

Parish Prayer List (Living)

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|-------------|--------------|----------|----------------|
| Alexandra | Rachael | Paige | Reader Mark |
| Andrea | Amanda | Sherry | Joretta |
| Fr. Michael | Barry | Sean | Suzan Mary |
| James | Nicholas B. | Karin | Andrea & Kirby |
| Lawrence | Emil | Seraphim | Evdokia |
| Michael | Helen | Susan K | Bob Wedder |
| Anna | Dcn. John | Carolyn | Dcn. William |
| Mike | Kathy Tanner | Anthony | Pauline |

Parish Prayer List (Fallen Asleep)

Mark Kesselak (+9/2)

Mary Grace Beall (+9/4)

Barton Lynn (+10/11)

Fr. David Wine (+9/11)

Mary Beach (+10/27)

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Coffee Hour Schedule

September 25 – Visconti

October 2 – Crikis

October 9 – Blomeley

October 16 – Shenberger

October 23 – open

October 30 – open

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Schedule of Epistle Readers

September 25 – Van Crikis

October 2 – Jeff Robel

October 9 – Billy Scramtom

October 16 – Misha S.

October 23 – Bob Piljay

October 30 – Van Crikis

Please let me know if you would like to be added to the list of Epistle readers, or if you will not be available on the day when you are scheduled.

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Words from the Fathers

The mouth which is continuously giving thanks receives blessing from God. In the heart that always shows gratitude, grace abides.

St. Isaac the Syrian, 7th century

"...patient endurance is required before anything can come about; and, once something has come about, it can be sustained

and brought to perfection only through such endurance."

St. Peter of Damaskos

No man is exempt from suffering. If we suffer, let it be for Christ. If we forgive, let us forgive for Christ's sake. May truth stand before us always. "Truth before peace" is how one engineering student put it....And this 'peace' is not the peace of Christ in John 14:27, nor the peace between the two world wars...but that spiritual and material comfortableness for which we trample underfoot our principles and justice; that state of 'tolerance' which helps us go to bed each night with a compromise in our heart, only to wake up the next morning with a new compromise under our pillow.

Father George Calciu, Father George Calciu: Interviews, Homilies, and Talks"

"Without them [temptations] it is impossible to acquire a strong constitution (of the soul). But again, to withstand them is not in our power. How could perishable clay withstand the action of water unless the Divine fire make it strong? If we submit to the yoke of God's will and pray with constant desire and humility, then, through patience, we also shall receive everything from our Lord Jesus Christ."

Monks Callistus and Ignatius

Do not fear the conflict, and do not flee from it: where there is no struggle, there is no virtue; where there are no temptations for faithfulness and love, it is uncertain whether there is really any faithfulness and love for the Lord. Our faith, trust and love are proved and revealed in adversities, that is in difficult and grievous outward and inward circumstances, during sickness, sorrow, and privations.

Saint John of Kronstadt, My Life In Christ

True love is like the flame of a candle. However many candles you light from the flame, the initial flame remains unaffected.

It doesn't lessen at all. And every freshly lit candle has as much flame as the others do.

Elder Epiphanius of Athens, +1989

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A Prayer of Married Persons

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your presence You blessed the wedding in Cana and showed us that You are the true priest of mystical and pure marriage. We thank You for the day on which by Your heavenly benediction You joined us in the sacrament of marriage. Lord, continue to bless and enrich our marriage in love, companionship, mutual support, oneness of heart and progress in faith and life. Protect our holy wedlock from sin, evil and danger. Foster between us the spirit of understanding, the spirit of forgiveness and the spirit of peace, that no resentment, quarrel or other problem cause us to stumble and fall. Grant us to see our own faults and not to judge each other. Keep our bond of love always new. Gladden our lives with the joys of marriage, that with one heart we may praise and glorify You. Amen.

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Why we light vigil lamps

***First** - because our faith is light. Christ said "I am the light of the world" ([John 8:12](#)). The light of the vigil lamp reminds us of that light by which Christ illumines our souls.*

***Second** - in order to remind us of the radiant character of the saint before whose icon we light the vigil lamp, for saints are called "sons of light" ([John 12:26](#), [Luke 16:8](#)).*

***Third** - in order to serve as a reproach to us for our dark deeds, for our evil thoughts and desires, and in order to call us to the path of evangelical light; and so that we would more zealously try to fulfill the commandments of the Savior: "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works" ([Matthew 5:16](#)).*

***Fourth** - so that the vigil lamp would be our small sacrifice to God, Who gave Himself completely as a sacrifice for us, and as a small sign of our great gratitude and radiant love for Him*

from Whom we ask in prayer for life, and health, and salvation, and everything that only boundless heavenly love can bestow.

Fifth - so that terror would strike the evil powers that sometimes assail us even at the time of prayer and lead away our thoughts from the Creator. The evil powers love the darkness and tremble at every light, especially at that which belongs to God and those who please Him.

Sixth - so that this light would rouse us to selflessness. Just as the oil and wick burn in the vigil lamp, submissive to our will, so let our souls also burn with the flame of love in all our sufferings, always being submissive to God's will.

Seventh - in order to teach us that just as a vigil lamp cannot be lit without our hand, so too, our heart, our inward vigil lamp, cannot be lit without the holy fire of God's grace, even if it were to be filled with all the virtues. All these virtues of ours, after all, [are only] like combustible material, but the fire which ignites them proceeds from God.

Eighth - in order to remind us that before anything else the Creator of the world created light, and after that everything else in order: "And God said, let there be light; and there was light" ([Genesis 1:3](#)). And it must be so also at the beginning of our spiritual life, so that before anything else, the light of Christ's truth would shine within us. From this light of Christ's truth subsequently every good deed is created, springs up in us and grows in us.

May the Light of Christ illumine you as well!
(penned by St. Nikolai Velimirovic)

