

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

**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 Yurij, Metropolitan Theodosius [OCA], Archbishop Jovan, Bishop Robert, Metropolitan Savas, Father George & Pani Lillian Hnatko, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, 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 Diakiw, Archpriest Dionysi Vitali, Protodeacon Joseph Hotrovich, Father Adam Yonitch, Pani-Dobrodijka Sonia Diakiw, Father Paisius McGrath, Father Michael Smolynec, Father Lawrence & Matushka Sophia Daniels, Father Joe Cervo, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Father George Livanos, Igumen Patrick, Pani Mary Ann Chubenko, Father Jim Orr, Father Rick Seilier, Panimatka Laryssa Charest, 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 Luciow, 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, 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, Howard Simpson, 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, 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, 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 Jaguette, 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, 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, Cindy M., Stephen Popichak—Fr. Bob's brother, Mary Kay Ludovicy, Pastor Sara Irwin, George Dilendorf, Andy Torick, Carol Behun, Erv Frye, William Lusherand, Bill Boretsky, 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, Stella McKeag, Margaret Sekelsky, Robert Sekelsky, Robert Rodriguez, Dollie Irvin, Joe Mrvos, Alexandra, Katherine Kulik, Micky Delans [COVID-19], Pastor Terry Polen, 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.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to Father Robert Holet for his kind donation to our parish. Father Bob was a surprise visitor to Holy Ghost on July 12 and enjoyed our Hot Dog Luncheon. He sent a wonderful note and a very generous donation to us. Thank you, Father Bob and Pani Christine for your kindness! God Bless and keep you always!

"Do not fear separation from your family and friends, because the Holy Spirit transcends all the boundaries of this world. So, no matter how far apart you are from your loved ones; in Christ, it is like you are holding their hands..." (Gerondissa Taxiarchia of Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery in Saxonburg +1994)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ... There is <u>NOTHING</u> 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 <u>ALWAYS</u>** *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 ask 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

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 09 OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM 9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY GREAT-MARTYR & HEALER PANTELEIMON; VENERABLE ANTHUSA-ABESS & HER 90 SISTERS; SAINT CLEMENT OF OCHRID & SAINTS ANGELAR, GORAZD, NAHUM OF OCHRID, AND SABBAS

*Tone 8* 1 Corinthians 3:9-17; 2 Timothy 2:1-10 Matthew 14:22-34; John 15:17-16:2

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

#### **DORMITION FAST BEGINS**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM 10<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; VENERABLE ISAAC, DALMATUS, & FAUSTUS; VENERABLE ANTHONY THE ROMAN; VENERABLE COSMAS-EUNUCH & HERMIT OF PALESTINE

*Tone 1* 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Matthew 17:14-23

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 OBEDNITZA UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM 11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; AFTERFEAST OF THE TRANSIDGURAION; HOLY MARTYRS ARCHDEACON LAURENCE & POPE SIXTUS, FELICISSIMUS & AGAPTUS-DEACONS, AND OTHERS WITH THEM

Tone 2 1 Corinthians 9:2-12 Matthew 18:23-35

## **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 09 AUGUST 2020**

9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY GREAT-MARTYR & HEALER PANTELEIMON; VENERABLE ANTHUSA-ABESS & HER 90 SISTERS; SAINT CLEMENT OF OCHRID & SAINTS ANGELAR, GORAZD, NAHUM OF OCHRID, AND SABBAS

#### TROPARION-TONE 8

Thou didst descent from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! Our Lord, our Life and Resurrection, Glory to Thee!

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

#### KONTAKION-TONE 8

By rising from the tomb,

Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, And the world celebrates Thy Rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

#### **PROKEIMENON-TONE 8**

READER: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
PEOPLE: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
READER: In Judah, God is known; His name is great in Israel!
PEOPLE: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
READER: Pray and make your vows.
PEOPLE: Before the Lord our God!

### ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 8

Come let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.

**AVOIDING DRAMA** Sister Vassa [Larin] (Wednesday, July 18) "Therefore let any one who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it." (1 Cor 10: 12-13)

Two things the Apostle is warning us about here, whether we find ourselves in "good" times, during which we might feel that we "stand" quite tall, or whether we're having "bad" times of some "temptation," which is calling us to "fall" away from our God-focused path to "salvation" (a "return to wholeness.") In the first, "good" case, he tells us not to make the worst of a "good" situation, by abandoning patience, faith and humility; and in the second, "bad" case, he reminds us to make the best of a "bad" situation, in patience, faith and humility.

So let me take it easy, and embrace the sober, "middle ground" of patience, faith and humility –and not be a drama-queen–whether I find myself in "good" times or "bad." And by "drama-queen" I mean, in "good" times overdoing it somehow (by overspending, overeating, overtalking, or over-extending myself in some other way, for the sheer joy and strength I might feel in the moment); or in "bad" times overdramatizing my "temptation," and forgetting that, after all, as the Apostle reminds me, "no temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man." So, "man up," he's saying to me, and if you got one flat tire today, don't slash the other three, but make the best, and not the worst, of your bad situation. Let me open my eyes to the fact that God is unchangeably "faithful," even when the "others" in my life (be it people or things) are not. "God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

(Happy Monday, dear friends!)



"Prayer comes with praying, as the Scriptures say; but prayer which is only a habit, prayer without contrition for our sins, is not pleasing to the Lord. O man, learn the humility of Christ and the Lord will give you to taste of the sweetness of prayer. And if you would pray purely, be humble and temperate, confess yourself thoroughly, and prayer will feel at home in you. There is no need of money or possessions in order to know God, only of humility. The Lord gives Himself freely, for His mercy's sake alone. I did not know this before but now every day and hour, every minute, I see clearly the mercy of God. The Lord gives peace even in sleep, but without God there is no peace in the soul." Saint Silouan the Athonite

### **A Prayer for Tomorrow**

O Heavenly Father, who is so great a God as our God? For truly, You are the God Who creates miracles and wonders (Psalm 76.13-14), You are the Creator and Lord over all the heavens and the earth.

It was to honor You and worship You that the Great Church of Holy Wisdom was built so many years ago. It was made to reflect the glory of the heavens, and to express Your great love for all humanity and all the earth.

It was raised up in Your wisdom, so that the Gospel of Your Son might be proclaimed in peace and glory. It was built as the greatest Temple on the earth, so that the hymns and theology of your Kingdom might resound from the great Ambon and the choirs and echo upon the walls of sacred stone and into the hearts of the Orthodox people.

But O Father, long have the choirs been silenced in Your Temple, long has the preaching of the Kingdom ceased. As Your servant David once lamented, "Those hating You have boasted in the midst of Your feast, they set up their banners for signs and they understood nothing of Your Name" (Psalm 73.4). And now, O Lord, the rulers of strange lands have turned Your Temple into a place of grief and fallen wisdom.

So to You Lord of Grace do we turn and we call upon You for salvation and protection. Save Your people in the old city of New Rome. Protect Your faithful servant, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, and all Your faithful people therein.

Have compassion on Your Temple of Holy Wisdom, Hagia Sophia, O Lord. May it be that the time of mercy for her has come. For truly, as Your servant David sang, "Your servants took pleasure in her stones" (Psalm 101.14).

Raise up the stones of the Orthodox faith, O Lord, and open the doors of Hagia Sophia again to the hymns of Your beauty and peace. Heal Your people, and save Your inheritance. O Lord, hear us now and have mercy.

#### **Justice**

# Psalm 81/82:3-Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. (KJV)

Justice is elusive in the world and requires diligent pursuit among God's believers. The Lord is the Guide for shining light on existing injustices and rectifying them. Justice administered daily in the world by human beings requires vigilant attention. Disparities in the administration of justice will come to light and need addressed. Trust in the Lord is necessary throughout life that justice will prevail in the end.

# Psalm 88/89:14- Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face. (KJV)

The way a community administers justice reflects the prevalent moral standards. Victims of injustices deserve the opportunity to pursue redress and seek correction. The justice system's attention to victims determines if victims are being respected. Dealing with victims on a daily basis requires attentive care and compassion. Being fully attentive to victims of violence makes a lasting impact on the listener.

# Psalm 118/119:121-I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors. (KJV)

The appeals directed to the Lord God for help by the oppressed are wisely-placed. God knows of the hearts of individuals charged with the administration of justice. The justice system needs safeguards present to assure remedies exist for injustices. The fair administration of justice provides the community with acceptable results. Wisdom from the Lord is necessary for the extreme cases in the justice system.

# Proverbs 1:3-To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; (KJV)

Every person has a part in the administration of the community's justice system. Individuals working in the system have a responsibility to maintain their integrity. Citizens have responsibilities to provide adequate resources for the justice system. The workers in the justice system need support and reasonable work conditions. Fairness and impartiality in the administration of justice are required hallmarks.

### **Proverbs 21:3-To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the** Lord than sacrifice. (KJV)

The administration of justice can be challenging and difficult to put into practice. Often times simplistic viewpoints are put forth to resolve complex justice issues. Human lives are at stake in the justice system and great care is required as a result. Every person is affected by the way justice is administered in a local community. Great wisdom goes a long way in ensuring the justice system is fair and effective.

Holy Hieromartyr Athenogenes of Heracleopolis, Holy Martyr Julia. July 16/29, 2020 Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

### The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Mt.14:14-22

And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and He healed their sick. And when it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, This is a desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and buy themselves victuals. But Jesus said unto them, They need not depart; give ye them to eat. And they say unto Him, We have here but five loaves, and two fishes. He said, Bring them hither to Me. And He commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, He blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to His disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full. And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children. And straightway Jesus constrained His disciples to get into a ship, and to go before Him unto the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. (KJV)

#### Holy Prophet Elijah Luke 4:22-30

And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son? And he said unto them, Ye will

surely say unto me this proverb, Physician, heal thyself: whatsoever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in thy country. And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country. But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land; But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian. And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way, (KJV)

We turn our hearts, minds and souls to the Lord God today. We seek the Kingdom of God. The Divine Liturgy offers the opportunity to learn and to experience the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are attentive to the Holy Gospel. We bring our sinfulness before the Lord. We seek God's mercy and give thanks. Our minds and hearts include prayers for our loved ones and those in need of care and healing.

Today God's Holy Church celebrates the Holy Prophet Elijah. The Holy Gospel has these words to heed: "If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." (Luke 16:31)

The Divine Liturgy celebrates the Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection. Believers have the opportunity to be united with Jesus Christ, to partake of His Precious Body and Blood.

The Holy Gospel states the Holy Prophet Elijah appeared with Moses and the transfigured Christ on the high mountain. (Mt. 17:1-3) Holy Prophet Elijah's importance remains through the centuries.

The Holy Prophet Elijah is known for his firm commitment and belief in the Lord God. Elijah's confidence in the Lord God was proven when he engaged in a contest with 450 prophets of Baal to prove the Lord was God. (I Kings 18:21-39)

When turning to the Lord God in faith in seeking the Heavenly Kingdom, believers advisedly exercise caution and vigilance not to choose the wrong paths, not to make erroneous decisions.

The world offers many different possible solutions and answers to current and future problems. Different points of view exist and are put forth claiming to be authoritative. Decisions perilous to the soul can be made easily.

Stress exists presently heightened by political and economic turmoil and fear arising from the coronavirus pandemic. We have advisable words from the Lord to soundly guide us. In Jeremiah we read: "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the **old paths**, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. "(Jer.6:16)

The Holy Prophet Elijah has stood for the Lord at defining moments. Believers do well to be attentive and seek to emulate the Holy Prophet Elijah's faith and conviction for the Lord God.

Elijah's zeal for the Lord is compelling. The Holy Scriptures provide the wisdom of listening carefully for the Lord God to speak. The Lord spoke to Elijah in a still small voice. (I Kings 19:12)

The noise and clamor of the world can be distracting. Taking time to be quiet in the presence of God each day makes good sense. Believers benefit from listening attentively for the Lord to speak to the heart.

God's Holy Church offers believers the opportunity to express love and appreciation for the Lord. Expressing love and appreciation for the Lord is an essential part of the Christian life.

God's blessings are beyond number and comprehension. God provides for believers in ways never even considered. Each breath and heartbeat merit thanksgiving to God.

On this day when the great and holy Prophet Elijah is celebrated, giving abundant thanks and expressing love for God is fully encouraged. The Holy Prophet Elijah is associated with important turning points in salvation history.

We are indebted and have reason to be grateful for the Holy Prophet Elijah. We benefit each day from the time-enduring faith of Elijah the Prophet. May our minds and hearts fully express joy and love for the Lord today.

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Prophet Elijah. July 20/August 2, 2020. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic





Tomb of Saint Clement within the <u>Church of Saints Clement and</u> <u>Panteleimon</u>, <u>Ohrid</u>, <u>North Macedonia</u>.