

Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Christian Church

A Parish of the Diocese of New England of the Orthodox Church in America

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Sunday, January 17, 2021

32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 7. Venerable and Godbearing Father Anthony the Great (356). Ven. Anthony of Dymsk (Novgorod—ca. 1224). Ven. Anthony of Chernoezersk (16th c.).

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/01/17>

Sayings of Saint Anthony the Great (of which there are 38 in total), from the Collection known as “[The Sayings of the Desert Fathers](#)”

Saying 2: When Abba [Father] Anthony thought about the depth of the judgements of God, he asked, “Lord, how is it that some die when they are young, while others drag on to extreme old age? Why are there those who are poor and those who are rich? Why do wicked men prosper and why are the just in need?” He heard a voice answering him, “Anthony, keep your attention on yourself; these things are according to the judgement of God, and it is not to your advantage to know anything about them.”

Saying 3: Someone asked Abba Anthony, “What must one do in order to please God?” The old man replied, “Pay attention to what I tell you: whoever you may be, always have God before your eyes; whatever you do, do it according to the testimony of the Holy Scriptures; in whatever place you live, do not easily leave it. Keep these three precepts and you will be saved.”

Saying 4: Abba Anthony said to Abba Poemen, “This is the great work of a man: always to take blame for his own sins before God and to expect temptation to his last breath.”

Saying 6: Abba Pambo asked Abba Anthony: “What ought I to do?” and the old man said to him, “Do not trust in your own righteousness, do not worry about the past, but control your tongue and your stomach.”

Saying 9: Abba Anthony said, “Our life and our death is with our neighbor. If we gain our brother, we have gained God, but if we scandalize our brother, we have sinned against Christ.”

Saying 16: A brother said to Abba Anthony: “Pray for me.” The old man said to him, “I will have no mercy on you, nor will God have any, if you yourself do not make an effort and if you do not pray to God.”

Saying 25: Abba Anthony said, “A time is coming when men will go mad, and when they see someone who is not mad, they will attack him, saying, ‘You are mad, you are not like us.’”

PARISH PRAYER LIST

We pray for all victims of disease, disaster, difficulty, and senseless violence throughout the world, especially in this time of pestilence and civil unrest.

+ THOSE WHO HAVE DEPARTED THIS LIFE: *Memory Eternal!*

First of all, we pray for all the thousands of victims of COVID-19. Memory Eternal!

Newly Departed

Mitred Archpriest Eugene Pianovich	d. 01/02/2021
Archpriest Joseph Irvin—retired CT Deanery priest	d. 01/13/2021
Anna Szepel—our fellow parishioner	d. 01/08/2021
Luke H.—son of Fr. Steven and Mat. Anne H.	d. 12/17/2020
Maryann Kendall—well-known lay person in the CT Deanery	d. 12/16/2020
Mary Ellen Zobbi—wife of Robert Zobbi, of the Waterbury Parish	d. 12/12/2020

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Joseph Tkach	1/19/1922
John Liba	1/19/1922
Michael Glowa	1/19/1933
Mary Cleveland	1/20/1972
Afton Tkachuk	1/21/1958
Natalie Witek	1/21/1988
Anna Stanko	1/21/1990
Julia Maichack	1/21/2012
Isodore Kablesh	1/22/1960
Joseph Duke	1/23/1935
Mary Duke	1/23/1985

THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S MERCY AND HELP

First of all, we pray for all those suffering due to the present pestilence which is COVID-19, and those working to alleviate their suffering.

Persons captive and suffering for the Faith

Metropolitan Paul and Archbishop John—hostages in Syria

Those who are sick and suffering

Archpriest Michael—former pastor of our parish; reoccurrence of illness
Archpriest John—Fr. John H.'s uncle through marriage; cancer
Fyodor (Frank) G.—suffering from Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
Dolores T.—permanent colon malfunction following colon cancer treatment
child Drew—grandson of friends of the Nimcheks; ongoing treatment for eye cancer
Daryne—facing health challenges; daughter of Bob and Vera Martin
Donna—Ann S.'s niece, Deb W.'s cousin; kidney disease
Dayrl—Ann S.'s niece, Deb W.'s cousin; kidney disease
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer
MaryEllen—Louine K.'s daughter-in-law; suffering with Huntington's Disease
Yelena "Lenna" M.—overcoming, by God's grace, serious health challenges
Katie and Aubrey—a mother and daughter for whom we have been asked to pray
Tanya B.—suffering long-term and lingering effects of brain hemorrhage
Mary Lynn—friend of Donna O.; battling breast cancer
Barbara—friend of Patty N.; unwell and in need of prayerful support
James B.—husband of a Waterbury parishioner; chronically unwell

Dorothy F.—Waterbury parishioner; still recovering from a serious surgery
Rosie D.—ongoing health issues
Michael "Mike" L.—ongoing health issues
child George—9-year-old son of a Kenyan Orthodox priest; quite unwell
Bill M.—has experienced some health issues lately, please keep in prayer
Christopher—friend of Kathy M.; struggling with cancer
Paula—friend of Jim L.; struggling with cancer
Dimitri—brother of Carolyn P.; health issues
child Hattie—injured in freak accident; request of a family in our parish
Maryna B.—dealing with some health issues
Subdn. Joseph—recent issue with a painful hip joint
Thomas—Patty N.'s nephew; battling cancer
Wayne—Donna O.'s father
Vickie—a woman for whom we have been asked to pray
Sam—Vickie's husband, struggling with multiple health issues
Richard—a man struggling with cancer, for whom we have been asked to pray
Sue—friend of Macrina H.; quite unwell at this time
Jody—Jacob J.'s father; recovering from significant back surgery
Helen—acquaintance of Helena G; in long-term care
Candace—acquaintance of Helena G; in need of prayers
Elaine H.—hip replacement surgery upcoming in January; our fellow parishioner
Maria O.—dialysis three times a week; recently injured in fall
Joanne—acquaintance of the Hopkos; quite ill and in need of prayers
Stephen—family member of a parishioner; quite ill and in need of prayers
George K.—our fellow parishioner; quite unwell at this time
Lorraine—friend of Joan M.; cancerous blood disease
Thomas M.—suffering with COVID-19; associated with the Waterbury Parish
Marcia—wife of Thomas M.; associated with the Waterbury Parish

Shut-ins and those resident in long-term Care Facilities

Alex—John D.'s brother, suffering permanent effects of stroke
Dolores—Bob M.'s mother, resident in long-term eldercare

Expectant Mothers

Shelby (Sophia) G. and the child to be born of her
Katherine and the child to be born of her—Fr. John's nephew's wife

Travelers, Those Soon to be Traveling, and Those Apart from Us

All those who are traveling, soon to be traveling, or apart from us

Those from among us serving on active duty in the Armed Forces

Joel O.—U.S. Navy; hospital corpsman ("medic")
Joseph B.—a Terryville neighbor; U.S. Marine Corps
Joshua P.—husband of a niece of Fr. John's; U.S. Army officer and pilot
Alexander—relative of Carolyn P.; 82nd Airborne Division soldier now home from abroad
Derek—relative of Carolyn P.; serving in Afghanistan in the U.S. Army
Ian H.—Fr. David K.'s son-in-law; preparing for overseas deployment, U.S. Army

Anniversaries of Marriage

NONE THIS WEEK

Birthdays

Emery Andrew Wegh	1/16
Emily Serev	1/20
Nika Dubnansky	1/20

Saint Anthony the Great, "Father of Monks", commemorated each year on January 17

Anthony the Great, called "The Father of Monks", was born in central Egypt about A. D. 251, the son of peasant farmers who were Christian. In about 269 he heard the Gospel read in church and applied to himself the words: "Go, sell all that you have and give to the poor and come and follow me...." He devoted himself to a life of asceticism under the guidance of a recluse near his village. In about 285 he went alone into the desert to live in complete solitude. His reputation attracted followers, who settled near him, and in about 305 he came out of his hermitage in order to act as their spiritual father. Five years later he again retired into solitude. He visited Alexandria at least twice, once during the persecution of Christians and again to support the Bishop Athanasius against heresy. He died at the age of one hundred and five. His life was written by Saint Athanasius and was very influential in spreading the ideals of monasticism throughout the Christian World.

News and Notes

Funeral of Fr. Joseph Irvin: Fr. John Hopko away on CT Deanery duty, Sunday afternoon, January 17, and Monday, January 18: Fr. John will be away from Terryville on Sunday afternoon and evening, January 17, and all day on Monday, January 18. At the direction of our Diocesan authorities, Fr. John, in his capacity as Dean of the CT Deanery, will be presiding at the funeral of the newly departed Archpriest Joseph Irvin, a retired priest of the Connecticut Deanery. Fr. Joseph's obituary can be read at this "clickable" link: [Obituary of Fr. Joseph Irvin](#). Please keep the newly departed Fr. Joseph in your prayers, together with his widow, Mat. Rosalie (Delphy), his family and friends, and all those who mourn his passing. Memory Eternal!

Bible Study, via "Zoom" – Tuesday evening, January 19, beginning at 7:00 PM: We have been holding weekly Bible Study sessions, via video teleconference ("Zoom") on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This week, on Tuesday evening, we will be continuing our reading and discussion of the First Letter to the Corinthians. Each week is an event unto itself, so, please, even if you haven't joined us before, feel free to join us this week, or at any time in the future.

Bible Study Companion Book: If you are interested in reading a book that will serve as a companion to the efforts we are presently making in Bible Study, this book may be a resource for you: *First and Second Corinthians: Straight From the Heart*. This book is written by Fr. Lawrence Farley, who is a priest in British Columbia, Canada, in a parish of the Orthodox Church in America's Archdiocese of Canada. It is published by Conciliar Press, Chesterton, Indiana (<https://store.ancientfaith.com/biblical-studies/>). Fr. Lawrence has written a whole series of accessible commentaries on parts of the Bible. In particular, his commentaries are written to be appreciated by and useful to Orthodox Christian lay people.

Wednesday Morning Matins Services, via "Zoom", at 8:00 a.m.: Due to the increase in cases of COVID-19 here in our area, we have made the choice to limit in-person activities at the Church. This means that, for now, we are suspending our in-person Wednesday morning Matins services. We have replaced that in-person service with an on-line gathering for worship and prayer, Wednesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. Watch your email inbox for details.

Support from the Parish: If you require financial or pastoral support during this vexing and challenging time, contact Fr. John, personally and confidentially, and he will endeavor to help you get the assistance that you need. All such contacts will be treated with strict confidentiality and great sensitivity. **Don't be shy: If you need help, please, do contact Fr. John.**

Donations to the Parish: Please, continue to support our parish during this challenging time. Donations to the Parish may be submitted via checks made out to and mailed to Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church, 34 Fairview Avenue, Terryville, CT 06786-6329. Also, a PayPal Donation "button" (<https://www.terryvilleorthodoxchurch.org/donatenow>) is located on our parish website to make online donations possible. Our parish is registered as a charity with PayPal, so we have slightly lower fees connected to the use of that means of receiving donations. For us, PayPal's fees are 2.2%, plus \$0.30 per transaction. (So, for example, a donation of \$100.00 given via PayPal will realize us actual income of \$97.50.)

January 24 is Sanctity of Life Sunday

[This article is reprinted here from the official website of the Orthodox Church in America, www.oca.org.]

January 24, 2021 will be observed as Sanctity of Life Sunday in parishes of the Orthodox Church in America. The clergy and faithful are encouraged to utilize the [special liturgical petitions and prayers](#) for the occasion. His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has also [released a message](#) marking the day.

Sanctity of Life Sunday serves to mark the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision that legalized abortion in the United States. Orthodox Christians from across the country will proclaim the sanctity of God's precious gift of life and remember the millions of victims that abortion has claimed and continues to claim.

The bishops of the Orthodox Church in America have always strongly supported and participated in the annual March for Life held in Washington, D.C. However, due to the ongoing global health crisis, this year His Beatitude will lead a virtual March for Life event which will be live-streamed on Thursday, January 28 beginning at 7:30 pm ET on oca.org/live and via the OCA's [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) pages. The live-stream will feature a prayer service led by Metropolitan Tikhon, followed by reflections by His Beatitude. The main address will be given by Dr. Ana Iltis of Wake Forest University, a leading Orthodox Christian bioethicist. The broadcast will also highlight Orthodox organizations that support women in crisis pregnancies.

In preparation for Sanctity of Life Sunday, the faithful are encouraged to [explore the numerous reflections, articles, texts, liturgical services available online](#).

Readings from Holy Scripture

Scripture Readings for the 32nd Sunday after Pentecost, this year Sunday, January 17

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians (Col. 1:12-18)

Brothers and Sisters: We give thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in who we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke (Luke 18:18-27)

At that time: a ruler of the synagogue asked Jesus, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: `Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."