



BULLETIN FOR JULY 28-AUGUST 10, 2024

July 28th has been designated as by the Assembly of Orthodox Bishops in the US as **PRISON MINISTRY AWARENESS SUNDAY**. More information about this is included in the bulletin. The bishops have asked that all parishes take a collection to support the national Orthodox Prison Ministry. This year, we will be taking a collection on Sunday, July 28th. *Our parish is going to match dollar-for-dollar ALL donations for this purpose from our Tithe Account. Thank you for your generosity!*

*SUN 7/28/2024 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 4
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Perpetual Commemorations for July 28-August 3, 2024:

HAYDUK, John & Anna

PERI, John & Anna

*PACZAK, John & Katherine, Anna, Mary, Michael, Walter, Simon, Ann,
Catherine & John Jr.*

TKACH, Msgr. Paul & Pani Helen

Panachida: +Stella Cherepko, by Joann, Donald and Kevin Yasnowsky

TUES 7/30/2024 *Saint of the Day: Apostle Silas of the 70*
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
With Weekly Perpetual Commemorations

THURS 8/1/2024 **PROCESSION OF THE HOLY CROSS; HOLY MACCABEE MARTYRS**
The Dormition Fast Begins Today
 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Water
 With Prayers for the Living
 12 Noon-5:30 Red Cross Blood Drive

FRI 8/2/2024
 6:00 PM Moleben to the Mother of God
 With Prayers for the Living

***SUN 8/4/2024** **SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 5**
 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

MON 8/5/2024
 6:00 PM Vespers for the Holyday of the Transfiguration
 With Prayers for the Living

TUES 8/6/2024 **TRANSFIGURATION OF CHRIST (HOLYDAY)**
 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 Blessing of Fruits

***SUN 8/11/2024** **SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 6**
 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
 Second Blessing of Fruit and Distribution of Grapes

Perpetual Commemorations for August 11-17, 2024:
 PACINDA, Joseph
 GELETY, Andrew & Anna
 JAEGER, Joseph

Fr. David will be away August 7, 8 and 9. In the event that you need an emergency hospital visit or sick call during that time, please call Fr. Timothy Paproski of St. Nicholas in Warren (203-804-2030), or the closest Orthodox priest.

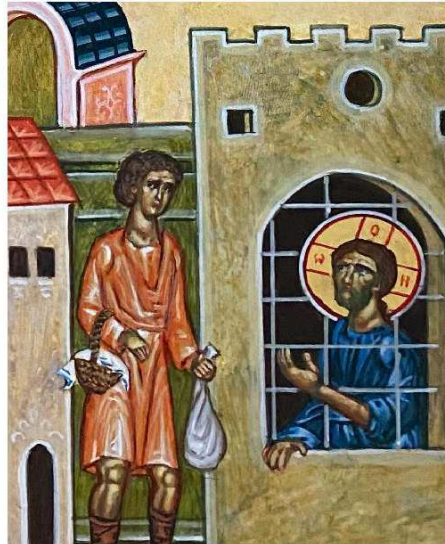


Orthodox Christian
PRISON MINISTRY

PRISON MINISTRY AWARENESS SUNDAY

Did you know that there are Orthodox Christians practicing their faith in prison? Or that there are prisoners who are ready to repent of their crimes and embrace the Orthodox Church? **Who will minister to them?**

As the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church, Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) supports prisoners' unique spiritual needs through longterm case management and provides resources and training to parishes and clergy, enabling them to offer local solutions and fulfill Christ's command to visit Him in prison. As a result, families are reunited, marriages are healed, and thousands of incarcerated men and women have a new sense of peace and restored order in their lives.



*"I was in prison,
and you visited Me."*

Matthew 25:36

4,667

TOTAL PRISONERS MINISTERED TO

51,530

BIBLE STUDIES, DAILY READINGS, AND
SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS SENT IN 2023

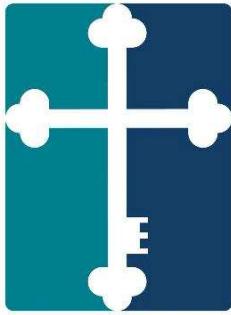
LEARN MORE AT theocpm.org

PHONE: +1.347.868.6957



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL
ORTHODOX BISHOPS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church and an agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States.



Orthodox Christian
PRISON MINISTRY

**WHO
WE
ARE**

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church in the US and an agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops.



OUR MISSION

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry serves those who are incarcerated and their families, and provides resources, training, and support to our ministry partners so that lives are transformed and God is glorified.

WHAT WE DO

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT - Through our Correspondence Ministry, OCPM case managers maintain relationships with Orthodox and non-Orthodox prisoners over years and decades at a time.

CATECHISM & EDUCATION - We provide personalized spiritual care, Bibles, books, icons, and catechism study courses in the Orthodox faith. OCPM publishes our own books and icons, which have been designed for use in prison and are printed to meet the stringent rules of prison mailing rooms.

COACHING & COUNSELING - OCPM trains Orthodox priests and laypersons to visit and counsel those in prison, and we counsel families with loved ones in prison. We advocate for correctional facilities around the country to recognize the Orthodox faith so that priests can enter prisons and administer the Sacraments and services.

RE-ENTRY SUPPORT - OCPM counsels those recently released from prison and trains local churches in how to fully welcome and support someone through his or her re-entry.

YOUR 2023 IMPACT

1,199 people in prison who corresponded with OCPM

200 new case files of people in prison opened

51,530 spiritual books, study courses, Bible studies, daily readings, and spiritual reflections sent

162 Orthodox churches offered coaching, training, and consultation for parish-based prison ministry

481 prison facilities served by OCPM

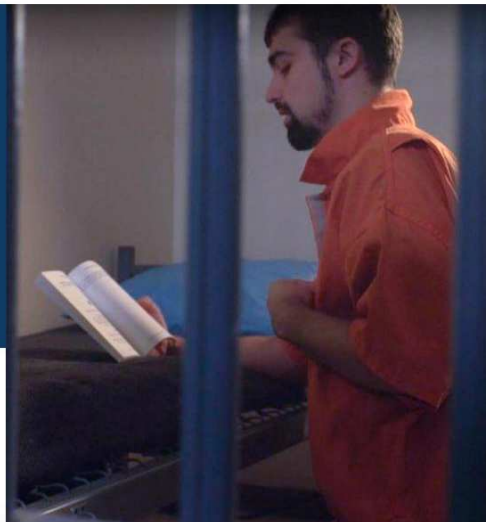
CONTACT US

276 5th Avenue, Ste. 704-3183
New York, NY 10001

(347) 868-6957

LEARN MORE

WWW.THEOCPM.ORG



Happy August! August is a *wonderful* month for us as Orthodox Christians. It is PACKED full of holydays. We especially honor the Mother of God in this month of her Dormition. We also observe three special blessings: water on Aug. 1, fruit on Aug. 6, and flowers and herbs on Aug. 15. Use this time to refocus on your life of faith!

The Dormition Fast begins on August 1st. This two-week fast is in preparation for the Dormition of the Mother of God on August 15th. It is the “summer Lent” before the “summer Pascha”! Fast as you are able, with a joyful heart. In Slavonic, this fast is also known as the “Savior’s Fast” (*Spasovka*) because there are three Feasts of the Savior in August: the Procession of the Cross (August 1), the Transfiguration of Christ (August 6) and the Icon of the Christ “Not Made With Hands”/Holy Face (August 16).

Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Water on August 1

It is a very old custom that the Lesser Blessing of Water (rather than the Great Blessing of Water on January 6) takes place on August 1st—a day dedicated to the Holy Cross and the Maccabee Martyrs. This year, we will have Divine Liturgy on August 1 at 9:00 AM and bless water at the end of Liturgy. All are invited to receive a special blessing and drink of the newly-sanctified water for our strength and healing. Bring a bottle to take some home!

Services in Honor of the Mother of God: This year, during the Dormition Fast, we will have additional opportunities for prayer and to ask for the intercessions of Our Lady, the Mother of God. Check the schedule for dates and times! *Most Holy Mother of God, save us!*

Praying for Others During the Dormition Fast: At a number of services during the Dormition Fast, we will include intercessory prayers for the living. Please use the available prayer sheets and give them to Fr. David. Services marked “Prayers for the Living” in the bulletin and on the calendar will include the reading of these names.

If you haven’t been to **Confession** in a while, the Dormition Fast is the perfect time to go! Fr. David will be hearing Confessions 30 minutes before evening services; before Liturgy on Sundays (but no later than 8:45 AM); and by appointment.

The Blessing of Fruit: August 6th is the holyday of the Transfiguration of Christ. The tradition on this summer holyday is to bless grapes and other fruit—the “first fruits” of the summer harvest. We will bless fruit at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, August 6th. **You are encouraged to bring a basket or bowl of fruit to be blessed. We will ALSO bless and distribute grapes to all parishioners on the Sunday after the Transfiguration, August 11. You can bring fruit to this blessing as well.**



CALLING ALL STUDENTS!

Before you head back to school for the 2024-2025 academic year, you are invited to come forward for a prayer and a special blessing on **Sunday, August 18, 2023 at the End of Liturgy**

GOLF SCRAMBLE NOTES

Don't Forget! The 2024 Golf Scramble will be held on **Saturday, August 17th at Avalon at Buhl Park**. Shotgun Start will be at 8:30 AM.

The post-golfing meal will again be held at our church hall, and will feature our *signature* all-you-can-eat buffet with spit roast lamb, chicken, sausage and peppers, side dishes, desserts and beverages. Dinner will begin to be served at 2:30 PM. We will also hold the a Basket and Gift Card Raffle at this dinner.

Dinner-only tickets are available for \$25 per person. See Francine Fabian to get your ticket!

THANK YOU to everyone that has donated towards the golf tournament to date! We are still in need of the following:

- ⇒ Team Commitments
- ⇒ Proximity Prizes - \$100 (Four \$25 gift certificates to Avalon Buhl)
- ⇒ Major sponsorships for \$100.00
- ⇒ Hole sponsorships for \$40.00
- ⇒ Patron Ad Listings for \$10.00
- ⇒ Gift Cards for the Raffle - see list in the fellowship hall
- ⇒ Big Ticket Raffle - gift card or basket with a value of \$100
- ⇒ General monetary donations to the event

Copies of the registration form/flyer and the sponsorship form are still available in the church hall for your use.

To register your team or for any additional information, see Ed or Francine Fabian.

*Our condolences are extended to all the family and friends of **+ESTHER CHUPAK** who fell asleep in the Lord on July 20, 2024. May God grant her blessed repose in His heavenly kingdom! Eternal Memory!*



Thoughts on Stewardship

by Dan Hromyak

"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" - John 6:9

The miracle of the Loaves and Fishes carries two important messages. First, no matter how little we have, we always have enough to share. Second, Christ can take our humble gifts and do great things with them if we are just willing to let Him. Nothing is impossible with God. All of our gifts, big or small, were given to us for a reason. No gift is too small or insignificant!

"Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instruction or not." - Exodus 16:4

When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, the surplus became wormy and rotten. In the same way today, self-reliance, pride and ego leads to hoarding and excessive surplus of goods and money. Living a stewardship lifestyle helps to discern our "wants" from our "needs". Living a grateful and generous lifestyle reminds us that God will provide all that we need and that we have plenty to share.

Happy Birthday!

James Hynes	July 30
Sandra Kraynok	July 30
Peter Roman	August 1
Michael Waryanka	August 1
Jason Baker	August 3
Nancy Ristvey	August 5
Joann Yasnowsky	August 6
Shannon Baker	August 8

Happy Anniversary!

Michael & Nancy Ristvey	August 5
John & Elizabeth Safin	August 6
James & Karen Hynes	August 7
Doane & Karole Bailey	August 10

*God Grant You Many,
Blessed Years!"*

Schedule of Men to Hold Candles During the Gospel

July 28, 2024

Randy Martin
Paul McMahon
Robert Miller
John Moon
Dan Ristvey

August 4

Joel Ristvey
Matt Ristvey
Tom Ristvey
Pete Roman
Steve Saluga

August 11

Milan Shumkaroff
Gino Tofani
Donald Yasnowsky
Kevin Yasnowsky
Gary Yonchak

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

3180 Morefield Road
Hermitage, PA 16148

Office: 724-981-0571

Rectory: 724-346-4457

E-mail: father.david@stjohnacroc.org

Website: www.stjohnacroc.org

Clergy:

Rev. Father David Mastroberte

Rev. Deacon John Anderson