

Parish Prayer List (Living)

(Parish)

Evangelos	Carolyn	Robert	Sharon
John	Maria	Anamay	Ron
Lawrence	Dianna	Efthalia	Denny
Anthony	Pauline	Nadja	Jerry
Beverly	David	Michael	Anastasia
Nina	Walter	Nathan	Mary
Joseph	Duncan	Thecla	Michael
Reader Mark	Jason	Silouan	Susan Mary
Maximus	Emily	Clint	George
Magdalini	Connie	Emil	John H.
Barbara	Yevgeniya	Roman	Ilija
Olga	Marina	John	James S.
Maria	Sophia	Danny	

(non-Parish)

Alexandra	Rachael	Jessilyn	Amanda
Christopher	Fr. Michael	Paige	Sean
James	Nicholas B.	Karin	Meg
Barry Pierce	Rick P.	Susan K	Michael C.
Anna	Brian	Kathy Tanner	Salvatore
Josephine	Billy Ray	Alma	Charles Kahn
Peter	Maria	Michael	Timothy
Petrese	Mary	Astilee	Dan Brown
Tony	Donna	Joe and Jessie	Sherry
Pani Susan	Emily	Paige and Paul	Travis
Rosco			

Parish Prayer List (Fallen Asleep)

Dominick LoGalbo (+12/25)

Josephine Ferrier (+1/24)

Joseph Visconti (+1/26)

Angelina Visconti (+2/14)

Steven Shuniak (+2/2)

Thoughts from the Fathers

Everyone baptized into Christ should pass progressively through all the stages of Christ's own life, for in baptism he receives the power to so progress, and through the commandments he can discover and learn how to accomplish such progression. To Christ's conception corresponds the foretaste of the gift of the Holy Spirit, to His nativity the actual experience of joyousness, to His baptism the cleansing force of the fire of the Spirit, to His transfiguration the contemplation of divine light, to His crucifixion the dying to all things, to His burial the indwelling of divine love in the

heart, to His resurrection the soul's life-quickening resurrection, and to His ascension divine ecstasy and the transport of the intellect into God. He who fails to pass consciously through these stages is still callow in body and spirit, even though he may be regarded by all as mature and accomplished in the practice of virtue.

- *St Gregory of Sinai*

The most striking proof that there is a devil in the world is that men do not feel, or feel very little the mercies that God has bestowed upon them in the creation, guidance and redemption: the Devil is a powerful antagonist to everything good and righteous.

- *St John of Kronstadt, My Life in Christ*

The strength of those who wish to acquire the virtues is as follows: if they fall, let them not lose their courage, but let them be sure to make a new beginning at their endeavor. Insofar, then, as we put all our energy into practicing the virtues, let us await the Lord, showing Him a generous resolve and calling on His aid, and without fail He will strengthen us with His mercy and bestow His Grace on us in abundance, in which case we will accomplish every good easily and without exertion.

-- *Abba Moses*

Thirst for Jesus, so that he may inebriate you with his love. Blind your eyes to all that is held in honor in the world, so that you may be held worthy to have the peace which comes from God reign in your heart.

-- *Saint Isaac of Nineveh*

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Church Fathers: On the Publican and the Pharisee

- Proverbs 27:202:

Let a neighbor praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger and not your own lips.

- Sayings of the Desert Fathers:

An old man much given to simplicity questioned Father Ammonas: "Three thoughts occupy me, either, should I wander in the deserts, or should I go to a foreign land where no one knows me, or should I shut myself up in a cell without opening the door to anyone, eating only every second day?" Father Ammonas replied, "It is not right for you to do any of these three things. Rather, sit in your cell and eat a little every day, keeping the word of the publican always in your heart, and you may be saved."

- Sayings of the Desert Fathers:

Mother Synkletiki said: "Imitate the Publican and you will not be condemned with the Pharisee. Choose the meekness of Moses and you will find your heart which is a rock changed into a spring of water."

- Elder Ambrose of Optina:

Repentance and humility are more important and higher than all of the other virtues, continuing until the end of our life. Referring to the words of the Prophet David, Saint John Climacus writes, "I did not fast, I did not keep vigil, I did not sleep on the bare earth, but I humbled myself and the Lord saved me."

- Saint John of Kronstadt:

When the foolish thought of counting up any of your good works enters into your head, immediately correct your fault and rather count up your sins, your continual and innumerable offences against the All-Merciful and Righteous Master, and

you will find that their number is as the sand of the sea, whilst your virtues in comparison with them are as nothing.

- Saint Peter of Damascus:

If repentance is too much for you, and you sin out of habit even when you do not want to, show humility like the publican; this is enough to ensure your salvation.

