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ADVENT—SAINT PHILIP'S FAST—PILIPKIVA

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 Yuriy, Archbishop Jovan, Bishop Robert, Metropolitan Savas, Archbishop David, 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 Smolynech, 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, Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, 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 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, Corey Guich, Robert Vangrin, Pauline Witkowski, Sera White, Deborah Smith, Nancy & Eric Dunik, Julian Stroz [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 Trachine, 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 Jaquette, 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 Kemmerer, 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, 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 & Bowen, Katherine Kulik, Micky Delans [COVID-19], Pastor Terry Polen, Eleanor Kitt, Stacie & Gary, Dolores Wachnowsky, Maria Warholak, Stacie & Gary, Anna Sekelik, Christy, Mariruth, Rich & Judy Previc, Ben Williams, Denis Strittmatter, Deacon Joe Uzar—vocations, Tim—surgery, Archimandrite Raphael—COVID-19, John Wakin, Olivia—young girl with a brain tumor, Rick & Sharon Morgan, John Stasko [triple by-pass], Barbara Shegat & Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, 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.

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] 279-5640.

SERVICES IN SLICKVILLE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 NO SERVICE IN SLICKVILLE
29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYRS THYRSUS, LEUCIUS, &
CALLINICUS; MARTYRS APOLLONIUS, PHILEMON, ARIANUS, & THEOCTYCHUS
OF ALEXANDRIA

Tone 4
Colossians 3:4-11
Luke 14:16-24

SUNDAY, JANUARY 03, 2021 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM
30TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY BEFORE NATIVITY; SUNDAY OF THE
HOLY FATHERS; VIRGIN-MARTYR JULIANA OF NICOMEDIA, 500 MEN, & 130
WOMEN WITH HER; MARTYR THEOMISTOCLES OF MYRA

Tone 5
Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40
Matthew 1:1-25

Litany in Blessed Memory of Stephen Kuzman, Timothy Stutchell, Nicholas
Vetosky, Robert Rohal, Gary Atutes, and Cindy Mycyk—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021 OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS!!! 10:30 AM
31ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY; AFTERFEAST OF
THE NATIVITY; 20,000 MARTYRS OF NICOMEDIA INCLUDING GLYCERIUS,
ZENO, THEOPHILUS, & OTHERS; APOSTLE NICANOR THE DEACON

Tone 6
Galatians 1:11-19
Matthew 2:13-23

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 27 DECEMBER 2020

*****NO SERVICE IN SLICKVILLE*****

29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYRS THYRSUS, LEUCIUS, &
CALLINICUS; MARTYRS APOLLONIUS, PHILEMON, ARIANUS, &
THEOCTYCHUS OF ALEXANDRIA

TROPARION—TONE 4

When the women disciples of the Lord
Learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection;
They cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles:
Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen,
Granting 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 4

My Savior and Redeemer,
As God rose from the tomb
And delivered the earthborn from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of Hell,
And as Master, He has risen on the third day!

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.

God Provides

Genesis 22:8-And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. (KJV)

The Lord God provides for people of strong faith with eyes to see and ears to hear. In our current circumstances, strong faith and hope in the Lord God are necessary. God provides the basic needs for a life at peace with the Lord and with each other. Great caution is required not to become entrapped with desires that lead to greed. Far too many people are suffering because of the existence of widespread greed.

2 Chronicles 32:29-Moreover he provided him cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance: for God had given him substance very much. (KJV)

Take time each day to give thanks to the Lord God for life's abundant goodness. Regularly utilize moments each day to examine God's innumerable blessings. Be grateful and alert to the ever-presence and reassurance of the Lord God's love. Keep God in prayer in the heart, mind and soul throughout the day and the night. Firmly reject any notions of despair and always hope in the Resurrected Christ.

Psalms 65:9-Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it. (KJV)

Be joyful in the Lord God's presence at all times, in all places, now and forever. View the record through the centuries of God always providing for

the faithful. Learn from and be inspired by the lives of the saints and martyrs to always hope. Hope in the Lord motivates believers to struggle in faith and with conviction. Placing hope in the Lord inspires efforts beneficial for the salvation of the soul.

Psalm 78:20-Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can he give bread also? can he provide flesh for his people? (KJV)

Through the centuries God's people have had to struggle and practice great faith. God has provided for the people of great faith in times of adversity and hardship. When no known solutions were apparent, God provided solutions for the faithful. The history of the Church reveals evidence of God providing care for the faithful. Place full confidence in the Lord to provide care for the faithful in adverse times.

Hebrews 11:40-God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect. (KJV)

Current believers in the Church are inseparable from believers having come before. Continuity exists through the centuries of the Lord God's providing presence. The Lord God does not forsake the faithful and demonstrates immeasurable love. Providing care for people of faith are the Lord's way of expressing constant love. Faithful believers show God gratitude and love by loving each person in daily life.

*Holy Prophet Zephaniah, Venerable John the Silent. December 3/16, 2020
Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic*



Crawford's History and Memorabilia

*added 2 new photos to the album: **Shadeland Mansion.***

The Shade Mansion once stood on route 18 before being burned to the ground by the local fire department. It was a dual purpose event of ridding the Borough of Springboro of a fire hazard, and providing the local volunteer fire department with a real live training exercise.

It was originally home to the Powell Brothers, who owned the property across from the mansion. The Mansion, built in 1882, was purchased by The Serbian Eastern Orthodox Diocese in 1950 and became a home for Serbian fighters during WWII. It continued after the war as a Soldiers and Sailors Home for Serbian veterans, but the mansion fell into disrepair over time. There was plenty of public discussions about saving the mansion, but it never happen and the diocese didn't want to spend the money to repair the mansion. Despite the public's opinion the fire department burned the mansion to the ground in 1992.

The Twenty Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Luke 17:12-19

And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole. (KJV)

The Lord God heals us every day in ways we do not even perceive. We are the beneficiaries of prayers of others we will never know. Each day merits our giving unending thanks to God for healing us.

Holy Confession heals us. Receiving the Precious Body and Blood of Christ heals us. Holy Unction and other prayers have a healing effect on us. God deserves to have our gratitude.

We are healed when we repent of our sins and God receives us with love. We are healed when we are forgiven offenses towards God and our neighbor. The present Gospel makes clear Jesus recognizes acts of gratitude.

These are busy times for believers. Too often God is forgotten. Too often God is turned to in prayer with requests. God is not always thanked when the prayers are answered.

The Church prescribes the present Gospel reading each year. The present Gospel reading verifies Jesus' healing power. The same Gospel underscores the importance of being grateful for healing.

We travel through the world safely very often. God deserves gratitude for our safe travels. God's healing love keeps us healthy. We should thank God at all times for the love that heals.

The hunger in the soul requires nourishment. Without Divine nourishment, we would suffer severe ailments of diverse kinds. Thanking God for Divine nourishment is a Christian responsibility.

Our patron saints and guardian angels protect us in various ways. Patron saints and guardian angels are due believers' gratitude. Responsible Christians make it a practice to regularly thank God for blessings received.

God's Holy Church is an endless blessing. Believers demonstrate gratitude to the Church by honoring the Church's teachings and values. Appreciation to the Church is evident by the effort put forth by faithful parishioners.

Christians have a responsibility to invest in the life in Christ taken up at Holy Baptism. Growth in Christ is expected throughout life while the mind functions well.

The world and Satan seek to take the Christian away from Christ. Vigilance is necessary at all times. Vigilance is strengthened through prayer, fasting and being nourished in God's Holy Church.

There is a saying "We are what we eat." We should first and always receive the Precious Body and Blood of Christ to be united with Christ. The Holy Scriptures offer Divine nourishment for the soul and daily life.

The lives of the saints and martyrs and writings of the Holy Fathers and Mothers of the Church feed the hunger of the soul. The Divine services of the Church address the appetite of the soul.

To be healthy Christians, living according to the way and teachings of Jesus Christ is essential. The Nativity Fast calls believers to be more faithful to the way of Jesus Christ.

Now is the time to fully consider the meaning of Jesus Christ taking on human flesh. Now is the time to assess the condition of the soul and the need to repent.

Jesus Christ heals believers today as the lepers were healed in the current Gospel. We are blessed to have the opportunity to turn to Jesus Christ for healing.

We express the joy of being healed when we thank Jesus Christ.

God's Holy Church helps us to become healthy and to remain healthy. Health of soul is of paramount importance. We learn how to make the soul healthy in God's Holy Church.

Each Divine service of the Church is instructive. Attentive believers are conscious of the content of the Divine services. Believers are expected to improve in health of soul with each participation in the Divine services.

The time each person is given is a gift from God. The way the person uses the time will determine how the person experiences eternity. Time given by God is to be used wisely and invested in the Kingdom of God.

We invest in the Kingdom of God in our relationship with Jesus Christ and with each other. The Nativity Fast is the time to work conscientiously on our relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

The Nativity Fast is the time to do what is necessary to grow in Christ and to be more firmly united with Christ. The Divine service of God's Holy Church strengthens our relationship with Christ and each other.

When we are away from the Church services, we continue to have the opportunity to be united with Christ in prayer and in action. Keeping the mind, heart and soul centered in Christ keeps the unity with Christ strong.

The Twenty Eighth Sunday after Pentecost. St. Ambrose, Venerable Gregory of Gornjak the Hesychast. Serbian Children's Day. December 7/20, 2020.

St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church, Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

Witnessing Christ

Love and charity go a long way

Many years ago I was sitting in a Seattle coffee house, laptop open and working on correspondence. Two young college age men were sitting at a table about two feet away. One of them made a rude remark that was obviously meant for my ear. He suggested to his friend that only a stupid old man would believe in God. I smiled at them and continued to work on my laptop.

Before leaving the cafe, I purchased two gift cards and asked the young woman to give it to the two young men sitting at the table next to mine, but only after I left. About two weeks later I again visited the cafe. There they were, the two young men. They both came to my table, asking if they could sit with me. I smiled broadly and said I would be delighted to have them join me.

One of the young men then asked me why I'd purchased gift cards for them when I'd obviously heard their slam against me. I told them that God had told me to buy them the gift cards and that the gifts were from God. One of the young men teared up and asked for my forgiveness. I told him I'd forgiven him the very moment he'd uttered those words because Christ loved them. How could I not love them if God loved them, I asked.

God gives all of us chances to show His love for people. Sometimes the most unlovable are the very ones who need signs of love the most. Who knows the difference a kind word or a smile can have on the life of an individual who is rude, or who is abusive.

The most difficult people to deal with are often the very people who need our love and kindness the most. The angry neighbor or coworker can be turned around by being treated with respect and love, regardless of their behavior. They are the people who need our prayers. God can change any heart, turning around the lives of the very worst people because of our

prayers. Who are we to judge them? If God has placed them in our lives we must look for the reason. Perhaps they are there because we need to learn the lesson of forgiveness and charity. Do we deserve God's love more than they?

With love in Christ, Abbot Tryphon



From Metropolitan Kallistos

Dear Fathers, brothers and sisters,

As many of you will know, I have not been well in recent weeks and so have not been able to see you in church as I would have liked.

I know that some have been concerned by my absence (and I am afraid I have been unable to take telephone calls), so I thought I would allay concerns by writing to you in the newsletter; which is a welcome innovation in the parish.

I have had further treatment for cancer which I hope will stave off any development in that region. I may have to go into hospital in the New Year for a relatively minor operation, but not for the moment, as first I have to have a pacemaker, which I am assured can be done before Christmas.

I am told that this may give me renewed strength to be able to celebrate Christmas with you all. Just at present, I feel well in myself but too tired to get out or to receive calls. I am afraid that in the current situation, with the restrictions necessary to prevent COVID (especially as I am having to go to the hospital) I cannot receive visitors but I am being looked after and receive the help I need with provisions and the like.

I assure you all of my continued prayers and blessing and ask for your prayers that "I may be restored to you the sooner".

+ Metropolitan Kallistos



**When we're young,
we sneak out of
our house to go to
parties. When we're
old, we sneak out of
parties to go home.**

AN UPDATE with SOME THOUGHTS and COMMENTS:

Hello, everybody! I hope everyone is staying SAFE and WELL while we are in quarantine mode at Holy Ghost.

As I prepare this, we have 4 people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in our extended church family. Two are regular attendees, one comes as much as his health allows, and the last is the spouse of one of the regulars.

After discussions with His Eminence, Archbishop Daniel, and His Eminence, Metropolitan Antony, the decision was made to put into effect the 14-day-quarantine after a positive test result...which we have done for the past 3 weeks. Timing on these things is everything when we are trying to keep everyone safe.

With the celebration of Christmas looming, I would encourage everyone to use good judgment when deciding how to observe December 25th with your family. Family and friends are amazingly important to us as human beings, so I won't tell you NOT to get together. I will ask you, very passionately, to think about the risks to everyone who does assemble—in your house or someone else's.

We have been extremely lucky to avoid anyone contracting this virus for 10 months, although it has hit us with a fury we cannot imagine.

Plans to celebrate Nativity on January 7th are not final, but I will do my best to get information out as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, please use common sense and observe the guidelines from the PA Department of Health and CDC as we await the arrival of the vaccine.

May God watch over each of you...Stay SAFE!!! God Bless!

Fr. Bob