



St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church



A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Father Dave Urban, *Pastor*

Very Reverend Father John Brancho, *Pastor Emeritus*

Subdeacon Ryan Ferko

Timothy Martin, *Reader*

Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*

Lawrence Martin, *Parish Council President*

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SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Great Martyr Demetrius the Myrrh-gusher

9:15 – 3rd Hour; 9:30 – Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

2 Timothy 2:1-10 (St. Demetrius)

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31 (5th Sunday of Luke)

John 15:17-16:2 (St. Demetrius)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

9-10:30am Church open for personal

prayer (*enter from the side door*)

10:30 Moleben to the Theotokos

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9:30 Morning Moleben (*Prayer*

Service) to St. Nectarios

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Great Martyr Demetrius the Myrrh-gusher

9:15 – 3rd Hour; 9:30 – Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39 (6th Sunday of Luke)

Tone 6; Liturgical Color: **Gold**

Panachida for +George Puhac (40-day)

Our Cathedral's Online Services can be viewed at: www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/

"The Christian needs to avoid sickly spirituality, as much the feeling of superiority for one's virtue as the feeling of inferiority for one's sinfulness. To have a complex is one thing, to be humble is quite another. Melancholy is one thing, repentance something else." - St. Porphyrios

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wed.)

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Tuesday's Moleben to the Theotokos – Please note that Tuesday's Moleben will start at **10:30**.

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Sr. ACRY NEWS

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Lots-O-Luck Calendars – The National ACRY Lots-O-Luck Calendars are available. \$25 per ticket for a year's worth of prizes totaling \$10,000! Please see Theresa Sharpless for tickets.

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2021 Yearbook, A.C.R.Y. Annual - If you would like to include a patron, booster, or memorial listing in this Year Book of the activities of our God-saved Diocese, a sign-up sheet has been placed in the Church Hall. Patron & Memorial listings are \$6, and Booster listings are \$3. Please see Theresa Sharpless with any questions.

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Pill Bottle Collection – Our ACRY continues it's outreach to "Matthew 25: Ministries" who accepts donations of **CLEAN AND EMPTY** plastic medicine pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies to countries in need. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THE LABEL IS REMOVED AND IT IS NOT STICKY.** Our pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment. *More information is on the bulletin board in the church hall.*

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A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Glory be to Jesus Christ!

(responded with: **Glory be forever!**)

Slava Isusu Christu! (Slava na viki!)

We are happy that you have joined us today! It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning and we wish God's Blessings to all who visit with us today and hope you stop again soon! **If you have any questions** in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy, please see Fr. Dave.

BULLETIN IS OFFERED:

If you wish to sponsor a bulletin *In Honor of* (anniversary, birthday, etc.) or *In Memory of* someone, please do so by signing up on the sheet in the church hall or by contacting Fr. Dave (*email, text, or call*). An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.

Ventilation in the church – Did you notice a few of the windows open the past few weeks even though it was cooler out? As we gather in community at the church, there are multiple recommended precautions that we are following. Because we do not have filtered forced air heat, we are going with the recommendation to have the ceiling fan on low and a few windows open to allow the air to not be stagnate.

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OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship:	\$ 175
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 133
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 922
Community Outreach:	\$ 100

Total Collections: \$ 1330

Capital Improvement Fund: \$ 20

Relocation Fund: \$ 330

We must give in trust that God will use it to produce fruit: "He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your sowing (resources) and increase the harvest of your righteousness (benevolence)." - 2 Cor. 9:10

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October Financial Report:

General Offerings = \$ 4661.53

***Expenses = \$ 6045.45**

Net Deficit = \$ 1383.92

**details listed on the church hall bulletin board*
Average at Sunday Divine Liturgies: 24

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Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Joanne Nelson; Shuster Family; Margaret Rusnak; Tim Martin; Viola Peifer; Lawrence Martin; Mary Jane Hudak; Eleanor Sanger; Patty Watson; Cindy Pavilonis.

"I am the light of the world;

he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." - John 8:12

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Weekly Offerings to God – During this time, if you are not coming to the church, we request that all weekly donations be mailed to Tim Martin (2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143) For our parish to continue it's ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, we need your generosity to continue.

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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY

✠ **November 21** – The Synaxis of the Leader of the Heavenly Hosts, Archangel Michael, and the Other Heavenly Bodiless Hosts

✠ **Thursday, November 26** – 9:30 am Moleben of Thanksgiving

ORTHODOXY AROUND THE 'BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

Young Adult (aged 18-40) Fall Retreat this year will be via Zoom on **Saturday, November 14th** from 9:30am – 12 Noon and 6:30 – 8:30pm. *Are you finding peace and joy in the middle of this storm? How do you block the noise How do you find stillness, peace, and even, joy?* The theme will be: "In Your Presence, There Is Fullness Of Joy". Presenters will be Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa, Very Rev. Fr. Stephen

Loposky, Fr. Gregory Jensen, and Fr. Anastasios Athanasiou. Sign-up for FREE at <https://tinyurl.com/2020YAFallRetreat>. Visit www.acrod.org for more information

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“Journey of Hope & Resilience” Open House
– The Neighborhood Resilience Project has a 3-night open house scheduled **November 17-19 from 6-9pm** each night at 2038 Bedford Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Come take a trip through the new facility, see the chapel for St. Moses the Black Orthodox Church, learn about their programs, and meet the people who make the work possible. It will also include a walk through and discussion of how the trauma response vehicle is used to bring Hope and Resilience to the community. The event is FREE to attend, though donations will be requested. People can sign up at http://bit.ly/NRP_Tour. There are also sponsorship opportunities available. The sponsorship levels vary and those interested should contact Fr. Dave for more info. We hope this evening will provide a much needed positive

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17th Annual Cookie Walk – “Virtually!”
Experience the “Virtual Walk” in the comfort of your own home! Order Cookies and Pay Online. Being held now through **November 15**. “No in-person orders.” Cookie Pickup: Saturday, December 12, 9am – 12 Noon at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall (220 Mansfield Blvd., Carnegie, PA.) For Questions, Contact: Rachel at 412-877-9878 OR Sherri at 412-874-4190! Sponsored by St. Matrona Ladies Society.

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The next **VINE AND THE BRANCHES** will be **Sunday, December 6 at 5pm**. May God continue to bless the youth and workers of the diocese who make this possible!

VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org
Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org
FB: www.facebook.com/acroddiocese
Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews
YouTube: youtube.com/acroddiocese

SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Final Admonitions and Benediction

¹¹ See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. ¹⁴ But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷ Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

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Epistle: 2 Timothy 2:1-10 (St. Demetrius)

A Good Soldier of Christ Jesus

2 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ² and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³ Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. ⁵ An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷ Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything.

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹ the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

The Rich Man and Lazarus

19 “There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. **20** And at his gate lay a poor man named Laz’arus, full of sores, **21** who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. **22** The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; **23** and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Laz’arus in his bosom. **24** And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Laz’arus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.’ **25** But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Laz’arus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. **26** And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ **27** And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house, **28** for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ **29** But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ **30** And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ **31** He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.’”

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Gospel: John 15:17-16:2 (St. Demetrius)

¹⁷ This I command you, to love one another.

The World’s Hatred

¹⁸ “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they

kept my word, they will keep yours also. ²¹ But all this they will do to you on my account, because they do not know him who sent me. ²² If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. ²³ He who hates me hates my Father also. ²⁴ If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. ²⁵ It is to fulfil the word that is written in their law, ‘They hated me without a cause.’ ²⁶ But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me; ²⁷ and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning.

16 “I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away. ² They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God.

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

The Holy GreatMartyr Demetrios of Solunea Commemorated on October 26

The Great Martyr Demetrios the Myrrh-gusher of Thessaloniki was the son of a Roman proconsul in Thessaloniki. Three centuries had elapsed and Roman paganism, spiritually shattered and defeated by the multitude of martyrs and confessors of the Savior, intensified its persecutions. The parents of Saint Demetrios were secret Christians, and he was baptized and raised in the Christian Faith in a secret church in his father’s home.

By the time Demetrios had reached maturity and his father had died, Emperor Galerius Maximian had ascended the throne (305). Maximian, confident in Demetrios’ education as well as his administrative and military abilities, appointed him to his father’s position as proconsul of the Thessaloniki district. The young commander’s principal duties were to defend the city from barbarians and to eradicate Christianity. The Emperor’s policy regarding Christians was

expressed simply: “Put to death anyone who calls on the name of Christ.” The Emperor did not suspect that by appointing Demetrios he had provided him with the opportunity to bring many people to Christ. Accepting the appointment, Demetrios returned to Thessaloniki and confessed and glorified our Lord Jesus Christ. Instead of persecuting and executing Christians, he began to teach the Christian Faith openly to the inhabitants of the city and to overthrow pagan customs and the worship of idols. The compiler of his Life, Saint Simeon Metaphrastes (November 9), says that because of his teaching zeal he became “a second Apostle Paul” for Thessaloniki, particularly since “the Apostle to the Gentiles” founded the first community of believers in the city (1 Thess. and 2 Thess.). The Lord also destined Saint Demetrios to follow Saint Paul on the path to martyrdom. When Maximian learned that the newly-appointed proconsul was a Christian, and that he had converted many Roman subjects to Christianity, the Emperor's rage knew no bounds. Returning from a campaign in the area of the Black Sea, the Emperor decided to lead his army through Thessaloniki, determined to massacre the Christians. Learning of this, Saint Demetrios ordered his faithful servant Lupus to give his wealth to the poor saying, “Distribute my earthly riches among them, for we shall seek heavenly riches for ourselves.” He began to pray and fast, preparing himself for martyrdom. When the Emperor came into the city, he summoned Demetrios, who boldly confessed himself a Christian and denounced the falsehood and futility of Roman polytheism. Maximian ordered Demetrios to be thrown into prison. An Angel appeared to him, comforting and encouraging him. Meanwhile the Emperor amused himself by staging games in the circus. His champion was a German by the name of Lyaeos. He challenged Christians to wrestle with him on a platform built over the upturned spears of the victorious soldiers. A brave Christian named Nestor went to the prison to Saint Demetrios, his instructor in the Faith, asking for

his blessing to fight the barbarian. With the blessing and prayers of Saint Demetrios, Nestor defeated the fierce German and hurled him from the platform onto the spears of the soldiers, just as the murderous pagan would have done with the Christian. The enraged commander ordered the beheading of the holy Martyr Nestor (October 27) and sent a guard to the prison to kill Saint Demetrios. At dawn on October 26, 306 soldiers appeared in the Saint's underground prison and ran him through with lances. As his faithful servant, Saint Lupus, gathered up the blood-soaked garment of Saint Demetrios, he took the imperial ring from his finger, a symbol of his high status, and dipped it in the blood. With the ring and other holy things sanctified by the blood of Saint Demetrios, Saint Lupus began to heal the infirm. The Emperor had Saint Lupus also beheaded. The body of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios was cast out for wild animals to devour, but the Christians took it and secretly buried it in the earth. During the reign of Saint Constantine (306-337), a church was built over the grave of Saint Demetrios. A hundred years later, during the construction of a majestic new church on the old spot, the incorrupt relics of the holy martyr were uncovered. Since the seventh century a miraculous flow of fragrant myrrh has been found beneath the crypt of the Great Martyr Demetrios, so he is called “the Myrrh-gusher.” Several times, those venerating the holy wonderworker tried to bring his holy relics, or a part of them, to Constantinople. When Emperor Justinian (6th Century) wanted to translate the relics of the saint from Thessalonica to Constantinople, flaming sparks sprang from the tomb and a voice was heard: “Stop, and do not touch!” And thus, the relics of St. Demetrius have remained for all time in Thessalonica. It is interesting that among the barbarians threatening the Romans, Slavs occupied an important place. Many Slavs settled in and around Thessaloniki through the centuries (in the 9th century, Ss Cyril and Methodios were Slavic brothers who lived in this area, which is why they

were able to become missionaries to the Slavs). Some even believe that the parents of Saint Demetrios were of Slavic descent. While advancing towards the city, pagan Slavs were repeatedly turned away by the apparition of a threatening radiant youth, going around on the walls and inspiring terror in the enemy soldiers. Perhaps this is why the name of Saint Demetrios was particularly venerated among the Slavic nations after they were enlightened by the Gospel. The memory of Saint Demetrios of Thessaloniki is historically associated in Rus’ with the military, patriotism and the defense of the country. This is apparent by the saint’s depiction on icons as a soldier in plumed armor, with a spear and sword in hand.

PRAYER CORNER

Our Parish Prayer List for
Special Intentions and Other Needs

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A Prayer For The Sick: O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant *name(s)*. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver *him/her/them* from sickness and bitter pain. Heal *him/her/them* so that *he/she/they* may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.

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For the Health of... Kristina, Georgia, Steve, Pani Kathy Dutko, Fr. Patrick, Katie, Fr. George L., Brian, Douglas, Dacia, Sean, Michael, Julia, Theresa, John, Susan, John, Alexandra D., Pañi Marie, Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Lino, June, for all those battling viruses ...*through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer.*

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For the Special Intentions of... Metropolitan Gregory, Susan, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our seminarians:* Thomas, John, Daniel and Dylan *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:*

Matthew, Lawrence, Timothy, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Jane, Anthony, Mary Jane, Steven, Kenneth, Jillian, John, Wendy, John, Margaret, John, John, Todd *and for those who labor towards our Community Outreaches ...through the prayers of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker; St. John the Baptist; the Archangels Michael & Gabriel; and the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.*

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Patronal Feast Days (Name’s Day): Urban Family – Holy Disciple Urban of the 70 (11/13) *(contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint)*

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Birthday Prayers for... John Sharpless (11/13), Fr. James Blomeley (11/14), Cindy Pavilonis (11/14), ...*May God allow them to grow in peace and love all the days of their lives and may He grant them many and blessed years!*

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For our Catechumens & Inquirers... Dustin, Stephen, Susan ...*through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Lexi & Patrick, Lauren & Corey, Ashley & Derek ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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Anniversary Prayers for... Thomas & Harmonie Torchia (11/12) ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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For Pregnant Mothers... Elaine (due in November) ...*through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, & St. Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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For the souls of the newly departed... +Olga Radick (11/4), +Metropolitan Maximos (11/2), +George Puhac (10/6) and those who have passed from the coronavirus ...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May their Memory in God be Eternal*

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For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities... Thomas R. Dzadovsky and Trevor Meegan ...*through the prayers of St George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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* This is to be used for the special intentions of our brothers and sisters in Christ and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (*in the case of answered prayers*) to our Parish List. The words of the Gospel are true: **it is good to pray for one another**. Let this be a place where we lay out our concerns and beg the help of our brothers & sisters in Christ. *This prayer list is **NOT** limited to only Orthodox Christians.*

DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK

A Prayer to the Holy Spirit when approaching sleep
O Lord, Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, show compassion and have mercy on me Thy sinful servant, and loose me from mine unworthiness, and forgive all wherein I have sinned against Thee today as a man, and not only as a man, but even worse than a beast, my sins voluntary and involuntary, known and unknown, whether from youth, and from evil suggestion, or whether from brazenness and despondency. If I have sworn by Thy name, or blasphemed it in my thought; or grieved anyone, or have become angry about anything; or have lied, or slept needlessly, or if a beggar hath come to me and I disdained him; or if I have grieved my brother, or have quarreled, or have condemned anyone; or if I have been boastful, or prideful, or angry; if, as I stood at prayer, my mind hath been distracted by the wiles of this world, or by thoughts of depravity; or if I have over eaten, or have drunk excessively, or laughed frivolously; if I have thought evil, seen the beauty of another and been wounded thereby in my heart; if I have said improper things, or derided my brother's sin when mine own sins are countless; if I have been neglectful of prayer, or have done some other wrong that I do not remember, for all of this and more than this have I done: have mercy, O Master my Creator, me Thy downcast and unworthy servant, and loose me, and remit, and forgive me, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind, so that, lustful, sinful, and wretched as I am, I may lie down and sleep and rest in peace. And I shall worship, and hymn, and glorify Thy most honorable name, together with the Father and His Only-begotten Son, now and ever, and unto the ages. Amen.