



ANGELS





# Saint Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

24 BURKE ROAD

FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 4, 2007

Father Robert E Lucas, Pastor;  
Father John Cmur; Deacon Kenneth E. Ellis and  
Subdeacon Daniel J. Korba and Nikitas Tsokris,  
Cantors

Rectory 215-862-9227; Parish Center 732-780-3158

## We Are A Stewardship Parish Of Time, Talent and Treasure

The mission of our parish faith community is to teach the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Orthodox Church; to enable people to reflect the image of Jesus Christ in every day activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Orthodox believers in our Freehold area.

We of St. Paul the Apostle Parish dedicate ourselves to maintaining the sanctity of worship and spiritual enlightenment in a family environment that reaches and involves all ages and unifies all people.

We believe in the spirit of ecumenism in which we share our faith by word and example and extend our spiritual insights to all people.

We accept the responsibility of Christian Stewardship that through generous giving we may all experience a faith communion with Christ as the Center of our lives.

We dedicate ourselves to insuring the well-being of all people so that we may truly experience the message of Christ's salutary gospel.

We are a beacon on a hill with the eyes of many upon us; that beacon is the inspired Light of Christ which must shine brightly in our lives.

*It is not ourselves we preach but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts, that we in turn might make known the glory of God shining on the face of Christ. This treasure we possess in earthen vessels to make it clear that its surpassing power comes from God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way possible, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in us 2 Corinthians 4: 5 – 8.*

## GLAD TIDINGS

+++ This Thursday we will have the simple feast of the Synaxis of Archangels Michael, Gabriel and all heavenly hosts. In anticipation of the holyday, the vesperal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated Wednesday evening at 7: 30 PM. Please join us in worship, prayer and praise. Confessions are heard prior to and after the celebration.

+++ We offer thanks to the Blessed Trinity for inspiring generosity in the souls of our faithful and the blessing of abundant grace in our midst with the offering received this past week-end: Tithes Offering, [REDACTED]; Christian Fellowship, [REDACTED]; Candles, \$[REDACTED]; Kitchen, \$[REDACTED]; Pennies From Heaven, \$[REDACTED]; Building Fund, \$[REDACTED]; Food Coupons, \$[REDACTED], for a total of \$[REDACTED]. We express our profound gratitude to the parishioner communicants who offered their God-given treasure for the sake of the Lord and the good of our parish. God bless and reward you good and faithful souls! The attendance was 38 adults and 14 children last Sunday

+++ As faithful believers, we intercede and associate ourselves in prayer with the following who have prayed and offered seven day lights for their intentions: Debbie Szmaida., Pani Lucas, Paul Szmaida, Father Lucas, Robert Gorbich and Pani Buletza.

+++ We make a **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN** Canister available for our faithful to bring in pennies for our altar and its appointments. We are already in receipt of \$[REDACTED] from this apostolate. Even your pennies can help and are a blessing to our parish!

+++ For the expansion of our much needed parochial facilities, our parish pledge support to date totals \$[REDACTED]. As we thank the Lord for inspiring generosity in the hearts of our faithful, we also thank the donors for accepting the challenge of the Lord in building up His Body. We cordially invite and look forward to receiving additional and increased pledges from all our devoted parishioners.

+++ Please check the Sign-Up-Sheet for the weekly Christian Fellowship for the coming weeks. Simple foods without need for preparation are the best. Marilyn Korba coordinates this vital apostolate. Please assist her in making it a success by bringing your donation early so that all are present at the worship of our God.

+++ Please be certain to see **Helen Karpiak** or a member of the Parish Council if you would like to help our parish by using **Shop Rite Food Coupons** available in \$20.00 denominations. We invite **ALL** to be caring and supportive and use Grocery Coupons for food shopping as we have gratefully realized [REDACTED] on this project to date!

+++ The weekly sponsor list for Christian Fellowship Food for this year is available to be filled out on the table in the kitchen. We appeal to **ALL** our parishioners to participate, not just a few, so that it is equitable and the responsibility shared by **ALL**.

+++ Please be certain to take the candy order blanks and catalogues available in the vestibule for the coming Nativity Feast Day. We do depend on the support of our faithful to make it a success. Please start now and begin getting orders from friends and neighbors. Your efforts assist our parish immeasurably.

+++ The Thanksgiving Bake Sale will take place on Friday and Saturday, November 16 and 17 while that for the Nativity of our Lord will be conducted



on Friday and Saturday, December 14 and 15. Home-made cookies will be available at \$15.00 for a beautifully wrapped package at the Nativity Bake Sale. Please begin now securing orders from friends and neighbors. The rolls sell for \$12.00 each and are available in walnut, poppy seed, apricot and prune fillings. The order sheet is available to be filled out in the kitchen for the Thanksgiving Bake Sale. As always, we invite ALL our faithful, men, women, children, to invest their time in the future of our parish and the success of this fund-raiser. There are tasks to be done for whatever kind of gift or expertise you have been endowed with. Come and join us!

+++ We continue to be in need of Web Site donor-sponsors. The amount is \$25.00 per month. Please see Father as soon as possible.

+++ Upon return, Father will have the collection basket for Thanksgiving Food out in the vestibule to receive the fruit of your generosity. Please pray about it, please think about and then bring in some foodstuffs which are not perishable to help needy families. We have been helping three families each year. Let us continue this worthy tradition in praise of the generosity of our Lord God to all of us!

+++ The offering for flowers to beautify the church for the coming feast of the Nativity of our Lord will be taken on Sunday, December 2. Please plan on being generous with your offering.

+++ The annual St. Nicholas Covered Dish Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 9 in the parish center. Please be certain to join us for the celebration at which the saint will visit our parish to greet everyone, particularly the children. The fool donation form will appear in a few weeks so everyone can participate in making it a success.

+++ The attached yellow flyer should be given as an indication of our loving concern to an interested churchless family or friend. Offer continuing prayerr for the intention of the person/s as you offer it to them.

+++ May all glory, adoration, worship be accorded our God in the Holy Trinity by all the faithful of our parish with one mind, one soul and one heart each day of the week!

#### Web Site Address

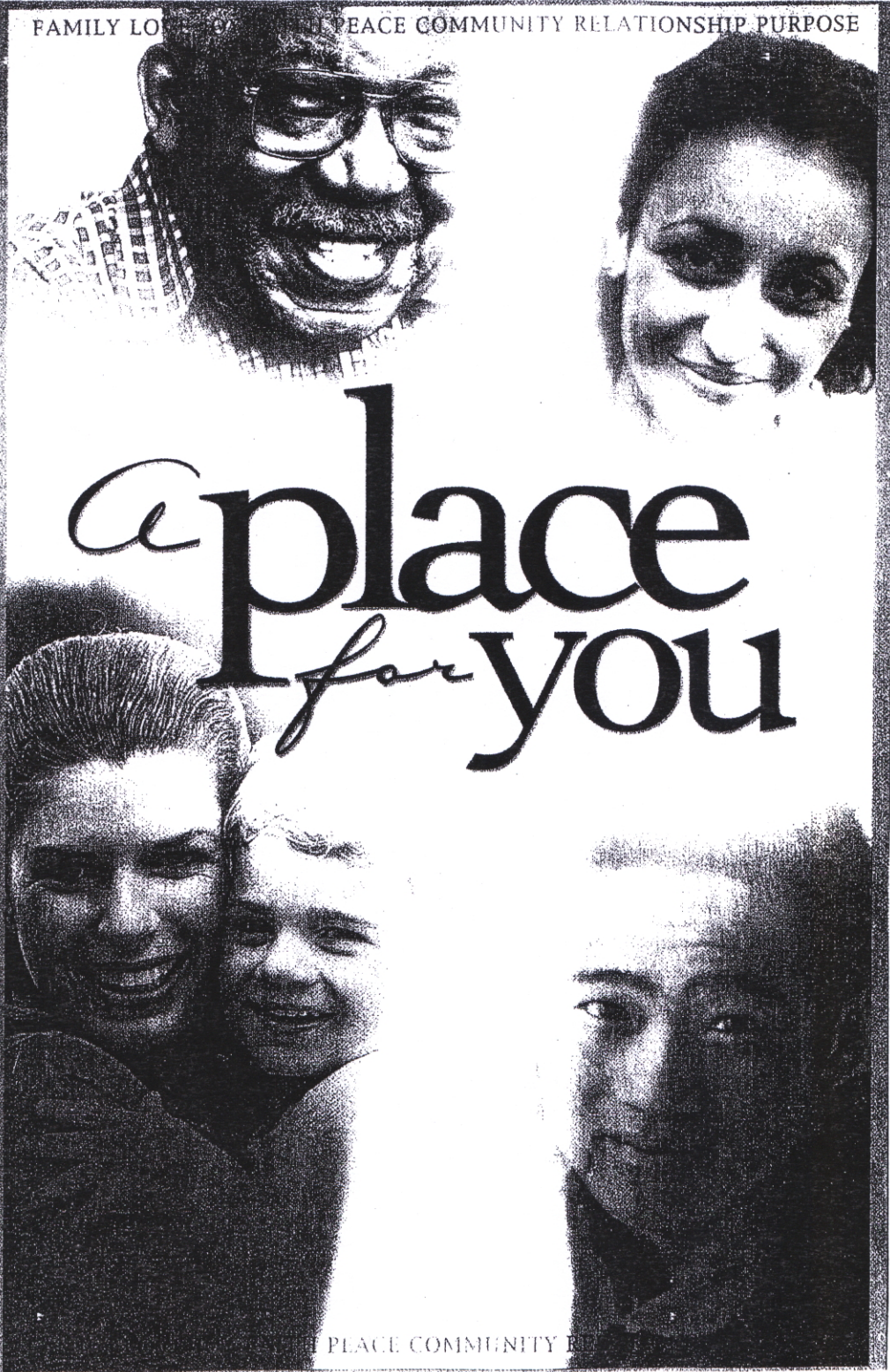
Parish: [www.stpaul-freehold.com](http://www.stpaul-freehold.com)

Father's address: [fatherbob@stpaul-freehold.com](mailto:fatherbob@stpaul-freehold.com)



FAMILY LO

PEACE COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP PURPOSE



*a* place  
for you

PLACE COMMUNITY R

**We are saving a place for *YOU* at**

**St. Paul the Apostle  
Orthodox Church  
24 Burke Road  
Freehold, NJ 07728**

**No matter what your age is, no matter where you come from, no matter who you are, there is a place for you at St. Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church.**

**You will meet a great mix of warm welcoming and friendly people, hear relevant and inspiring messages, enjoy compelling programs and much more.**

**For now, come as you are so you learn to become what you are destined for: a permanent place in heavenly worship!**

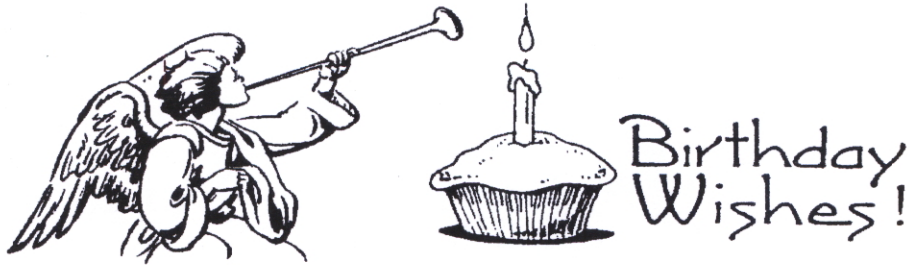
**We have a seat saved for you!**

**Web Site Address**

**Parish: [www.stpaul-freehold.com](http://www.stpaul-freehold.com)**

**Father's address: [fatherbob@stpaul-freehold.com](mailto:fatherbob@stpaul-freehold.com)**



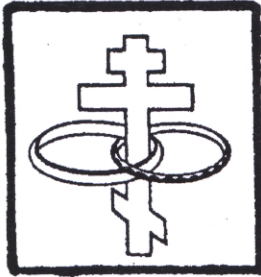


We are pleased to greet those of our faithful communicants who celebrate their birthday this month. Our Lord has offered these souls yet another year of blessed life. The most obvious way He blesses us and participates in our life is by sharing His divine life with us in the Eucharist at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Thus we can gather together and offer thanks to Him for yet another year of life blessed by His most gracious hands. Today, we prayerfully remember in the Divine Liturgy the following souls who celebrate their birthday during the month of November.

**November 3 Thomas C. Grindberg**  
**November 16 Frank Pashos**  
**November 26 Debra L. Szmajda**  
**November 27 Eleanor Korba**

With a prayerful heart and grateful soul, our parish faith community asks the Lord to continue to bless these birthday celebrants with good spiritual and physical health for the coming year. We invite all to add their intercessory prayers so that with one voice and one heart we may also participate in the grace and joy of their celebration. As we wish them a happy and blessed celebration of their birthday, our ardent prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless them for

**Many and Blessed Years!**



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

The Byzantine Fathers of the Church were wont to emphasize how ancient and how venerable marriage is in the sight of our God because it was established yet in paradise before the fall of Adam and Eve and brought to blessed perfection by Christ in Cana of Galilee. Its grace survived the sin of our first parents and it remains a sign of the presence of the Holy Trinity in our midst. It is a living symbol of the deep and abiding love between Christ and His Bride, our blessed Church. It is characterized in the liturgical life of the Church as a happy martyrdom. And it is precisely for this reason the sacramental Mystery of Marriage is such a joyous event. On the third Sunday of this month, we honor those of our good parishioners who observe their marriage anniversaries this month of November. They are specially remembered in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and subsequently receive an individual and personal blessing of the Lord at its conclusion. Celebrating this month are:

**November 3 Anna & William Zacharyczuk**  
**November 5 Miguel & Maria Garcia**  
**November 22 Nicholas M. & Susan M. Sorochka**

We gratefully give thanks to the Blessed Trinity for having guided and strengthened the marriages of these believers, and their cooperation with sacramental grace to remain faithful to one another over the years. Like all who are faithful to Christ, they recognize the presence and necessity of the Holy Spirit not only in the marriage, but in subsequent family life as well. As we praise our God for their witness in our midst, let us also join them with our prayers and thanksgiving before the throne of the Lord. May they continue to praise His Holy Name by their love and devotion to one another for

**Many and Blessed Years**





**JOIN US!**

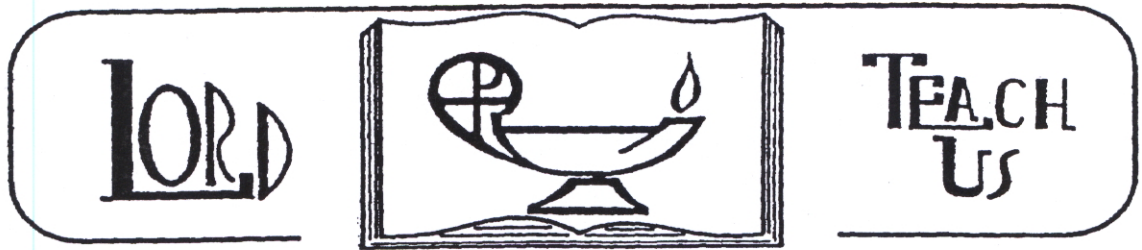
**along with the Birthgiver and St. Joseph**

**be spiritually prepared  
during this Nativity Fast  
to celebrate  
the Lord's birth in the flesh**

**Each Monday evening  
7:30 PM**

**Anticipatory and Welcoming Services  
Confessions before and after**

**Prepare your heart and soul to become  
a welcoming manger  
for the Christ Child**



Amen

*I also shook out the folds of my garment, saying, 'Thus may God shake from his home and his fortune everyman who fails to keep this promise, and may he thus be shaken out and emptied!' And the whole assembly answered, "Amen," and praised the Lord. Then the people did as they promised Nehemiah 5: 13.*

*The One who gives this testimony says, 'Yes, I am coming soon!' Amen! Come, Lord, Jesus! Revelation 22: 20.*

*Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, through all eternity! Let all the people say, Amen! Alleluia! 1 Chronicles 16: 36.*

*Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people, their hands raised high, answered, 'Amen, amen, amen!' Then they bowed down and prostrated themselves before the Lord, their faces to the ground Nehemiah 8: 6.*

*Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from all eternity and forever. Amen, Amen, Amen Psalms 41: 14.*

*Blessed be the Lord forever. Amen and Amen Psalms 89: 53.*

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen Matthew 6: 13.*

*The Amen, the faithful Witness and true, the Source of God's creation, has this to say: I know your deeds; I know you are neither hot nor cold. How I wish you were one or the other – hot or cold! But because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth! Revelation 3: 14 – 16.*



## **A Meditation**

**My father is dying of cancer and this totally changed my ideas about the illness. He was told what he had and the knowledge did not sour his remaining days. He accepted the diagnosis of the physician with faith and dignity, even as a blessing.**

**Cancer is one disease that everybody tries to frighten you about. When the American Cancer Society wants to appeal to your generosity to raise huge funds, they scare you with the idea of cancer. I now think that cancer can actually be a pleasant way to die. Perhaps words like "pleasant" or phrases like "death can be your friend," are exaggerations, "pleasant" meaning "it has advantages over other forms of death"; "it can be your friend," meaning, "it can be a grateful experience."**

**For instance, cancer is a slow going away. You can leisurely take care of your affairs, converse with close friends and family, and wrap up much unfinished business. You can die a lot differently stylistically, of course with cancer than you can by dying in an auto accident or having a cerebral blood vessel burst. Cancer allows you to make a serious preparation for the final reckoning of your life. It gives opportunity for repentance. It provides time to reconcile seriously with God.**

**Prior to her dormition, the Birthgiver of God was visited by an angelic visitor. Tradition tells us he left behind a fragrant bloom to remind her the time for uniting with her Son and our God had arrived. Cancer can be looked upon as that fragrant bloom because the sweet smelling message it exudes is that our life has reached its fulfillment; the end of our baptismal vocation is near and time is allowed for final preparation if that is needed. The introspective soul can see it as a benevolent mercy of our loving God.**

**The devoted soul would not mind dying of cancer if that is God's will because it would allow the serious soul to watch itself more carefully, to appreciate God's grace and live life more fully as it proceeds towards its inevitable destiny.**

## **Whose Intercession in Prayer Should We Seek Remedy For Various Illnesses?**

**Headaches** Prayers should be offered to the glorious Prophet, Precursor and Baptist of the Lord, St. John. Simply one look at the horrible end this holy man's life convinces us we ought eagerly seek his intercession against any aches and pains of the head, which above all, he understands the best!

**Eye Problems** Before the icon of the Birthgiver of God under the title, "Our Lady of Kazan," prayers can be offered, seeking her intercession with eye problems as the very first miracles provided believers in the presence of this icon were cures of various vision problems.

The martyr Longinus the Centurion is a glorified witness to merciful signs from heaven for the blind. The very first miracle occurring before his icon at his intercession was the restoration of sight to a blind woman.

The icon of the holy superior of the Caves Monastery and bishop of Novgorod, St. Nikita is overwhelmingly a witness that through his intercession the blind have sight restored and all sorts of others with various degrees of vision problems have been brought to perfection.

**Deafness and other hearing defects** Prayers of intercession are offered for the deaf as with faith they confirm themselves by reading the gospel narrative, "Some people brought him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hands on him. Jesus took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his fingers into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and emitted a groan. He said to him 'Ephphatha!' that is, 'Be opened!' At once the man's ears were opened; he was freed from the impediment, and began to speak plainly...amazement went beyond all bounds; 'He has done everything well! He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak'" Mark 7: 32 – 37.

**Toothaches** The priest-martyr St. Antipas whom we honor on April 11 and is mentioned in God's revelation to us. "...you hold fast to my name and have not denied the faith you have in me, not even at the time when Antipas, my faithful witness was martyred..." Revelation 2: 13. When thrown among untamed bulls, he asked God to be favored with the grace to cure people with painful tooth aches.



**Stomach Problems** The great martyr Artemius was forced by his persecutors to suffer pain by being placed under a great stone which forced his internal organs to break through his skin, after which the major portion of healings in response to his intercession affected those who suffered various stomach ulcers and associated problems.

**Arthritis and Pain of the Hands** Prayers before the icon of the Birthgiver of God seeking her intercession under her title of "Birthgiver of God with Three Hands" has been known to successfully respond to faith-filled souls in such circumstances. The intercession of St. John Damascene is also sought since he tearfully prayed for and secured the assistance of the Mother of God that his hand be relieved of incessant pain, with which he wrote spiritual compositions to the glory of God and with which he defended the Church against the attacks of the ruler of Damascus. He was found worthy to enjoy a vision of the Birthgiver of God, and immediately the pain in the entire hand quickly ceased. As a result of the sincere gratitude of his heart and soul to the heavenly healing power of the Virgin, he attached to the icon before whom he prayed another hand as he began to compose still another spiritual masterpiece-hymn, the first verse of which is "Your triumphant right hand..."

**Pain in the Feet** Prayers to the venerable Simeon of Verhotursk help with this pain, as he himself suffered the same malady as a result of being innocently exiled and forced to walk from Russia to Siberia.

**Fevers** Prayers to the Apostle, St. Peter relieve such conditions. To him the Saviour granted a favorable response to his request when his mother-in-law was ill in bed. "He took her by the hand and her fever left her" Matthew 8: 15. In addition, prayers seeking the intercession of St. Myron of the Desert and St. Basil the New who in their lifetime became eminent sources of healing in these instances, have produced great success.

**Leprosy** The intercession of the great martyr, St. Agripinia is recommended for this and other skin diseases.

**Cancer** St. Nektarios the Wonderworker is well-known to come to the assistance of faith-filled prayers of those who suffer from this disease since he himself left the world as a result of a painful long time cancerous affliction.

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**Chest Pains and Diseases** Intercessions made to St. Demetrius the Metropolitan of Rostov have been successful in alleviating illness in this area of the body.

**Childhood Illnesses** St. Julian was eager to offer his intercessory healing ability to children and even raised some from death. He is also known to have mediated God's healing to children at their mother's breast.

**Women's Irregular Periods** The venerable Ipatius in his lifetime many times offered the assistance of divine grace to women who suffered from this common problem.

**Marital Childlessness** Prayers to the upright SS. Joachim and Anna, grandparents of the Saviour and parents of the Birthgiver of God are successful. Into their old age, they carried the bitter pain of infertility when by the direct grace of God they became the parents of the Mother of Christ. Young mothers implore the intercession of St. Roman of whom it is said, responds to problematic situations with resulting success.

**Miscarriages** Intercessory prayers to the prophet, St. Zachary and his spouse, St. Elizabeth, parents of St. John the Baptist, have been successful in overcoming this difficulty.

**Lack of Mother's milk for nursing** The venerable St. Hypatius is known to have prayed over such women and brought them success in nursing their children.

**Chicken Pox** SS. Cosmas and Damian are known to have provided relief and cure from this highly contagious affliction.

**Swollen Tissue** Intercessory prayers to the venerable father, St. Hypatius, one of the Fathers of Sinai and Raife who was successful in returning to its natural state the injured flesh of many faithful believers.

**Throat Diseases** Prayer to St. Blaise, bishop of Sebaste has been successful since he cured a child choking on a bone at meal time. He prayed God to receive the grace to continue such assistance to others in similar death threatening circumstances. Throats have been blessed on his feast day.



**Hernia Difficulties** Petitions for the assistance of St. Artemius are known to bring about a successful conclusion to those who suffer with this problem.

**Over eating and drinking** Successful results have been obtained by intercessory prayers to St. Moses Murin and the holy martyr, St. Boniface:

**Sleeplessness** The venerable St. Alexander of Svirsk has many times responded to those needing assistance in gaining a full night's rest. More than half the miracles recorded at his intercession are concerned with this problem.

**All Other Illnesses and Diseases** The holy martyr and non-mercenary healer, St. Panteleimon has been known to provide restoration from all sorts of illnesses and maladies known to man. His is an astounding story of various cures.

It is vital and necessary to recognize all restoration to health, all reversals of illness are due solely to the grace of God working through various grace-filled persons with whom our great God shares his healing power. What is required from seeking man is abandonment to the will of God, immovable faith that He will respond in his will, to the needs of the praying needy individual. Man must recognize if our God permits the illness to enter our life, it is for a reason which ought to benefit the recipient, however difficult this might be at the time to recognize and appreciate. Thus man, then, is to be thankful for the lessons learned. The lessons it provides man ought to be accepted and appreciated. Illness humbles man, advances his spiritual life because he recognizes the only relief is in Christ and prepares the soul to further accept the will of God in its pilgrimage to heaven. It disposes man to depend more and more on the will of the Creator. If the Son of Man innocently accepted the pain and anxiety of his salutary death on the cross for the sake of our salvation, it becomes man to elevate his own pain and anxiety to make up what is lacking in Christ's redemptive work: our own participation and response to His freely offered love.

It is interesting to note that upon being cured, the example of Peter's mother-in-law should inspire us, "She got up at once and began to wait on him" Matthew 8: 15. She showed her gratitude and continued faith response immediately by serving the needs of the Lord, showing that illness therefore need not be used as an excuse for failing to be responsive to God's grace within us.

## Your Are Not The Only One

God's revelation to us teaches, "Resist him, solid in your faith, realizing that the entire brotherhood of believers is undergoing the same sufferings throughout the world" 1 Peter 5: 4. Thus we are to stand firm in faith commitment against the attacks of the devil, knowing that the same identical sufferings are appointed to our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

We all get hurt at times and we all have the same opportunity either to let it make us *bitter* or permit it make us *better*. How can injustice make us better? For one thing, it can help us develop character and strengthen what we already have. Doing what is right when we don't have feelings supporting us builds strong character in us. Good looks, intelligence and talents are God's gifts, but character is willingly pursued and developed. We can take no credit ourselves for our brainpower, the attractiveness of our features or the gifts we seemingly innately possess. Many people have gifts that can take them to high places, but they do not have the character to keep them there once they arrive. Thus, they never succeed in life!

Not only does everyone get hurt, we all get hurt again and again. That may not sound very encouraging, but it is true. How many of us can recall circumstances in which our heavenly Father is prodding us and dealing with us about trusting a loved one more than we had in the past, particularly those with a spouse? Those to whom we are married love us more than we realize as is evidenced even by the blessed friendships many people have. They love us unconditionally and would never hurt us on purpose, but we do have to realize they are nevertheless human and therefore fallible. To our response in questioning God, "What if he hurts me?", the Lord will quickly explain, "He probably will from time to time, but I am your healer. I live within you and I am always available to heal your wounds."

We spend so much time trying not to get hurt that we cannot develop good, enduring, honest, solid relationships with people. We should not spend all of our time trying to protect ourselves. We should be willing to give ourselves away and even lay down our lives for others. "There is no greater love than this; to lay down one's life for one's friend" John 15: 13.

We may look at other people and think they never seem to have to go through anything difficult, but we all go through different things. Some people have gone through devastating things that nobody knows anything about. They go to God's throne on the knees of their souls with their problems instead of on the phone with their so-called friends, sharing them with other people who cannot help them anyway. Some people have learned the art of suffering silently. They know only God can help them, so they do not bother telling everyone they meet what they are going through.

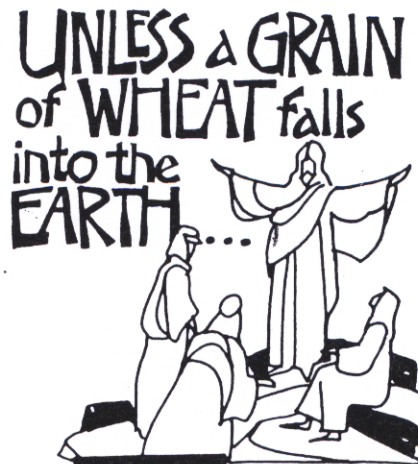


It is certainly is not wrong to share our troubles with a trusted friend or a faithful counselor, but the point is that we cannot assume others are not having challenges in life just because they do not look depressed or do not eagerly talk about their problems openly.

Some people by the nature of their personality and temperament like to whine and complain; others do not. Some of us are talkers and some are not. But we should not make the mistake of thinking people have no pain just because they have not told you about it. It is most important for each of us to think we are not the only ones hurting. St. Peter reminded the people to whom he was writing to resist the devil and all his temptations. Not only does he approach us from the vantage of our weaknesses, but he uses our friends, our enemies, our acquaintances, even the things and pastimes we love, to entice us into sinning and losing faith. He tempts us by appealing to our pride and then after we fall, and we recognize, some time later we grievously sinned, he tempts us again by appealing to our humble repentance and insisting we have no need of it. St. Peter knew everybody was going through the same kinds of things he was. "Stay sober and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour" 1 Peter 5: 8.

Remembering this keeps us from feeling isolated and alone in our spiritual endeavors, in our own pain. It helps us when we are hurting to remember that somewhere, someone is hurting, even much worse than we are and we should be grateful we do not have worse problems than they do. We are not alone and with God's helpful grace, we can make it through our current difficulty. This too shall pass!

"The God of all grace, who called you to his everlasting glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish those who have suffered a little while. Dominion be his throughout the ages. Amen" 1 Peter 5: 10, 11.



## THE ROLE OF ANGELS IN GODS CREATION

**T**he Nicene Creed proclaims that God is the "Creator of Heaven and earth, and of all things, visible and invisible." Just who are these invisible entities created by our Heavenly Father? They are, of course, the angels. According to the Scriptures and Holy Tradition, the Orthodox Church has provided us with the names of seven leaders of the heavenly powers. Perhaps the best known is the Archangel Michael. Michael in Hebrew means "Who is equal to God?" Of course, no one is like God - that is why he captained the army that drove Lucifer from heaven, for in his pride, Lucifer believed himself to be God's equal.

Gabriel ("power of God") is known for being God's chosen messenger. He is best remembered for announcing to the Virgin Mary that she was to give birth to Christ. Raphael means "God's healing." For this reason, he is often depicted holding a physician's jar in his hand. The fourth

angel with which we are familiar is Uriel - "light of God." We usually see Uriel holding a sword in his right hand and a burning branding iron in his left. Angel #5 - Jegudiel - literally means "one who glorifies God." We often find Jegudiel bearing a golden wreath in one hand and a whip in the other. Barachiel, another of the angels known by name, is commonly found wearing a white rose on his breast. His name is translated as "the blessing of God." Finally, we find among the angels Salathiel - "one who prays with God." Fittingly enough, Salathiel is depicted in a posture of prayer, with hands folded and head bowed.

What purpose do angels serve? They constantly minister at God's Holy Throne. They are also God's messengers, who serve Him in whatever way He desires. Finally, they fill the important role as our protectors and guardians.