

# St. Innocent Orthodox Church

✙ Founded in 1967 ✙ Moscow Patriarchal Parishes ✙

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PASTOR: Rt. Rev. Mitered Archpriest ROMAN STAR † Cell: 313-319-0590

Dean, Central States Deanery, Patriarchal Parishes

AUGUST 14, 2016

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Rev. DANEIL SHIRAK † 313-295-3073

EPISTLE: 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:10–18 (#124)

DEACON: Rev. Dn. Michael Comerford

GOSPEL: St. Matthew 14:14–22 (#58)

SUBDEACON: Dr. Joshua Genig

tone: 7

ATTACHED: Sister Ioanna

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Elizabeth Star Hatfield

READERS: Robert Joseph Latsko & George Hanoian

## ✙ 8<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ✙

† 9:15AM — HOURS & AKATHIST &/or CANON; CONFESSIONS †

† 10am — DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM & Blessing of Flowers †

COMMEMORATED TODAY: Forefeast of the Dormition. Translation of the Relics of Ven. Theodosius of the Kiev Caves (1091). Prophet Micah (8th c. B.C.). Ven. Arcadius of Novotorzhk (11th c.). Hieromartyr Marcellus, Bishop of Apamea (ca. 389).

**FOR THE REPOSE OF:** Estelle & Joseph Star; Anna & John Witkowski; Michael Sr. & Margaret Rusko; Mary, Andrew, Daniel, Michael & Lottie Yakuber; Ross & Margaret Falsetti; Helen, John & Carole Andrayko; Peter & Theresa Harvilla; Betty Martell; Frances & Todd Smoly; Peter Glover; Irene Adams; Ethel Elizabeth & Wayne Joshua deVyver, David Horka; Michael Rusko; Anna Lichagina, Yelena & Zinaïda Korniyevskaya; Joseph Nossal; Michelle Tucker; Todd Comerford; still-born infant Benjamin Garrison

**MEMORY** Anna Starinshak, whose anniversary of her repose is Friday, 19 August, *by nephew, Fr. Roman*

**ETERNAL!**

**FOR THE HEALTH OF:** Archimandrite Seraphim; Priest Daneil, Matushka Debra & Corrina Shirak; Deacon Michael, Matushka Mary Ellen & Julius Comerford; Matushka Mary Donahue; Subdeacon Joshua & Abigail Genig; Reader Robert Latsko, Reader George & Betty Hanoian, Rose Nossal, Mary Glover, Nancy Cupp, Vasiliki Stamoulis, Gerald Martell, Azbehat, Donald Yakuber, Carl deVyver, Jo Anne Nicholas, Joan Rusko, Daria, Joseph Nossal, Ed Manier

**ALSO FOR:** Marianna Wess and new-born son, Andrew-Vladimir Jason, born on Friday, 15 July

Anna Sophia Genig, who celebrates her 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday on Thursday, 18 August

Deacon Michael Comerford, who celebrates his Birthday on Friday, 19 August

**\* MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS! \***

### SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEK

*(Today is the last day of the 2-week Dormition Fast, August 1<sup>st</sup> — 14<sup>th</sup>)*

TODAY, Sun. 8/14	6pm	GREAT VESPERS FOR THE FEAST OF THE <b>DORMITION</b> & BLESSING OF FLOWERS
Monday 8/15	10am	DIVINE LITURGY FOR THE FEAST OF THE <b>DORMITION</b> & BLESSING OF FLOWERS
Saturday 8/20	4pm	GREAT VESPERS & CONFESSIONS
Sunday 8/21		<b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b>
	9:15am	Hours & Akathist &/or Canon; & Confessions
	10am	DIVINE LITURGY; Followed by Coffee Hour

### PROSPHORA FOR TODAY IS OFFERED BY: **Sister Ioanna**

**In Memory Eternal of:** Parents: Wayne Joshua (anniv. 8/29) & Ethel Elizabeth (B-day, 9/2); David Horka (anniv. 9/27); Alex Ruggieri (anniv. 7/21); Mother Benedicta (anniv. 8/7); Popadia Vera Nicoloff (anniv. 8/24); Olive Brower (anniv. 7/10); Elise Laney (anniv. 9/4); Michelle Tucker (anniv. 8/28); Archim. Roman (Braga); Fr. Photius; & all other departed family & friends; and **for the Health of:** Brother, Carl; Rdr. Robert (B-day, 9/2); Fr. Roman & Mat. Rose Marie (49<sup>th</sup> wedding anniv. 9/3); Dcn. Michael (B-day, 8/19); Rose N; Jo Anne N; Abigail G. (B-day, 8/6); new-born Andrew (7/15); all family & friends.

## **CANDLES FOR LAST SUNDAY, 7 AUGUST**

### **YEARLY CHURCH VIGIL LAMPS:**

*Royal Doors Lamp:* In Memory of Husband, Joseph; Son, Kenneth; parents, Michael & Margaret Rusko, & John & Martha Nossal, *by Rose Nossal*

*Altar Candelabra:* In Memory of Parents, Nicholas and Susan Yakuber, *by son, Donald Yakuber*

*Altar Candles (2):* In Memory of Irene Adams, *by Goddaughter, Rose Ann Everhardt*

*Iconostasis Lamps:* In Memory of Parents, Ethel Elizabeth & Wayne Joshua; Robert David H; & Health of brother, Carl, *by Sister Ioanna*

*Candles on the Solea:* In Memory of Peter & Theresa Harvilla, Norman & Monica Holst, & Ricky Ellis, *by Jason & Debra Truskowski*

*Table of Oblation Lamp:* In Memory of Parents, Helen & John Andrayko, Sr. & sister, Carole Andrayko, *by John Andrayko, Jr.*

*Reliquary-Icon Lamps: Sts. Innocent, Tikhon & Herman:* Health of Joseph/Sue; Robert/Diane; Pat/John; Joseph B., Jared, Jay; Rachelle/Aaron,

Gabriel; Tricia, Lindsey; & In Memory of sisters, Anna, Margaret, Theresa & Irene; & brothers, John, Edwin & Michael *by Rose Nossal*

*Reliquary-Icon Lamps: Sts. Elizabeth & Raphael:* Health of the Genig and the Just Families, *by Subdeacon Joshua & Abigail Genig*

*Reliquary-Icon Lamps: St. Seraphim & St. Alexis:* In Memory of Ross & Margaret Falsetti, *by daughters, Rose Ann Everhardt & Margie Martell*

*Reliquary-Icon Lamps: St. Hilarion & Sts. Alexandra & Martha (AVAILABLE)*

*Reliquary-Icon Lamps: St. Nestor & St. Gerontius (AVAILABLE)*

### **IN MEMORY OF (MEMORY ETERNAL!)**

Joseph & Estelle Star, *by son Father Roman and family*

Paul & Alexandra Yupco, Basil & Ellen Starinshak, *by grandson, Father Roman and family*

John & Anna Witkowski, *by daughter, Matushka Rose Marie and family*

Samuel & Mary Kupec, *by granddaughter, Matushka Rose Marie and family*

Parents, Helen & John Andrayko, and sister, Carole Andrayko, *by John Andrayko*

My husband, Joe; my sisters, Margaret & Ross Falsetti, Anna & Mike Elashat, Theresa & Pete Harvilla, Irene, & brothers, Michael, John &

Edwin Rusko; niece, Rose Mary & Dean Hough; Joe's brothers, Raymond & Walter Nossal, & sisters, Theresa, Florence & Helen Nossal,

*by Rose Nossal* + + + Pete & Theresa Harvilla, *by Mary Ann Harvilla & Kay Truskowski* + + + My husband, Michael Rusko, *by Joan Rusko*

Parents, Ethel Elizabeth & Wayne Joshua; David H; Nina I; Marion P; Fr. Photius; Mo. Benedicta (anniv.8/7); Archm. Roman, *by Sr Ioanna*

Thelma Ratcliff, Louis Pitts, Gloria Robinson, Reginald Bell, Lessie Favor, Lois Hamby, *by Manier Family*

Child Lana Wilson, Shirley Troyer, Betty & Paul Stelmaszek, Marsha Olsen, *by Becky Jurczynszyn*

### **FOR THE HEALTH OF: (MANY YEARS!)**

Elizabeth & Lawrence, Caitlin & Zachary, *by parents & grandparents, Father Roman & Matushka Rose Marie*

Gregory & Tamiko Star, *by parents, Father Roman & Matushka Rose Marie*

Children, Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren; Monk Fr. Sdn. Tikhon (Dade); *by Rose Nossal*

Father Roman & Matushka & family; Sister Ioanna; John Andrayko; Nancy; Mary G; Jo Anne N; Grandson Joey (*in the Navy Reserves*) &

all people in the Armed Forces; & all the people of St. Innocent Church, *by Rose Nossal*

My Mom, Jaime Truskowski, *by Kay Truskowski* + + + Family & Friends, *by Mary Ann Harvilla & Kay T.*

Brother, Greg & Donna; nephew, Gregory & Liz; & nephew, Alex, *by Mary Ann Harvilla & Kay* + + + Ed Manier, *by Mary Ann Harvilla & Kay*

Archimandrites Nafanail, Gregory & Seraphim; Fr. Roman & Mat. Rose Marie; Fr. Lawrence & fam; Fr. Laurence & fam; Fr. Daneil & fam; Dcn.

Michael & fam; Mat. Mary D; Carl; Sdn Fr. Tikhon; Sdn Andrew; Sdn Joshua, Abigail & children; Rdr Robert; Robert M; David Samuel, Sky

& Avi; JoAnne/Nick; Athanasius; John A; Ed/Tiffany; Kim & fam; Vasiliki; Rose; Emil; Billy/Fonda; Donald Y; Marianna & new-born Andrew,

Jennifer & family, *by Sr. Ioanna* + + + John Andrayko (May God watch over him), *by Rose Nossal* + + + Rose Nossal, *by John Andrayko* +

(1)Leia, Mike, Reece & Wyatt Wilson; (2)Joan & Bob Jurczynszyn, Toni & Hoolie (sp?) Bussen; (3) DamonTristan, Briann Saylor, Levi Troyer;

(4)Ginger Rice; (5)Paul & Pete, Jacob, Krista, Claire, Matt & Jacob Stelmaszek, *by Becky Jurczynszyn* + + + Sdcn. Joshua Genig, *by Genig Family*

*H & S of:* all Manier children & grandchildren; Jennifer Kelley(*cancer returned*); Donna Williams (*MS*); Brittany (*family issues*), *by Ed & Tiffany*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**1) AKATHIST TO ST. MOSES THE BLACK, FRIDAY, AUGUST 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm.** St. Moses the Black, or "Ethiopian," is very special to our parish, because the first local chapter of the national Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black (BSMB) was established under Fr. Roman's leadership right here at St. Innocent 9½ years ago, in January of 2007. Ever since, St. Innocent has been the permanent home of the Detroit Chapter, and Fr. Roman has served as the Spiritual Advisor. Every year we celebrate the Feastday of St. Moses (August 28<sup>th</sup>) by serving the lovely Akathist Service to him on the eve of his feast (*although this year it is a day earlier*). **AKATHISTS** are beautiful short (about 40 minutes) services celebrating the life-story of countless saints and feasts, in which the people all sing a series of verses to a repetitive 4-line melody, alternating with sections chanted by the priest(s). This Akathist to St. Moses service is a great opportunity to invite non-Orthodox friends to experience a short Orthodox service and to learn about this highly revered late 4<sup>th</sup> century African saint, whose life is an example of repentance and transformation. There will be refreshments and fellowship immediately after the Service, and a tour of the icons of the many African (and other) saints will be available upon request. For more information, call: 734-634-2650. Mark your calendars.

**2) MARIANNA & JASON WESS' NEW-BORN SON, ANDREW-VLADIMIR WILL BE BAPTIZED & CHRISMATED ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> at 9am,** prior to the usual 10am Divine Liturgy, and then will receive his first Holy Communion during Liturgy.

**3) WEEKLY "ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX STUDY GROUP,"** led by Subdeacon Dr. Joshua Genig, meets on most Wednesday Evenings, 6:30-7:30 at St. Innocent Church hall.

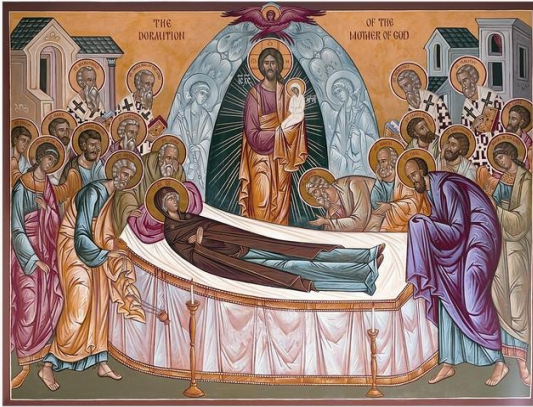
**4) PLEASE VIEW THE AUGUST CALENDAR ADDED TO OUR CHURCH WEBSITE.** <http://stinnocentchurch.com/calendar.htm>

**5) LISTEN EVERY SUNDAY TO THE COCC'S DETROIT'S OWN ORTHODOX RADIO HOUR [DOOR] ON WNZK 690-AM, 4-5 pm,** or on your computer/smart-phone, live, at <http://www.doorradio.org>. This website also has an archive of all its previous programs. **Excellent!**

## **SERMON ON THE DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS**

By St. John of Kronstadt

Magnify O my soul, the honorable Translation of the Mother of God from earth to heaven.”  
(Refrain for the 9<sup>th</sup> Ode of the Canon)



Let us be happy, beloved brothers and sisters that we belong to the Holy Orthodox Church, worthily and rightly glorifying the Most Holy Sovereign Theotokos on this eminent day [August 15<sup>th</sup>] out of all the days of the year with special solemnity. There exists on earth many societies and entire governments that do not consider the need nor the obligation to call upon and glorify the Queen of heaven and earth, the Mother of Our Divine Lord Jesus Christ, and other saints and angels; to submissively serve Her lovingly, as the true Mother of God. Sadly in Russia nowadays we have heretics (among us) who actively dishonor the Mother of God, the saints, their icons, their relics and their festivals. Oh, if only they also unanimously with us glorified the worthy Queen of heaven and earth!

Today the Holy Church solemnly glorifies the honorable Dormition or translation of the Mother of God from earth to heaven. A wonderful translation — she died without serious illness, peacefully. Her soul is taken up in the divine hands of Her Son and carried up into the heavenly abode, accompanied by the sweet singing of angels. And then, her most pure body is transferred by the apostles to Gethsemane where it is honorably buried, and on the third day it is resurrected and taken up to heaven. You see this in the icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos. In it is represented the life-bearing body of the Theotokos laying on a bier, surrounded by the apostles and hierarchs, and in the center of the icon the Lord holding in His hands the most pure soul of the Theotokos. **The translation of the Mother of God is a paradigm of the translation in general of the souls of Christians to the other world.**

We say that our dead have “fallen asleep” or “passed away.” What does this mean? This means that for the true Christian there is no death. Death was conquered by Christ on the cross. But there is a translation, i.e. a rearrangement of his condition, i.e. his soul is in another place, in another age, in another world beyond the grave, eternal, without end — that is what is meant by “falling asleep”. It is as if it were a temporary dream after which, by the voice of the Lord and the fearful yet wonderful trumpet of the Archangel, all the dead shall live and come forth each to his place: either to the resurrection of life or to the resurrection of condemnation (John 5:29). This is what the Christian means by translation. We should be ready for this translation, for the day of the general resurrection and judgment, for this indescribable world event, recorded in the Holy Scriptures.

This preparation for the meeting of the heavenly King before the dread judgment seat, after death, is essentially the person’s preparation throughout the whole of his life. This preparation means a change in all his thoughts, and the moral change of all his being, so that the whole man would be pure and white as snow, washing clean everything that defiles the body and spirit, so that he is adorned with every virtue: repentance, meekness, humility, gentleness, simplicity, chastity, mercifulness, abstention, spiritual contemplation, and burning love for God and neighbor.

Our preparation for meeting the heavenly King, and for the inheritance of eternal life in heaven, should consist of these things. The heavenly King desires souls adorned with immutable virtue, souls prepared so that the Very Lord Himself could abide in them. Do not marvel that the Very Lord wants to live in us. In fact the human soul is more spacious than the heavens and the earth, for it exists in the image of God. And if one removes sins from the soul, the Lord of all will settle in it and will fill it with Himself. “We will come to him and make our dwelling with him” (John 14:23), says the Lord about the souls who love Him.

And so, you participants in the Christian feasts, and especially the present feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, you who are brightly adorned with every virtue and translated to the heavenly kingdom, to Her Son and God, proclaim to each and every one about preparing their souls to be the dwelling place of the Lord, about continual repentance, and about the incorruptible adornment of Christian virtue. Let your death also be unashamed and peaceful, serving as the

pledge of a good answer at the dread judgment seat of Christ. Amen.

## **SERMON ON THE FEEDING OF THE 5,000**

By Fr. Gregory Hogg

From: <http://frgregory.blogspot.com>

Put yourself in the disciples' place. They had followed the Lord to a desert place for renewal. But then the crowds came, and Christ in his compassion healed them. Now it was getting late.

The disciples took note of the time, and place. They saw the peoples' need, and were concerned. "We need to let them go," they thought. "They'll need time to find food." So they came to Christ, and asked him to release the crowd.

Now come those shocking words. The Lord responded, "They don't have to go away. You give them something to eat." Catch the weight of those words. "YOU give them something to eat!" Here they were, twelve men more or less—poor men, with little or nothing to their name. There was the crowd, thousands and thousands of them. And now, their Lord says to them, in essence, "Feeding that crowd is your responsibility."

I wonder, sometimes, if we ever see the needs around us as our responsibility. Most of us have learned the survival skill of looking the other way, of not paying attention to the needs around us. The homeless guy at the entrance ramp, the lonely people in the nursing home, the single mother who's trying to figure out how to feed her kids: there's just so much need that if we thought about it, we'd be overwhelmed. And so we ask ourselves, "Am I my brother's keeper?" and move on, never thinking that it was Cain, the first murderer, who first posed that question.

Politically, both the left and the right have ways of avoiding these needs. The man on the right, the conservative, may say "Those folks have needs because of bad choices they made. Let them figure it out for themselves." The people in our text, for example, should have thought about how they'd provide for themselves in a desert area.

And those on the left, the liberals, likewise avoid the needs. "We should tax the wealthy, so that society can take care of these needs." In other words, there is a problem. But it's not my problem. It's the other guy's problem.

But Christ calls us to see the problems around us, as our problem. Maybe some folks made bad decisions to get them where they are. But that doesn't mean we can ignore them. And if we wait for the government to fix the problem, we'll be waiting a long time. The needs around us are here and now, and they're our responsibility.

Only when we see the greatness of our responsibility, will we learn the greatness of our Lord. The disciples answer Christ, "We have only five loaves and two small fish." That was barely a snack for a couple of people, let alone thousands. But Christ says, "Bring them to me."

"Bring them to me." Here's stewardship in a nutshell: that we take whatever little we have, and bring it to Christ. You know, for every age there's always an excuse for not giving. The young person says, "I don't make enough, and I have lots to buy." Then when college is done, it's "I have to pay off my loans." Then comes a family—"I have to buy a house...I have to take care of my kids." And then comes retirement—"But I don't have enough saved, and what will come of me?"

Bring your resources to Christ. When we give that tithe, that 10% of our income, it represents giving all that we have. Indeed, the most important thing we give is our very bodies. St. Paul says, "I beseech you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies as living sacrifices, wholly acceptable to God."

The needs before our parish are daunting indeed. We have been given this little building, on this little piece of land. We'd like to do so much more: to build a permanent temple, with a cemetery, a school or old folks' home. We'd like to help our neighbors in practical, useful ways. How can we do it? Well, we can't, in our own strength.

We must learn, rather, to bring what we have, to Christ. Let it be our business to be faithful in giving, faithful in serving our neighbors. And let it be his business to give us what we need to serve those in need: whether it be a permanent temple and a school to teach his word, or food pantry to feed the hungry—or whatever else he has in mind.

You know the rest of the story—how that the disciples brought their food to Christ, and he blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to them to give to the crowd...how everyone ate his fill and still there were twelve baskets left behind.

Still today the Lord multiplies the loaves. We offer him bread and wine, his gifts mingled with our labor. And he gives it back to us as his own life-giving body and precious blood. He feeds our bodies, he forgives our sins, he fills us with his own indestructible life. Give as much as we can, we can never out-give our merciful and man-befriending God.

So let us rise from this place, filled with his gifts, ready to embrace the needs we see around us—to make them our responsibility. Let us bring to him the little we have, with grateful hearts, and learn in our own lives how good the Lord is. Let



us be faithful with the things of this passing life, so that we may receive a rich reward in his kingdom, which has no end. Amen.

## **ORTHODOX NEWS**

### **(1) THE RUSSIAN CHURCH HAS SEEN AN INCREASE OF 5,000 CHURCHES AND 10,000 CLERICS IN THE LAST SIX YEARS**

*\*\*\* Patriarch Kirill explains that the religious revival is by people's demand.*

**Sarov, August 2, Interfax** — Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia believes that the increasing number of Orthodox churches in Russia witnesses that the mission of the Russian Orthodox Church is required by people.

"During just the last six years our Church has increased by 5,000 churches and 10,000 clerics, and this means that people need the church's mission. There cannot be such growth of the Church if there is not the people's demand. That is why we feel so special when we lay down foundations of new churches," the patriarch said at the ceremony of laying the first stone in the foundation of the Assumption Cathedral of the Sarov Hermitage, where St. Seraphim of Sarov lived.

According to Patriarch Kirill it witnesses to "the faith of our people, their spiritual power, to the vector of spiritual and even social development that connects material prosperity with spiritual blossom."

The patriarch has recently said that churches in Russia are built because people have such need, not by order.

[The many new churches are being built] "not because someone ordered them to be built, but because the enormous power of our people's faith supports the wish of authorities," the church primate said on July 28<sup>th</sup> after consecrating the restored Church of the Smolensk Icon of the Mother of God in Oryol.



### **(2) MOSCOW PATRIARCHATE'S CHURCH BEING BUILT IN DONBASS DAMAGED IN SHELLING**

**Moscow, July 12, Interfax** — The Iversk Icon of Mother of God church of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate, which is being built in Gorlovka in the Donbass Region, was damaged in shelling.

Three shells were fired on the territory of the church located in the center of the shelled residential area of Nikitovka in the early hours of July 10. One of the shells landed near the central entrance to the almost completed church building. The frontispiece was damaged, the Russian Church website said.

The church's 12 windows were damaged by another two shells. Tiles lying on the ground, which were due to be used in roofing, were damaged as well. Another shell exploded behind the building.

The shells left more than dozen craters behind the church's fence, near residential buildings. During the shelling of Nikitovka two two-storey residential buildings, a school and private houses were damaged.

The construction of the church was in its final stages, interior finishing was being conducted in the building and the builders were preparing to tile the roof and start exterior finishing.

The territory of the Iversk Church was shelled not for the first time. Last time the building's windows were damaged after a shell landed near the church two weeks ago. Overall during hostilities fire has been opened on the church's territory six times; however, the damage was minor until recently.

## **MAN GETS MARRIED 16 MONTHS AFTER NEARLY DYING AND HAVING ALL OF HIS LIMBS AMPUTATED**

By Micaiah Bilger

Source: <http://www.lifenews.com>

An Illinois couple's love story almost came to a tragic end 16 months ago when Ethan Menges contracted a deadly illness.

Menges lost all four of his limbs and almost his life to the virus, but his fiancée Jordan Mathieu stayed by his side and devoted herself to helping him recover. ABC 13 reports the couple's rocky journey led to a joyous occasion this May [2016] when the two walked down the aisle together and were married in Roscoe, Illinois.



“It’s weird because for the majority of our relationship, this past year and a half, two years, was in a hospital setting, not the typical things you do going out on dates, going to movies, hanging out with families, it was bedside,” Menges told reporters.

Menges said he even proposed to Mathieu in his rehab room. He said his bride’s devotion during his near-death experience really touched him.

“That means more than the world to me, because I know she’ll always be there, she’s been there through that, I’d have to really screw something up,” he said.

The young man collapsed at a sports game last January [2015] after contracting a flu-like virus; the illness developed into walking pneumonia and spread across his body, infecting his lungs and bloodstream, according to the report. The illness affected his circulation and forced doctors to amputate all four of his limbs. At one point, doctors even told Menges’ family to start planning his funeral, his sister Brittney said.

Though hope was slim, Menges pulled through with encouragement from his family and his soon-to-be bride. Menges went through months of intensive therapy and now has prosthetic limbs.

They allowed him to walk down the aisle with Jordan on May 14. Jordan could not put a ring around her husband’s finger, so she placed a necklace with the ring around his neck instead, the report states.

The couple’s beautiful story of devotion and perseverance is a stark contrast to the message of a new summer romance film, “Me Before You.” The film romanticizes assisted suicide through the story of a rich young man who becomes a quadriplegic and gives up on life. Despite his caregiver-turned-lover’s attempts to show that his life has meaning, he chooses to commit suicide anyway. She even caves into his decision to kill himself.

The film has disability rights advocates and pro-lifers upset because of its pro-euthanasia tones.

British actress Liz Carr told The Guardian: “We have so few opportunities in the media to explore disability. But there is a disproportionate number of stories which relate to the ‘problem’ of disability being solved by death. Television and film seem to love those individuals who want to die. They’re less keen to cover the rest of us who might want to live but are struggling to get the health and social care resources to do so.”

Unlike “Me Before You,” Ethan and Jordan Menges’ real-life love story has the type of happy ending that should be celebrated in the media. The couple did not let Ethan’s disabilities or his illness stand in the way of their joy. Their story is an example of how true love never gives up hope and always perseveres.

To read numerous articles having to do with the Right to Life, visit: [www.LifeNews.com](http://www.LifeNews.com)