



Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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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 Yurij, Archbishop Jovan, Metropolitan Savas, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Paul & Pani Judy 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 Smolynech, 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, Father 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, Monk Andrew, Father Dan & Matushka Myra Kovalak, Father Joe Uzar, Father Deacon James & Diakonissa Kari Rossetti, Pastor Terry Polen, Chaplain Rachelle Zazzu, Joshua Agosto and his family, 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 Zeliszczyk, 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, Stephen Popichak—Fr. Bob's brother, 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, 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, Jeff & Buschra Kerr, Margaret Sekelsky, Robert Sekelsky, Robert Rodriguez, Rita & Joe Mrvos, Alexandra & Bowen,

Katherine Kulik, Eleanor Kitt, Stacie & Gary, Maria Warholak, Stacie & Gary, Anna Sekelik, Christy, Mariruth, Rich & Judy Previc, Ben Williams, Tim—surgery, John Wakin, Olivia—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., Elizabeth, 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, the Rodrigues family, Michael Welsh, Nick Solominsky, Samantha & Lisa Houser, Sarah Stepanovich Clark, Julia Baloga, Brett Crosby, Randy Lapuh, Henry Tkacik, Diane & Arthur Chaklis, Denny Mader, Zoe Oswalt—Fr. Bob's cousin [cancer], Barbette [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 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, Acolyte Photios & family [Joanne, Richard, Heather, Keith, James, Debbie, James, Sophia, Zachary, Tabitha, Arqynios, Barbara, Aristotle, Alexander, Kalev, Nina, Elias, Elijah, Jessica], Richard & Daniel Scharba [Metropolitan Antony's brothers], George Lawrence, Edie McGrath, Samantha Lopez, Bob [cancer], Syble Elliott, Maria Ancevski, Krystyna, John, & Jeffrey, Dottie & family, Bonny Diver & Ashley Smock, Steve, Jill Morocco, and Lauren S. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our August babies: John Brunermer on the 1st, Janet Brunermer on the 12th, and Nick Behun on the 29th! May God grant them all Many Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and Blessed Years! M'nohaya Lita! God Bless them and their families...

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 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, August 04 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY MYRRH-BEARER & EQUAL-TO-THE-
APOSTLES MARY MAGDALENE; TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF
HIEROMARTYR PHOCAS; SAINT CORNELIUS-MONK OF PEREYASLAV**

Tone 5

Romans 12:6-14; 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

Matthew 9:1-8; Luke 8:1-3

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

**SUNDAY, August 11 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYR CALLINICUS OF GANGRA IN ASIA
MINOR; VIRGIN-MARTYR SERAPHIMA OF ANTIOCH; MARTYR THEODOTA &
3 SONS IN BITHYNIA; MARTYR MICHAEL**

Tone 6

Romans 15:1-7

Matthew 9:27-35

WEDNESDAY, August 14

DORMITION FAST BEGINS

SUNDAY, August 18 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; FOREFEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION;
MARTYR EUSIGNIUS OF ANTIOCH; HIEROMARTYRS FABIAN & ANTHERUS-
POPE OF ROME; MARTYRS CANTIDIUS, CANTIDIAN, & SIBELIUS OF
EGYPT

Tone 7

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 14:14-22

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 04 AUGUST 2024
6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; HOLY MYRRH-BEARER & EQUAL-TO-
THE-APOSTLES MARY MAGDALENE; TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS
OF HIEROMARTYR PHOCAS; SAINT CORNELIUS-MONK OF
PEREYASLAV

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.

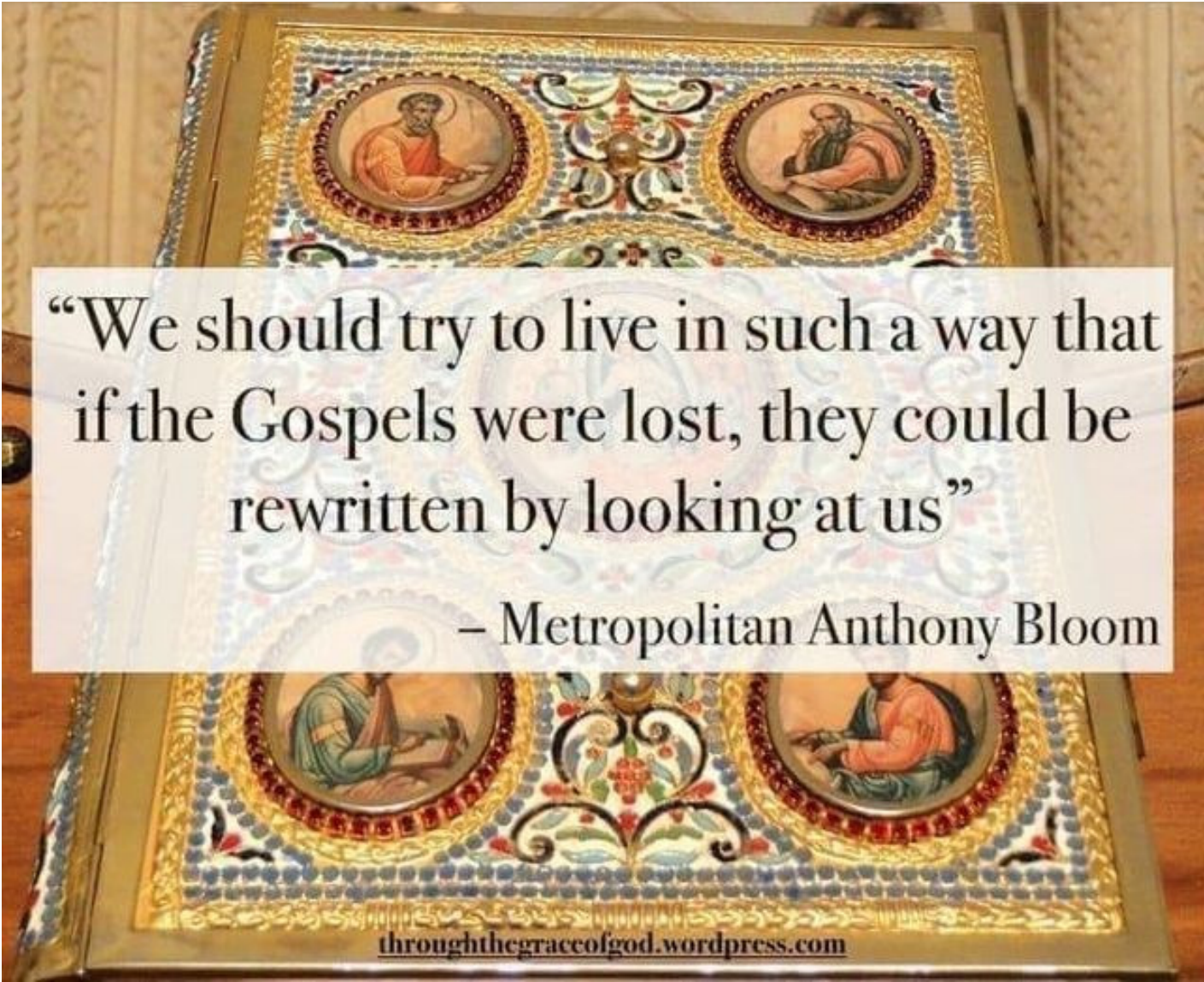
ALLELUIA VERSES—TONE 5

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.

Through theoria, divine grace overshadows the soul, and you see yourself speaking with Christ and conversing with Him. Afterwards, sweetness, delight, and jubilation come over the soul, and you feel so humble, like the dust of the earth. When a soul is humbled, it begins to feel compassion, love, and reverence, and it does not accept judgmental thoughts.

Gerondissa Makrina (Vassopoulou), Words of the Heart p.102



“We should try to live in such a way that if the Gospels were lost, they could be rewritten by looking at us”

– Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

throughthegraceofgod.wordpress.com

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 8:28-9:1

And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters. And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told everything, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils. And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts. And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city. (KJV)

Holy Fathers of the First Six Councils John 17:1-13

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word., Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and they have believed that thou didst send me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. (KJV)

We come today to God's Holy Church to glorify and worship the Lord God. We come seeking peace and salvation of our souls. We need God's mercy and forgiveness because of our sinfulness.

The Church lifts our hearts, minds, and souls to the greatness and glory of God. Partaking of Jesus Christ's Precious Body and Blood awaits us in the Divine Liturgy.

The Gospel is proclaimed for the nourishment of our hearts, minds, and souls. We are to leave the Divine Liturgy as better Christians than when we entered. We are to leave our daily cares behind and focus clearly on the Lord God.

God calls us to the Church to work out our salvation. The Church is where we discern our purpose in life and the paths we are to travel. In the church we learn how we are to get along with each other and with our neighbor.

Forgiveness and love for each other are taught in the Church. We are expected to always practice love and forgiveness in the Church. We are all sinners. We all need God's forgiveness.

God's forgiveness for each of us depends on our own practice of forgiveness with each other. This is made clear in the Lord's Prayer. Christ's teachings challenge us to grow from the time of baptism until departure from this life.

Stagnancy, hardness of heart and negative thoughts toward others have no place in the Christian life. Jesus Christ offers growth and fulness in life for believers seeking to heed His word and do it.

Eternal life is possible for believers following the narrow path to the Kingdom. Today's Gospel of St. Matthew demonstrates that Jesus opens the path to the Kingdom when evil stands in the way.

St. John's Gospel for today verifies the possibility of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Choices and decisions in earthly life determine where a believer will experience eternity.

The Church encourages the believer to follow the narrow path to the Kingdom and eternal life. The Church offers the necessary teachings and nourishment for believers in life's journey.

The Church is filled with examples for believers to learn from and to follow to the Kingdom. God is ever-present to assist and guide believers. The Mother of God, the saints and martyrs are ready intercessors in our behalf.

Confessing belief in Jesus Christ and following Christ is completely voluntary. The hunger in the soul finds complete nourishment in Jesus Christ. Peace in the heart, mind and soul is experienced in Jesus Christ.

The Divine Liturgy gives the believer the opportunity to think carefully about his or her personal life. Believers assemble in the Divine Liturgy to celebrate the Lord God and to express collective joy.

The Divine Liturgy transforms the lives of active participants. Believers actively participate by opening the heart, mind, and soul to God. God enters the welcoming hearts, minds, and souls.

When the mind wanders, bring the mind consciously back to God. Focusing on God as much as possible during the Divine Liturgy and in daily life keeps the believer away from sin.

Today's Divine Liturgy is a source of strength for participating believers. May the Lord's love for each believer be deeply cherished. Each believer has a responsibility be grateful to the Lord. Thanking God has a place throughout life.

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost. The Holy Fathers of the First Six Councils. Holy Martyrs Cyricus and Julitta; St. Vladimir of Russia. July 15/28, 2024. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic



If we could spread
love as quickly as we spread
hate and negativity, what an
amazing world we would
live in.

The Hope of Eternal Life

John 3:15-That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. (KJV)

The Holy Scriptures have multiple references to eternal life benefitting believers. Eternal life is of primary interest when a dear loved one departs earthly life. Family and friends pray for the departed to experience eternal life in Jesus Christ. Believers hunger for eternal life in their journey beginning at the Baptismal font. The path to eternal life is defined and illumined for Christ's faithful followers.

John 4:36-And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. (KJV)

Ideally believers begin seriously seeking eternal life at a young age and continue. Repentance is always in order when a believer departs from the path to eternal life. Sincere repentance is necessary to begin anew in Christ and travel the narrow path. Christ welcomes sinners choosing to repent and begin anew seeking eternal life. Prayer and fasting facilitate the journey to God's Kingdom and eternal life.

John 5:39-Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. (KJV)

The Scriptures offer reassurance about the existence of eternal life for believers. Jesus Christ's known words give believers a firm basis to believe in eternal life. The Gospel teachings serve as instructive directions for pursuing eternal life. Mature believers give careful thought to the necessities for seeking eternal life. Challenges often arise in daily life affecting the believer's pursuit of eternal life.

John 6:54-Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. (KJV)

Partaking of the Precious Body and Blood of Christ is fundamental to eternal life. Jesus Christ's defeat of death and resurrection lifts mindful thoughts to eternal life. Eternal life serves as the basis for hope to believers journeying through earthly life. Jesus Christ removed the limitations of earthly death by His glorious Resurrection. Believers living seriously in Jesus Christ during earthly life seek eternal life.

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

The Holy Scriptures offer firm references for believers to formulate their actions. The Gospel teachings nourish the hearts, minds, and souls of attentive believers. The Scriptures facilitate life's journey to the Heavenly Kingdom and eternal life. Eternal life connotes lasting joy for believers blessed to participate for eternity. Joy in the Resurrected Jesus Christ is not limited to the boundaries of earthly life.

John 10:28-And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. (KJV)

Eternal life comes through filling the heart, mind and soul with Jesus Christ. The Holy Scriptures reveal eternal life is entirely possible for believers. The hunger in the soul welcomes and embraces eternal life in Jesus Christ. Turning to Jesus Christ in prayer keeps the believer on the path to life eternal. God's Holy Church is where to learn more about eternal life and pursue it. The Church offers the teachings and the environment to educate for eternal life.

John 12:25-He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. (KJV)

Believers seek to understand what is ahead when a loved one departs this life, Believers maintain hope when a departed loved one has been faithful to Christ. Serious believers draw strength and comfort knowing eternal life is possible. The Church proclaims Christ's teachings on eternal life through the centuries. Christ's Resurrection proves His power over death and the limits of the grave. Knowing that Jesus conquered death comforts believers mourning a loved one.

John 17:2-As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. (KJV)

Every person facing an earthly death can find hope in Jesus Christ for eternal life. Repentance makes eternal life possible for believers cleansing their souls in Christ. Prayers in behalf of departed loved ones are valued in God's Holy Church. Saints of the Church teach of the value of prayer for loved ones departed this life. The Church offers the funeral service and memorial prayers for departed believers. Constant prayers for the departed in the Church verifies belief in their value.

John 17:3-And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. (KJV)

Eternal life opens the believer's mind to the goodness and greatness of the Lord God. Limits of earthly death were shattered when the Crucified Christ rose from the tomb. Believers have been learning about eternal life in Jesus Christ for centuries. Christ's teachings on eternal life have withstood criticism with the passing of time. Belief in eternal life exists deep in the hearts, minds and souls of Christ's followers. Declaring that "Christ is Risen" manifests the hope of eternal life for all believers.

St. Andrew, Archbishop of Crete; Hieromartyr Sava of Upper Karlovac. July 4/17, 2024. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

A child in spritual growth is unfit for spiritual gifts. He will use them not for the glory of God, not for the benefit of himself and his neighbors, not for defeating unseen foes; but he will use them to strike himself, will become conceited and rifled with fatal pride and ruinous scorn for his neighbors. ***St. Ignatius (Brianchaninov), Bishop of the Caucasus and the Black Sea,***
On the Prayer of Jesus p.102

The only means by which you can spend the day in perfect holiness, peace, and without sin, is the most sincere, fervent prayer as soon as you rise from sleep in the morning. It will bring Christ into your heart, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, and will thus strengthen and fortify your soul

against any evil; but still it will be necessary for you carefully to guard your heart. ***Righteous John, Wonderworker of Kronstadt***, *My Life in Christ* p.18



Do not be upset when people only remember you when they need you. Feel privileged that you are like a candle that comes to their mind during their darkest hours.

St. Nectarios of Aegina

Get up, pray, and ask for forgiveness. The kind-hearted Lord will rejoice in you. His door is open to the penitent day and night.
***Venerable Ephraim the Syrian, A Spiritual Psalter or Reflections on God* p.149**

If, having directed our attention to the thought, we see that it is not good, but rather evil, and that it is leading us to sin, and immediately take up arms against it and strive to promptly chase it out of our consciousness, then this second stage will be as sinless as the first stage. But if, having examined the thought, we see that it is bad and sinful but, nevertheless, retain it in our consciousness, relish it and sympathize with it, then thus begins the third stage, which is fully sinful, the so-called consent.
Archbishop Averky (Taushev), The Struggle for Virtue: Asceticism in a Modern Secular Society p.131