

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, 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, 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, Eleanor Kitt, Stacie & Gary, Dolores Wachnowsky, Maria Warholak, Stacie & Gary, Anna Sekelik, Christy, Mariruth, Rich Previc, 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR OCTOBER BABIES: Rachel Shirley on the 6<sup>th</sup>, Rich Previc on the 8<sup>th</sup>, Mother Alexandra on the 11<sup>th</sup>, Henry "Jack" Tkacik on the 14<sup>th</sup>, Henry Tkacik on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Harley Katarina Frances Rahuba on the 24<sup>th</sup>, Greg Luciow on the 27<sup>th</sup>, and Michael Sheliga on the 28<sup>th</sup>! May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M'nohaya Lita! God Bless them all!

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> <u>FREE!</u>

<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, OCTOBER 04 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS; LEAVE-TAKING OF THE EXALTATION; APOSTLE QUADRATUS OF THE 70; HIEROMARTYR HYPATIUS-BISHOP OF EPHESUS & PRESBYTER ANDREW; SAINTS ISAACIUS & MELETIUS-BISHOPS OF CYPRUS; MARYT EUSEBIUS OF

#### PHONEIA & MARTYR PRISCUS OF PHYRGIA; UNCOVERING OF DRELICS OF SAINT DEMETRIUS-METROPOLITAN OF ROSTOV

Tone 8

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

Father Theodore Forosty, Johnathan Dorning, Catherine Behun, Mary Medich, Daniel Chicka, & Mary Evaniuk--Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SAINT CHARITON THE CONFESSOR-ABBOT OF PALESTINE; PROPHET BARUCH; SYNAXIS OF THE SAINTS OF THE PERCHEVSKY LAVRA MONASTERY NEAR CAVES OF VENERABLE ANTHONY-FOUNDER OF THE CAVES—PROCHOUS THE GARDNER & WONDERWORKER, JOHN THE FASTER, AND OTHERS

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYR CHARITINA OF AMISUS; HIEROMARTYR DIONYSISU-BISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA; MARTYR MAMELTA OF PERSIA; VENERABLE DAMIAN THE HEALER & SAINTS JEREMIAH & MATTHEW— CLAIRVOYANTS OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

*Tone 2* 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9 Luke 6:31-36

# **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 04 OCTOBER 2020**

17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS; LEAVE-TAKING OF THE EXALTATION; APOSTLE QUADRATUS OF THE 70; HIEROMARTYR HYPATIUS-BISHOP OF EPHESUS & PRESBYTER ANDREW; SAINTS ISAACIUS & MELETIUS-BISHOPS OF CYPRUS; MARYT EUSEBIUS OF PHONEIA & MARTYR PRISCUS OF PHYRGIA; UNCOVERING OF DRELICS OF SAINT DEMETRIUS-METROPOLITAN OF ROSTOV

# 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.

### The Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious Lifegiving Cross

John 19:6-11,13-20, 25-28, 20-35

We are blessed to hear St. John's account of the Lord Jesus Christ's crucifixion in the Church. We learn of the Lord's complete love through His willingness to be crucified for our salvation.

The Holy Apostle Paul told the Galatians that Jesus gave: "...himself for our **sins**, that he might deliver us from this present evil **world**, according to **the** will **of** God and our Father." (Gal.1:4)

We are all indeed sinners. We sin regularly and in ways we do not know and cannot fully account for. St. John the Baptist and the Lord Jesus Christ both called for repentance. (Mt. 3:2, 4:17)

The Church is first and foremost a community of love. Jesus Christ's love on the Cross is to be embodied by the believers in the Church. Christ's love is characterized by forgiveness, mercy and newness. (Mt.26:28, Jn 13:34,

2 Cor.5:17, Col.3:10, Heb.10:20)

Serious self-examination and honesty will reveal the need for constant repentance and the seeking of the Lord's mercy. God's Holy Church provides the instruction, guidance and love for the healing and nourishment of the soul. The Kingdom of God is the first priority of serious believers. All that is thought and done in life is to be measured according to seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. (Mt.6:33)

The Lord Jesus Christ suffered unto death upon the Cross in His love for each person. Every person baptized into Christ is expected to be faithful in following Christ all the remaining days of life. (Rom. 6:4)

If we call ourselves Christians, our daily thoughts, words and actions should fully reflect the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ. Everything we think, say and do should conform to the way of Christ.

Following Christ entails taking up our personal crosses in life willingly. Jesus said: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and **take up** his **cross** daily, and follow me." (Lk.9:23)

The world is filled with turmoil and uncertainly. The Lord Jesus Christ is the only certainty to embrace, follow and love. The Lord Jesus Christ embraces and loves each one of us.

Now is the time to fully consider Jesus Christ's death on the Cross. Now is the time to consider Jesus' complete love for each one of us. Christ's love will transform our lives.

Christ's love will heal our hurts. Christ's love will give us hope and remove any thoughts of despair, despondency or loneliness. Christ's love is all encompassing. No one is excluded from Christ's love.

In this world where hate and anger are expressed and violence occurs all too often, Jesus' love offers the better way. In homes and in communities where discord exists, Christ's love enables peace and unity to prevail.

Each person having entered into Holy Baptism is expected to live out the remaining days of life in ways pleasing to the Lord Jesus Christ. Today is the day to ensure the promise to follow Christ made at Baptism is truly followed.

Let us measure each word, thought and action today to ensure they reflect the love of Christ. St. John's Epistle states: "For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should **love** one another." (I Jn.3:11)

The Great Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious Life-Giving Cross. September 14/27, 2020. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

Posted by Rhea Ballas—passed on by Father George Livanos: Harsh truth: If people of color aren't welcome in your parish, you aren't Orthodox; you're just a club with some icons.

Father Moses Berry (Abba Moses Berry) posted this yesterday....You never know...

A young Orthodox African American woman from St. Louis told me that she didn't feel comfortable going to a certain church in town. She said that the last time she attended that church, she received a less than warm welcome. I told her a story about that very same church, that happened to me, around 1987.

This church was having an open house to display its wonderful mosaics. I saw the event in the newspaper, and knew I had to go, as I'd always been attracted by icons and mosaics. When I entered the crowded nave of the church, on a Friday afternoon, an official person approached me and said "How can I help you?" I knew what she meant by that question, by the subtle tone of her voice. In my experience, this always meant "what are you doing here?" I replied, "no thank you ma'm, I'm just looking." A few moments later, the priest approached me and again asked, "How can I help you?" I replied, "Father, I'm interested in Orthodoxy, and I just want to look around at the mosaics." He said, "I think you'd be happier in the Coptic church." I also knew what he meant—that there wasn't room for someone like me in his church. (The Copts, after all, were more likely to have people of color.) I was wounded, and in my madness, pledged to myself that I'd never darken the doors of that church again. I'd go out of my way to avoid even driving near it, as it was a trigger for me of that unpleasant memory.

Years passed, and a young man who I'd helped mentor, a graduate of Holy Cross Seminary, was now an associate pastor of that very same church. Not knowing my history there, he asked if I would come and give the Sunday of Orthodoxy homily. I was torn between my natural inclination to steer clear of that place and the request of my spiritual son. I gave in to my better nature and agreed to go.

I started my homily by saying that we must be very careful about how we treat people, and always treat them with lovingkindness and respect. If we're not careful, we will offend our own brothers and sisters. As we read in Proverbs, a brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city captured. I continued my homily by talking about what happened to me at that church. At the end of the service, there was a reception, during which a little old lady came up to me and said, "I was the one who approached you all those years ago," and she began to cry, and I began to cry. And there we were, in the middle of the church hall, in front of all these people, holding hands and crying over our offenses to one another—hers of rejecting me, and mine of being resentful of her for my rejection.

I told the young woman that we don't go to church to get accepted by other people, although that's a wonderful thing, but, rather, to be in the presence of Christ. After all, even our Lord did not always have the warmest of receptions. It is your choice, I continued, whether or not you go back to that church, but don't be confused as to why we go to church in the first place.

#### <u>Pure</u>

# Proverbs 15:26-The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord: but the words of the pure are pleasant words. (KJV)

The Mother of God is the primary example for believers to be pure in daily life. Believers do well to consider the purity of the Mother of God and her example. Search the heart and mind thoroughly and cleanse them of any existing impurities. Pray to the Mother of God for assistance in leading a life characterized by purity. Rejoice in having purity as a personal goal and in the efforts to achieve this goal.

# Proverbs 20:9-Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin. (KJV)

Regularly practice repentance and confession to bring purity to the heart and mind. Welcome God's willingness to forgive and grant opportunities to begin life anew. Repent quickly and completely when sins occur that they not be repeated or buried. Scour the heart and mind for the presence of any contrary thoughts and repel them. Be very careful and vigilant in guarding the condition of the heart, mind and soul.

# Proverbs 20:11-Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

Come to love purity in life as a primary characteristic and consider it achievable. With God's help, purity in life becomes possible as Christ cleanses sins away. Repentance makes a decided difference in life in the relationship with Jesus Christ. The condition of the heart and mind determine personal life's direction and goals. When the mind is functioning well, beginning anew in Christ is always possible.

# **Proverbs 21:8-The way of man is froward and strange: but as for the pure, his work is right**. (KJV)

God's Holy Church provides believers with the direction to begin anew in Christ. The Church offers the nourishment and instruction for leading a pure life in Christ. Believers are taught the Lord Jesus Christ's standards of purity in the Church. Adherence to the ways of Christ take different forms as exhibited by the saints. Saints vary in the way life is lived but they share the common pure love for Christ.

### **Proverbs 22:11-He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend**. (KJV)

Believers with a pure heart hold the Lord Jesus Christ dearly in the mind and soul. The pure in heart view daily occurrences through the lens of Christ being at work. Words emanating from the mouths of the pure in heart reveal statements of truth. Purity prevalent and existing in the heart reflects cleanliness of the believer's soul. The believer maintaining a pure heart exudes peace in personal daily relationships.

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Mother of God. Holy Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora. September 10/23, 2020. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

# The Ancient Church Alive Today

The transformational power of a Church unchanged In an age when many Christian denominations are trying to appear relevant and modern, I am finding that large numbers of people are drawn to the Ancient Faith by the beard and robe. I am constantly thanked for dressing as I do by people who appreciate symbols of faith in the midst of a secular world. Many Orthodox jurisdictions that previously wanted to blend in with their Catholic and Protestant neighbors by having our clergy put off the traditional "look" of Orthodoxy, are now rediscovering the wisdom of these traditions. Now that large numbers of the clean shaven, and modern attired, heterodox clergy have been discredited in the minds of the world, due to theological and moral lapses, is there any logical reason we Orthodox would really want to imitate them?

Like so many other Orthodox clergy, I can also attest to the fact that my beard, and my way of dress, are a great aid in keeping me, sinner that I am, constantly attuned to my vocation as a monk, and as a priest. It is hard to forget your high calling when you "dress for work" each and every hour of every day. Our appearance is a constant reminder that we, as priests, have been set apart as Guardians of the Mysteries, and Servants of the Most High.

From my personal observations, I have come to believe that Orthodoxy, if it is to thrive into the next century, must adhere to the ancient traditions and roots of the faith that have set her apart from the religions. The Church must proclaim the Good News of Christ in all its purity, so that the mystical and sacramental core of her very being be clearly seen by a world that so needs this ancient, unchanging faith. The world must see by our differences that Orthodoxy offers the transformational healing that comes through the life of Christ's Church. By clinging to her ancient, God inspired Tradition, the Church takes seriously the mystical and sacramental roots of her divinely founded self.

As we Orthodox look in amazement at the phenomenal resurrection of our Church following the fall of communism, what with the thousands of new churches being reopened, new ones built, and monasteries growing at a phenomenal rate, we will see that the twenty-first century could well be the Age of Orthodoxy. And for this to happen, we must put off everything that has brought down Western Christianity. Accountability must be foremost in how we operate as religious institutions. Bishops and priests must be accountable to one another, transgressions against the Body of Christ must be rooted out, and the clergy (including our bishops) must serve others as humble servants of Christ, and as living icons of the Gospel message. Our co-suffering Saviour must be seen in how we serve, and in how we live, and in how we love. The transformational power of Orthodoxy must be allowed to change the world, as the "institutional" church is replaced with the gospel vision of the Church as Hospital of the Soul.

The Orthodox Church will thrive in the twenty-first century only if we commit to being the otherworldly people we are called to be, living in the world, but not being of the world. The Church will thrive, not because she adapts to modern styles of dress, and modern trends of moral and theological thought, but because of her willingness to serve the world in imitation of the holy fathers of the Church who have gone on before us, and who refused to conform to the styles and fashions of a world that has always been in need of the unchanging Faith that has the power to transform lives, and usher the human race into communion with the Most High God.

Love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon



**Some Chuckles** from a high-school friend of Fr. Bob's I was in a shoe store that sells only shoes, nothing else. A young girl with green hair walked over to me and asked, "What brings you in today? I looked at her and said, "I'm interested in buying a refrigerator." She didn't quite know how to respond, had that deer in the headlights look. I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.

When people see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" I just say, "No, it's for company!"

Employment application blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write, "An ambulance."

The older you get the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Have you ever noticed: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he knows when he's really in trouble.

Did you ever notice that when you put the 2 words "The" and "IRS" together it spells "Theirs?"

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me. I want people to know why I look this way. I've traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.

Ah! Being young is exciting but being old is comfortable.

Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth.

May you always have: Love to share, Cash to spare, Tires with air, And friends who care.

A young man told the priest:

- Father, I will not come to church again.

The priest asked him what the reason is.

The young man replied to him:

Here I see a woman gossiping another, the one next to me slept, the other one doesn't read well and the chanters fight sometimes. At the time of service someone else is dealing with their phone, not to mention their selfish behavior when they leave the temple... The priest says to him:

- You're right. But before you finally leave church, please do me a favor. Take this candle and circle the temple three times without spilling a single drop of oil. Then you can leave.

" Only that? Okay," said the young man. He did the three rounds as requested by the priest. After it's over, he said: - Father, I did. The priest asked him: - When you turned around the temple, did you notice anyone gossiping someone? - Nope. - Did you see someone dealing with their phone? - Nope. - Do you know why? You were focused on the candle so you wouldn't pour the oil. So that's how it is in our lives. When our hearts gather in Christ, we don't have time to look at other people's mistakes. Those who leave the Church because of their sinner brothers, surely did not enter it for Christ.