



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 Yuriy, 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, 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, Dave, Jared, & Beth 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 & Cindy 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, Peter Popichak [Father Bob's cousin], Maddie Stewart, and Lauren S. & Dan... We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

None of us could endure the plots of the enemy, or allay the fiery turmoil of our nature, if God's grace did not protect our human weakness.

Abba Apollos, Philokalia, Vol. 1 p.106

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, November 24 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; GREAT-MARTYR MENAS OF EGYPT; MARTYR VICTOR AT DAMASCUS & STEPHANIDA OF SPAIN; MARTYR VINCENT OF SPAIN; VENERABLE THEODORE THE CONFESSOR-ABBOT OF THE STUDIO**

Tone 5

Galatians 6:11-18

Luke 10:25-37

**THURSDAY, November 28 ADVENT/NATIVITY FAST/SAINT PHILIP'S
FAST/PILIPKIVA BEGINS**

**SUNDAY, December 01 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; MARTYR PLATON OF ANCYRA; MARTYR ROMANOS-DEACON OF CAESAREA & CHILD-MARTYR BARULAS OF ANTIOCH; MARTYRS ZACCHAEUS-DEACON & ALPHAEUS OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE**

Tone 6

Ephesians 2:4-10

Luke 12:16-21

Litany in Blessed Memory of Thomas Bryan, Pearl Hanczar, John Hanczar, Helen Pytlak, Mary Blitskan, Marjorie Yarmeak, Mary Sharon, Rose Pyrch,

*Cynthia Mycyk, Frank Barankovich, Mary Krevanich, Katherine Holowaty,
& Robert Vetosky—Fr. Bob*

**SUNDAY, December 08 OBEDNITZA—SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM—UPSTAIRS 10:30 AM
24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; LEAVE-TAKING OF THE ENTRY OF THE
THEOTOKOS; HIEROMARTYR CLEMENT-POPE OF ROME; HIEROMARTYR
PETER-ARCHBISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA; VENERABLE PETER THE SILENT OF
GALATA-SYRIA**

Tone 7

Ephesians 2:14-22; Hebrews 9:1-7
Luke 13:10-17; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-38

BULLETIN INSERT FOR 24 NOVEMBER 2024

**22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; GREAT-MARTYR MENAS OF
EGYPT; MARTYR VICTOR AT DAMASCUS & STEPHANIDA OF SPAIN;
MARTYR VINCENT OF SPAIN; VENERABLE THEODORE THE
CONFESSOR-ABBOT OF THE STUDIOIN**

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.

Statement of the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA on the Observance of Veterans Day



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

As we approach Veterans Day, a solemn national observance honoring the sacrifices and valor of those who have served in the armed forces of the United States, we, the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, offer our prayers for those who have served and continue to serve in the U.S. armed forces. This day holds profound meaning for us, especially as Ukrainian-Americans, as we honor not only the courageous individuals who have safeguarded this great nation, but also those of Ukrainian descent who have served and continue to serve with devotion and distinction in the United States Armed Forces.

Our Church stands at a unique intersection of American and Ukrainian heritage. This is reflected physically in the Ukrainian-American Veterans Monument at our spiritual center, a site

hallowed in prayer and dedication, where the lives of our ancestors and the legacy of our veterans are uplifted and remembered. This monument stands as a testament to the spirit of both God and country, a place where the dual threads of faith and patriotism weave together, honoring those who, throughout history, have defended their homeland and upheld the sacred call to serve.

Scripture teaches us that "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). To serve in the armed forces, to willingly place oneself in harm's way for the protection of others, is an act of profound faith and courage. Our veterans have answered this call, embodying the virtues of sacrifice and service that are dear to the heart of our Orthodox faith. In honoring their dedication, we honor the enduring principle that to serve one's country is also to serve God, fulfilling the holy charge to protect and care for His creation and His people.

On this Veterans Day, we ask that our faithful come together in prayer, lifting up those who have served and those who continue to serve. May our veterans be blessed with peace, strength, and the abiding presence of our Lord. Let us strive always to remember their sacrifices with gratitude, and to honor their legacy with lives dedicated to faith, love, and service.

May the memory of all those who have served be eternal, and may our living veterans know the blessings of health and the love of a grateful nation.

In Christ's service,

+Metropolitan Antony

+Archbishop Daniel

**Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA:
Reflections on Pylypivka—St. Philip's Fast**

COUNCIL OF BISHOPS OF THE
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA

REFLECTIONS ON PYLYPIVKA
ST. PHILIP'S FAST

СОБОР ЄПИСКОПІВ
УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЇ ЦЕРКВИ США
РОЗДУМИ ПРО ПЕРЕДРІЗДВЯНИЙ
ПІСТ - ПИЛИПІВКУ



To the Venerable and Christ-loving clergy and laity of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Australia, New Zealand, Europe, South America, the United States of America and in Ukraine.

May the Grace of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, the Love of God the Father and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Beloved Faithful,

As we enter the sacred period of St. Philip's Fast, the journey of preparation for the Nativity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we are invited to reflect deeply on the mystery of His becoming one of humankind. This journey calls us to approach the season with humility, love, and a profound awareness of the sanctity of life, embodied in the wondrous miracle of Christ's Incarnation.

The Annunciation reminds us of the immense gift bestowed upon humanity by God's grace. We, as Orthodox Christians, are called to hold this Biblical Truth close to our hearts. Through the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, a child was conceived—Jesus, the Savior of the world. The One who brings peace, stability, and salvation to all was born in humility and love. The Nativity of Christ is not merely an event in the past but an ever-present reality calling us to prepare our spiritual households, to make ready a place within us for the Christ Child. Let us endeavor to welcome Him with hearts that are repentant, faithful, and passionately aflame with love.

In these uncertain times, as we witness moral and cultural decay around us, it becomes ever more essential to guard our Christian values and Orthodox way of life. We are called to uphold

the sanctity of life, to honor our loved ones and to live in obedience to our Lord's two Great Commandments—to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and body and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves, all of us created in the image of God. Our journey through this season of fasting and prayer is an opportunity to renew our commitment to the holy virtues that illuminate the path to Christ, the "Sun of Righteousness."

As we prepare for the Nativity of our Lord, let us also deepen our acts of charity, love, and compassion. In the spirit of giving, let us remember that beyond material gifts, we all are called to become gifts of love in the very secularized world. By serving others, by reaching out to the lonely, the suffering, and the poor, we embody Christ's love. This is our truest offering, the gift that reflects His life and mission. In this fast, let us not only give gifts of love but also strive to *become* gifts of love.

Let us allow God to shape us into vessels of His love, peace and compassion. As we prepare our hearts to encounter the Christ Child, may we become more like Him, bearing the light of hope, faith, and love in a world that desperately needs it.

We ask our Lord to bless you all with a spiritually rewarding season of St. Philip's Fast. May it be a time of profound preparation and holy expectation, leading us to the joyous celebration of Christ's Nativity, when light and life entered the world.

With heartfelt prayers and blessings,

+Antony, Metropolitan

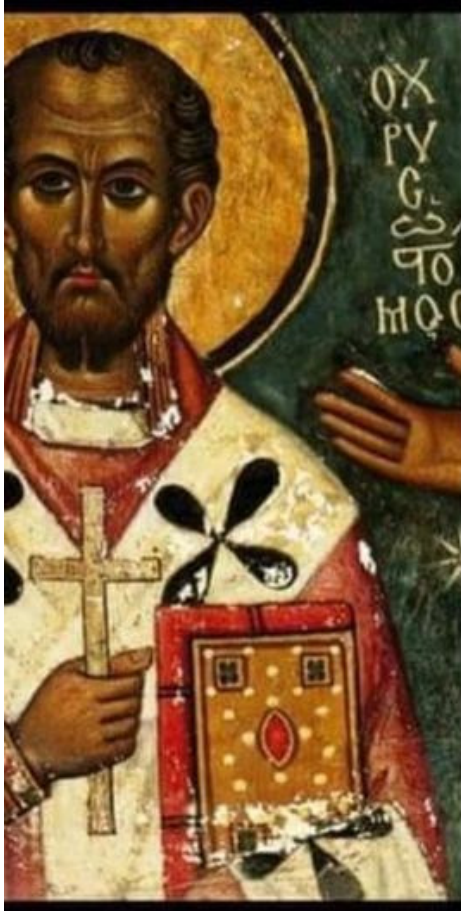
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

+Jeremiah, Archbishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchy of South America

+Daniel, Archbishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA



“They say that these are fugitives, foreigners and wretches; That they’ve left their homelands in order to gather in our city... How will we be worthy of forgiveness? What kind of defense can we offer, when, through their financial assistance [Paul and Barnabas] fed people living far away and made haste to help them, whereas we want to expel those who’ve come from afar and we demand detailed explanations?”

- **St. John Chrysostom**

Father Nick Mihaly passes along: Some words of wisdom from Metropolitan Anthony Bloom for our world at this exact moment.

"Hope beyond hope: not because we have got good reasons to hope, but because we can be possessed of a passionate certainty that not only love divine but human love can bring back to life what was lost. People who have fallen into the deepest dereliction, people who seem to us to be hopelessly evil, if they are met by the sacrificial love, --and the word sacrificial is essential, --the sacrificial love of God and the same sacrificial love in us, can be redeemed."

The Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost Luke 8:5-15

A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the way side; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it. And some fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it. And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be? And he said, Unto you it is

given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. (KJV)

The Holy Gospel is proclaimed in each Divine Liturgy. Ears listening to the Holy Gospel differ in reception. Each person at the Divine Liturgy listens with varying degrees of making the Gospel a permanent part of life.

The Gospel is read with the intention each person will take the Gospel to heart. The Gospel is proclaimed for each person to become more Christ-like.

Lasting change takes time.

The Gospel describes the honest and good heart as bringing forth fruit with patience. Developing an honest and good heart takes time. The heart and mind must be cleansed of sinful thoughts.

An honest and good heart will reveal the dominant presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. An honest and good heart welcomes the Lord Jesus Christ as the primary occupant.

The heart is a battleground where good needs to conquer evil. For Christ to dominate in the heart, the Gospel will be heard and cherished with regularity. Christ is the power to overcome evil.

Christ destroyed death as the barrier to eternal life. Christ's Resurrection proved Christ destroys the limits of death. The heart filled with the Gospel brings forth fruit with patience.

Moment by moment, perilous temptations and inclinations must be rejected and expelled from the heart. Moment by moment throughout life, Christ of the Gospel needs to transform and purify the heart.

Regular use of the Jesus Prayer, "Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me a sinner" is effective in purifying the heart. The regular use of the Jesus Prayer leads to the development of a good and honest heart.

Joy radiates when Christ dominates the heart. Constant prayer in the heart makes a decided difference. When the Gospel is firmly welcomed, improved differences occur in the person.

The church is not a social club. The church is where Christ comes alive in the heart. The church is where Christ is proclaimed and experienced. The church is where individuals become more Christ-like.

At Holy Baptism, the whole person is dedicated to Christ. Christ is professed as King and God at Holy Baptism. Each remaining moment of life is the opportunity to serve Christ as King and as God.

The condition of the heart dictates the way a person lives. The heart desirous of Christ welcomes the content of the Holy Gospel. Christ is the content of the Gospel.

Christ is the authentic food for the soul. Christ is the most cherished and desired Word. The serious believer never tires of listening to Christ. The serious believer seeks Christ regularly in the Gospel.

Seriously drawing near and loving Christ comes from the heart. The good and honest heart matures with patience. The serious believer is resolute in wanting Christ to fully occupy the heart.

The Jesus Prayer has cleansing effects on the heart. The Jesus Prayer brings change to the heart. Christ fills the heart when the believer practices the Jesus Prayer.

Jesus told one young man: "Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God:(Mt:10:17) The good and honest heart is the heart filled with God.

The good and honest heart requires the believer to desire Christ more than anything else. When the person experiences the joy in Christ, all else in life is insufficient.

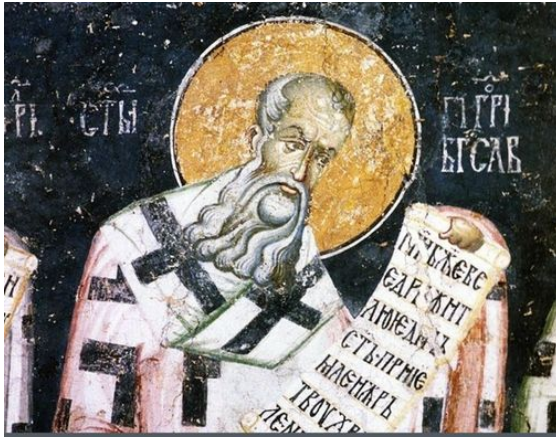
The good and honest heart has the qualities of Christ. Compassion, forgiveness and love characterize the good and honest heart. Forgiveness and mercy come from the good and honest heart.

The Divine Liturgy is the best place to learn of the good and honest heart. The good and honest heart is fully at home in the Divine Liturgy. Christ is everywhere present at the Divine Liturgy.

Thank God for the renewal possible as a result of the Divine Liturgy. Thank God for making good and honest hearts possible. Christ is the constant hope for good and honest hearts in each person.

The Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost. Venerable Joannicius the Great. Holy Hieromartyr Nicander, Bishop of Myra. November 4/`17, 2024. From the Archives. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania.

Father Rodney Torbic



Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could.

St. Gregory of Nazianzus

I have no energy to hate anyone. I honestly have no space in my heart to carry that mess around. I either love you, wish you well, or I hope you heal.

