



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

GREAT LENT begins TOMORROW!

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 Jakiw Norton, Father Paul Stoll, 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 & Pani-Dobrodijka Sonia Diakiw, Archpriest Dionysi Vitali, Protodeacon Joseph Hotrovich, Father Paisius McGrath, Father Michael Smolynec, Father Lawrence & Matushka Sophia Daniels, Father Joe Cervo, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Igumen Patrick, Pani Mary Ann Chubenko, Father Jim Orr, Father Rick S3ilier, 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], 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 Luciw, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial, Yvonne Christy, Father Deacon 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 Zeliszczyk, 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, Maria Warholak, Stacie & Gary, Anna Sekelik, Christy, Mariruth, Rich & Judy Previc, Ben Williams, Denis Strittmatter, Father Joe Uzar—newly ordained, 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, David Hess, Serena, Wyatt, Makenzie, Jennifer, Carolyn Strittmatter, Barbara Shegat & Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, Candace Irvin, Carol Muschick, Grace Love [knee replacement], Stacie Riley, Joseph Paul Cervo, Jr. [infant], Elizabeth [5-year-old], Lillian Skowvron, Pani Cathy Danczak, Sue & Greg Heinen, Paul Simpson [Father Bob's cousin, car accident], Sharon Curtis Rivas, Kathy Milcic, Lisa Bolan, David G. [cancer], Donna [dementia] & Darla, Linda Snow, Zack Blair [Pani Gina's nephew], Greg & Mary Lou Sheakley [Pani Gina's cousins—COVID], the McKenna family, David Gazella, Brian & Michele Cannone, Robert & Eleanor Rodrigues & family, Don Menagon [COVID-19], Father Nick Mahaly [COVID-19], Mike Wilcox [COVID-19], Father Deacon James Rossetti & Diakonissa Kari—ordination!, Steve Sivulich, Michael Welsh, Nick Solominsky, Samantha & Lisa Houser, Sarah Stepanovich Clark, 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 March babies: Sonia Luciw on the 3rd, Walter Anthony Burlack on the 7th, Mary Shirley on the 11th, and Judy Previc on the 12th. May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M'nohaya Lita! God Bless them and their families!

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, March 06 OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
37TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; CHEESEFARE SUNDAY; EXPULSION OF ADAM & EVE FROM EDEN; SAINT TIMOTHY OF SYMBOLA IN BITHYNIA; SAINT EUSTATHIUS-ARCHBISHOP OF ANTIOCH; SAINT GEORGE-BISHOP OF AMASTRIS ON THE BLACK SEA

3Tone 4

Romans 13:11-14:4

Matthew 6:14-21

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Mary Smith, John Metrick, Andrew Hanczar, Anna Lawrence, Daria Masur, Michael Cicio, Charles Shumsky, Terry Reinhart, Jean Stuchell, Joseph Vangrin, Frank Riznow, Michael Holupka, Steven Sawchuck, Joseph Nezolyk, & Evelyn Burtyk Bush—
Fr. Bob***

MONDAY, March 07 GREAT LENT/THE GREAT FAST/BEGINS

SUNDAY, March 13 SAINT BASIL THE GREAT-OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS
10:30 AM
1ST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT; SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY; SAINT BASIL THE CONFESSOR; HIEROMARTYR NESTOR-BISHOP OF MAGYDOS; SAINTS MARANA & CYANNA; HIEROMARTYR PROTERIUS-PATRIARCH OF ALEXANDRIA & 6 COMPANIONS

Tone 5

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

John 1:43-51

**SUNDAY, March 20 SAINT BASIL THE GREAT-OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS
10:30 AM**

**2ND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT; SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS; SYNAXIS OF THE
VENERABLE FATHERS OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA; HOLY HIEROMARTYRS OF
CHERSON-BASIL, EPHRAIM, CAPITO, EUGENE, AETHERIUS, ELPIDIUS, &
AGATHODORUS; SAINT PAUL THE SIMPLE OF EGYPT-DISCIPLE OF SAINT
ANTHONY THE GREAT; SAINT PAUL THE CONFESSOR-BISHOP OF PRUSIAS
IN BITHYNIA; SAINT EMILIAN OF ROME**

Tone 6

Hebrews 7:26-8:2; Galatians 5:22-6:2

John 10:9-16; Luke 6:17-23

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 06 MARCH 2022

**37TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; CHEESEFARE SUNDAY;
EXPULSION OF ADAM & EVE FROM EDEN; SAINT TIMOTHY OF
SYMBOLA IN BITHYNIA; SAINT EUSTATHIUS-ARCHBISHOP OF
ANTIOCH; SAINT GEORGE-BISHOP OF AMASTRIS ON THE BLACK
SEA**

TROPARION—TONE 4

When the women disciples of the Lord
Learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection;
They cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles:
Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen,
Granting the world great mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

KONTAKION—CHEESEFARE SUNDAY—TONE 6

O Master, Teacher of Wisdom, Bestower of virtue,
Who teaches the thoughtless and protects the poor:
Strengthen and enlighten my heart, O Word of the Father,
Let me not restrain my mouth from crying to Thee:
Have mercy on me, a transgressor, O Merciful Lord.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

KONTAKION—TONE 4

My Savior and Redeemer,
As God rose from the tomb
And delivered the earthborn from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of Hell,
And as Master, He has risen on the third day!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 4

READER: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

PEOPLE: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

READER: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

PEOPLE: O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

READER: O Lord, how manifold are thy works!

PEOPLE: In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 4

Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness.

You love righteousness and hate iniquity.

Father Thomas Soroka:

TEXTS FOR A SERVICE FOR THE INCREASE OF LOVE AND THE UPROOTING OF HATRED AND ALL ANIMOSITY

AT THE PROSKOMEDIA:

O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, Who gave a new commandment to Your disciples, that they should love one another: Accept this offering for the remission of all the sins of Your right-believing servants. And by Your Holy Spirit renew in us love for Your goodness and for neighbor, which has waxed cold in us. Establish this with strength in our hearts, that, fulfilling Your commandments, we seek not on earth our own ends, but that which is to Your glory, the building up of our neighbor, and for salvation.

AT THE GREAT LITANY:

That we may be cleansed of our sins and transgressions which have dried up in us love for Him and for our neighbor, and that it may be established by the power, action and grace of His Most-holy Spirit, and rooted in all our hearts, earnestly let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be planted and rooted in us by the grace of His Most-holy Spirit the new commandment of His New Testament: that we love one another, and not merely satisfy ourselves, but rather always strive for His glory and the building-up of our neighbor, let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be uprooted in us hatred, envy and jealousy and all other passions which destroy brotherly love, and that there may be planted unfeigned love, fervently let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be kindled in us the fervent love of God and our neighbor by the grace of His Most-holy Spirit, and thus burn out to the very roots the passions of all our souls and bodies, let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be uprooted in us the passions of self-love, and rooted instead the virtue of brotherly love by the power of His Most-holy Spirit, with broken and contrite hearts let us pray to the Lord.

That we may not love the world and that which is in the world, but rather have true love for God and His glory, and that we may love that which is profitable and for the salvation of our neighbor, so that we may ever gaze on the good things prepared in heaven, and that we may seek these with all our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

That truly we may love, not just our friends and brothers, but also our enemies, and do that which is good to those who hate us, with the power, action and grace of His Most-holy Spirit moving us, let us pray to the Lord.

That we may examine ourselves, condemn ourselves, and ever looking upon our own transgressions, humble ourselves before God and before everyone, never judging our brothers or sisters, but loving them as our very self, by the power, action and grace of His Most-holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

That we may imitate the burning love of the Christians in ancient times for God and neighbor, and that we may be their heirs and successors, not only in word, but in true action, by the power, action and grace of the Most-holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

That He may keep us immovable in the True Faith, in peace and the unity of burning love, increasing in all virtues, and preserve us unharmed from all soul-corrupting passions, by the power, action and grace of the Most-holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

TROPARION, Tone 4:

You bound Your Apostles in the bonds of love, O Christ, and have firmly bound us, Your faithful servants, to Yourself, that we may fulfill Your commandments and have unfeigned love for one another, through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Only love of Mankind.

KONTAKION, Tone 5:

Kindle our hearts with flames of love for You, O Christ God, that being inflamed by this, in heart, mind and soul, we may love You with all our strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, and that keeping Your commandments, we may glorify You the Giver of all good.

PROKEIMENON, Tone 7:

I will love You, O Lord, my strength; the Lord is my foundation
My God is my helper, and I will hope in Him.

EPISTLE: 1 JOHN 3:10-24

GOSPEL: JOHN 13:31-35

AT THE AUGMENTED LITANY:

O Lord our God, in Your mercy, as You are good, look down upon the ground of our heart in which love has dried up, cruelly overgrown with the thorns of hatred, self-love, and innumerable transgressions. And as You are the Source of all good, fervently we entreat You: having released a drop of the grace of Your Most-holy Spirit, richly bedew it that it may bear fruit, and make it increase, out of burning love for You, the root of all virtues—the fear of You—as also vigilant solicitude for the salvation of our neighbor, and the uprooting of all passions, evils of various forms, and hypocrisy, and as the Lover of Mankind quickly hearken and have mercy.

O Master Who gave a new commandment to Your disciples that they should love one another, renew this by the grace of Your Most-holy Spirit acting in our souls and hearts, that we will never become selfish, but always endeavor to please You and strive for the salvation our neighbor and pay close attention to that which is beneficial, we pray You, the merciful Giver of all that is good, hearken and mercifully have mercy.

You gave the first and greatest commandment, that we should love You, our God and Creator, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength, and a second, like it, that we should love our neighbor as ourselves, and that on both of these hangs the Law and the Prophets.

Having taught us to fulfill these commandments in deed, convince all of us by the grace of Your Most-holy Spirit, that pleasing You, our Savior, through the salvation of our neighbor, we may receive Your promised blessings, for, fervently falling down before you, our Master and Savior, we beseech You, quickly hearken and mercifully have mercy.

That we may be perfected in Your love, O our God, constrain us, by the grace of Your Spirit, O Master, to have sincere love for our neighbor. For, to suppose that we have love for You, but hate our brother or sister, is a lie and to walk in darkness. Therefore, O Merciful One, that there be kindled in our souls and hearts love for You and for our brother or sister, we pray You, as You are merciful, quickly hearken, and as You are compassionate, have mercy.

O All-compassionate Lord, by the Grace of Your Most-holy Spirit, establish in us Your Love, that we may truly love, not only our brothers, sisters and friends, but, according to Your divine command, our enemies, as well, and do good to those who hate us, striving sincerely for their salvation, we pray You, O Wellspring of Good and Abyss of Love for Mankind, quickly hearken, and, as You are tenderhearted, have mercy.

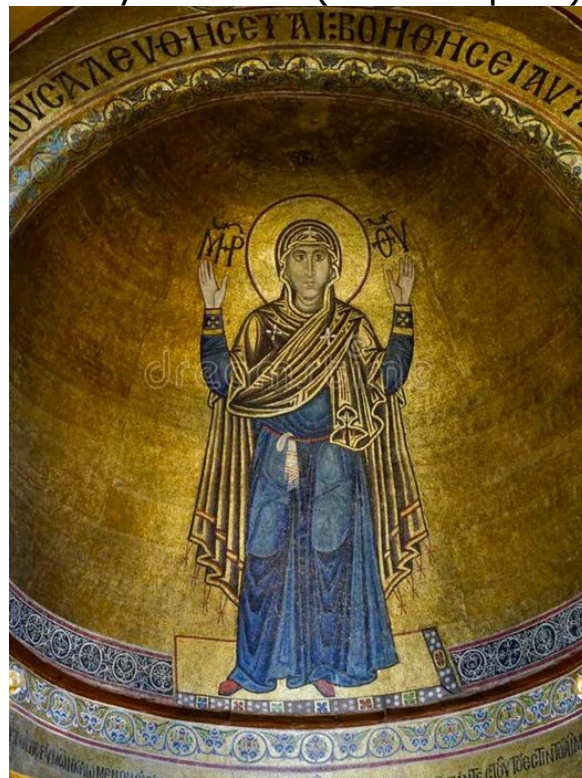
Communion Hymn:

The Lord said, "A new commandment I give you, that you love each other, even as I have loved you."



Metropolitan Savas [Zembillas]:

The Theotokos interceding for the people of Kyiv [Mosaic, ca. 1000 AD]
Cathedral of the Holy Wisdom (Saint Sophia), Kyiv, Ukraine



Sister Vassa [Larin] COMING BACK TO CHURCH

(Monday, February 21)

"And he said, 'There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country,

and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself (εἰς ἑαυτὸν δὲ ἔλθων) he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him..." (Lk 15: 11-20)

The Parable of the Prodigal Son makes me think of the journey many of us make, of taking "our share" from the Church of our childhood, having been baptized and nourished there, at least with the basics of light and darkness; then becoming dissatisfied with the whole Church-thing for this or that reason and wandering off to what turns out to be nowhere (some nameless "far country"); and finally, when we are broken enough and "in want" enough, we come back. Because we never found anything out there quite like it. And when we come back after that kind of experience, our hearts having been broken, we are no longer dissatisfied with this or that thing that is lacking or "wrong" with the whole Church-thing. Now we come with the kind of surrender that says, I'm Yours, make me as one of Your hired servants. Now we're glad just to be there, as one of the congregation with no special position or role, as one of the "servants" of a God Who liberates us from the bondage(s) and chaos of nowhere.

I think this is why, when I look around in church, I observe we have mostly middle-aged and older people in the crowd, along with some families with small children. The few young adults are mostly those with special roles like serving in the altar or singing in the choir. I think those many absent young adults who, some years ago, were here as small children with their families, are still out there on their journey through a "far country."

As we prepare for the liturgical "high season" of Lent, which may seem this daunting thing, with all its fasting, long church-services, etc.—especially if we've been wandering about in our "nowhere,"—the Parable of the Prodigal Son invites us to consider just coming back, as we are. We don't have to be models of fasting and praying or of all sorts of virtue as was the older son in the parable quoted above; or as was the Pharisee in the Parable of the Publican and Pharisee. We see also the tax-collector who suited up and showed up at the temple, as he was. And the story of Zacchaeus, read in our churches a few weeks ago, showed us a similar case

of a man who came out to see the Lord, as best he could. Let's also suit up and show up for Lent, is what I'm thinking, because there's nothing like it. God misses us, and accepts us as we are, regardless of where we've been this whole time and what we have or have not done, and regardless of what we can "do" as far as the "work" of Lent goes. God, have mercy on all of us. Let's all come home, as we are.

(For anyone interested in healthy meal-plans and reflections for every day of Lent, our "HealthyFast Lenten Guidebook," prepared with certified nutritionist Denise Canellos, is now on sale and available as a pdf-download here: <https://www.coffeewithsistervassa.com/shop/>)



The Body

1 Corinthians 6:19-What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? (KJV)

The human body is a most wonderful creation of the Living and Loving God. The person's mind, heart and soul bear great responsibility for the care of the body. Being mindful of the body as a temple of the Holy Spirit determines bodily care. At Holy Baptism, the believer's whole body is dedicated to the Lord Jesus Christ. God is to be glorified in the body as the believer goes about the course of daily life. Daily thoughts, actions and relationships will reflect if God is glorified each day.

1 Corinthians 6:20-For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. (KJV)

God sees and knows what a person thinks and does at all times throughout life. The way a person lives establishes a permanent record for the Lord to consider. Repentance is the way to begin anew in Christ when sins have been committed. God's goodness, love and mercy are evident when God is glorified in the body. Glorifying God keeps the person on the narrow path to the Heavenly Kingdom. Eternal life becomes possible for the believer when God is glorified in daily life.

2 Corinthians 5:10-For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. (KJV)

Joy is experienced and increases as the believer glorifies God with the body. Being true to God in use of the body brings the believer immeasurable joy. When the person is totally committed to the Lord all else is in proper perspective. To live fully in the Lord requires humility and dependence on the Lord's mercy. Constant repentance keeps the person's daily thoughts and actions pleasing to God. Prayer and fasting keep the person oriented to the Kingdom of God and eternal life.

I Thessalonians 5:23-And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (KJV)

Action is required of the believer to guard the body from putting the soul in peril. When the believer loves God, God's love is manifested in the believer's daily life. The believer's complete love of God comes alive in the relationships of daily life. The firm rejection of sin and repentance enables the love for God to increase. The hunger in the soul yearns to love God until the Lord's Second Coming. Only by the Lord's mercy, love and forgiveness does love abound in the body.

*Holy Hieromonk Blaise of Sebaste, Holy New Martyr George of Kratovo.
February 11/24, 2022. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic*

Father Vladimir Vilsen Mayorov:

"Live in such a way that when you hear the terrible trumpet of the archangel, when your bodies are resurrected, you would rise up and with a joyful smile on your lips praise God, who finally creates the judgment, finally punishes the severe sinners, whose impunity is not may your soul be patient, the soul of every good person.

We will live in such a way that the Terrible Judgement and the trumpet of the Archangel will not scare us, but bring us to great joy, and we would sing a song to the Eternal Judgement, the Righteous Judge, who will reward everyone for their deeds. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen

(Saint Luke Vojno-Yasenetsky on the Terrible Court)

Metropolitan Savas [Zembillas]:

In 1131, Ecumenical Patriarch Luke Chrysoberges of Constantinople sent this icon of the Holy Theotokos as a gift to Great Prince Yuri Dolgruky of Kiev. It is an image beloved of peoples throughout the Orthodox Christian world, and beyond. Let us ask fervently for the prayerful intercessions of the Holy Mother of God on behalf of the endangered innocents of this unholy war, the helpless victims of fratricidal invaders.

