remorse, and being greatly helped by the elder, went away. And the brothers, strengthened, went away to their place. (*Sayings of St Anthony the Great*, 13) via Father Thomas Soroka



"The answer to our anxiety is not drugs, alcohol, tranquilizers or psychiatric treatment. It will not be cured by Yoga, or some eastern meditation practice. The problem is that we have lost God at the center of our lives. Once we make our love for God the primary focus of our lives, and allow His Grace to work through us, then we will be comforted and embraced in His love— no matter what circumstance we encounter in life. All anxiety disappears. This is the aim of the Orthodox way of life: to put God first and seek the Holy Spirit. The anxieties of modern life are only symptoms our separation from God." *St. Paisios*—from Father George L Livanos

Saint Sava (Serbian: Свети Сава / Sveti Sava, 1174 – 14/27 January 1236), known as the Enlightener, was a Serbian prince and Orthodox monk, the first Archbishop of the autocephalous Serbian Church, the founder of Serbian law, and a diplomat. Sava, born as Rastko (Serbian Cyrillic: Растко), was the youngest son of Serbian Grand Prince Stefan Nemanja (founder of the Nemanjić dynasty), and ruled the appanage of Hum briefly in 1190–92. He then left for Mount Athos, where he became a monk with the name Sava (Sabbas). At Athos he established the monastery of Hilandar, which became one of the most important cultural and religious centres of the Serbian people. In 1219 the Patriarchate exiled in Nicea recognized him as the first Serbian Archbishop, and in the same year he authored the oldest known constitution of Serbia, the *Zakonopravilo* nomocanon, thus securing full independence; both religious and political. Sava is regarded as the founder of Serbian medieval literature.



St. John the Baptist

Matthew 3:1-2-In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (KJV)

St. John is known for preaching repentance and the Kingdom of Heaven at hand. Consciousness about active repentance has a central place in the lives of believers. Believers daily thoughts and actions are to be directed toward God's Kingdom. Repentance and a life pleasing to God are necessary for seekers of the Kingdom. Learning from St. John the Baptist and his example enriches believers' lives. St. John is a worthy intercessor before the Lord God in behalf of believers.

Matthew 11:11-Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. KJV)

Great benefit is derived from considering the singular place in history of St. John. Jesus put St. John in perspective regarding his place among all who were born. Investing in learning about St. John the Baptist leads to benefits to the human soul. The relationship between St. John the Baptist and Jesus merits careful thought. Believers will always find something new to learn about Jesus Christ and St. John. Jesus Christ and St. John provide nourishment for the hunger of the believer's soul.

Matthew 11:12-And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. KJV)

Considered effort and not complacency is necessary to drive the Christian life. Believers have a responsibility to forcefully seek the Kingdom of Heaven. Being responsible as Christians comes with uniting with Jesus Christ at Baptism. The world changed with Jesus Christ's baptism in the Jordan River by John. Christian believers' lives and identities change

forever with their baptism. Holy Baptism is a measuring and reference point for the remaining time of life.

Luke 7:20-When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? KJV)

During his life St. John the Baptist directed attention to the Lord Jesus Christ. St. John assumed a position of humility in his relationship with Jesus Christ. We learn from the actions of those sent to Jesus Christ by St. John the Baptist. John the Baptist's actions are associated with revealing truths about Christ. We learn from Jesus' words and actions in relation to St. John the Baptist. Being attentive to the relationship of Jesus and John improves believers lives.

*Synaxis of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist John. January 7/20, 2021.
Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic*

I sincerely don't understand how as Christians we can—or would even want to—become passionate members of any political party. It often seems to me like we have lost sight of the hope we have in Christ and instead act out of worry or fear, thinking that the world will collapse if we don't get "the correct candidate" in office, whoever that might be, or else that we can overcome all injustice if we just elect better people.

When we think like that and attach ourselves wholeheartedly to this party or that, we inevitably have to compromise our faith in numberless ways. "Our team" becomes more important than our God. We have to say, "Well, my party supports this that is clearly wrong, but I shouldn't speak about that, because it might help the other side, and they're worse! So I'll be silent."

Look at what happens any time there is a scandal involving a politician. You can predict with almost 100% accuracy how people will react based on which "side" they're on. If the scandal involves someone on their "side," it was excusable, or made up, or not that bad. If it was someone on the other side, the scandal is magnified and put in the worst possible light. All because we want "our team" to win, and repentance of our sins and charity towards others seem to get in the way, to put us at a disadvantage. We can't follow the Gospel—we have elections to win, and everything will fall apart if we don't win!

This kind of political partisanship also serves to divide us from each other in a way that unfortunately often leads us to demonize and dehumanize people that we disagree with. Since our choices seem binary, we assume that anyone who reaches different conclusions must be doing so because they support the evil in their party, whereas we (of course) support our party in spite of, not because of, its flaws. As a result, we feel justified

in speaking of people on the "other side" with mockery and cruelty, we rejoice in their sufferings. How can we worship God one day and then tear down other people made in His image the next day? How can we wish for them to suffer, or hope for violence?

This party spirit also naturally leads to miniature personality cults around candidates for high office. I've been disturbed since at least 2000, when I started to become more aware, of the way in which candidates, in order to win office, have to build up a fan base of people who idolize them and everything they say.

This kind of partisanship also leads to one-upmanship in doing bad things. "They did it first, so now we have to! They pushed things further, and if we don't push back even harder, they'll take advantage of us!"

All of this, the compromising of what we believe, the tendency to magnify the sins of others and minimize our own sins, the demonization of others, the lack of repentance and ultimately of faith, runs directly counter to the Gospel.

The Scriptures teach us, however, not to put our trust in "princes and sons of men, in whom there is no salvation." Our salvation is in Christ and our calling is to be faithful to Him and to the Gospel.

We don't have to worry that everything will fall apart if the wrong person gets elected—it very well might and has numerous times throughout history. Empires and civilizations have risen and fallen, persecutions have come and gone, things have repeatedly looked hopeless. But Christ is still the victor over death. The Apostles and saints rejoiced to suffer with and for Christ, because they knew that they had nothing to fear, even if their reputations, properties, or lives were taken from them. The only thing they had to fear was their own lack of faithfulness.

Nor should we think that we can build paradise on earth by electing better people. We are all of us fallible and corruptible and stand by God's grace. Politicians are not a special, worse kind of human being, and replacing them with better people won't get rid of all injustice. Power, without humility and repentance, always corrupts, and humble and repentant people rarely seek power, which is why the few truly humble people who have had power given to them throughout human history stand out so much.

None of this means that we should be indifferent to right and wrong, to truth and falsity, or that we shouldn't work together to try to make the world a better place—far from it! As Christians, we are called to do all of those things. However, political partisanship and a desire to have power hinder us in that work. Nor does it mean that all issues are of the same weight, or that we can't weigh issues and make political decisions. But we

need to make those decisions soberly, without attaching our hearts to any person other than Christ or any party other than the Gospel.

We need to be mature, stable, and zealous in our faith and, kind, and gentle in the working out of that faith. We need to be charitable, especially to those we disagree with, since our faith is shown in how we treat our enemies, not how we treat our friends. We should prefer to lose, to suffer, to be laughed at, but to do so faithfully and maintaining the peace and joy that are given us by the Holy Spirit, rather than to "win" power at the cost of compromising our faith and losing our souls.

As a priest, my vocation is to preach Christ. As a Christian, my vocation is to follow Him. Why would we trade our birthright, the joy of the risen Christ, a joy which is eternal, for the bitterness, rancor, hatred, fear, and division that comes from attaching our hearts to candidates, political parties, or even civilizations that are all passing and temporary?

Fr. John Hodge via Fr. John Charest



Jawn, pronounced \ˈjān\, is the Philadelphia all-purpose noun. It can refer to a single thing, or a collection or class of things, or a situation, or a person.

Endurance is something that is measured in many ways.

For a runner, it means how far you can push yourself. How far can you go without stopping?

For an academic, it means how hard your brain can work. The depths to which you can study a subject and give an informed decision or opinion.

For a marriage, it means what types of challenges can you withstand as a partnership. Challenges relating to kids, to money. To health and trust.

For a human being, it means how much hardship you can sustain. The distance you can move mountains. The amount of love you can share with humanity.

For emergency managers, public safety workers, and those who work in volunteer organizations, endurance could be measured in several ways. If you've lived it, it could mean the amount of days you've had doughnuts for breakfast and pizza for lunch. You could measure it in caffeine, or meetings, or briefings.

Some have measured it in Skype and Zoom calls with our kids from an emergency operations center, or nights spent without our partners next to us, saying "I love you" over a phone instead of in their warm embrace at our homes, in our beds. Together.

This past year has tested all of us that have been working the front lines against COVID-19. Nurses and doctors, along with scientists, front line workers, police, fire, emergency

managers, and others have had to endure sickness, sleepless nights, and starving hearts. An emergency, a disaster, that has tested us all like never before.

But just because it's never been like this, doesn't mean we can't learn lessons from the past. From Three Mile Island, to 9/11. From Xenia to Joplin. From Andrew to Katrina, from Sandy to Maria.

From Oklahoma City to Our Capital Building. ***Our*** Capital Building.

To that end, we have faced tragedies like this before. Our nation has passed meaningful legislation to reform emergency management in response to national emergencies. We've had commissions and after-action reports. New grants have been created to help our states and localities innovate. Money has been given to states and localities to mitigate and rebuild.

Most of all, though, in addition to the policies, lessons, and money, these disasters have taught us one incredible lesson that we can pass along to not only our colleagues, but to others outside of the industry.

That lesson as we enter a new phase of the fight against COVID-19 is, no matter the challenge we face, no matter how big it is, we will *endure*.

And, this past Wednesday, our democracy endured as we continued our process of peacefully transferring power, however fragile that process was.

Actions and images like the ones we saw on January 6th remind us that we continue to live in a *more* perfect union, not a perfect union. It is important that we look at the events of January 6th through the lens of a *more* perfect union and not the perfect union we may believe ourselves to be. This union is an enduring experiment built on the backs of Americans steeled in tenacity, honor, truth, and love, not division and hate.

As a nation, we are flawed, we are troubled, and we make mistakes. But, one thing remains certain: through our kindness and generosity, through our lessons that we learn, and through our ability to grant ourselves and others second chances, we will, as a nation, have an opportunity to right the wrongs from January 6th.

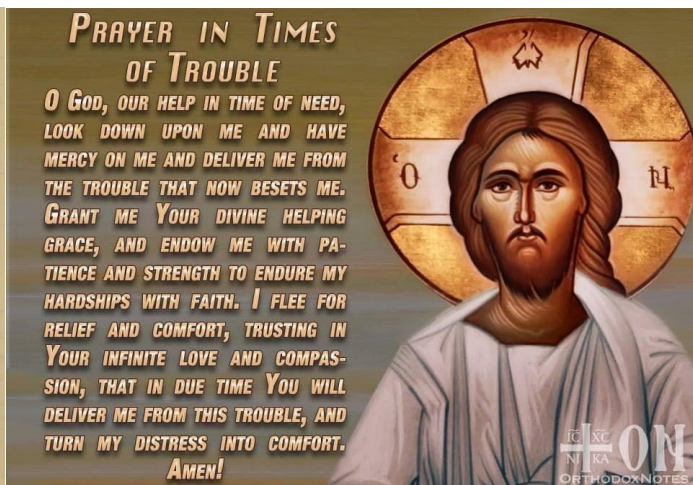
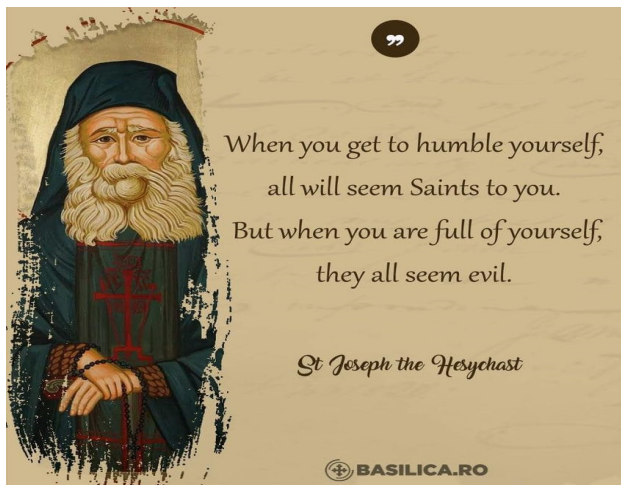
We can also use this as another example to exemplify who we are as a people, as Americans. There are things we can do right now to achieve this. When someone gives you fiction, give them facts. When someone gives you an outstretched hand, embrace it and shake it. When someone gives you their words, listen and lend your ear.

Don't look at what happened at our Capital as a culmination or an end, but rather, let's look at this tragic episode as an opportunity to begin anew, to listen longer, and to love stronger than ever.

Because every day that the sun rises over this land and we are basked with the hope of a new day, when we arise to confront personal and national challenges, we are given a gift.

The gift of opportunity.

John DiSpaldo, Teracore, Federal Emergency Management Agency- Region III



Since most folks haven't seen son #2 for a while, here's a photo of Matt from a recent fire in Carnegie...he was the first officer on the scene and in charge... When the Carnegie Chief appeared, he became an interior firefighter. This was taken after the fire was extinguished...and shamelessly stolen from his Facebook page by his proud dad!



Lieutenant-2 Matthew Popichak, EMT Glendale Hose Company #1