



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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Christ IS Risen! Indeed He IS Risen! Christos Voskres! Voistinu Voskres!

ON THE MEND: Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Father Bob, Archbishop Daniel, Metropolitan Antony, Metropolitan Yuriy, Archbishop Jovan, Metropolitan Savas, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Paul Stoll, Father Joseph Kopchak, Father Elias Warnke, Father George Yatsko, Father Paul Bigelow, Father Emilian Balan, Father John & Pani Mary Anne Nakonachny, Father Steve Repa, Archpriest Dionysi Vitali, Protodeacon Joseph Hotrovich, Father Paisius McGrath, Father Michael Smolynec, Father Lawrence & Matushka Sophia Daniels, Father Joe & Protinica Linda Cervo, Father John Harrold [Saint Sylvester], Igumen Patrick, Father Jim Orr, Father Rick Seilier, Panimatka Laryssa Charest, Fr. Vasyl Sendeha, Father George & Dobrodijka Oksana Bazylevsky, Father Angelo Artemas, Father John Haluszczak, Dr. Christina Nellis, Father Joshua [Anna], Father Justin (Todd) Mokhiber, Pani Cathy Danczak, Protopresbyter Gerald Ozlanski, Father James Norton, Joshua Agosto and his family, Father Dan & Matushka Myra Kovalak, Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, Eva Malesnick, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, Gary & Linda Mechtly, Evelyn Misko, Jeanne Boehing, Alex Drobot, Rachelle, Jane Golofski, Doug Diller, Harry Krewsun, Mary Alice Babcock, Dorie Kunkle, 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, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial, Yvonne Christy, Father Deacon Myron & Barbara Spak, Julia Duda, Lisa Pandle, Kris & Julie Hanczar, John Kennedy, 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, 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, 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, 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 & Terri Berceli, Tom Nolan, Silvia Martin, Dena & George, Georgia, Lawanda [Evelyn's niece], Maureen Sams, John Kendall, Judi Danser, Darcy, 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, 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 & Jan Jennings, Tim Sams, Mike Ruzzi, Stephen Popichak—Fr. Bob's brother, Mary Kay Ludovicy, Pastor Sara Irwin, George Dilendorf, Sharon Torick, Carol Behun, Erv Frye, William Lusherand, Colin Kirton—Stage 4 pancreatic cancer, Clifford, Paul Riley, Tonee &

Sydnee Turner, Annette Paluh, Theresa Paluh, Cathy Lotinsky, Monk Andrew, Jeff & Buschra Kerr, Margaret Sekelsky, Robert Sekelsky, Robert Rodriguez, Rita & Joe Mrvos, Alexandra & Bowen, Katherine Kulik, Pastor Terry Polen, Eleanor Kitt, Stacie & Gary, Maria Warholak, Stacie & Gary, Anna Sekelik, Christy, Mariruth, Rich & Judy Previc, Ben Williams, Father Joe Uzar, Tim—surgery, John Wakin, Olivia—young girl with a brain tumor, Rick & Sharon Morgan, John Stasko, John, Kris & Kait, Kristi Wilson, Wendy LaGamba, Melissa Gross [hip replacement], Amy Forbeck, David Salazar, Kitty Mary, Dr. Paul Riley, David Hess, Serena, Wyatt, Makenzie, Jennifer, Alexandra Roberts, Candace Irvin, Carol Muschick, Grace Love [knee replacement], Stacie Riley, Joseph Paul Cervo, Jr. [infant], Elizabeth [5-year-old], Lillian Skowvron, Sue & Greg Heinen, Paul Simpson [Father Bob's cousin], Sharon Curtis Rivas, Kathy Milcic, Lisa Bolan, David G. [cancer], Donna [dementia] & Darla, Adam Snow, the McKenna family, David Gazella, Brian & Michele Cannone, Robert Rodrigues & family, Father Deacon James & Diakonissa Kari Rossetti, Michael Welsh, Nick Solominsky, Samantha & Lisa Houser, Sarah Stepanovich Clark, Julia Baloga, Brett Crosby, Randy Lapuh, Henry & Shirley Tkacik, Diane & Arthur Chaklis, Denny Mader, Zoe Oswald—Fr. Bob's cousin [cancer], Barbetta [cancer] & Scott, Kristin [cancer], Erm Hartmann, Barbara Bookser [cancer], Bob Mazzuca [cancer], Marko, Taylor, Terri Crosby-Vega [knee replacement], Christine Mohamed & family, Sue Demko, Tammy Marsico, Terry & David Hartnett, Jamie Ball, Kay Williams, Hannah Stewart, Jim Wyko—Alex's friend, Dan Losego, Lisa Bruce, Yvette, Barry Bender, Scott McDougall, Andrew Zelleznick, Byron & Cecilia Scott, Vespina, Michelle Russo, Julie Tripodi, Alby Oxenreiter, Debbie—HTUCC [knee], Jackie May, Barbara Morvay, David Salsar, N&O, Randy & Adrienne Kuny, Vince Berardinelli, Mason Martin [Karns City HS QB] & family, Martin Mrvos, Jeff McCoy, Lauren & Sloane Valentina Persico, Alexis & baby Colton Rosati, Jessica Shirley, Mark [kidney cancer], Steve Milcic, Wilbert Wagner, Bob Wojciechowski, Ashley, Beth Skowvron, Sharon Svitek, Laura, Christopher, & Baby Jane Dickson, Luke D, Diane Murphy, Kristin Vaughn [Harry's daughter], George Petronsky, Doug & Darcie Burkholder, Michael, Jeane, and Katie Byerly, Richard & Daniel Scharba [Metropolitan Antony's brothers], Edie McGrath, Samantha Lopez, Syble Elliott, and Jill Morocco. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our June babies: Andrea Weiser on the 2nd, Luke Brunermer on the 13th, and Allison Chicka on the 14th! May God grant them Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M'nohaya Lita! Christos Voskres! God Bless their families and friends...

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] 956-6626.

SERVICES IN SLICKVILLE

**SUNDAY, June 09 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
6TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA; SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN; HIEROMARTYR
THERAPON-BISHOP OF SARDIS; VIRGIN-MARTYR THEODORA & MARTYR
DIDYMUS THE SOLDIER OF ALEXANDRIA**

Tone 5

Acts 16:16-34

John 9:1-38

***Litany in Blessed Memory of Ann Roman, Millie Kerr, Andy Torick, Stella Rossi,
Mary Maolie, Dianne Waryanka, Joseph Karas, & Mary "Maxine" Kitch—Fr.
Bob***

THURSDAY, JUNE 13 ASCENSION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

**SUNDAY, June 16 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
7TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA; HOLY FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL;
AFTERFEAST OF THE ASCENSION; MARTYRS LUCIAN, CLAUDIUS,
HYPATIUS, PAUL, DIONYSIUS, & VIRGIN PAULA; HIEROMARTYRS
LUCIAN-BISHOP, MAXIANUS-PRESBYTER, JULIAN-DEACON, & MARTYRS
MARCELLINUS & SATURNINUS IN BELGIUM**

Tone 6

Acts 20:16-18; 28-36

John 17:1-13

**SUNDAY, June 23 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
PENTECOST SUNDAY; OUR CHURCH NAME'S DAY; HIEROMARTYR TIMOTHY-
BISHOP OF PRUSA; MARTYR ALEXANDER & VIRGIN-MARTYR ANTONINA
AT CONSTANTINOPLE; VENERABLE THEOPHANES-MONK OF ANTIOCH &
SAINT PANSEMNE-FORMER HARLOT OF ANTIOCH; SAINT BASSIAN-
BISHOP OF LODI IN LOMBARDY; VENERABLE SILVANUS OF THE FAR
CAVES AT PERCHEVSKY LAVRA**

Tone 7

Acts 2:1-11

John 7:37-52, 8:12

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 09 JUNE 2024

**6TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA; SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN;
HIEROMARTYR THERAPON-BISHOP OF SARDIS; VIRGIN-MARTYR
THEODORA & MARTYR DIDYMUS THE SOLDIER OF ALEXANDRIA**

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.

KONTAKION—TONE 4

I come to Thee, O Christ,
Blind from birth in my spiritual eyes,
And call to Thee in repentance:
Thou art the most radiant Light of those in darkness!

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 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

Look upon me and have mercy on me.

Lead my steps according to Thy word.

[THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS \(Replaces "It Is Truly Meet"\)](#)

The angel cried unto Mary, who was full of Grace

Hail, oh pure virgin, oh pure virgin

once again I hail Thee

Thy Son has risen from His three days in the grave,

and He has raised the dead with Him,

Oh rejoice, all ye people.

Oh shine with clear radiance, shine on new Jerusalem

For the glory of the Lord is shining up on you.

Rejoice! Rejoice! now and be joyful--oh Zion, and though

oh pure one and adorable birthgiver of God,

in the rising again of HIM who was born of Thee.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Receive ye the Body of Christ; taste ye the fountain of immortality.

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

The holy God-pleasers tell us that in the last times there will be no monasticism at all; it may survive in a few places in its external aspect, but without genuine monastic activity. Those seeking the Kingdom of Heaven will not have any of their own podvigs (askeses, spiritual struggles, or exploits). They will save themselves only through endurance of sorrows and illness. Why will there be no podvigs? Because people will lack humility. **Abbot Nikon Vorobiev**, *Abbot Nikon Letters to Spiritual Children* p.151

Then cometh He to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with His journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. (For His disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.) Then saith the woman of Samaria unto Him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water. The woman saith unto Him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast Thou that living water? Art Thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle? Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. The woman saith unto Him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw. Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly. The woman saith unto Him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. The woman saith unto Him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when He is come, He will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am He. And upon this came His disciples, and marvelled that He talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her? The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ? Then they went out of the city, and came unto Him. In the mean while His disciples prayed Him, saying, Master, eat. But He said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of. Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought Him

ought to eat? Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me, and to finish His work. Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours. And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did. So when the Samaritans were come unto Him, they besought Him that He would tarry with them: and He abode there two days. And many more believed because of his own word; And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world. (KJV)

The Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Hristos Voskrese! Christ is Risen!

God's Holy Church preserves, protects and proclaims the conversation between the Lord Jesus Christ and the Samaritan woman in the Gospel. The Church wants believers to know of the Living Water of which Jesus spoke.

Jesus said the Living Water would be a well springing to everlasting life. Jesus offers the water that will quench the thirst of the believer's soul. Jesus offers the Living Water uniquely identified with and available from the Savior of the world.

Today's Gospel identifies Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world. Jesus stands through the centuries offering salvation for believers choosing to confess and follow Him. Jesus receives persons willing to repent of their sins and come to Him.

Jesus Christ went to the Cross as a demonstration of love for all. Jesus rose from the Tomb demonstrating victory over death and the possibility of eternal life.

God's Holy Church continues to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection.

The Church proclaims the Gospel of the Samaritan Woman every year to educate and remind believers of the Living Water. The Church encourages believers to drink from the Lord Jesus Christ unto everlasting life.

The world makes various offers to draw believers away from Christ and the path to eternal life. The world attempts to offer nourishment for the thirst of the soul. Only in Jesus Christ does the soul find complete satisfaction and peace.

Only in and through Jesus Christ does the believer experience the fulness of life and life eternal. Only in Jesus Christ does boundless love, mercy and forgiveness exist for each person.

The Resurrected Christ offers hope, joy and peace prevailing in all circumstance of life. The Lord Jesus Christ offers complete healing for the ravaged soul. The Lord Jesus Christ welcomes and transforms persons choosing to repent.

The Resurrected Christ makes all things new. Believers seriously following Jesus Christ experience newness throughout life. (2 Cor, 5:17) Believers in Jesus Christ move from glory to glory as well—described by the Holy Apostle Paul. (2 Cor. 3:18)

The Church is currently fully celebrating Jesus Christ's Resurrection. Each believer, every family, and every parish share in the Resurrection joy. Jesus Christ provides joy that permeates and endures through the centuries.

The Light of the Resurrected Christ dissipates any darkness arising in the world. The Living Water arising from Christ douses the fires that threaten to burn the soul. Christ's Living Water enables the believer to experience life everlasting.

Hristos Voskrese! Vaistinu Voskrese! Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!
The Sunday of the Samaritan Woman. Holy Martyr Thaleus. Venerable Stephen of Piperi. May 20/June 2, 2024. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania.
Father Rodney Torbic

...because of the presence of grace, Satan can lurk no longer in the nous of those pursuing a spiritual way, he lurks instead in the body and exploits its members, so that through its proclivities he may seduce the soul. We should therefore weaken the body to some extent, so that the nous does not slide down the smooth path of sensual pleasure because of the body's humors... Thus it is clear that the nous cannot be the common dwelling-place of both God and the devil. **St. Diadochus of Photiki**, *The Beginnings of a Life of Prayer* p.33

Eternal Life

Matthew 19:16- And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?
(KJV)

The Kingdom of God and eternal life are the ultimate goals pursued by believers. Remaining faithful to the Lord God is essential in seeking the Heavenly Kingdom. Repentance is necessary throughout life to remain on the narrow path. (Mt.7:13-14) Joy exists in faithfully living in Christ from

Baptism until departure from this life. The Lord's love, mercy, and forgiveness enable the believer to experience joy.

Mark 10:30- But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life. (KJV)

The commitment to follow Jesus Christ as King and as God begins at Baptism. Faithfulness to Christ is to continue throughout the remaining days of earthly life. Holy Confession and Communion enable believers to maintain union with Christ. The hunger in the soul motivates believers to desire continued union with Jesus. Joy arises when the believer is forgiven and receives Jesus' Body and Blood.

John 6:68- Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. (KJV)

God's Holy Church preserves, protects and proclaims Jesus' words of eternal life. Faithful believers cherish hearing Jesus Christ's words from the Holy Gospel. The attentive believer's heart, mind and soul are enriched by the Holy Gospel. The Divine Liturgy offers faithful believers a foretaste of the Heavenly Kingdom. The goals of the Heavenly Kingdom and eternal life puts all else in perspective.

Romans 6:23- For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (KJV)

Each thought, word, and deed are to be measured against life's ultimate goals. Perils and temptations in the world are to be repelled and constantly avoided. Evil will appear in attractive forms and be deceptive resulting in death to the soul. Constant nourishment from the Lord Jesus Christ keeps the believer vigilant. Guarding the heart, mind, and soul is necessary to stay firmly united with Christ.

Jude 1:21- Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. (KJV)

Every moment of every day is an opportunity to remain united with Jesus Christ. Constant prayer and attentiveness keep the mind focused on the Lord Jesus Christ. God's Church offers teachings and Divine services to aid the faithful believer. Eternal life is achievable for believers firmly desiring to be with Christ in eternity. God's Holy Church offers the necessary prayers for eternal life for all believers.

Mid-Pentecost. St. Theodore—Theodore of Vrshac; Martyr Vukashin; Vikentije, and Martyr Surdal. May 16/29, 2024. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic



[Russian Proverb] Put your trust in God, but don't stop working.
Archimandrite Tikhon (Shevkunov), *Everyday Saints and Other Stories*
p.405

"People often think of Christian morality as a kind of bargain in which God says, 'If you keep a lot of rules I'll reward you, and if you don't I'll do the other thing.' I do not think that is the best way of looking at it. I would much rather say that every time you make a choice you are turning the central part of you, the part of you that chooses, into something a little different from what it was before. And taking your life as a whole, with all your innumerable choices, all your life long you are slowly turning this central thing either into a heavenly creature or into a hellish creature: either into a creature that is in harmony with God, and with other creatures, and with itself, or else into one that is in a state of war and hatred with God, and with its fellow-creatures, and with itself. To be the one kind of creature is heaven: that is, it is joy and peace and knowledge and power. To be the other means madness, horror, idiocy, rage, impotence, and eternal loneliness. Each of us at each moment is progressing to the one state or the other." -C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Everyone who is of the truth, says Christ, hears my voice. If we cannot hear that silent voice speaking to our spirit, we will never develop a relationship with Him. **Hieromonk Damascene (Christensen)**, *Christ the Eternal Tao* p.330

Only with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, when our being has been renovated by the force of a new life, full of grace, does the law of Christ become comprehensible. **Archimandrite Panteleimon Nizhnik**, *Eternal Mysteries Beyond the Grave* p.5

Compassion for others and sympathy for their failings will bring the heart closer to the heart of God than any form of judging. **St. Hesychius the Presbyter**

The Holy Fathers say that there are only four things we may think about during prayer. We are not exactly to think of them but to bear them in mind. These are death, the Judgment, heaven, and hell. **Elder Thaddeus(Strabulovich) of Vitovnica**, Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives: The Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica p.117

"If you fall, rise and you shall be saved." You are a sinner, you continually fall, learn also how to rise; be careful to acquire this wisdom; **Righteous John, Wonderworker of Kronstadt**, My Life in Christ p.304

Even after being washed clean in water mingled with Spirit in holy baptism, we still carry within ourselves the inclination and habit to return to our former condition. If we do not preserve, guard, and cultivate the seed of Grace given to us, we will be deprived of its vivifying power. **Hieromonk Damascene (Christensen)**, Christ the Eternal Tao p.299

Know that there is nothing the enemy fears like prayer. **Tito Colliander**, Way of the Ascetics p.61

REMINDERS: NO KNEELING until the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost Sunday. Instead of "Vechnaya Pam'yat" at the end of a Parastas or during a funeral service *until Ascension Thursday—June 13th*, we sing "Christ is Risen!" Also, we do not say the prayer to the Holy Spirit "O Heavenly King" until Pentecost Sunday, June 23rd.