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, February 5, 2017

• The 33rd Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 8
  • Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee
    • Commemoration of the Martyr Agatha
  • Commemoration of the Saint Theodosius of Chernigov

+ Matushka Juliana Schmemann (10/6/1923 - 1/29/1917)
Fr. John’s maternal grandmother, Matushka Juliana Schmemann, died on Sunday evening, January 29, suddenly, but not unexpectedly, and, thankfully, peacefully. She was 93 years old, and had been in frail health for some years.

Mat. Juliana was the widow of Protopresbyter Alexander Schmemann, the noted Orthodox priest and theologian, whose memory and legacy she served diligently following his death in 1983, a victim of cancer, at the young age of 62. Mat. Juliana died on the eve of their seventy-fourth wedding anniversary, having always lived as a completely faithful spouse to her husband, even after his death. Manifesting a wonderful Orthodox Christian understanding of the permanence of marriage, she did not consider herself unmarried, even though she was a widow.

Having immigrated to this country with her husband and three young children in 1951, Mat. Juliana was for many years a teacher of the French and Russian languages in private schools in New York City. She also served for a time as headmistress of one of those schools.

Mat. Juliana and Fr. Alexander have three children, nine grandchildren, twenty-two great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. Mat. Juliana was pre-deceased by two of her great-grandchildren.

Fr. John and family were away from Terryville this past week on Thursday and Friday attending Mat. Juliana’s funeral.

A full obituary of Mat. Juliana is available at the official website of the Orthodox Church in America, https://oca.org/in-memoriam/matushka-juliana-ossorguine-schmemann
PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please pray for all victims of disaster, difficulty and senseless violence throughout the world.

+ THOSE WHO HAVE DEPARTED THIS LIFE: Memory Eternal!

**Newly Departed**

Mat. Juliana Schmemann—Fr. John’s grandmother 1/29/17
Alexis S. Troubetzkoy—Fr. John’s relative 1/22/17

**Anniversaries of Repose — Memory Eternal!**

John Stashenko 2/5/1949
Julia Wazorko 2/5/1960
Nadejda Markovich 2/5/1965
Evheny Mattson 2/6/1952
Paul Preslowsky 2/6/1987
Francis Biscoe 2/8/1978
Mary Abbotts 2/8/1998
William Lyga 2/9/1985
Joseph Bystry 2/11/1975
Nicholas Koliko 2/11/1994

**THOSE IN NEED OF GOD’S MERCY AND HELP**

**Persons captive and suffering for the Faith**

Metropolitan Paul and Archbishop John—hostages in Syria

**Those who are sick and suffering**

Fyodor (Frank) Guba—increasing sufferings from Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
Dolores Twombly—permanent colon malfunction following colon cancer treatment
Karen—Mary Fomenko’s niece; unwell and in need of prayers
child Ava—9-year-old daughter of friends of Melanie Osuch; suffering seizures
child Matthew—son of friends of M. Osuch; genetic disorder with medical complications
child Alex—acquaintance of M. Osuch; suffering and in need of God’s mercy and help
child Michelle—very close friend of M. Osuch; troubled and in need of God’s mercy and help
child Anna Osuch—suffering in ill health
Jadwiga (“Ya-dv-ee-gah”) —mother of an acquaintance of E. Watras; cancer
child Allison—undergoing cancer treatment; friend of Peter Serev
child Helen—Joan Spencer’s aunt; suffering in illness
Matushka Marie Kreta—Fr. John Kreta’s mother; increasingly unwell
Steven Belonick—Cynthia Belonick’s father; unwell
child Phyllis George—Donna Kriiiiske’s cousin; battling breast cancer
Roland Oraschewsky—chronic illness
Maria Oraschewsky—unwell, and in need of our prayers
Alex—John Dubnansky’s brother, suffering permanent effects of stroke
Darlene—facing health challenges; daughter of Bob and Vera Martin
Michael “Mischa” Samanitzy—Dr. Paul’s uncle; ongoing health issues
Gregory Shesko—long-time laborer in the Diocese of New England; lung cancer
Hope—Fr. John’s sister Catherine’s sister-in-law; tumor in one of her kidneys

Carol—acquaintance of L. Koski and K. Orelup; battling cancer
Nicole—acquaintance of Tom and Marie Wood; young mother with leukemia
child Asa—great-grandson of E. Watras; child with developmental challenges
Barbara—Arlene Osuch’s sister; epilepsy with complications
Joseph—friend of Tania Boutseneff, injured in bicycle accident
Mariam—wife of above-mentioned Joseph, adversely affected by Joseph’s accident
Anatoli—a friend of Tania Boutseneff; diagnosed with colon cancer
Galina—wife of above-mentioned Anatoli
Mary Fomenko—recently unwell
Bill Markovich—recently unwell
Veronika “Nika” Dubnansky—continuing her recovery
Samantha—extremely ill child for whom we have been asked to pray
Eugene—Tania Boutseneff’s uncle; battling cancer
Mara—Fr. Patrick Burns’ wife; recently unwell
Marie Wood—still in recovery from recent ill health, but doing well, praise be
Peter Oraschewsky—recovering from back surgery
Donna—Ann Sovyrda’s niece; kidney disease
Deryl—Ann Sovyrda’s nephew; kidney disease
Mark Sovyrda—recovering from back surgery
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer
Lucretia—friend of Jeanne Moore; broken leg
George Klachany—our fellow parishioner; unwell and in need of prayers
Anne Hosking—Fr. Steven Hosking’s wife; facing health challenges
Mary Ellen—Louine King’s daughter-in-law; declining due to Huntington’s Disease
James—Louine King’s son; chronic ankle joint issues, perhaps requiring surgery
Justin—Louine King’s great-grandson; troubled and in need of our prayers
Steve Panasuk—recently unwell

**Shut-ins and those in Nursing Homes**

Eva Kopcha—at Sheriden Woods in Bristol
Sonya Petroff—at Sheriden Woods in Bristol
Anna Rosko—at Valerie Manor in Torrington; presently quite unwell

**Expectant Mother**

Juliana and the child to be born of her—Juliana Dresko Vigh and her baby
Olga and the child to be born of her—Olga Fedorczak and her baby
Rachel and the child to be born of her—Rachel Kopcha Goulet and her baby
Sarah and the child to be born of her—L. King’s granddaughter and her baby
Lisa and the child to be born of her—L. King’s granddaughter and her baby

**Those from among us serving in the Armed Forces**

Joel Orelup—U.S. Navy, hospital corpsman (“medic”) serving with the Marines
Joseph Bellmay—a Terryville neighbor; U.S. Marine Corps

**Travelers, those soon to be traveling and those away from us**

Douglas Henrick—O. Petroff’s great-grandson; in China until spring 2018
Peter and Chezelle Serev
John “Jack” Kriiiiske

**Birthdays**

Protodeacon Paul Nimchek 2/7
Tatiana Boutseneff 2/7
Lucy Hopko 2/8

A Note about the Parish Prayer List

Please let Fr. John know the status of those for whom we have been praying at your request. If it seems that the person or persons’ circumstances have stabilized or improved, please ask Fr. John to remove that person or persons’ name from the Prayer List. We are pleased and honored to pray for those in need of God’s mercy and help, however, we do not want the Prayer List to become unwieldy. Nor do we want anyone to fail to submit the names of those who are in acute condition or need, simply because the potential submitter perceives the Prayer List as “already full” or “too full”. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding and cooperation.

Weather Related Cancellations: If we need to cancel parish services and/or other events due to bad weather, those announcements will appear on NBC Connecticut Television and on the NBC Connecticut Internet web-site. Also, you can always call the Parish House (860-582-3631) for further information.
News and Notes

February Meeting of the Parish Council, Monday, February 6: The February monthly meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday evening, February 6, beginning at 7:00 PM. All members of the Parish are reminded that Parish Council meetings, unless otherwise announced, are open meetings. All members of the Parish are welcome to attend and participate, though voting privileges are accorded only to duly elected members of the Parish Council.

Food Pantry Fundraising Brunch, Meat-fare Sunday, February 19: This year Sunday, February 19, is Meat-fare Sunday, a week and a day before Great Lent starts. That day is, according to the full strictness of our Orthodox Christian traditional fasting disciplines, the last day before Holy Pascha on which we indulge in meat-based foods. On that day, Paul and Claudia Senetcen will be sponsoring a festive brunch, following the conclusion of the celebration of that morning’s Divine Liturgy. All proceeds from that festive brunch will benefit the Plymouth Community Food Pantry, which, of course, is housed in the basement portion of our Church’s Community Center Building.

The “Penguin Plunge”: A Special Olympics Fundraiser, March 5: On Sunday, March 5, Paul and Claudia Senetcen’s daughter, Sarah Gaulin, will once again be participating in a fundraiser for Special Olympics Connecticut. Sarah is accepting sponsorship for taking a plunge in the wintry waters of Long Island Sound at Ocean Beach Park, New London, CT. Again this year, Sarah’s husband, Justin, will be joining her for the “Plunge.” To sponsor Sarah in her “Penguin Plunge” you may mail a check payable to “Connecticut Special Olympics” to Sarah at her home address: Sarah Gaulin, 15 Virginia Road, Oakdale, CT 06370-1554. You may also contribute on-line at www.soct.org, in the section of that website dedicated to the New London, CT, Penguin Plunge. (If giving on-line, select Ways to Give, Penguin Plunge, Shoreline Plunge, and enter “Sarah Gaulin” under Name of Participant.) Please consider giving Sarah your support through a sponsorship donation. Thank you for your consideration!

Needs of the Food Pantry: On an almost constant basis, for the purpose of distribution to its clients, the Plymouth Community Food Pantry needs personal care items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, hair brushes, etc. Also, the Food Pantry just about always requires donations of condiments and spices, such as ketchup, mustard, vinegar, cooking oil, BBQ sauce, pickle relish, table salt, black pepper, onion and garlic powder, dried herbs, etc. You can drop off your donations in the basket in the Narthex of our Church, or in the big green bin located by the exit staircase in the Church Basement Social Hall. Every time any of us go grocery shopping, it would be appropriate and worthy of a blessing for us to purchase some items for donation to the Food Pantry.

LOOKING AHEAD: Parish Spring Cleaning, Saturday morning, March 11: We will have a Church Spring Cleaning Session on Saturday morning, March 11, beginning at 9:00 AM. Please note this occasion in your calendar and plan to participate. (We are doing this a little earlier than usual this year in order to prepare for the visit of the Archbishop.) Many hands make the work quick and easy! Thank you!

LOOKING AHEAD: Annual Visit of the Archbishop, Sunday, March 12: Our Diocesan bishop, His Eminence, Archbishop NIKON, will be with us for the celebration of the Sunday morning Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning, March 12. To mark His Eminence’s visit we will have a Lenten Foods “Bring-and-Share” Meal following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy that morning.

LOOKING (WAY!) AHEAD: Youth Rally, August 7-12, 2017: The Year 2017 Annual Diocesan Youth Rally will take place August 7-12, 2017. Youth Rally is open to all Diocesan Youth who have finished 5th grade and who have not yet celebrated their 18th birthday. Volunteer Adult Staff Members are required to make this event possible. Staff Members will arrive a day early, on Sunday evening, August 6, and stay the entire week. For further information, please contact Fr. John, who will once again this summer serve as Youth Rally Director and Rector.
**Readings from Holy Scripture**

*Scripture Readings for the Sunday of Publican and the Pharisee*

**The Reading from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy (2 Tim. 3:10-15)**

My Son Timothy: You have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke (Lk. 18:10-14)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank thee that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

*Scripture Readings for the Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

**The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 6:12-20)**

Brothers and Sisters: "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

**The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke (Lk. 15:11-32)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.'" And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. 'Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"