

Parish Prayer List (Living)

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	Fr. Thomas
Mike	Kathy Tanner	Anthony	Pauline

Parish Prayer List (Fallen Asleep)

Fr. David Wine (+9/11)	Barton Lynn (+10/11)
Rdr. Douglas Laney (+10/6)	Mary Beach (+10/27)
Dcn. William Friedel (+10/1)	Mildred Zelko (+10/31)

+++++

Coffee Hour Schedule

October 9 – Blomeley October 16 – Shenberger

October 23 – Piljay October 30 – open

November 6 – open November 13 – open

+++++

Schedule of Epistle Readers

October 9 – Billy Scrantom October 16 – Misha S.

October 23 – Bob Piljay October 30 – Van Crikis

November 6 – Billy Scrantom November 13 – Misha S.

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

+++++

Words from the Fathers

Abba Joseph said to Abba Nisterus, "What should I do about my tongue, for I cannot control it?" The old man said to him, "When you speak, do you find peace?" He replied, "No." The old man said, "If you do not find peace, why do you speak? Be silent and when a conversation takes place, it is better to listen than to speak."

Desert Fathers

There are not and cannot be worldly, organizational, or personal assurances...against militancy, separation, and conflict within the Church. The struggle of Satan and his demons against the Church's unity is part of the very essence of the Church. The cosmology of the eastern Fathers is, of course, rooted in Biblical evidence, too. Thus Saint Paul, speaks of the whole of Christian experience as a struggle, not with the flesh or with the world as such, but between the pious and

Theocentric Christian worldview and the forces of evil.
Archbishop Chrysostomos of Etna, Orthodoxy and Psychology

"Sin, to one who loves God, is nothing other than an arrow from the enemy in battle. The true Christian is a warrior fighting his way through the regiments of the unseen enemy to his heavenly homeland. According to the word of the Apostle, our homeland is in heaven; and about the warrior he says: 'our warfare is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers.'"

St. Seraphim of Sarov

You mustn't wage your Christian struggle with sermons and arguments, but with true secret love. When we argue, others react. When we love people, they are moved and we win them over. When we love, we think that we offer something to others, but in reality we are the first to benefit.

Elder Porphyrios, + 1991

Prayer is a great weapon, a rich treasure, a wealth that is never exhausted, an undisturbed refuge, a cause of tranquility, the root of a multitude of blessings and their source.

St. John Chrysostom

+++++

Are you a fly or a honeybee?

Some people tell me that they are scandalized because they see many things wrong in the Church. I tell them that if they ask a fly: "Are there any flowers in this area?" it will say: "I don't know about flowers, but over there in the heap of rubbish you

can find all the filth you want." And it will go on to list all the unclean things it has been to. Now, if you ask a honeybee: "Have you seen any unclean things in this area?" it will reply: "Unclean things? No, I have not seen any; the place here is full of the most fragrant flowers." And it will go on to name all the flowers of the garden or the meadow. You see, the fly only knows where the unclean things are, while the honeybee knows where the beautiful iris or the hyacinth is.

As I have come to understand, some people resemble the honeybee and some resemble the fly. Those who resemble the fly seek to find evil in every circumstance and are preoccupied with it; they see no good anywhere. But those who resemble the honeybee only see the good in everything they see. The stupid person thinks stupidly and takes everything in the wrong way, whereas the person who has good thoughts, no matter what he sees, no matter what you tell him, maintains a positive and good thought.

Once a high school student came to my Kalyvi and knocked on the metal knocker on the door. Even though I was reading a stack of letters at the time, I decided to go and see what he wanted. "What is it you want, my son?" I asked. "Is this the Kalyvi of Father Paisios?" he asked me, adding, "I want to see Father Paisios." "This is his Kalyvi, but he's not here; he went to buy cigarettes," I told him. "It looks like he must have gone to help someone," he responded with a good thought. "He went to buy the cigarettes for himself," I told him. "He smoked them all and was desperate for a cigarette. He left me here alone, and I don't know when he'll be back. If he takes too long, I'll just leave." The student's watery eyes gave away his emotion and again he said with a good thought: "We torment Father Paisios." "Why do you want to see him?" I asked. "I just want to receive his blessing," he said. "What blessing do you expect to receive from him, you fool! He's deluded; I know him well. There's no grace in him. Don't waste your time waiting for him to return. He'll be grouchy; he may even be drunk, because he drinks too." In spite of all this, the young man was still having good thoughts. Finally, I told him: "I will wait for him a little

longer, what do you want me to tell him?" "I have a letter to give him," he said, "but I will wait so I can receive his blessing." You see? No matter what negative things I related, he took them all with a good thought. When I told him about the need for cigarettes, his eyes began to well up with tears. "Who knows," he thought, "he must have gone to help someone." Other people are well-educated and read a great deal, but they still don't have the good thoughts of that young student! You demolish his thought, and he immediately creates a better thought and draws an even better conclusion. I marvelled at him! It was the first time I saw such a thing!

Elder Paisios the Athonite, From *Spiritual Counsels III: Spiritual Struggle*, pp. 29-31.



“He who crosses the threshold of a Church enters into Heaven. There, the Savior, the *Theotokos*, the Saints, the Prophets, the Angels, and the Archangels await him. There, the air that he will breathe is transformed into fragrant incense. The food that he will receive is the ‘Bread of Angels.’ From his mouth Angelic words will come forth. His ears will hear heavenly voices. His hands will touch images of celestial realities.”

(**Ioannes M. Fountoules**, *Liturgical Issues* [Thessaloniki: 1977], Vol. 1, p. 19)

