

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

# **SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS!**

**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, 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-19], Father Victor Wronskyj [COVID-19], Father George & Dobrodijka Oksana Bazylevsky, Fr. Volodymyr Muzychka [COVID-19], Diakonissa Mary Ann Cherkas, Father Harry Linsinbigler [COVID-19], Archimandrite Raphael [COVID-19], 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 Luciow, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial,

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 Strozh [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], 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, 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, 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, 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], Terri Crosby-Vega [COVID-19], Kristi Wilson, Wendy LaGamba, Melissa Gross [hip replacement], Mike, Amy, Nathan, & Ben Forbeck [COVID-19], David Salazar, Ann Zurasky [knee replacement], James Mary, Barb Bookser, Dr. Paul Riley, Serena, Wyatt, Makenzie, Jennifer, Carolyn Strittmatter, Barbara Shegat & Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, Joyce [stroke], Candace Irvin, Dollie Irvin, Carol Muschick, Grace Love [knee replacement], Stacie Riley, Joseph Paul Cervo, Jr. [newborn], 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.

Do not fatigue, no matter how many times you return the mind that ran away during the prayer "Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me." God will see your disposition and work and will send His grace that will gather your mind. - Elder Ephraim of Arizona

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ... There is <u>NOTHING</u> 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 <u>ALWAYS</u>** *FREE!* 

<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.

#### SERVICES IN SLICKVILLE

SUNDAY, June 27 OBEDNITZA-UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS; PROPHET ELISHA; SAINT METHODIUS-PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

> *Tone 8* Hebrews 11:33-12:2 Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

MONDAY, June 28 SAINTS PETER & PAUL [APOSTLES'] FAST BEGINS

SUNDAY, July 04 OBEDNITZA-UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; ALL SAINTS OF MOUNT ATHOS; ALL SAINTS OF UKRAINE; MARTYR JULIAN OF TARSUS IN CILICIA; HIEROMARTYR TERENCE-BISHOP OF ICONIUM/ SAINT JULIUS-PRESBYTER OF NOVARA & BROTHER JULIAN-DEACON

Tone 1

Romans 2:10-16; Hebrews 11:33-12:2 Matthew 4:18-23; Matthew 4:25-5:12

Litany in Blessed Memory of Olga Stock, Anna Kitch, Joseph Yarmeak, Sophie Carrera, Susan Justina Sredich, Stella E. Cherepko, Emil Joseph Paouncic, Igumen George Owen, Claudia Horvath, & Walter Burlack—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, July 11 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SYNAXIS OF GALICIAN & ODESSA SAINTS; TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF THE HOLY UNMERCENARIES CYRUS & JOHN; VENERABLE XENOPHON-ABBOT OF ROBEIKA; VENERABLE PAUL THE PHYSICIAN OF CORINTH

*Tone 2* Romans 5:1-10; Galatians 5:22-6:2 Matthew 6:22-33; Luke 6:17-23

# **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 27 JUNE 2021**

**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS; PROPHET ELISHA; SAINT METHODIUS-PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE** 

**TROPARION-TONE 4** 

As with fine porphyry and royal purple, Thy Church has been adorned with Thy Martyrs blood Shed throughout the world She cries to Thee, O Christ God: send down Thy bounties on Thy people, Grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

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

# KONTAKION-TONE 8

The universe offers Thee the God-bearing martyrs As the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. Through the Theotokos and their prayers establish Thy Church in peace.

# **PROKEIMENON-TONE 4**

READER: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
PEOPLE: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
READER: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel!
PEOPLE: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
READER: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.
PEOPLE: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
READER: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
READER: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
READER: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
READER: Pray and make your vows...

# ALLELUIA VERSES-TONE 4

The righteous called, and the Lord heard them.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivers them out of them all.

## **COMMUNION HYMNS**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

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

## The Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

John 17:1-13

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word., Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ( KJV)

In the current Gospel reading, the Lord Jesus Christ spoke about eternal life as He was concluding His own earthly existence in a human body. Jesus spoke with love about the men given to Him and who kept the words given to them.

Jesus prayed for His followers and expressed His interest in His followers being fulfilled with joy. This Gospel reading occurs each year on the Sunday following Ascension. The content is enriching regarding Jesus and God the Father.

Believers are enriched with each Gospel reading. The soul yearns for the nourishment found in the Holy Gospel. The human mind is at its best when considering the Gospel.

The believer is united with Jesus Christ in hearing the proclamation of the Gospel. The whole person is affected when listening carefully to the Gospel. The Church is continuing to celebrate the Feast of the Ascension.

Jesus' Ascension into heaven marked the conclusion of His earthly presence. Jesus continues to be ever-present in the Church. Jesus' return at the glorious Second Coming is prayed for with each recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Each person determines his or her personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in God's Holy Church. Church services enable the believer to grow and mature in Christ and to be constantly nourished.

Believers learn from the Church services and the teachings which accompany and are a part of the services. The Lord Jesus Christ continues to be present and provides for believers through the Church.

Each person decides the extent he or she will seek to grow in Christ. Each person choses the effort to put forth in following Christ. Practices of personal prayer and fasting of each person are decided individually.

The Church offers teachings on prayer and fasting. Parents and family members set examples for their children and relatives. Clergy encourage individuals to follow Christ. The final decision rests with the person.

Jesus Christ offers eternal life. Eternal life exists only with the Lord Jesus Christ. Life is empty and has no meaning beyond death without Christ. Jesus demonstrated His power over death when He rose from the tomb.

Jesus' followers have the Church to experience Christ and to prepare for His return. The Church is filled with the rich lessons of history through the centuries and the Holy Mysteries of Christ.

Each day is a blessing and a reminder of the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. Each moment the glorious Second Coming of Christ moves closer.

God's Holy Church prepares believers for the Second Coming.

The Feast of the Ascension is a feast of great joy. Jesus Christ's time on earth in human body is a matter of record in the Church. All that was accomplished by Christ while He was in bodily form is beyond measure.

St. John's Gospel concludes with these words "There are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written." (Jn.21:25)

Life in the Lord Jesus Christ is very real and at the same time a wonderful mystery that continues to unfold. Jesus Christ reveals Himself each day in ways that are apparent to the believing eye.

The Church provides the Feast of the Ascension as a time of joy and anticipation. Jesus Christ is due unending gratitude for all that is known about Him during the time He took on earthly flesh.

Jesus is due gratitude for His presence prior to His taking on human flesh and following his Ascension. Inquiring minds seeking to know Christ better will find His presence in history back to the world's creation.

Effort is needed to grow in Christ and to live in Christ. God is everpresent. We know from the Acts of the Apostles that God "he be not far from every one of us:" (Acts 17:27)

Today is an opportunity in God's Holy Church to be mindful of Jesus' Ascension and to celebrate all that Jesus is and does. Today and everyday are the times to be grateful for the Lord Jesus Christ. The Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. Apostle Hermes of the Seventy. Holy Martyr Hermia. May 31/June 13,2021. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

The inexpressible and unaccountable melancholy that oppresses you and prevents you from enjoying anything may be a test, intended to prove the firmness of your decision and the purity of your love of God.

Elder Macarius of Optina



<sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Is death is the worst it could happen?

And this is why people afraid of it?

I don't think so.

Death is inevitable.

We are all predestined to die.

Unless second coming of Christ will takes in our lifetime.

We fear death because it's something unknown.

When in fact we shouldn't be afraid of death if we truly believe in everlasting life Christ has given us.

Those who live life to the fullest.

The way Christ has taught us to live are not afraid of death.

They are ready to accept it when their time comes to leave their earthly place.

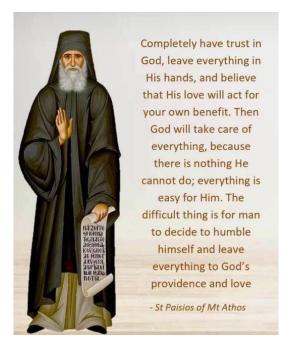
What we should really fear?

Is while living for something to die inside of us? That's what we should worry about.

Live life to the fullest so the joy of Christ can be fulfilled in you (John 17:13)

Remaining in the love of Our Lord and God Jesus Christ,

Fr. Vasyl Sendeha



#### <u>Love God</u> Deuteronomy 6:5-And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. (KJV)

Loving the Lord God completely is well-rooted in the Church's Scriptural history. Completely loving God with all the heart, might and soul is a daily challenge. Temptations and diversions in life require the believer to always be very vigilant. Keeping the Lord first and foremost in the mind, heart and soul requires discipline. All within the self that is not of God is to be expelled and avoided in daily life. Evil can be disguised as good and is very perilous for the inattentive believer.

#### Nehemiah 1:5-And said, I beseech thee, O Lord God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments: (KJV)

Lovers of God and observers of God's commandments are always known to God. A believer has a clear conscience when loving God and observing commandments. Freedom is experienced when the believer willing loves and follows the Lord God. The believer is energized and inspired when loving and adhering to God's ways. Fear dissipates when God is fully loved and God's ways are willingly embraced. Joy readily fills the hearts and minds of believers loving the Lord God completely. Constant effort is necessary for the believer to fully and earnestly love the Lord.

### Daniel 9:4-And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; (KJV)

Repentance facilitates turning to the Lord with love and beseeching great mercy. Confession involves repudiating sin and expressing deep-

rooted love for the Lord. Placing faith and confidence in God is simultaneous with firmly loving the Lord. Believers learn from personal experience the merits of completely loving God. God's goodness and mercy abound when a person demonstrates love for the Lord. The person's soul is at its very best when filled completely with love for the Lord.

### Micah 6:8-He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? (KJV)

Daily personal behavior will reveal the extent a person truly loves the Lord God. Believers are challenged to be united with the Lord God throughout all of life. The challenge is to ensure that nothing separates the believer from loving God. Care must be exercised so subtle temptations do not lead to peril for the soul. Evil exists in society and daily life to undermine the believer's love of God. Frustrations and evils in daily life test a person's strength of faith and love. Believers have the ability to love God completely with body, mind and soul.

Holy Martyr Lucilian and Those with him. June 3/16, 2021. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

# LEARNING FROM A BOY SCOUT

## **BE BRAVE**

True courage is not just taking risks. Scouts know that to stand for what is true and right, even when others ridicule and taunt you, is a true act of bravery Scouts do what is right because it is right.

> John Patrick Hickey www.johnpatrickhickey.com https://www.facebook.com/scoutingoutofuniform/





for them because they don't know what they are doing."

-Patriarch Pavle of Serbia-

What an astonishing thing a book is. It's a flat object made from a tree with flexible parts on which are imprinted lots of funny dark squiggles. But one glance at it and you're inside the mind of another person, maybe somebody dead for thousands of years. Across the millennia, an author is speaking clearly and silently inside your head, directly to you. Writing is perhaps the greatest of human inventions, binding together people who never knew each other, citizens of distant epochs. Books break the shackles of time. A book is proof that humans are capable of working magic.

~ Carl Sagan

When you go on vacation this summer: Take our Lord with you! Now that it's the summer months many people go on vacation. In preparation for your vacation you should find out where a Orthodox Church might be located, and to call the Church for services when you in the area. You should also should take your prayers books, so you can say your morning and evening prayers, and also an icon of our Lord and the Mother of God. Also you should take your Orthodox Study Bible that you might read it daily, and your prayer rope in order to do the Jesus Prayer. Enjoy the beauty of the creation of our Lord God. Say also a prayer that our Lord will keep your trip safe and a safe return. Make the sign of the cross before you begin your vacation. May our Lord our God bless you! +Father Archimandrite Nektarios (Serfes) who will be praying for you!



## The Georgian Patriarch Ilia II was mistaken for a vagabond

Fathers of the old generation have such a pious custom—when they come to church, they change their shoes in house slippers, and if they are not there, then walk without shoes. And so, Father Ilia arrived alone at our Transfiguration Church on Smolenka, sat down on the steps in front of the entrance and began to change his shoes.

Here the janitor was getting out, who drew attention to the old man who was sitting on the steps and doing something. And the janitor thought it was a beggar who had come to beg.

Meanwhile, everyone in the church was preparing to meet the Patriarch of Georgia, who, was supposed to arrive later, and even with his entourage. The janitor also knew about it. He approached the one who had changed his shoes with the following words:

"Hey, man, why are you sitting here? Go to another place, ask for alms! The Georgian Patriarch must come to us now."

But the old man calmly continued to change his shoes without answering the janitor He just smiled back. Then he got up and went to the temple.

This story spread throughout the entire Orthodox Kaluga people. Perhaps you and I would never have heard anything about it if it had not been for the remorseful janitor who wants to share with everyone his terrible ordeal in his opinion.

The patriarch himself did not tell anyone about this incident.

From this story we can see the humility and modesty of Father Ilia, despite his high rank. And we can imagine how many such temptations the priests of the Church of Christ have, because I have described only one grain of sand in the vast desert of life. Glory to Thee, Lord, that there are people who are able to devote all of themselves to the service of Thy Church and contribute to its strengthening.

