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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, Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia, 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, Pani-Dobrodijka Sonia Diakiw, Father Paisius McGrath, Father Michael Smoly nec, Father Lawrence & Matushka Sophia Daniels, Father Joe Cervo, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Igumen Patrick, Pani Mary Ann Chubenko, Father Jim Orr, Father Rick Seilier, Panimatka Laryssa Charest, Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, Father Steve Hutnick [COVID-19], Father Victor Wronskyj [COVID-19], Father George & Dobrodijka Oksana Bazylevsky, Fr. Volodymyr Muzychka [COVID-19], Diakonissa Mary Ann Cherkas, Father Harry Linsinbigler [COVID-19], Archimandrite Raphael [COVID-19], 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, 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 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 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 Jaquette, Sherri Walewski, Marika Zeliszczuk, Donna Davis, Jackie Crimbchin, Marta Charron, Mary [Corba], 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, Stephen Popichak—Fr. Bob's brother, Mary Kay Ludovicy,

Pastor Sara Irwin, George Dilendorf, Andy Torick, Carol Behun, Erv Frye, William Lusherand, 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, 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, Father Joe Uzar—newly ordained, Tim—surgery, John Wakin, Olivia—young girl with a brain tumor, Rick & Sharon Morgan, John Stasko [triple by-pass], John, Kris & Kait, Jeff & Mary Jane Double [COVID-19], Terri Crosby-Vega [COVID-19], Kristi Wilson, Wendy LaGamba, Melissa Gross [hip replacement], Mike, Amy, Nathan, & Ben Forbeck [COVID-19], David Salazar, Ann Zurasky [knee replacement], James Mary, Barb Bookser, Dr. Paul Riley, David Hess, Serena, Wyatt, Makenzie, Jennifer, Carolyn Strittmatter, Barbara Shegat & Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, Candace Irvin, Dollie Irvin, Carol Muschick, Grace Love [knee replacement], Stacie Riley, Joseph Paul Cervo, Jr. [newborn], Elizabeth [5-year-old], Lillian Skowvron, Pani Cathy Danczak, 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.

*******NO SERVICE IN SLICKVILLE ON JULY 25TH*******

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, July 25

NO SERVICE IN SLICKVILLE!

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYRS PROCLUS & HILARY OF ANCYRA; VENERABLE MICHAEL-MONK OF MALEINUS; MARTYR GOLINDUC-IN HOLY BAPTISM MARY-OF PERSIA; MARTYRS THEODORE & SON JOHN OF KIEV

Tone 4

Romans 10:1-10

Matthew 8:28-9:1

SUNDAY, August 01

OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS

10:30 AM

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS; VENERABLE MACRINA-SISTER OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT; VENERABLE DIUIS-ABBOT OF ANTIOCH; VENERABLE PAISIUS OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

Tone 5

Romans 12:6-14; Galatians 5:22-6:2; Hebrews 13:7-16

Matthew 9:1-8; Luke 6:17-23; John 17:1-13

Litany in Blessed Memory of Father Peter Natishan, Samuel Mrvos, Matushka Catherine Pyrch, David Yenni, Denise Lawrence, Rudy Obradovich, Michael Horvath, John Sheliga, Anne Harte, Mildred Kitch, Agnes Rossi, Michael Cherepko, & Mary Viganì—Fr. Bob

SUNDAY, August 08

OBEDNITZA—UPSTAIRS

10:30 AM

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HIEROMARTYRS HERMOLAUS, HERMIPPUS, & HERMOCRATES OF NICOMEDIA; MARTYR PARASCEVE OF ROME; VENERABLE MOSES THE HUNGARIAN OF PERCHEVSKY LAVRA

Tone 6

Romans 15:1-7

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 25 JULY 2021

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; VENERABLE ATHANASIVS OF MOUNT ATHOS; MARTYR ANNA OF ROME; MARTYR CYRILLA OF CYRENE IN LIBYA-WIDOW; VENERABLE LAMPADUS-MONK OF HIEROPOLIS

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

TROPARION—TONE 5

Let the faithful praise and worship the Word,

Coeternal with the Father and the Spirit;
Born for our salvation from the Virgin;
For He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
To endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection!

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

KONTAKION—TONE 5

Thou didst descend into Hell, O my Savior, Shattering its gates as almighty;
Resurrecting the dead as Creator, And destroying the sting of death.
Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man,
And we all cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

PROKEIMENON—TONE 5

READER: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this
generation forever.

**PEOPLE: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this
generation forever.**

READER: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

**PEOPLE: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this
generation forever.**

READER: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us...

PEOPLE: From this generation forever.

ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 5

I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim
Thy truth from generation to generation.

Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever, and my truth will be
prepared in the heavens.



*Jawn, pronounced \ˈjān\, is the Philadelphia all-purpose noun.
It can refer to a single thing, or a collection or class of things, or a situation, or
a person.*

A couple of weeks ago, we had a breakthrough in the Dispaldo household.

You see, our daughter, like many 5-year olds, isn't a fan of vegetables. Sure, we can hide them well enough. A zucchini fry here, a cauliflower onion ring there. But mostly, getting her to eat a few pieces of broccoli ends up becoming an event. Or a fight. Or reminiscent of two nations discussing a treaty.

To combat this, back in the Spring, we started purchasing school lunch from her pre-K. Each lunch comes with a main dish, a side, a vegetable, a fruit, and a milk, and let me tell you, school lunches nowadays for kids are a far cry from the Salisbury steak and chicken patty I had a mere twenty years ago when I last ate school lunch. Our thought was that this would not only provide her with her necessary nutrition and teach (force) her to try new things, but it would also, selfishly, pass along an inevitable argument over vegetables to her teacher. We'd only have to fight once a day, at dinner.

When I pick my daughter up from school, I always ask her what she had for lunch as an easy way to talk about her day (I know what she had, I picked the days she receives lunch from school). A couple of weeks ago, she started to get very excited when we talked about school lunch. "I ate all of my green beans" she would exclaim, or, "I took 2 bites of my carrots!" "That's awesome" I would reply. "You're so brave!"

The school lunch trick seemed to be working. Progress, my wife and I thought. Misguidedly, I remembered President George W. Bush telling the story of his father, President George H.W. Bush, and his hatred for vegetables and thought, "Well, she's already ahead of 41."

Then, this week, it all came crashing down.

On Wednesday, a particularly lean day for school lunch (turkey and cheese on wheat and a cucumber salad), I went through my normal routine of asking my daughter what she had for lunch. That morning, we discussed the elephant in the room: the cucumber salad. What was a cucumber salad? Can it really be called a salad if there's only one ingredient + dressing? Is a hot dog a sandwich? Questions raced through our collective heads. Her trepidation towards eating the cucumber salad was palpable. I could taste the cucumber salad from my own kitchen as it lay wait in the biodegradable container it is housed in at school.

When I picked her up, she said, "Daddy, I ate my cucumber salad!" I was stunned. Elated. Overjoyed. Proud.

(Parents may appreciate the joy a child eating vegetables will bring you. It replaces the joy of things we used to do, like happy hour or communicating with people on a regular basis that *don't* have kids and vicariously living through them.)

Then, the bombshell. There was a follow-up. "I really ate my vegetables this time. I was joking about eating them all the other times!"

It was if all the broccoli and green beans in the world hit me like a ton of Vitamin K laden bricks. She had been lying, not joking.

This became a teachable moment for my daughter. We sat down and I explained the difference between joking and lying. How one, in moderation, is innocent and fun and the other can have very serious consequences. She understood (I guess), she felt remorse. She apologized (again) 20-minutes later as she watched My Little Pony. I could tell, she was out of it. It was weighing on her. She said she didn't feel right.

I told her, "Sometimes, the truth hurts. But telling the truth will make you feel better."

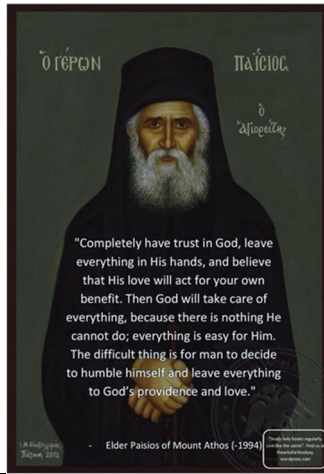
You may be wondering if this week's *Jawn* is going to simply be about the merits of vegetables or if this weekly rambling has turned into a parenting column. It hasn't, but it does give me us all an opportunity, a reminder of just how important the truth is, especially in our daily interactions at work, and in emergency management.

The truth is what allows us to build relationships. Honesty, sometimes brutal, and sometimes soft, is currency. By that, I mean that the truth tellers are rich in reputation. Folks who work with those that tell the truth know that they can trust the words that come out of their mouths and the actions that those words create. For those of us in the field, for those of us fighting fires, or bad guys, or for a person's life, truth and honesty are more important than any ICS Form, any piece of paperwork.

The truth is what allows us to right wrongs. It's a difficult starting point, but a starting point on an unlevel playing field is better than no playing field at all. In emergency management, public safety, and in any profession, really, looking back on things that went awry and either fixing them or planning better for the next one is how we get better. After-action reports, post-mortems, and conferences held years too late, while at times difficult to digest, are our way of saying, "That's my bad. Let's do better next time." Being honest with others is important. Being honest with ourselves is simply step one.

Like my daughter, we may not always eat our vegetables. But like the truth, they are good for the mind, the body, and the soul when we do take a bite. No matter how hard that bite may be.

John DiSpaldo, Teracore, Federal Emergency Management Agency-Region III



Trust God

Ruth 2:12- The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust. (KJV)

Fully trusting the Lord God comes from within the believer's heart, mind and soul. The Lord God becoming the leading way of daily life requires the greatest confidence. Willingness to completely follow God affects every aspect of the believer's being. Every thought, element of the body, heart, mind and soul are involved in trusting God. The believer's mind comprehends fully trusting that the Lord God will not disappoint. The proof in fully trusting God is learned through the believer's personal experience. Great soul searching is very necessary when putting complete trust in the Lord God.

2 Samuel 22:3- The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence. (KJV)

Trusting God is not for persons with weak faith, but for believers without reservations. Faith and hope always accompany placing full trust in God for every desired outcome. The believer's love for God increases with experiencing the results of trusting God. With the passing of time, the believer comes to realize trusting God is the best way. Outcomes always rest with the Lord God and wise believers look to God for results. The outcome of every situation is with the Lord God according to God's teachings. Doubts eventually dissolve when complete trust in God guides the believer's actions.

2 Kings 18:5- He trusted in the Lord God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him. (KJV)

The Holy Scriptures offers God's wisdom for believers willing to look carefully. Hunger in the soul motivates the believer to look deep into the Holy Scriptures. Daily life competes with the believer's interests but God

guides the way to salvation. The attentive mind will dwell firmly on the paths leading to the Heavenly Kingdom. Serious believers cast aside the perilous temptations and ways that destroy the soul. God's Kingdom must be the priority of life if full trust is to be placed in the Lord God. Joy rises within the believer as trust in God proves to be the wisest path to follow.

I Chronicles 5:20- And they were helped against them, and the Hagarites were delivered into their hand, and all that were with them: for they cried to God in the battle, and he was intreated of them; because they put their trust in him. (KJV)

Believers trusting in the Lord God follow the past proven by the saints of history. God's Holy Church offers the wisdom needed for believers to develop trust in God. The saints and martyrs through the ages reveal in their lives the true paths to follow. The paths to take and the actions motivated by God are not always the most popular. God expects the trusting to take the narrow paths benefitting and protecting the soul. Church history reveals God making the impossible become possible for the trusting. The Lord God carefully guides trusting believers in the most perilous moments of life.

*Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs.
July 1/14, 2021. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic*

Something from Father Tom Soroka:

Many thoughts were going through my mind today during the Divine Liturgy. But most of all, I am thankful to unworthily be in the safe haven of the Church.

We sang two hymns today glorifying God specifically for the Holy Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils (the seventh hadn't been included because this feast day is so ancient, it hadn't happened yet). In them, we hear the reasons why being guided by the Fathers are so important and essential.

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth.

Through them Thou hast guided us to the True Faith.

O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one Faith for the Church.

Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology, it defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

I am thankful because the Holy Fathers have defined the One Faith and protected the Church from the whims and agendas of those who want to lead us astray. We are protected from deceitful secular agendas, fleeting social movements, and damning false doctrines. We are firmly rooted in

the Tradition of the Church which is ever alive by the Holy Spirit and ever renews our Apostolicity.

I am thankful that the Sacred and Divine Liturgy in which we receive the Body and Blood of Christ is held in such high esteem and with trembling respect that it continues to give us a foretaste of the fullness of the timeless Kingdom of Heaven. We have received a great treasure in the Divine Liturgy and there is nothing comparable to it. We are the inheritors of a full complement of liturgical services, volumes upon volumes of liturgical texts of the various cycles that express the heavenly theology of the Holy Fathers and the doctrines of the One Faith of the Church.

I am thankful that we will not fall prey to the machinations of schemers, even leaders, who might have an agenda that does not glorify God or build up the Church in the Truth. This is why the proclamations of councils must be accepted by the whole Church before they are ever considered True and Ecumenical and Holy. This is why the personal agendas of singular individuals will never be the guiding principle of the Church, but rather the whole body of Christ gathering together through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of Truth, will slowly and carefully navigate the Ship of the Church in the stormy seas of this world.

I am thankful that this One Faith continues to Establish the Universe and is a beacon of light and truth in an age of confusion. May God help us to see the wisdom and comfort of continuing to be rooted in the doctrines, writings, and liturgy of the Fathers as Orthodox Christians.



The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 8:5-13

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way;

and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour. (KJV)

The power of God's word is verified in the present Gospel. The believing centurion asked Jesus only to speak the word necessary for healing his ailing and afflicted servant.

Jesus recognized the strong faith in the centurion. Jesus told the centurion to go his way. The servant was healed according to the way the centurion believed. Complete faith in Christ's power to heal by His word rested within the centurion.

Today's Gospel gives each attentive believer the opportunity to examine his or her personal degree of faith in the Lord God. Each person hearing the Holy Gospel is exposed to the Lord's teachings.

Each person reading the Holy Scriptures learns about the word of God. Making the word of God the governing way of daily life is the expectation for each believer. Having complete faith in God's word and power of God's word rests with each person.

The world is full of teachings that run contrary to God's word and seek to weaken the faith of believers. Believers receive varying messages and are subject to worldly teachings that attempt to dilute the Lord's teachings.

The power of God will not be minimized or overcome. The Lord God created the world. The Lord Jesus Christ defeated death and rose from the tomb following crucifixion and burial.

The Lord's word withstands all challenges and attempts to distort or weaken the power of the Word. The centurion's faith in Jesus's word was well-placed. The centurion's faith in the Lord did not lead to disappointment.

Patience is an important lesson in the current Gospel. Believers do well to turn to the Lord in faith and to wait patiently for the Lord to act. The centurion was patient in turning to Jesus in faith.

Jesus healed the ailing and afflicted servant. The Lord validated the centurion's strong faith. Patient believers of each century have their faith in the Lord validated.

Attentive Scripture readers learn of the value of patience and faith placed in the Lord.

The Gospel of St. Luke states: "In your **patience** possess ye your souls." (Lk.21:19). The centurion's soul was rich with patience and faith in the Lord. The present Gospel lesson is enriching for each receptive believer.

Joy emanates from the centurion's faith and the Lord's response to that faith.

Healing for the servant came from the centurion's strong faith and the Lord's action. The ailing and afflicted servant became well and had a new opportunity at life.

God's Holy Church teaches believers to value God's word. The Church proclaims God's word consistently throughout the world and throughout the centuries. Church history is rich with lessons of strong faith in God's word.

Believers choose the way each moment of life is utilized. Wise believers fill the moments of life with God's word. Believers strengthen their faith by immersing the self in God's word.

The heart, mind and soul filled with God's word have unlimited capabilities. The impossible becomes possible with God. The ailing and afflicted servant in the present Gospel was healed at a distance because of the centurion's faith in Jesus' word.

The daily news is filled with negativity. God's word provides brightness, hope and healing. God's word serves to guide believers through the dark moments of life to the safe harbor where heart, mind and soul are healed.

The ailing and afflicted servant in the present Gospel had his future changed dramatically by the centurion's strong faith. Employers with strong faith in the Lord make a positive difference in the lives of their employees.

Workers with strong faith in the Lord make a positive difference in their daily work environment. Family life improves when family members share strong faith in the Lord's word.

The Church proclaims the Holy Gospel at each Divine Liturgy to enrich and strengthen attentive believers. God's word is intended to change the believers' behavior for the better with each reading of the Holy Gospel.

May the centurion's strong faith evident in the current Gospel be an enriching example for receptive believers today. May God's word bring healing to hurting minds, hearts, and souls.

Thank God for the opportunity to hear the Holy Gospel. Thank God for the Church protecting, preserving and proclaiming the Gospel through the centuries. With gratitude, may today's Gospel fill our hearts, minds, and souls.

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. Venerable Athanasius of Mt. Athos. Venerable Sergius the Wonderworker of Radonezh. July 5/July 18, 2021. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic