

February 28, 2010
Holy Dormition Friary
Sybertsville, Pa.



The Basilica of the Agony Jerusalem, Israel

Divine Liturgy
Feb. 28th—March 7th

Sunday 28—8AM + Dr. John Dabinsky

Sunday 3PM Lenten Vespers - Join Us

Monday 01— No Liturgy

Tuesday 02—No Liturgy

Wednesday 03—Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday 04—No Liturgy

Friday 05—Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday 06—12N All Souls

Saturday 06—5PM +Anna Machala

Sunday 07—8AM +Richard Leitner

Reconciliation
Thurs. & Friday 3—4.30 & 7—8:00 PM

Devotional Prayer

Prayer is simply *tuning in* to God's presence. Over the centuries people have found different ways of doing this, and these have been passed on from generation to generation.

One of the ways is called *devotional* or *vocal prayer*. This is the kind of prayer that uses words—our own words, or those given to us in a set form. They can be said aloud or spoken in the heart.

Prayers with set words are sometimes criticized as being "*magical*." But prayer and magic are worlds apart.

Magic uses certain words that try to force supernatural powers to do what we want. The magic-worker has no personal relationship with the "*supernatural force*." It is like getting the right combination to a lock or the right command on a computer. The object is simply to find the right button to produce the desired effect.

Prayer uses words in order to have a more personal relationship with God. We aren't stuck to certain words. We can change them, or say only some of them, or come up with our own—whatever helps us converse with God.

Sunday is "*The Lord's Day*." Take a few minutes to talk to the Lord, using whatever words you wish. If you use a traditional prayer, give your mind—imagination, your feelings free rein to roam within these words, and see where it takes you.

Easy to Say, Hard to Live

When Jesus heals the paralytic, he asks the crowd: *Which is easier to say, "Your sins are forgiven," or "Rise, take up your pallet and walk"?*

The crowd murmurs about the way Jesus heals people. Some are fascinated, while others are frightened. Jesus insists that the Son of Man has the power to forgive sins. The crowd is torn, for they have never seen anyone so paralyzed suddenly able to walk, but they fear that Jesus is trying to act like God.

It is in exactly this way that God has created us in His image and after His likeness: that we can forgive. We can train an animal—or any person—to fear us, and we know that a dog is often willing to forgive his master; but only a human person can learn to forgive someone who is not loving toward us, someone who has no power over us but the grudge we choose to hold onto.

Jesus saw more than the paralysis of this man's legs. He saw that this man was paralyzed by the guilt of sins he held in his heart. Often we hold grudges; these memories of past hurts and transgressions, whichever side we were on, can paralyze us. Jesus asks us to seek reconciliation with our brothers and sisters, to risk being hurt by asking for forgiveness from those we have hurt, and to risk our pride by offering forgiveness as He did, even before He was asked.

Which is easier—to curse someone, or to bless and forgive?

Jerome Wolbert, OFM

Fasting Regulations

Abstinence—The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat, permitting the use of eggs and dairy products.—All the faithful of the Eparchy who receive holy Communion are obliged to abstain.—Abstinence is to be observed on All Wednesdays and Fridays during the Holy Season of the Great Fast.

Strict Abstinence—The law of strict abstinence (fast) forbids the use of meat, eggs and dairy products.—All the adult faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to observe Strict Abstinence. —Strict Abstinence is to be observed on the First Day of the Great Fast, Monday, Feb. 15th and on the Great and Holy Friday, April 2nd.

Dispensation—Pastors and Administrators may, for a just cause, grant to an individual faithful and to individual families, dispensations or commutations of Abstinence and Strict Abstinence into other pious practices.

Five Lessons About the Way We Treat People!

First important lesson—Cleaning Lady.

During my second month of college, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one. *“What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?”*

Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50’s, but how would I know her name?

I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade. *“Absolutely,”* said the professor. *“in your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say “hello”.* I’ve never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

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Week of Feb. 21st –28th—\$329.00**

Life is too short to wake up with regrets.

So love the people who treat you right.
Forget about the ones who don’t.

Believe everything happens for a reason.
If you get a second chance,
grab it with both hands.
If it changes your life, let it.
Nobody said life would be easy,
they just promised it would be worth it.

Friends are like balloons;
once you let them go,
you might not get them back.
Sometimes we get so busy
with our own lives and problems
that we may not even notice
that we’ve let them fly away.

Sometimes we are so caught up in
who’s right and who’s wrong
that we forget
what’s right and what’s wrong.

Sometimes we just don’t realize
what real friendship means
until it is too late.

The Garden of Gethsemane

The Church of All Nations (also known as the Basilica of the Agony) is built on the traditional site where Jesus is said to have prayed following the Last Supper.

The first church was built there in 379 A.D. but was later destroyed by an earthquake. In the 12th century, the Crusaders erected a second church, but it was later abandoned. The present church was completed in 1924.

The church takes its name from the numerous nations who donated mosaics. These nations include Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Italy, France, Spain, England, Belgium, Canada, Germany and the United States.

The name Gethsemane comes from the Hebrew *gat shemanim*, which means oil press, or oil stores.

Then they came to a place named Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.”

Mark 14:32-34

Spend some quiet time with the Lord.