

Presanctified Liturgy

For All the Victims of the War in Iraq

On the Fourth Anniversary of the Invasion March 19, 2007

St. George's Romanian Catholic Cathedral Canton, Ohio

7:00 PM

In recognition of and witness to a truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ—namely, that the enemy of a tribe, of a nation, of an ethnic group or of a person is not the enemy of God, but rather is an infinitely valued and loved son or daughter of the “Father of all” (Ep 4:6) who is to be valued and loved as Christ-God values and loves him or her—Bishop John Michael Botean will celebrate a Presanctified Liturgy at the time and place



An unidentified Iraqi man holds an unidentified girl wounded after U.S.-led coalition air strikes over southern Iraqi city of Basra.

noted above for the eternal peace and salvation of all who have been killed in the war in Iraq, whether they be from the United States, Iraq, Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, England, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey or Uzbekistan. This Liturgy will also include special prayers for the uncountable number of known and never-to-

be-known sons and daughters of mothers and fathers inside and outside Iraq who have been maimed—directly or indirectly—in body, soul, mind or spirit by this war and who must carry this yoke of misery for all the days of their lives.

All are welcome and wholeheartedly encouraged to come in the Spirit of peace and pray in peace for the peace of all—living and dead—to the “God of peace” (1Thes 5:23) in whom “violence and cruelty can have no part.”



A tiny victim of the Gulf War, born with no upper or lower arm bones, his wrists connect at his shoulders. His bent and twisted legs had to be amputated and were replaced with artificial ones.