



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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## ADVENT/PILIPKIVA/NATIVITY FAST

**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 Yurij, 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 Smolynech, 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 Luciow, 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 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, 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 Zeliszcuk, 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 & Terri Berceli, 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, 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, Dr. Paul Riley, David Hess, Serena, Wyatt, Makenzie, Jennifer, Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, Alexandra Roberts, 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], Barbette [cancer] & Scott, Kristin [cancer], Erm Hartmann, Barbara Bookser [cancer], Bob Mazzuca [cancer], Marko, Taylor, Terri Crosby-Vega [knee replacement], 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, Jeff McCoy, Lauren & Sloane Valentina Persico, Alexis & baby Colton Rosati, Jessica Shirley, Steve Milcic, Wilbert Wagner, Bob Wojciechowski, and Jill Morocco. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.*

When praying, keep to the rule that it is better to say five words from the depth of your heart than ten thousand words with your tongue only.

*Righteous John, Wonderworker of Kronstadt, **My Life in Christ p.113***

**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, December 24**                      **OBEDNTIZA—UPSTAIRS**                      **10:30 AM**  
**29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS;**  
**VENERABLE DANIEL THE STYLITE OF CONSTANTINOPLE; MARTYR MIRAX**  
**OF EGYPT; MARTYRS ACEPSIUS & AEITHALAS AT ARBELA IN ASSYRIA;**  
**VENERABLE LUKE THE NEW STYLITE OF CHALCEDON; VENERABLE NICON**  
**THE DRY OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**  
*Tone 4*  
Colossians 3:4-11  
Luke 14:16-24

**SUNDAY, December 31**                      **OBEDNTIZA—UPSTAIRS**                      **10:30 AM**  
**30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY; SUNDAY OF**  
**THE HOLY FATHERS; MARTYR SEBASTIAN OF ROME & COMPANIONS;**  
**SAINT MODESTUS-ARCHBISHOP OF JERUSALEM; VENERABLE FLORUS-**  
**BISHOP OF AMISUS; VENERABLE MICHAEL THE CONFESSOR AT**  
**CONSTANTINOPLE**  
*Tone 5*  
Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40  
Matthew 1:1-25

**SATURDAY, January 06**                      **NATIVITY EVE—STRICT FAST DAY**

**SUNDAY, January 07**                      **NATIVITY DIVINE LITURGY—UPSTAIRS**                      **10:30 AM**  
**31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS**  
**CHRIST**  
*Tone 6*  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Matthew 2:1-12

# **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 24 DECEMBER 2023**

**29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS; VENERABLE DANIEL THE STYLITE OF CONSTANTINOPLE; MARTYR MIRAX OF EGYPT; MARTYRS ACEPSIUS & AEITHALAS AT ARBELA IN ASSYRIA; VENERABLE LUKE THE NEW STYLITE OF CHALCEDON; VENERABLE NICON THE DRY OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

## **Troparion—Tone 2**

Thou didst justify the Forefathers by faith,  
when of old through them Thou didst betroth Thyself to the Church of the nations.

The Saints rejoice in the glorious fruit of their seed,  
even in her who bore Thee seedlessly.

By their prayers, O Christ our God, save 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 2**

An image made with hands you would not worship, O thrice blessed three;  
but protected by the ineffable Essence you were glorified in your ordeal by fire.

From the midst of the devouring flames you called upon God, crying:  
Hasten, O compassionate One,  
in Thy mercy come to our aid,/ for if Thou willest Thou canst.

## **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.



### Gentle

***Galatians 5:22-But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, (KJV)***

The current world can benefit from a greater amount of gentleness in relationships. The prevalence of daily rancor, anger and violence has reached an intolerable level. Wars, mass shootings and hostility in public places are now everyday occurrences. Increased gentleness will lead to de-escalation of the current negative behavior. The Lord's intercession is necessary and desired for the de-escalation to occur

***1 Thessalonians 2:7-But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children. (KJV)***

The likelihood of reduced hostility in daily life requires widespread repentance. Believers have the responsibility to improve daily relationships by being gentle. Gentleness affects daily interactions and facilitates a greater likelihood of calm. The family home is the best place for gentleness to be encouraged and practiced. Mothers and fathers teach their children the value of gentleness by their example.

***2 Timothy 2:24-And the servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, (KJV)***

The hunger in the believer's soul yearns for gentleness in personal relationships. The Holy Apostle Paul expresses the place of gentleness when serving the Lord. Gentleness reveals the Lord's presence and the sense of purpose in the believer. Personal relationships grow, mature and are strengthened by gentle interaction. Goals are achieved when believers work together combining efforts in gentleness.

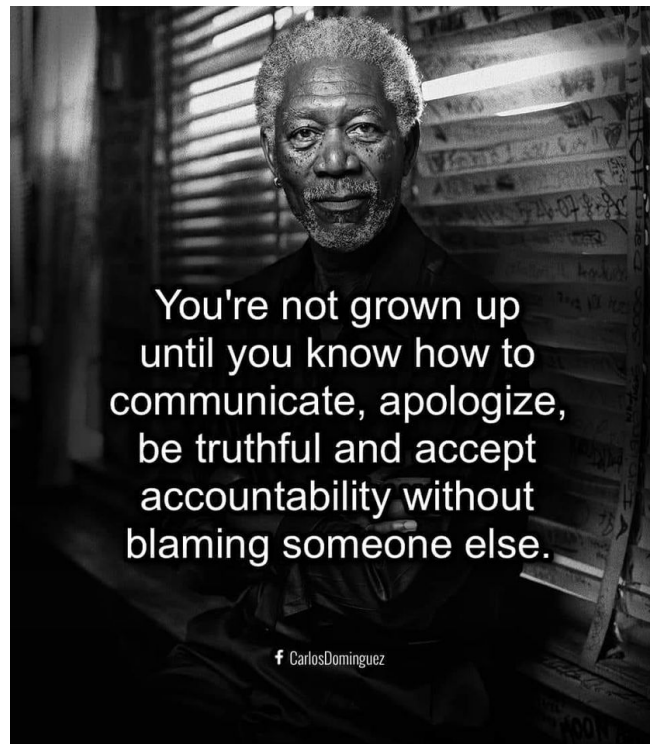
***Titus 3:2-To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. (KJV)***

Lack of self-control and expressions of anger run counter to gentle behavior. Hostile exchange of words and facial expressions cause relationships to deteriorate. Love is removed as a possibility in relationships filled with acrimony and anger. Failing to forgive and put aside past wrongs prevent gentleness from developing. Gentle behavior draws believers together and hostility causes their separation

***James 3:17-But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. (KJV)***

Serious and attentive believers learn wisdom from the Lord and apply it daily. Learning to be gentle involves accepting the Lord's wisdom as being beneficial. Believers loving the Lord with a full heart, mind and soul learn to be gentle. Becoming gentle on a consistent basis requires maintaining unity with the Lord. Embracing the Lord's wisdom reveals itself in the believer's gentle behavior.

*Venerable Acacius who is mentioned in The Ladder. St, Mardarije of Libertyville. November 29/December 12, 2023. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic*



### **EOCS - Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting**

"The values that the Scouts movement upholds resonate deeply with the principles cherished in Orthodox Christianity. Both emphasize the importance of fostering a strong moral compass, cultivating a sense of responsibility towards our fellow human beings, and promoting peace and



understanding among different cultures and faiths. Just as the Scouts' motto "Be Prepared" encourages readiness to face life's challenges, so too does our faith call us to be vigilant in our pursuit of goodness, righteousness, and spiritual growth.

In the spirit of the Scout Law, which advocates trustworthiness, helpfulness, and reverence for nature, we find a profound connection to the teachings of Christ. Our Lord, in His Sermon on the Mount, urged us to be peacemakers, to show mercy, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. These timeless principles echo the very essence of what Scouting seeks to instill in young hearts, guiding them to become responsible stewards of our world and compassionate advocates for the less fortunate."

- Address of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to the 25th World Scout Jamboree in Seoul, South Korea (August 1, 2023)

Ecumenical Patriarchate

Desmos - International Link of Orthodox Christian Scouts

