



**Holy Ghost Orthodox Church**  
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Very Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Pastor

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**ON THE MEND:** Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Metropolitan Theodosius [OCA], Archbishop Jovan, Bishop Robert, Father George & Pani Lillian Hnatko, Father John Harvey, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Dragan Filipović, Father Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, Father Joseph Kopchak, Father Elias Warnke, Father Nestor Kowal, Father George Yatsko, Father Paul Bigelow, Father Emilian Balan, Father John 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 Bazyl Zawierucha, Father Lawrence & Matushka Sophia Daniels, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Joshua Agosto and his family, Eva Malesnick, Stella Peanoske, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, Virginia Bryan, 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, George Rocknage, Robert McKivitz, Liz Obradovich, Halyna Zelinska [Bishop 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—21-year-old with cancer, Nicholas Orlando, Mary Ann Kuznik, Michael Pryhodzenko, Sonia Luciw, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial, Mary Pelino, 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, Helen Bozo, Corey Guich, Robert Vangrin, Pauline Witkowsky, Sera White, Donald Griffey, Deborah Smith, Nancy & Eric Dunik, Julian Stroz [child with cerebral palsy], Dr. Kirsten Ream, Patricia Corey, Michelle, Katie Swarm, Richard Dunst, Michelle, Patrick, Linda Morris, Howard Simpson, Chris, David Hiles, Karen Johnson, Jennifer, Jerry Quinn, Cher Mount, Frank & Janet Horrell, Jim Wandling, Gail, Sirena Sharp, Ron Paulovich, Fred DeNorscia, Sandi Anderson, Donald Uebing, Sabrina, Shirley, Denny Mader, Ella Campbell, Tom Hyatt, Bill Janiro, Jean Symanko-Andy's sister, William Lemonakis, Barbara McDougall, Alma Wyke, Lindsay Romanczak & family, Virginia Catherine Pyrch, 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, Jeff Jones, Kristy, Elaine Ellenberger, Brandon, Anna Tranchine, Demetra, Blase Urban, Catherine Hogel & children, Jennifer & Dylan, Ron Schwartz, Lydia Wilson, Flora Tomlin, Stella Rossi, 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, Millie Koss Good, Heather Ried, Carla Perry, Linda Elliot, Dennis McDaniel, Luke Tinsley, Brent, Tricia, Katherine Gorman, Pamela Jaquette, Michael Pawlyshyn, Sherri Walewski, Marika Zeliszczuk, Donna Davis, Jackie Crimbchin, Marta Charron, Mary [Corba], Stella McKeag, 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, Cheryl Pomeroy, Ben Douglas, Dianne Donahue, Zachary, Natasha, Noah Willard, Jodi Hanczar, Gregory Cervo, Lisa Bruce, Martha Nezolyk, Kathy Cvetkovich, Frances Gebet, Sheryl Smith Haraczy, Judy, Will, Emma, Ginny, Ye-Jin, Maria, John & JoAnn, Jim & Kitty, Bill Baronie, Phil Bouse, Ralph & Beverly Stoker, Noah Willard, Nikola, Natalie, Nikola, & Nevenka Jovonovich, Julia Collier, Amy Kemerer, Thomas Smith, Tracy Slaugenhaupt, Louis & Teresa Berceli, Tom Nolan, Noble Wilshaw, Silvia

Martin, Sarah Dorning, and Ian Brick. ARNOLD: Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: All Christians and the others in the Middle East who are suffering during this time of great tragedy and unrest. May God watch over and keep them safe! Lord have mercy!**

**When the soul begins to regard itself as something important, the Lord at once withdraws: and left by itself, the soul grows cold. It is not just with the tongue that we should keep saying 'I am nothing', but we should feel our nothingness in the heart. Then the Lord will always be there. He who creates and has created everything out of nothing. The Lord will give warmth, but we must do our part as well." - St. Theophan the Recluse**

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.**

#### **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM  
MEATFARE SUNDAY; SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT; TRANSLATION OF THE  
RELICS OF HIEROMARTYR IGNATIUS THE GOD-BEARER; MARTYRS ROMANUS,  
JAMES, PHILOTHEUS, HYPERACHIUS, ABIBUS, JULIAN, & PAREGORIUS;  
MARTYRS SILVANUS-BISHOP OF EMESA, LUKE THE DEACON, & MOCIUS THE  
READER; SAINT LAURENCE-RECLUSE OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA & BISHOP OF**

**TUROV**

*Tone 3*

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Matthew 25:31-46

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM**  
**CHEESEFARE SUNDAY; FORGIVENESS SUNDAY; EXPULSION OF ADAM FROM**  
**PARADISE; APODOSIS OF THE MEETING OF THE LORD; HOLY MARTYR AGATHA;**  
**MARTYR THEODOULA & MARTYRS HELLADIUS, MACARIUS, BOETHOS, &**  
**EVAGRIUS; SAINT THEODOSIUS-ARCHBISHOP OF CHERNIHIV**

*Tone 4*

Romans 13:11-14:4

Matthew 6:14-21

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

**GREAT LENT BEGINS**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 OBEDNITZA DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH HALL 10:30 AM**  
**SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY; TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY; SAINT MELETIUS-**  
**ARCHBISHOP OF ANTIOCH; VENERABLE MARY-NUN [MARINUS] & HER FATHER**  
**SAINT EUGENE; SAINT ANTHONY II-PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE**

*Tone 5*

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

John 1:43-51

## **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 11 FEBRUARY 2018**

**MEATFARE SUNDAY; SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT; TRANSLATION OF THE**  
**RELICS OF HIEROMARTYR IGNATIUS THE GOD-BEARER; MARTYRS ROMANUS,**  
**JAMES, PHILOTHEUS, HYPERACHIUS, ABIBUS, JULIAN, & PAREGORIUS;**  
**MARTYRS SILVANUS-BISHOP OF EMESA, LUKE THE DEACON, & MOCIUS THE**  
**READER; SAINT LAURENCE-RECLUSE OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA & BISHOP OF**  
**TUROV**

### **TROPARION—TONE 3**

Let the Heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm!  
He has trampled down death by death!  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
And has granted 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 3**

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One!  
Leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;  
With the prophets and patriarchs  
They unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power!

### **PROKEIMENON—TONE 3**

**READER:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King,  
sing praises!

**PEOPLE:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our  
King, sing praises!

**READER:** Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of  
joy!

**PEOPLE:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our  
King, sing praises!

**READER:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises!

**PEOPLE:** Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

### **ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 3**

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!  
Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge, in order to save me!

#### ***The Sunday of the Prodigal Son* Luke 15:11-32**

*And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, Thy brother is*

*come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.(KJV)*

The preparation for Great Lent continues with this Gospel. The immeasurable love of the father for his sons is clearly demonstrated. Parental love for their sons and daughters is a Christian expectation.

Sons and daughters experiencing the love of Christian parents remember this love and benefit from it. Sons and daughters do not always take healthy paths in life even though they were raised in loving Christian homes.

Love always brings benefits. .. "Love never fails." (I Cor.13:8). Sons and daughters making bad choices in their youthful years may mature and become responsible adults due to the initial and consistent love of the parents.

Each son and daughter is unique. The present Gospel shows the difference between two sons in the same home. The father loved both sons. The younger son wanted his portion of goods due to him. His father obliged him.

The younger son must have felt he was capable of making his own decisions and assuming responsibility for himself. He was seeking and asserting his independence.

Sons and daughters reaching adulthood often seek to go off from the family home to seek their own way in the world. Many maintain connections with the family. Some do not. The separations are not always easy or pleasant.

Parents may want to protect their sons and daughters from the hardships of the world. Sons and daughters may feel sufficiency in being prepared to deal with the difficulties of daily life.

The younger son went to a far county. He engaged in irresponsible ways and wasted his possessions. The younger son received possessions from his father and may not have understood the difficulty required to accumulate those possessions.

The son received them freely and squandered them freely. Sons and daughters do not always know the sacrifices made by parents. Time and maturity of years may be necessary before sons and daughters appreciate parental love and sacrifice.

The current Gospel is read in the churches every year. This is a lesson about God's immeasurable love as much as it is a lesson about the love of a father toward his sons.

Individuals often take the love of God for granted and do not live in the most responsible ways as Christians. Too often sin can be blatant and widespread in society. Society may even give legal assent to practices inducing sinful behavior.

Too often society seems to undermine Christian tenets and embrace social ills.

The younger son was shortsighted and did not prepare himself for the time of famine. He had left the security of his home to make his way in the world.

He was not attentive to his possessions or the future. We are reminded to tend to each day in preparation for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are reminded not to squander the precious time of life.

We are reminded to make good use of each day and use the blessings given by God as investments in the Kingdom of God. The young son needed the security of being connected with a person in a more secure position.

He connected with a person that gave him work feeding swine. It was not a glamorous position and certainly not what he had in mind when he left home. Many sons and daughters leave home intending to do well in the world.

The hardships faced in the world are not always known in advance. Many sons and daughters leave home without the adequate preparations necessary to begin life anew in a different community,

Many individuals give up on God or on the local parish church when they are young. Too many sons or daughters drop out of school or quit a job at a young age. They may leave home under less than desirable circumstances.

The young son in this situation was facing a poverty type existence. Many people giving up on God and the Church at a young age find that life without God and without the Church is not satisfying and can be extremely difficult.

Life within the Church involves the Cross and the pain of the Cross. The difference of being in the Church is that Christ is present to help each individual with his or her cross.

Eventually the wayward son returned to his loving father. He was received with love and celebration. Every person departing from the life in Christ and choosing to return is welcomed with the healing love and embrace of Jesus Christ.

*No. 13 . The Sunday of the Prodigal Son. January 22/February 4, 2018. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic*

**THE TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY will be celebrated by His Grace, Bishop Irinej, of the Serbian Orthodox Eastern Diocese, at 4:30 PM on Sunday, February 25, 2018, at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Road, Mount Lebanon, PA, 15228, with refreshments to follow. Everyone is welcome!**