

## **Parish Prayer List (Living)**

*(Parish)*

Evangelos	Carolyn	Robert	Subdcn Jason
John	Maria	Anamay	Ron
Lawrence	Dianna	Rdr. George	JoAnn
Anthony	Paula	Kathleen	SJ
Beverly	David	Michael	Anastasia
Nina	Walter	Nathan	Mary
Thomas	Gloria	Thecla	Michael
Reader John	Kimberly	Matthew	Susan Mary
Sbdcn Maximus	Emilia	Photini	George
Magdalini	Constanka	Emil	John Howard
Barbara	John	Pam	Grace
Olga	Marina	Hesychios	Elizabeth
Sophia	Danny	John L.	Evdokia
Nicholas	Mary	Rachel	Katherine
Lily	Theodora	Elizabeth	Joseph
Justine	David	Reader Mark	Silouan
Christopher	Crystal	Rosa-Jane	Ian
Gabriel	Marcia	John R.	Johannah
Xenia			

*(non-Parish)*

Alexandra	Rachael	Thomas Pappas	Lillian Pappas
Christopher	Fr. Michael	Paige and Paul	Jennifer
Gabriella	Josiah	Jacob	Catherine
Hugh	Raymond	Judy	Mike
Ron	Clint	Peter	Maria
Brian	Brian	Sean	Sara
Ruth	Janet H.	Pam	Ana
Roz	Krista	Marty	Margo
Rob	Kera	Vanessa	Emma
Jane	Scott	Torin	Breanne

## **Parish Prayer List (Fallen Asleep)**

Theodoros Kontos (8/29)

Mark Kesselak (+9/2)

Richard Lynn (+10/11)

Mary Grace Beall (+9/2)

Olga Rustick (+9/13)

Lois Lynn (+10/24)

## **Thoughts from the Fathers**

Jonah prayed a prayer that had no sound: the herald was put to silence in the fish's belly; out of the dumb creature did his prayer creep forth, and God on high heard, for his silence served as a cry.

*Ephrem the Syrian, "Hymns on Faith"*

This present life is not a jest nor a plaything, although men have turned it into a jest and plaything. They heedlessly play with time, given for preparation for eternity; they play with idle words. They assemble at their friend's, sit and talk idly, and then begin to play at something. They go to theaters, and there both the performers and the spectators only amuse themselves. Others amuse themselves with their mental gifts, with human infirmities or virtues, with the capability of speaking or writing well. Some even amuse themselves with food and drink, using them in excess instead of only using them for satisfying the necessities of hunger and thirst. Some amuse themselves with their clothes, with their faces; they amuse themselves with their children, instead of educating them in faith, piety, and the fear of God. Their whole life is an amusement. But woe unto those who thus amuse themselves!

*Saint John of Kronstadt, My Life in Christ*

Life is short, the age to come is long, and little the length of our present existence. Man, this great but petty being, to whom the scant present has been allotted, is weak. Time is scant, man weak, but the contest set before him, with its prize, is great, even if it is full of thorns and puts our trivial life at risk.

*St. Nikitas Stithatos, On the Inner Nature of Things and the Purification of the Intellect*

Everything in this life passes away — only God remains, only He is worth struggling towards. We have a choice: to follow the way of this world, of the society that surrounds us, and thereby find ourselves outside of God; or to choose the way of life, to choose God Who calls us and for Whom our heart is searching.

*Fr. Seraphim Rose*

When he was seven years old, Bartholomew [the Baptismal name of Saint Sergius of Radonezh] began to learn to read, but he did not learn quickly, for his memory was poor. His teacher instructed him with great diligence but achieved little success. That was according to God's providence, that the child might receive the gift of learning not from men but from God. One

day, as he was walking through a forest of oak trees (for from his youth he loved silence, and he often wandered through secluded places), he encountered a monk, or rather an angel sent by God who had appeared in the form of a monk, standing in the forest praying. Bartholomew drew near him, stopping, not far from him and when the monk finished praying, the boy bowed down before him. The monk asked him, 'What do you seek, child?' Answered the boy, 'That I might be able to read books, Father, and understand what my teacher tells me concerning them...' The monk then prayed and blessed him, saying, 'May God grant you your desire, that you may benefit others.' From the time that the blessed child received the holy monk's blessing, or rather that of an angel, he was able to grasp every sort of book learning without difficulty, even as the earth, when it has been watered abundantly with rain, brings forth fruit, for God opened his understanding of the Scriptures. *Saint Sergius of Radonezh, in The Great Collection of The Lives of the Saints*

Why does the Lord command us to love our enemies and to pray for them? Not for their sake, but for ours! For as long as we bear grudges, as long as we dwell on how someone offended us, we will have no peace."

*Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica.*

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## **The Recipe of Salvation According to Elder Paisios**

- Seek for a lifeline near to God. Contain your material needs, because they create huge burdens and anxieties.
- Do not envy people that have money, comforts, fame and power, but rather those who live with virtue, reason and piety.
- Do not ask God for things that only support your body, but especially what is good and beneficial for your soul.

- Change your life, discover the meaning of life, gain the time lost in this process so far on earth.

- Do not trust the mindset of secular people.

- Be healed of the illnesses that dominate the lives of people that did not learn to fast, to be chaste, to pray, to hope.

- Do not despair. God is omnipresent and loves humanity.

- Cut off every relationship with evil, live freely, according to the will of the Lord.

- Prove your faith with works of love toward your neighbor.

- Decide what you want most: the sympathy of the world or a return near to God?

- Almost all problems start from the mouth (what you say) and, likewise, by the amount you depend on your passions.

- Love your wife more than yourself. With works, not with words. And do not ever talk to her badly, because sometimes the tongue kills and destroys love. Also, be careful, because some parents spoil their children very much and always do them favors. And when a child is too spoiled, they will become selfish and take a crooked path. Many parents care more about providing material things for their children. This is wrong. The body has many material desires, but a short life. The soul continues along another course. The soul does not end up in the dirt, but with God. Today everyone deals with their body, not with the needs of their soul.

- The needs of the soul are different. The joys of the soul are different from the joys of the body. The body is easily managed, not the soul. If you have money and enter a big store, the body is all set. But what can you find in a, what do you call those big stores, yes, a supermarket, for your soul? The soul needs other things. The soul has need of peace, quiet, communion with God. To sustain the body, you need silver and daily bread. To sustain the soul, divine talents and heavenly Bread are needed.