

Holy Ghost Orthodox Church 714 Westmoreland Avenue PO Box 3 Slickville, PA 15684-0003 [724] 468-5581

www.holyghostorthodoxchurch.org

Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Pastor
23 Station Street
Carnegie, PA 15106-3014
[412] 279-5640 home [412] 442-4160 office
[412] 956-6626 cell

ON THE MEND: Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Metropolitan Constantine, Patriarch Pavle, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Peter Natishan, Father Gerald Olszewski, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Dragan Filipović, Father Elias Katras, Father Stevo Rocknage, Father Paul Stoll, Father Deacon Joseph Bulkanowa, Frank & Ollie Pendylshok, Walt & Evelyn Burlack, Joshua Agosto and his family, Harley Katarina Rahuba, Joe Karas, Mike and Hilda Holupka, Eva Malesnick, Helen Likar, Angela Wesolosky, Stella Peanoske, Joe Nezolyk, Nick Behun, Terry Reinhart, Bernie O'Masta, Grace Holupka, Virginia Bryan, Joseph Sliwinsky, Maria Balo, Linda Mechtly, Mary Mochnick, Mary Pekich, Mildred Manolovich, Evelyn Misko, Amy, Nigel Daniel, & Daniel Pocura, Jeanne Boehing, Alex Drobot, Rachelle, Jane Golofski, Doug Diller, Harry Krewsun, Sandy Gamble, Glen Lucas Burlack, Bernie Vangrin, Mary Alice Babcock, Dorie Kunkle, Andrea, & Melissa [Betty O'Masta's relatives]. Mary Evelyn King, Stella Cherepko, Sam Wadrose, Khoruia Joanne Abdalah, Cameron [a boy in Matt's class], Faith—a 3-year-old girl with rheumatoid arthritis, Isabella Olivia Lindgren—a 10-month old with a brain tumor, Dillon, Cindy Rita, Ethel Thomas, Donna, Jeff, Nick Malec [Maxine's brother], Bill, Sophia Grace, Erin, Jimmy Fennel [6th Grader], Jim Markovich, Jeff Walewski [thyroid cancer], Carol [Lotinski] Rose, Michael Miller, Dave May, Peter Paul & Louise May Sprock, Grace & Owen Ostrasky, Claudia [Horvath] Gradicheck, Alberta, Margaret Mueller, Gary Zurasky, Michael Horvath, Tony Notaro, John Holupka, Patti Sinecki, David Genshi, Denny Doran, Pete Special, and Daria Masur. ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Kay Tomson, Ann Ostaffy, Steve Sakal, Elisabeth Arasin, Homer Paul Kline, and Harry Ostaffy. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

Please remember ALL American servicemen and women in the Middle East in your prayers. May God watch over them and all American servicemen and women—and bring them all home safely!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR "BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION" AND CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS TO CHURCH. There is a shoebox in the basement for Alex's Fourth Grade and Matt's Second Grade collections. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP! Alex and Matt

REMEMBER—PRAYERS ARE ALWAYS 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 call 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.

Schedule of Services

Thursday, January 18 GRAND COMPLINE FOR THEOPHANY 6:30 PM

STRICT FAST DAY—GREAT BLESSING OF WATERS

Friday, January 19 Obednitza for Theopany 10:30 AM

FOLLOWED BY HOUSE BLESSINGS

Sunday, January 21 Divine Liturgy—ARNOLD 10:00 AM

32ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY, SAINT GEORGE THE CHOZEBITE, SAINT EMILIAN THE CONFESSOROBISHOP OF CYZICUS, SAINT DOMINICA OF CONSTANTINOPLE, HIEROMARTYR CARTERIUS, MARTYRS THEOPHILUS & HELLADIUS, SAINT ELIAS THE HERMIT OF EGYPT, SAINT GREGORY-WONDERWORKER OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA, SAINT PAISIUS OF UGLICH

Tone 7
Ephesians 4:7-13
Matthew 4:12-17

Litany in Blessed Memory of Nicholas Vitosky-Fr. Bob

Sunday, January 28

Divine Liturgy

10:30 AM

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE, SAINT PAUL OF THEBES, SAINT JOHN THEHUT-DWELLER, MONK-MARTYR PANSOPHIUS OF ALEXANDRIA, SAINTS PROCHORUS & GABRIEL-FOUNDERS OF LESNOV MONASTERY—BULGARIA

Tone 8
II Timothy 3:10-15
Luke 18:2-8

Litany in Blessed Memory of Rudy Obradovich—Helen Pytlak

Sunday, February 4

Divine Liturgy

10:30 AM

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON, APOSTLE TIMOTHY OF THE 70, MONK-MARTYR ANASTASIUS THE PERSIAN, MARTYRS MANUEL, GEORGE, PETER, & LEONTIUS—BISHOPS, SIONIUS, GABRIEL, JOHN, LEONTUS, & PARODUS-PRESBYTERS, & 377 COMPANIONS—IN BULGARIA, MARTYR ANASTASIUS THE DEACON OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

Tone 1 I Corinthians 6:12-20 Luke 15:11-32

Litany in Blessed Memory of Milton G. Chicka, Daniel Pysh, & Sara Chicka—Fr. Bob

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 21 JANUARY 2006—ARNOLD

Troparion of the Theophany Tone 1

When Thou wast baptized in the Jordan, O Lord,
The worship of the Trinity was made manifest.
For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee
When He called Thee His beloved Son.
And the Spirit in the form of a dove
Confirmed the truthfulness of His word.
O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened

O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world,

Glory to Thee!

Kontakion of the Theophany Tone 4

Thou hast appeared today to the world, And Thy light, O Lord, has been signed upon us Who with full knowledge sing to Thee. Thou hast come, Thou hast appeared, O Unapproachable Light.

Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. MATTHEW 25:21

Share The Light Sunday 21 January 2007

To the Most Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics and The Devout Faithful of the Holy Orthodox Church in the Americas.

Dearly Beloved in the Lord,

We recall with sober joy the teaching of our Lord Jesus concerning the talents given to servants by their master, and how each servant was called to answer for the talent he received. One of our most fervent prayers is that we would not be like the foolish servant who, only fearing and not also loving his master, went and buried his talent in the ground, and was cast into outer darkness for his unfaithfulness. But to the faithful servant, our Lord said "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord."

That is why, as those called to serve the faithful as Shepherds of your souls, we pray daily for you to join us in the task given to us all by Christ Himself when He commanded His Church to make disciples of every nation. By God's grace we have been given this nation to serve and to share the timeless beauty of our Orthodox faith in order that this precious Gospel would transform not only nations, but the everyday lives of people for whom Christ died and rose again.

We fulfill this command each time we all gather to celebrate the Divine Mysteries, when our faithful priests proclaim the Gospel, when we build our church buildings in our communities, when we teach Sunday School, and as we serve the needy in our midst.

But the day and age in which we live offers us so many ways to effectively communicate the message of faith to our neighbors and families. We live in an age when communication technologies have expanded our ability to raise awareness of our Orthodox faith as never before. Technologies like the internet, podcasting, cell phones, as well as TV, radio, and print, challenge us to take advantage of these new tools to obey the command of the Savior. These technologies are already being used by many to communicate to our children and grandchildren, and those messages, some good and some not so good, are affecting our lives every day. Where is the voice of Orthodoxy in this modern cacophony of messages?

There is no need for us to be afraid of modern technology or to fear we will be left out of its potential. Many faithful Orthodox ministries are working hard to harness all these technologies for use by the Church. At the forefront of this effort is our *Orthodox Christian Network*. This agency

of the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas produces weekly radio programs and now is launching a 24 hour online media resource called *The Ark*, that will feature Orthodox Christian music and more for our faithful.

It is because of this unprecedented opportunity to serve our local parishes and faithful through media that we have set aside the third Sunday in January as *Share The Light Sunday*. This year it falls on Sunday, January 21, 2007. We urge each parish to enthusiastically participate by offering a special contribution on this Sunday to help build a national, sustainable, and effective media witness for Orthodox Christianity in America.

Let us together take up the valuable talents available to us and let us use them faithfully to serve one another and this nation, and together we will hear from our Lord, "Well done."

May Christ, our True Light, grant you His peace and salvation!

With Paternal love and devotion,

for this Lip Devetisis

†Archbishop DEMETRIOS, Chairman

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

†Metropolitan PHILIP, Vice Chairman

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

+ Chistophe

†Metropolitan CHRISTOPHER, Secretary

Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA and Canada

†Metropolitan NICHOLAS of Amissos, Treasurer

American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese in the USA

†Metropolitan HERMAN

Orthodox Church in America

†Archbishop NICOLAE

Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in

America and Canada

†Metropolitan JOSEPH

Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church

†Metropolitan CONSTANTINE

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

†Bishop ILIA of Philomelion

Albanian Orthodox Diocese

>>Sermon





Share The Light Sunday Sermon: Well Done MATTHEW 25:21

Intro: On this annual Share The Light Sunday, I want to speak to you about being a "good and faithful servant."

The third Sunday in January of each year has been declared *Share The Light Sunday* and on this special day we Orthodox Christians come together to combine our efforts and resources to build a lasting witness for our faith in this modern age of communication technology.

If I were to go to your homes today, I imagine I would be hard pressed to find a home without a TV, or a radio, or a computer. If I went into the rooms of your teenagers, I'd find IPods and MP3 players, ear buds, and My Space accounts.

Every day we are feeding our minds with communications from every conceivable source and one has to stop and ask if these communications are really all that healthy for our souls. For too many of us, our once a week visit to Church is the only time we receive the timeless wisdom and beauty of the faith that has produced saints throughout the centuries. During our all too brief visits on Sundays, your parish tries to fill you with as much of the *Light of Christ* as possible, knowing full well that when you leave you will be assaulted by other messages that actually war against your soul.

When we wonder where all the young people have gone, when we ask ourselves why the next generation doesn't value the faith like our parents and grand parents generation, we have to come to the conclusion that today the message of faith has to compete with many other messages that are attempting to get our attention.

It is only as we accept the challenge that our Lord Jesus left us when He reminded the disciples that there will come a day when we will give an accounting for the treasure of faith we have received, that we will confront our calling to be "good and faithful servants." In being these "good and faithful servants" we will take seriously the task of both preserving and promoting our precious and life-giving faith.

Here are three insights into becoming a "good and faithful servant."

First, **BE GOOD**. Notice I didn't say "do good." No, dear ones, the challenge of the faith of the Apostles is a challenge for first and foremost an inner transformation. We will never be able to preserve and promote a faith that isn't first internalized by each of us. Window dressing religion is simply too weak

to survive from one generation to the next. We must first become convinced of our own need to be transformed by our faith before we will ever be able to be "good and faithful servants."

Being Good means understanding that my outward behavior is really a reflection of my inner life. Being good **ALWAYS** precedes doing good. If I am actively learning and applying the wisdom of my Orthodox faith then the inner transformation that inevitably comes from following the wisdom of the Faith will transform my outward behavior, and revolutionize my priorities.

Second, **BE FAITHFUL**. Literally I am being called to be "full of faith." Being a faithful person means that I am consistent and dependable to allow the faith to affect my choices, my priorities, and my actions. A wise man once said that "95% of Orthodoxy is simply always showing up." If I am faithful to worship, pray, share, my faith then being a good servant comes naturally. But being faithful presupposes I know my faith. How do I know how to be faithful if I am not familiar with the faith? I may want to be faithful. I may even be as faithful as I can, but if I remain uninformed about the depth of the Orthodox faith then I cut myself off from vast opportunities to faithfulness by my ignorance. Knowing my faith will help me become a faithful person.

Finally, **BE A SERVANT**. These insights build on one another. If I AM good, then that will draw me to BE faithful, and my faithfulness will **PRODUCE** servanthood. The natural progression always begins with my free and conscious choice to take my faith seriously enough to have this faith change my life. Being a servant is just as simple as breathing when I have committed myself to this precious and life-giving Orthodox Faith.

But servanthood isn't meant as slavery. My free choice to do the work of a disciple of Jesus Christ never is meant to force me against my will. On the contrary, when I am enlightened by the wisdom of the Orthodox faith, my service to God is simply the natural act of a grateful heart. Simply having the courage to make myself available to God for His kingdom is the very first step in authentic servanthood in the Church.

This treasure of faith we have received as Orthodox Christians is the most precious possession any of us will ever have. When my eyes are opened to this truth, then the question of being a "good and faithful servant" answers itself. Of course I am going to serve the faith that has enriched my life so much. To do anything less is proof positive that we remain blind to the treasure of faith that is Orthodox Christianity.

On this Share The Light Sunday, I want all of us to commit ourselves to giving a special gift to assist Orthodox Christian Network in using the powerful communication technology of today to help us stay focused on our faith throughout the week between our times together for worship. Using this technology will give our precious Orthodox faith a voice in the vast number of other messages we and our children hear and see every day. It is a worthy project and it will help me as your parish priest in fulfilling my duties to help us all discover and live out the treasure of Orthodoxy.

Amen.





Did you know that internet radio "is emerging today in the same way FM radio did in the 1970's and cable television did in the 1980's" according to Arbitron? Internet radio is a fast growing segment of an even faster changing media world.

Orthodox Christian Network is committed to serving local parishes and helping your parish use modern media to serve your local congregation.

That's why we are launching "The Ark."

The Ark is going to be a 24 hour, 7 day a week media ministry on the internet that will feature Orthodox Christian music and more. Orthodox Christian musical artists like Eikona, Fr. Peter Jon Gilquist, Jimmy Santis, Andrew Anthony, and many more. Plus there will be other programming through the day that will teach the faith and declare the timeless beauty of our Orthodox Christian Church.

But as exciting as that is, it isn't the most exciting news!

CCN wants to be a ministry resource for our local parishes. We already provide all our *Share The Light Parishes* with an attractive CD album at the end of every year that includes **ALL** the interviews heard each week on *Come Receive The Light*, but now we want to give you your own internet radio station!

Every Share The Light Parish, starting in 2007, will be eligible to receive their own local version of The Ark for their parish web site.

That means that your local version of The Ark on your church web site will feature announcements about your parish, upcoming events, Sunday sermons, and special announcements for your local parish.

All of this is possible because of the rapidly developing technologies of internet broadcasting, and **DCN** wants to harness this technology for your local parish.

We will be launching *The Ark* on Share The Light Sunday, January 21st, 2007, and every parish that becomes a *Share The Light Parish* for 2007 will then be eligible to receive their customized version of *The Ark*.

Naturally, there are more details, and if you want to know more, call us toll free at 877-273-2348.

Make sure your parish observes Share The Light Sunday, January 21st 2007 so you and your parish can get on board The Ark!





Your Share The Light Sunday Checklist

one who will be the point person for the parish that will be the "face" of Share The Light Sunday.
☐ Have the committee chair announce the upcoming Sunday for two weeks before the event.
☐ Check to make sure you have your Share The Light Sunday material. Please call us at 877-273-2348 if you haven't received your material.
☐ Go over the suggested Sunday Sermon and modify for your parish.
☐ Get your Sunday School teachers involved by providing them copies of the Fact Sheet to share with their Sunday School classes.
☐ Read the Encyclical from our SCOBA Hierarchs at the end of your service but before you pass the tray for this special Sunday.
As the tray is passed, remind the faithful that we are creating something that has never existed before in our churches—a national media outreach for Orthodoxy in America.
☐ If you choose to do something during coffee hour, make sure the chair of the committee and other committee members are at the <i>Share The Light Sunday</i> table with copies of the Fact Sheet available.
Get your Youth Groups involved in <i>Share The Light Sunday</i> . This group of young people is being heavily influenced by media. Get them involved and excited about an Orthodox media ministry by having them sponsor a car wash, or other fund raising events that provide them with real ownership in the effort.
☐ Orthodox Christian Network provides a Business Reply return envelope to you for your special offering to OCN. Please use this and return your parish's investment by the end of January.
☐ It is the goal of each parish to become a <i>Share The Light Parish</i> . This means that congregations of 150 families or more should set a goal of an annual gift of \$1200. Parishes of less than 150 families should set a goal of \$5 per family per year as their goal for this Sunday effort.
Every Parish that reaches their goal of becoming a <i>Share The Light Parish</i> will receive a CD each month of the programs on <i>Come Receive The Light</i> that they can use to build an audio library for their church education efforts AND be eligible to have their own internet radio station called <i>The Ark</i> !