

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH
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BULLETIN OF APRIL 20, 2008



PALM SUNDAY/APRIL 20th
ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM
(One of "the 12 Great Feasts")

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour; Question & Answer Period
6:30p.m. Bridegroom Matins

GREAT & HOLY MONDAY/APRIL 21st
7:00p.m. Bridegroom Matins

GREAT & HOLY TUESDAY/APRIL 22nd
7:00p.m. Bridegroom Matins

GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23rd
7:00p.m. Matins

GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY/APRIL 24th
9:30a.m. Vespers & Liturgy
7:00p.m. Matins with the 12 Gospels

GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY/APRIL 25th
3:00p.m. Vespers
7:00p.m. Compline

GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY/APRIL 26th
10:00a.m. Vespers & Liturgy
11:30p.m. Nocturnes

PASCHA/APRIL 27th
THE BRIGHT RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
THE FEAST OF FEASTS

12:01a.m. Matins & Divine Liturgy
Followed by blessing of paschal foods
12:00p.m. Vespers

Offerings for the Week of April 20th

Olive Oil – in memory of Michael; in memory of Eugenia; in memory of Nicole; for the health of Daniel-Georges; for the health of Michael; for the health of Georgeta.

Wine – in memory of Floarea, Gheorghe, Sasinca, Alexandru, Maria, Ion and Aurelia; for the health of Justina; in memory of Joan.

Flowers – in memory of Emilia; for health and protection and thanksgiving (Torissi wedding anniversary).

Bright or New Week – April 27th thru May 3rd

This week is considered as “one day.” This means that the Feast of Pascha is liturgically understood to be celebrated Sunday thru Saturday, as though it were one day. There is no fasting this week and the Royal Doors – signifying Paradise remain open. An excellent week to frequent the short divine services.

The Feasts of St. George & St. Alexandra

As they fall in Great and Holy Week (April 23rd) are transferred to Bright Monday, April 28th. On this day those bearing the names of these saints celebrated their patronal feast.

Notification to our Parishioners

St. Elizabeth Church in Rocky Hill will be having major work done to their church building. For the time of 2 to 3 months – beginning in May - Fr. David Straut and his flock will be utilizing our upper hall for divine services. Please be mindful of this. On Old Calendar feasts days, when we are not using our church, St. Elizabeth's will be able to. Protodeacon Paul Sokol and Austin Kachek are the coordinators on behalf of our parish.

Remember in Prayer

Genevieve Tindall (Mulhenberg Hospital).

Open Door Ministry Begins in May

On Sundays after the Coffee Hour when the weather is nice, we wish to keep the doors of our church “Open,” so those passing by may see and come in. This opens out our beautiful church and Orthodox Faith. Greeters are sought to stay in the church and greet any visitors that may drop in. Please speak with Reader Symeon Combs.

Parish Synodicon – Memory Eternal!

Metropolitan Laurus (40th Day – April 24th)
William Basil Davidovich (40th Day – May 23rd)
April 20, 1934 Metropolitan Platon
April 20, 1947 Charles Lazaruk
April 21, 1919 Eva Chukhta-Zydiak
April 21, 1935 Peter Chromoho
April 22, 1986 Julia Andrews
April 22, 1997 Olga Verkon
April 22, 1999 Anna Tacak
April 23, 1959 Vladimir Hnatuk
April 23, 2003 Peter Hnatuk
April 25, 1970 Vera Welenteychik

Bright Monday – April 28th – Festal Day

On this the second day of Pascha, by custom we have a festal gathering after the Divine Liturgy. You are encouraged to “take the day off” from school and work, and enjoy the feast of Pascha with your fellow believers. Please see Kathryn Motoviloff, Marie Torrisi or Lisa Keller if you wish to bring any food item.

Bright Wednesday – April 30th – Deanery Vespers & Festal Meal

The clergy and faithful of the NJ Deanery will gather at Christ the Saviour Church in Paramus at 7:00p.m. Always a wonderful experience. Come!

Bright Friday – May 2nd – A Ladies Pot Luck Dinner

This is an opportunity for women of our parish to get together in a relaxed atmosphere to share a meal and enjoy fellowship. The dinner will be held in the Conference Room and start at 6:30p.m.

Those who attended last year had a great time. Why not plan to attend? Please consider joining us and bringing a dish to share – appetizers, entrees and desserts are needed. Please contact Larissa Mattei (908)722-9820.

Paschal Memorial at Cemetery – May 5th

On the eve of Radonitsa (“Day of Joy”) we greet our departed loved ones with the joy of the Resurrection. At 6:30p.m. a memorial will be held at our cemetery (rain date: Tuesday, May 6th at 6:30p.m.)

GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

The Theology

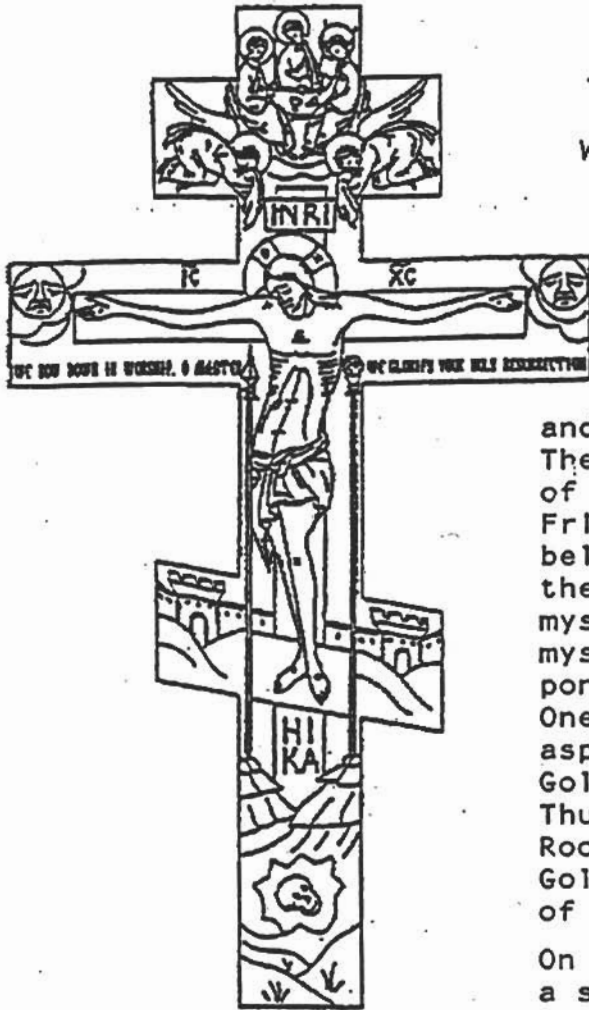
We now enter the most sacred week of the year. It starts with the feast of the Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem, also known as Palm Sunday. The joy of the raising of Lazarus who was four-days-dead, is coupled with the harrowing humiliations which are to follow.

The Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Great and Holy Week are a preparation for the Passion. They already have a strongly accented character of mourning and repentance. The Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the Great and Holy Week belong to the paschal solemnities - each one of these days reveals to us a special aspect of the mystery of Pascha. One could even say that this mystery has three aspects, each of which corresponds to a day: Thursday, Friday and Saturday. One could also say that each of these three aspects corresponds to a place: the Upper Room, Golgotha, the Holy Sepulchre. Great and Holy Thursday commemorates the mystery of the Upper Room, Great and Holy Friday the mystery of Golgotha, and Great and Holy Saturday the mystery of the tomb of Christ.

On the Thursday, in the Upper Room, Jesus, through a sacramental action, both announces and represents, consecrates and offers what is to take place

in the following days. On Friday, at Golgotha, Jesus, by His death on the Cross, accomplishes our redemption. On the Saturday, Jesus rests in the tomb; but the church already looking ahead to the feast of Resurrection Sunday, speaks to us of the victory over death that our Saviour has won. This anticipation of the Resurrection on Great and Holy Saturday allows us to say that the mystery of Christ's Resurrection, triumphantly celebrated on Pascha, already belongs, although incompletely, to the Great and Holy Week. And so this week constitutes a summary of the whole economy of salvation.

It would be a great mistake to want to concentrate on one of the aspects of the paschal mystery by separating it from the others. The word "Passover," in the traditional language of the church, does not only designate the Sunday of the Resurrection, it also covers the mystery of the Eucharist (Thursday), the mystery of the Cross (Friday) and the mystery of the empty tomb (Saturday). The Sunday of Pascha, completes the one and unique paschal mystery. This whole unity is the Christian transposition of what the Jews called "the Passover," that is to say, the passage. The elements of the Jewish mystery correspond to those of our paschal mystery. For them, there is the feast in which the lamb is eaten. There is the blood of the lamb - the sign of salvation for those houses whose doors were painted with it and whom the angel of death would spare. There is the crossing of the Red Sea - the departure from the land of Egypt and slavery - the miraculously divided waters and the passage across on dry ground and, at last, the arrival on the other side, the side of freedom and hope. The Great and Holy Week will only have its true meaning for us when we see it as a "passover," a passage from death to life.



The Fast

During the Great and Holy Week we strive to keep the fast as strictly as we can.

<u>DAY</u>	<u>THE FAST</u>	
Palm Sunday	Abstinence of: meat & dairy	No abstinence of: fish, olive oil, wine, shellfish, vegetables, fruits
Great & Holy Monday Tuesday Wednesday	Abstinence of: meat & dairy fish & olive oil wine	No abstinence of: shellfish, vegetables, fruits
One meal may be eaten each day.		
Great & Holy Thursday	Abstinence of: meat & dairy fish	No abstinence of: olive oil, wine, shellfish, vegetables, fruits
One meal may be eaten on this day.		
Great & Holy Friday	On Great and Holy Friday those who have the strength keep a total fast from all foods. Those unable to do this may eat bread, with a little water, tea or fruit juice, but not until sunset, or at any rate not until the veneration of the Epitaphion at Vespers	
Great & Holy Saturday	Abstinence of: meat & dairy fish & olive oil	No abstinence of: wine, shellfish, vegetables, fruits
One meal may be eaten on this day. On this one Saturday, alone among all the Saturdays of the year, olive oil is not permitted.		

A Disciplined Week

Due to the solemnity of this week, we observe certain disciplines and considerations. Among them are the following.

- * Participation in the holy services at church should be our priority for the entire week.
- * Social events as birthdays, anniversaries, visits, dining out, should all be postponed until after Pascha.
- * At home, time should be given over to spiritual reading and only the most necessary tv (news/weather) viewed.
- * Children should be participants in the services, especially Friday, Saturday and the Midnight service on Holy Saturday.
- * Old Palms and pussywillows being blessed, should be placed in an area where they may decay without being disturbed.
- * Lipstick should not pollute sacred objects, the Cross, the Chalice, the Winding Sheet (Epitaphion).
- * Be attentive to holding candles in church. Parents should especially watch children. Young children not responsible, should have no candles.
- * Visiting Orthodox believers wishing to receive Holy Communion, should let Father know in advance, so he knows who they are.
- * Confession is not scheduled, as the 40 Day Fast was the appropriate time. Special cases and college students, may make arrangements with Father, as early as possible in the week for Confession.

Newly-Departed Basil - Memory Eternal!

PLANO, Texas — William "Bill" Davidovich, age 73, died Monday (April 14, 2008) at Life Care Center, Plano, Texas. Born in New York City, N.Y., he resided in Clifton before moving to Hillsborough in 1966. Mr. Davidovich had been a resident of Texas since 1996. He summured in Lake Hopatcong for many years where he was a member of the Knee Deep Club.

He was employed as a teacher for Hillsborough Board of Education, Hillsborough for more than 30 years, retiring in 1995. He taught at the Woodfern School, the Middle School and the high school. He began his teaching career in Clifton Public School No. 9.

As a former president of Hillsborough Education Association, he consulted on curriculum, selecting texts and other school related decisions. After retiring from the district, Bill was called back to serve as an interim vice principal at the Middle School for a short time.

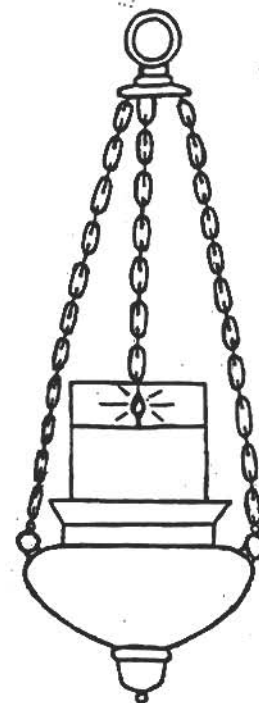
A longtime and faithful member of Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, Manville, where he served on the Church Council and was a former president, he was a member of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Parish and Senior Fellowship in Dallas, Texas.

He was a 1953 graduate of West Side High School in Newark. He graduated in 1957 from Seton Hall University with a bachelor's degree in history and received his master's degree in administration in 1967 from there as well.

Mr. Davidovich served in the U.S. Army from 1962 until 1964 in the intelligence corps in Germany.

Surviving are his devoted wife, Jo-Ann (Kuntzevich) Davidovich; beloved sons, Dr. Gregory Davidovich and Matthew Davidovich, Esq.; loving grandchildren, Ashlynn, Alec, Giana, Roman and Andrew, and a brother, Donald Davidovich.

The funeral will begin 9:30 a.m. Friday at Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church, 605 Washington Ave., Manville. Burial will be at St. Vladimir Cemetery in Jackson. Visiting hours will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Cusick Funeral Home, Somerville.

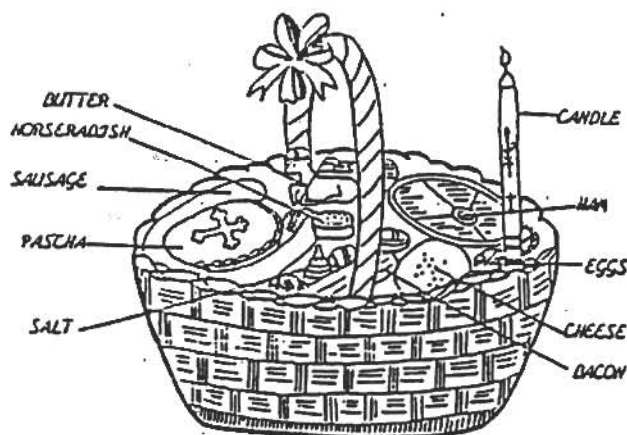


Tradition of the Easter Basket

Immediately after the Midnight Easter Liturgy we will process to the Fellowship Hall to bless the Paschal Foods that have been brought by the Faithful.

In most parts of Romania and Eastern Europe, Orthodox Christians bring to the church a basket containing those foods that they have abstained from during lent — therefore, the basket should contain both meat and dairy products. It contains some of the foods that you will eat to break the fast.

The Easter Basket



Some people include a nut roll (colac), wine, cheese, butter, decorated hard-boiled eggs; and meats such as lamb, bacon, slanina, sausage (carnati), ham or roast beef.

The rich Easter Bread or colac symbolizes Christ, the living bread (John 6:51) who came down from heaven to give life to the world. The meat products symbolize the sacrificial animals of the Old Testament, foreshadowing the true sacrifice of our Savior. The dairy products remind us of the prosperity of peace of the Messianic times which had been foretold by the Prophets.

Eggs were always considered a symbol of resurrection — the emergence of new life. At Easter, our Savior came forth from the tomb as a chick after breaking the shell at birth.

The basket is usually covered with a decorated scarf or white cover, and is placed in the Fellowship Hall before you enter the church for the Paschal Vigil.

After the baskets have been blessed, we can eat our Paschal Foods in the hall or take them home. Please start this truly Orthodox custom this year if you have not already done so. In previous years, everyone had a wonderful time sampling the goodies from other people's baskets.



THE PASCHAL GREETING

CHRIST IS RISEN! AND THE RESPONSE INDEED HE IS RISEN! IS EXCHANGED MANY TIMES DURING THE PASCHAL 40 DAY PERIOD. THIS GREETING IS NOT JUST A LITURGICAL FORMULA. IT IS A GREETING TO BE EXCHANGED BETWEEN ALL BELIEVING CHRISTIANS AS A PROCLAMATION OF OUR FAITH IN THE RISEN LORD. THE GREETING EXPRESSED IN VARIOUS LANGUAGES, EXPRESSES THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH AND UNITES US IN ACCORD AND SYMPHONY WITH OUR ORTHODOX FAITHFUL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
-ENGLISH-

CHRISTOS ANESTI! ALITHOS ANESTI!
-GREEK-

KRISTE AHZDKHAH! CHEZDMARIDET!
-GEORGIAN-

HRISTOS A INVIAT! ADEVERAT A INVIAT!
-ROMANIAN-

KHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINU VOSKRESE!
-RUSSIAN-

CHRISTO A RESUCITADO! EN VERDAD A RESUCITADO!
-SPANISH-

EL MESSIESH KAHM! HAKKEN KAHM!
-ARABIC-

KRISTO AZUKKIDE! AMAZIMA AZUKKIDE!
-UGANDIAN-

GRISDO GGESUH! BOO-HOL HA-SHON-NAE!
-KOREAN-

Ex-Marine who Served as Cop in Kosovo Decries Kosovo's Religious Bigotry, Converts to Orthodoxy

BY CHARITA M. GOSHAY
REPOSITORY STAFF WRITER

MASSILLON D. Hunter Haynes said when he traveled to Kosovo in 2000, he was seeking adventure. What he found was a personal mission to raise awareness of religious persecution around the world.

Haynes, 41, who went to Kosovo as a U.N. peacekeeper, said at least 150 Orthodox churches have been systematically destroyed or profaned there; the result of fighting between Serbs, and Albanians, Kosovo's majority population.

In response, he started the Orthodox Christian Advocacy Institute, a company that investigates incidents of religious persecution — particularly involving Orthodox Christians — around the world.

"I've thought about doing this for a couple of years," said Haynes, who has a tiny office in downtown Massillon decorated with Orthodox icons, maps, and books from his great-grandfather's library. Haynes moved his family to Massillon after graduating from Ohio State University in January. His wife, Valerie, is from Waynesburg.

A lifelong Presbyterian, Haynes said that what he witnessed in Kosovo, led to his conversion to Orthodoxy.

"With my experience, I thought, 'How can I benefit the church?'" he said. "I felt responsible to do some kind of human-rights work."

hot spots

A former Marine, and a police officer and sheriff's deputy for 12 years, Haynes was recruited for the U.N. peacekeeping force by DynCorp, a private contractor, for the U.S. Department of State. From September 2000 through Sept. 19, 2001, he was a precinct captain at one of 34 police stations in Kosovo.

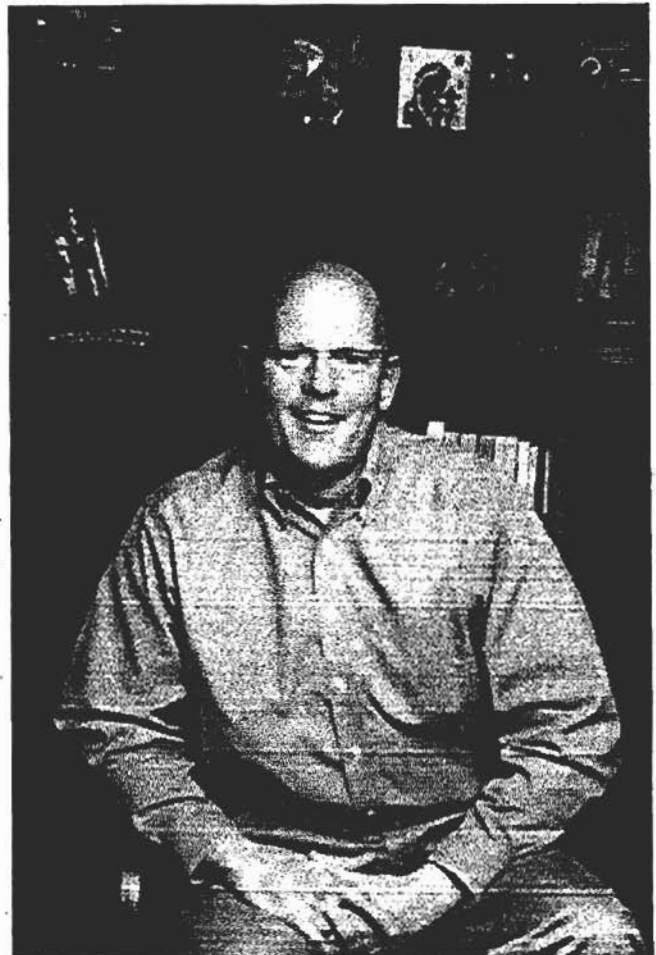
"After the NATO bombing campaign in Yugoslavia in 1999, the United Nations set up an interim government in Kosovo," he explained. "They wanted a civilian police force, but how do you do that? They decided to import veteran officers for training. It sounded like a worthy cause. I believe it was."

Haynes said there remains a disconnect about religious persecutions, even among Western Orthodox Christians

"Kosovo's just the top of the iceberg," he said. "In at least 12 hot spots around the world where Orthodox churches are present, where people are being killed daily."

'STILL GOING ON'

Because Serbs are a minority in Kosovo, Haynes said many live in heavily fortified enclaves. "They were basically unprotected. The Albanian paramilitary attacked them. The most disturbing thing we found out is that after we were on the ground, that's when the killing of Serbs began and the churches were destroyed. It's still going on."



PEACE SEEKER Massillon resident D. Hunter Haynes, a former police officer and a United Nations peacekeeper in Kosovo, is founder of the Orthodox Christian Advocacy Institute, which seeks to investigate incidents of religious persecution around the world. Haynes said thousands Christians are killed every year in persecutions.

When Kosovo emerged in 1999 after war unraveled Yugoslavia, the U.N. and NATO placed the region under the sovereignty of Serbia. On Feb. 18, Kosovo declared its independence from Serbia. The U.S., Great Britain, France, Italy, Turkey, Albania and Germany recognize the new Republic of Kosovo. Serbia, Russia and Spain contest it.

Haynes said his goal is to provide information so that church authorities and human-rights advocates can voice their concerns to policy makers, who can exert economic and diplomatic pressure on governments.

"The international laws are on the books," he said. "They just need to honor them. That hasn't been done."

ACCOUNTABLE TO LAW

Haynes plans to submit his findings to Christian periodicals, government agencies and human rights groups. Every year, the federal government publishes the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

"But there isn't a lot said about Kosovo," he said, "But this isn't just about Kosovo. I won't hesitate to speak out about persecution of other religions.

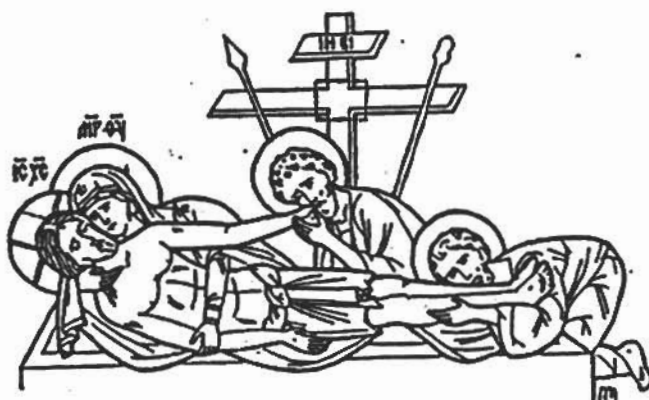
"This is an issue that affects everyone on certain levels. Everybody has a right to religious freedom. ... My goal is to visit 50 churches per year and do two overseas investigations per year."

Haynes doesn't charge a fee for his services, but does accept donations, explaining that OCAI isn't nonprofit because the Internal Revenue Service restricts what representatives of nonprofits can say politically.

He says that 170,000 Christians are killed every year for their beliefs.

"The facts are not a secret," he said. "We need to wake up and be vigilant and hold governments and officials accountable to the law."

For information, contact Haynes at (330) 832-4877, e-mail dhunterhaynes@sbcglobal.net or visit www.ocai.info



ABOUT DEPRESSION

An understanding offered by
New-Martyr Maria of Gatchina
(+1930)



DEPRESSION is a spiritual cross. It is sent to help the penitent who does not know how to repent, that is, who after repentance falls again into the earlier sins... And therefore, only two medicines can treat this sometimes extremely difficult suffering of soul. One must either learn to repent and offer the fruits of repentance; or else bear this spiritual cross, one's depression, with humility, meekness, patience, and great gratitude to the Lord, remembering that the bearing of this cross is accounted by the Lord as the fruit of repentance...After all, what a great consolation it is to realize that your discouragement is the unacknowledged fruit of repentance, an unconscious self-chastisement for the absence of the fruits that are demanded...From this thought one should come to contrition, and then the depression gradually melts and the true fruits of repentance will be conceived.