



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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**ON THE MEND:** Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Father Bob, Archbishop Daniel, Metropolitan Antony, Metropolitan Yuriy, Archbishop Jovan, Metropolitan Savas, 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, Archpriest Dionysi Vitali, Protodeacon Joseph Hotrovich, Father Paisius McGrath, Father Michael Smolynec, Father Lawrence & Matushka Sophia Daniels, Father Joe & Protinica Linda Cervo, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Igumen Patrick, Father Jim Orr, Father Rick Seilier, Panimatka Laryssa Charest, Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, Father George & Dobrodijka Oksana Bazylevsky, Father Angelo Artemas, Father John Haluszczak, Father Simon & Dr. Christina Nellis, Father Joshua [Anna], Father Justin (Todd) Mokhiber, Pani Cathy Danczak, Protopresbyter Gerald Ozlanski, Joshua Agosto and his family, Eva Malesnick, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, Gary & Linda Mechtly, Evelyn Misko, Jeanne Boehing, Alex Drobot, Rachelle, Jane Golofski, Doug Diller, Harry Krewsun, Mary Alice Babcock, Dorie Kunkle, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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 Slaughaupt, Louis & Teresa Bercelli, Tom Nolan, Silvia Martin, Dena & George, Georgia, Lawanda [Evelyn's niece], Maureen Sams, John Kendall, Judi Danser, Darcy, 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, 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 & Jan Jennings, Tim Sams, Mike Ruzzi, Stephen Popichak—Fr. Bob's brother, Mary Kay Ludovicy, Pastor Sara Irwin, George Dilendorf, Sharon Torick, Carol Behun, Erv Frye, William Lusherand, Colin Kirton—Stage 4 pancreatic cancer, Clifford, Joe Veto, Paul Riley, Tonee & Sydnee Turner, Annette Paluh, Theresa Paluh, Cathy Lotinsky, Monk Andrew, Jeff & Buschra Kerr, Margaret Sekelsky, Robert Sekelsky, Robert Rodriguez, Dollie Irvin, Rita & Joe Mrvos, Alexandra & Bowen,

*Katherine Kulik, Pastor Terry Polen, Eleanor Kitt, Stacie & Gary, Maria Warholak, Stacie & Gary, Anna Sekelik, Christy, Mariruth, Rich & Judy Previc, Ben Williams, Father Joe Uzar, Tim—surgery, John Wakin, Olivia—  
young girl with a brain tumor, Rick & Sharon Morgan, John Stasko, John, Kris & Kait, Kristi Wilson, Wendy LaGamba, Melissa Gross [hip replacement], Amy Forbeck, David Salazar, Kitty Mary, Barb Bookser, Dr. Paul Riley, David Hess, Serena, Wyatt, Makenzie, Jennifer, Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, Candace Irvin, Carol Muschick, Grace Love [knee replacement], Stacie Riley, Joseph Paul Cervo, Jr. [infant], Elizabeth [5-year-old], Lillian Skowvron, Sue & Greg Heinen, Paul Simpson [Father Bob's cousin], Sharon Curtis Rivas, Kathy Milcic, Lisa Bolan, David G. [cancer], Donna [dementia] & Darla, Linda Snow, the McKenna family, David Gazella, Brian & Michele Cannone, Robert Rodrigues & family, Father Deacon James & Diakonissa Kari Rossetti, Michael Welsh, Nick Solominsky, Samantha & Lisa Houser, Sarah Stepanovich Clark, Julia Baloga, Brett Crosby, Randy Lapuh, Henry & Shirley Tkacik, Diane & Arthur Chaklis, Denny Mader, Zoe Oswalt—Fr. Bob's cousin [cancer], Barbetta [cancer] & Scott, Kristin[cancer], Erm Hartmann, Barbara Bookser [cancer], Bob Mazzuca [cancer], Marko, Taylor, Terri Crosby-Vega, Christine Mohamed, Sue Demko, Tammy Marsico, Terry & David Hartnett, Jamie Ball, Kay Williams, Hannah Stewart, Jim Wyko—Alex's friend, Dan Losego, Lisa Bruce, Yvette, Barry Bender, Scott McDougall, Andrew Zelleznick, Jill Bailey, Byron & Cecilia Scott, Laura, Christopher, & Baby Jane Dickson, Vespina, Michelle Russo, Julie Tripodi, Alby Oxenreiter, Debbie—HTUCC [knee], Jackie May, Barbara Morvay, David Salsar, N&O , Randy & Adrienne Kuny, Vince Berardinelli, Mason Martin [Karns City HS QB] & family, Martin Mrvos, and Jeff McCoy. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY-ELECTED PARISH BOARD:  
President Bill Kuznik, Vice-President Carl Lotinsky, Treasurer Judy Previc, and Secretary Reader Alex Popichak!  
ALSO—A SINCERE THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED OUR  
MEETING LAST SUNDAY!  
God Bless you all!**

**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] 956-6626.***

### **SERVICES IN SLICKVILLE**

**SUNDAY, September 24**                      **OBEDNTIZA—UPSTAIRS**                      **10:30 AM**  
**16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION;**  
**AFTERFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS; VENERABLE**  
**THEODORA OF ALEXANDRIA; MARTYRS DEMETRIUS, WIFE EUANTHIA, &**  
**SON DEMETRIAN; MARTYRS DIODORUS, DIDYMUS, & DIOMEDES OF**  
**LAODICEA; MARTYR IA OF PERSIA; VENERABLE EUPHROSYNUS**

*Tone 7*

2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Galatians 6:11-18  
Matthew 25:14-30; John 3:13-17

**SUNDAY, October 01**                      **OBEDNTIZA—UPSTAIRS**                      **10:30 AM**  
**17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION;**  
**AFTERFEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS; VENERABLE EUMENES-**  
**BISHOP OF GORTYNA; MARTYR ARIADNE OF PHRYGIA; MARTYRS SOPHIA**  
**& IRENE OF EGYPT; MARTYR CASTOR OF ALEXANDRIA**

*Tone 8*

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1; Galatians 2:16-20  
Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 8:34-9:1

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Father Theodore Forosty, Johnathan Dorning,  
Catherine Behun, Mary Medich, Daniel Chicka, Mary Evaniuk, & Stancy  
Popichak—Fr. Bob***

**SUNDAY, October 08**                      **OBEDNTIZA—UPSTAIRS**                      **10:30 AM**  
**18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; VENERABLE EUPHROSYNE-NUN-OF**  
**ALEXANDRIA; MARYTR PHPHNUTIUS & 546 COMPANIONS IN EGYPT**

*Tone 1*

2 Corinthians 9:6-11  
Luke 5:1-11

# **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 24 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION; AFTERFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS; VENERABLE THEODORA OF ALEXANDRIA; MARTYRS DEMETRIUS, WIFE EUANTHIA, & SON DEMETRIAN; MARTYRS DIODORUS, DIDYMUS, & DIOMEDES OF LAODICEA; MARTYR IA OF PERSIA; VENERABLE EUPHROSYNUS**

## **TROPARION—TONE 7**

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death!  
To the thief, Thou didst open Paradise!  
For the Myrrhbearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy.  
And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,  
To proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy!

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

## **KONTAKION—TONE 7**

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,  
For Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers!  
Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry:  
The Savior has come to those in faith!  
Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!

## **PROKEIMENON—TONE 7**

**READER:** The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

**PEOPLE: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!**

**READER:** Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

**PEOPLE: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!**

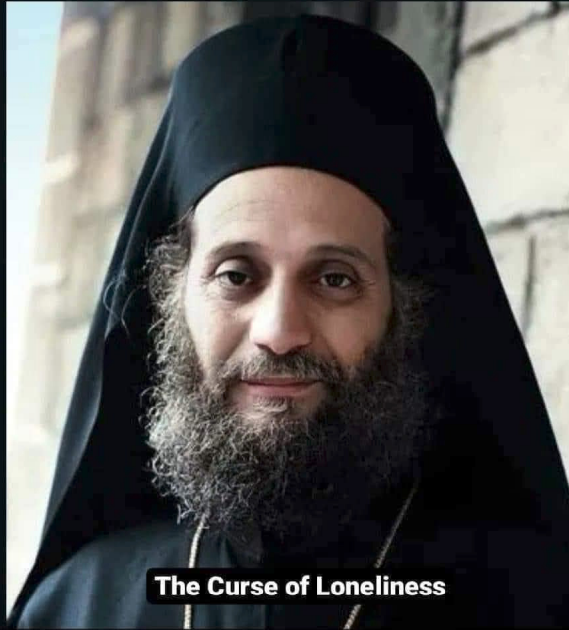
**READER:** The Lord shall give strength to His people!

**PEOPLE: The Lord shall bless His people with peace!**

## **ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 7**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High!

To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night!



### The Curse of Loneliness

"Oh, my dear friends, all the people around you, in your home and outside it as well, need you. There is a terrible curse in our life, which afflicts many people, the curse of loneliness. You remember that woman who killed herself at the age of seventy because, she said, there had never been anyone in her life who loved her. Many people live shut away in their loneliness, and often there is no one to show them a little love. Everyone around us, poor and rich, small and great, needs us. Let our life be characterized by loving care, tenderness, and compassion. Let us live close to others, and for others.

As one of the ascetics says, 'our foundation is our neighbor', which means that the criterion of our spiritual life is found in those around us. We should love others, not out of any presumed 'goodness', but out of a sense of responsibility which we have towards them."

+ Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra +

### **The Fifteen Sunday after Pentecost** Matthew 22:35-46

*Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked Him a question, tempting Him, and saying, Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The son of David. He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? If David then call him Lord,*

*how is he his son? And no man was able to answer Him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask Him any more questions. (KJV)*

Jesus is very clear in the present Gospel about loving God with all the heart, mind, and soul. The believer is dedicated to the Lord fully at Baptism. The remaining days of earthly life are to be lived in God-pleasing ways.

God knows the contents of the heart mind and soul. If love of God fills the heart, mind, and soul, this love will be evident in daily relationships and actions.

The fruits of a person's life will reveal the extent God is loved.

God's Holy Church nourishes the believer's love of God. The Church guides the believer through the journey of life from the Baptismal font to departure from his life.

Developing and maintaining full of love God requires making conscious decisions. The heart, mind, and soul must value and seek God for the believer to love God completely.

Love of God is inseparable with love of neighbor. The First Epistle of St. John States: "And this commandment have we from him, That he who **loveth** God **love** his **brother** also. " (I John 4:21)

Honest self-examination will reveal if we love God completely with our heart, mind, and soul. A similar self-examination will determine the degree we love the people that are part of our daily lives.

The effort we put forth in life to grow in Christ can lead to an increase in love of God and in love of neighbor. Seeking to grow in Christ and to have greater love in our heart, mind, and soul requires significant effort.

A willingness to make conscious decisions to follow Christ's teachings is necessary to grow in love for Christ and for the people in our daily lives. Opening our heart, mind and soul for Christ to fully enter and be welcomed is necessary.

Recognizing personal sinfulness and a willingness to repent facilitates growth in Christ. Being open and acknowledging Christ's love fosters love for Christ and love for others.

Being fervent in Christ in prayer will bring change in the way daily life is lived. Seeking Christ's help in daily relationships to improve will bring eventual progress.

Today's Gospel originates from the Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel has lasting value. The degree that the Gospel leads to change in each believer's life is determined by the personal action taken.

Believers desiring to grow in Christ will pray for an increase in love for God in the heart, mind, and soul. Believers wanting to please God will pray fervently for God's help in improving daily personal relationships.



Life's journey is relatively long. Living to seventy or eighty years is mentioned in the Psalms. (Ps 89/90:10) Growth in Christ throughout life is expected. Maturing in Christ is an expectation for believers.

The Church provides the environment for continuous learning and growth. The Church provides the opportunity for complete unity with Christ and neighbor. God's help is necessary for the growth. God is always present to provide the help.

The journey from the Baptismal font to departure from this life is intended to occur in and with the Church. Believers do not journey alone. Believers benefit from the prayers and participation of others in the Church.

Believers' prayers are intended to benefit others as well as the self. Unity with Christ and with others in Christian love is expected. Looking to God for direction in prayer will reveal the paths to follow and the decisions to make.

Life unfolds at each moment. God is ever-present to help the believer to understand the unfolding and to guide the believer. Constant prayer keeps the believer united with the Lord God and is reassuring.

God's presence is verifiable throughout the day for believers with eyes to see. God's presence is encouraging to believers to go forward in hope when life is difficult.

The Church brings the Gospel to believers throughout the year and throughout life until the glorious Second Coming. God does not leave believers alone. God is with each believer throughout life.

God is present and offers eternal life. The way daily life is lived determines the outcome when earthly life comes to an end. Love of God and love of neighbor opens the door for life eternal.

*The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Hieromartyr Bablyas. Prophet Moses. Hieromartyr .Peter of Dabar-Bosnia. September 4/17, 2023. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic*



The truth of the matter is  
that nobody should talk  
about anyone,



we all have a past,  
we have all made mistakes,  
we all need prayers.

That man that you want to confront because he has a hat on in church, might be taking chemo and is trying to cover his head. That woman who you want to rebuke for wearing pants in church, might be a struggling single mother who just got off work and is doing her best to keep her kids in church. That crying baby that disturbed the service, may be hungry because his family can't afford food but they're trusting God for a miracle. That man who came in with long hair and a bad smell might be on the verge of suicide, but in an attempt to get help, walks in the House of God. Be careful who you criticize. Lay aside your man-made laws and legalism. We are to bring people in, not kick them out.

### Incense

Let My Prayer Arise As Incense Before Thee

From Old Testament times believers have burned incense as an offering when worshipping God. The ancient temple in Jerusalem even had priests whose sole duty was to keep the censer burning twenty-four hours a day.

Ancient pagan kings were often escorted with large fans of peacock feathers and burning incense when entering their palaces. Early Christians took both these symbols for their worship in recognition of Christ as their Sovereign King and Lord. To this day the Orthodox Church uses incense in most of her services, and large circular fans, reminiscent of the peacock fans of ancient times, are held over the Gospel book during the proclamation of God's word during celebrations of the Divine Liturgy.

As a young man attending my very first Orthodox Liturgy, I was struck by the use of incense. The words of the Psalmist King David, "Let my prayer arise as incense before Thee...", are chanted during every celebration of Vespers during the censuring of the temple. During every service where there is a great censuring of the whole church, the priest (or deacon) censures the frescoes and icons as windows into eternity, as the incense wafts upward as an offering of the people of God.

The people are also censured by the priest in recognition of their having been created in the image and likeness of their Creator God. Incense is so central in Christian worship that it is even used in the worship of the domestic church, where the family gathers in prayer around their own icons, reading the scriptures together, and offering their family prayers to the Lord.

***"Let my prayer arise as incense before Thee" Psalm 141:2***

With love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon

**God is Always Present-Believers are Never Alone!**

***Psalm 68:19-Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. (KJV)***

The Lord God is always present for each of us making sure we are never alone. God's presence is felt when the heart, mind and soul are opened in firm faith. Welcoming the Lord God into the heart, mind and soul is a conscious choice. Choosing to welcome, embrace and follow the Lord God is completely voluntary. The Lord does not coerce, compel or force believers to embrace Him in faith.

***Matthew 28:20-Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. (KJV)***

Individuals never need to feel alone regardless of the direness of circumstance. God is ever-present and within reach for those reaching out in faith and prayer. God's presence provides reassuring peace and support in time of personal need. Strength is derived from God's presence through the element of fervent prayer. The ever-present God is formidable in dealing with challenging personal issues.

***Ephesians 1:3-Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: (KJV)***

Home life centered in the Lord God is well-founded for adverse times in life. Life's challenges are great at times but the Lord God helps put them in perspective. Problems of life are manageable when God is used as the Guide to deal with them. God provides a comforting present when a believer feels alone in facing adversity. The hunger in the soul motives the believer to reach out to the Lord for peace.

***Colossians 1:4-Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: (KJV)***

Prayer is essential to combat feelings of depression, despondency and despair. The Lord God responds to believers reaching out in sincere faith and prayer. Persistency is necessary to overcome the trials of life that give



rise to depression. God is the source and means for victory to achieve peace and health for the soul. Every problem is manageable when the Lord God is turned to for the solution.

**2 Thessalonians 3:16-Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all. (KJV)**

The Holy Scriptures providing verification of God's presence and reassurance. Believers seeking stability in life make the Holy Scriptures an essential part of life. God's Church puts the Holy Scriptures into perspective for the believer's benefit. Attendance at the Divine services of the Church reveals the love of God for all. Believers are recipients of Christ's love even those feeling alone and abandoned.

*The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.  
August 29/September 11, 2023. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania Father  
Rodney Torbic*

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Abba Macarius was asked, 'How should one pray?' The old man said, 'There is no need at all to make long discourses; it is enough to stretch out one's hands and say, "Lord, as you will, and as you know, have mercy." And if the conflict grows fiercer say, "Lord, help!" He knows very well what we need and he shews us his mercy.'

The Sayings of the  
Desert Fathers

Abba Macarius (4th Century)

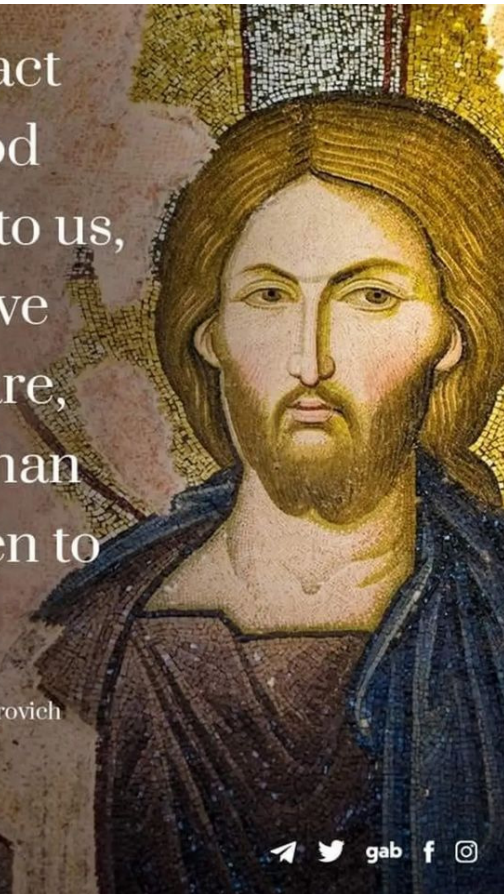




It is a fact  
that God  
listens to us,  
defective  
as we are,  
more than  
we listen to  
Him.

St. Nikolai Velimirovich  
† 1956 (Serbia)

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Every night...  
Forgive those who  
hurt you, pray for those  
who need it, and Thank  
God for everything you  
have.



### Ring

The Ring at the top of the censer (not pictured) stands for God, Who has no beginning and no end.

### 4 Chains

The chains represent the four Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John who penned the Gospels.

### The Cross

The Cross (and the lid of the firepot) represent the Church of Christ which raises man to the heavens.

### The Charcoal

The Charcoal represent humans who ideally burn hot inspired by the Holy Spirit throughout their lives.

### The Bottom

Omega, or the End, and the Second Coming of Christ.



### The Top

Alpha, or the beginning, and creation of the world.

### 12 Bells

The bells represent the twelve Apostles who joyfully and loudly preached the Gospel in the world.

### The Firepot

The Firepot represents the earth wherein we live and dwell as humans on the earth.

### The Incense

The Incense represents the offerings spiritual in the form of prayer, and material in the form of gifts offered to God with faith and love.

FMS