

Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Christian Church

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

Fr. John Hopko, Pastor • Protodeacon Paul Nimchek

860.582.3631 • email: terryvilleorthodoxchurch@gmail.com

www.terryvilleorthodoxchurch.org • www.facebook.com/TerryvilleOrthodoxChurch



Sunday, November 12, 2023

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Constantinople (612-20). Ven. Nilus the Faster, of Sinai (5th c.). Bl. John “the Hairy”, Fool-for-Christ, in Rostov (1580). Prophet Ahijah (960 BC). Ven. Nilus the Myrrhusher, of Mt. Athos (1651). Saint Varnava (Nastic), the New Confessor (1964).

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/11/12>

Services and Events, Upcoming

Sunday morning, November 12, 8:15 AM to 9:00 AM: Parish Education in the Parish Basement Social Hall

Sunday, November 12, 9:15 AM: Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Sunday morning Coffee Social Hour.

Sunday, November 12, during the Coffee Social Hour after the conclusion of Divine Liturgy, the Nominations Committee will meet.

IN THE SOUTHBURY PARISH: Sunday, November 12, 4:00 PM, The Annual Saint Nectarios Day Vespers, Procession, Anointing, and Reception in the Southbury Parish. See the announcement further on in the bulletin for details about this annual event.

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 PM, ONLINE: The Terryville Parish Council meeting will convene online, via ZOOM video teleconference, for their November 2023 monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, November 14, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Wednesday, November 15, 8:00 AM (FIRST DAY OF ADVENT/THE NATIVITY FAST): Matins (Morning Prayers), followed by Church cleaning and changing of covers/paraments and liturgical glass, etc., from gold to red for Advent.

NO Bible Study! Thursday, November 16 – Bible Study is cancelled this evening.

Saturday, November 18, 6:00 PM: Vigil (Great Vespers with the Reading of the Resurrectional Matins Gospel)

NO PARISH EDUCATION on Sunday morning, November 19.

Sunday, November 19, 9:15 AM: Divine Liturgy, followed by a “bring-and-share” Lenten (Advent) Luncheon, and then followed by the Year 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Terryville Parish.

Sunday, November 19, after Divine Liturgy: The Year 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Terryville Parish, convening in the nave of the Church.

Monday evening, November 20, 7:00 PM: Festal Vespers with Litya for the Eve of the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into Temple.

Tuesday morning, November 21, 9:15 AM: Festal Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Wednesday, November 22, 8:00 AM: Matins (Morning Prayers), with special additional Thanksgiving Prayers in anticipation of the Feast of Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 23, Thanksgiving Day – NO BIBLE STUDY – Fr. John out of the office for the day.

Saturday, November 25, 6:00 PM: Vigil (Great Vespers with the Reading of the Resurrectional Matins Gospel)

NO PARISH EDUCATION on Sunday morning, November 26.

Sunday, November 26, 9:15 AM: Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Sunday morning Coffee Social Hour.

Wednesday, November 29, 8:00 AM: Matins (Morning Prayers)

Thursday, November 30, 7:00 PM, On-line: Terryville Parish Bible Study, on-line, via Zoom video teleconference

Saturday, December 2, 2023 – NO ACTIVITIES OR SERVICES IN TERRYVILLE! On, Saturday, December 2, at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 165 Park Drive, Boston, MA, during the Divine Liturgy that begins there at 9:00 AM, Archimandrite Fr. Benedict Churchill, our Bishop-elect, will be consecrated and installed as Bishop of Hartford and New England, and will begin his duties as our new diocesan bishop. We will have **NO** activities or services that day here in our Parish, as Fr. John, Fr. David, and Protodeacon Paul will all be in Boston for the entire day on that Saturday, for the events taking place there. Please pray for Bishop-elect Fr. Benedict that the Lord will grant him a fruitful ministry in our diocese. Many Years!

Sunday morning, December 3, 8:15 AM to 9:00 AM: Parish Education in the Parish Basement Social Hall

Sunday, December 3, 9:15 AM: Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Sunday morning Coffee Social Hour.

On Tuesday evening, December 5, our new Young Men's Group will meet for Vespers, Dinner, and Discussion. Exact Schedule to be determined.

Wednesday, December 6, Saint Nicholas Day, 8:00 AM, Matins (Morning Prayers): December 6, annually, is the Feast of Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, so we will serve our usual and customary Matins, adding prayers requesting the intercessions of Saint Nicholas before the throne of God.

Thursday, December 7, 7:00 PM, On-line: Terryville Parish Bible Study, on-line, via Zoom video teleconference

LOOKING AHEAD: The Liturgical Services of Christmas

Wednesday evening, December 20, Forefeast of the Nativity, 7:00 PM: Forefeast Vespers

Friday evening, December 22, Forefeast of Christmas, 7:00 PM: Compline with the Reading of the Gospel Accounts from Saint Luke's and Saint Matthew's concerning the Birth of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ

Saturday evening, December 23, Forefeast of Christmas, 6:00 PM: Vigil (Great Vespers with the Reading of the Resurrectional Matins Gospel)

NO PARISH EDUCATION on Sunday morning, December 24.

Sunday morning, December 24, Christmas Eve, 9:15 AM: Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Sunday morning Coffee Social Hour

Sunday evening, December 24, 4:00 PM: The Vigil of Christmas, followed by the Parish "Holy Supper," as is traditional on Christmas Eve

Monday morning, December 25, Christmas Day, 9:15 AM: Divine Liturgy to mark the Feast of the Nativity (Birth) of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ



November 11, 2023

Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America issues statement on the conflict in Israel and Palestine

CHICAGO, IL [OCA]

To the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, beloved children in the Lord, and to people of good will throughout the wide world:

Every human life is incalculably precious; each human person is a soul for whom Christ died. As violence sweeps the world and conflicts in Israel and Palestine claim ever more victims, we mourn for the destruction of human life and well-being, plead with the relevant authorities for an immediate cessation of hostilities, and call for meaningful dialogue between the contesting parties.

We ask the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America to come before the face of the Prince of Peace seeking peace for our lives and for the entire world, and to do so with special diligence and fervor during the coming season of the Nativity Fast.

About the Annual General Meeting, Sunday, November 19

Dear Members and Friends of Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church, Terryville, CT:

Glory to Jesus Christ!

All agenda items to be discussed at the Year 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Terryville Parish on Sunday, November 19, 2023, are to be submitted in advance of the meeting.

Again, by decision of the Parish Council, based on the availability of key participants, including certain Church officers, the Year 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Terryville Parish will take place on Sunday, November 19, 2023. After the conclusion of the Lord's Day (Sunday morning) Divine Liturgy that morning, we will have a bring-and-share Lenten (Advent) Luncheon, and then hold our meeting in the Nave of the Church.

Again, we do not accept any items of business (especially new business) from the floor during our Parish's Annual General Meetings. This practical, common-sense rule is a long standing (20+ years!) rule of order at our Parish's Annual General Meetings.

The reason for this rule is so that we can ask meeting participants to prepare themselves, *in advance of the meeting*, to discuss all agenda items. This rule creates conditions that allow for productive, effective, and efficient discussions, rather than having participants surprised by a topic that they may not be prepared to discuss.

Please, understand that the Official Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of our Parish is established by the Parish Council. So, if you have any agenda items that you would like to see added to the Official Agenda of the Year 2023 Terryville (CT) Parish Annual General Meeting, please, contact me by replying to this email. If you have any other concerns, please, contact me by replying to this email.

In Christ, Fr. John H.

Reports for the Annual General Meeting

If you are a person who is responsible for providing a report for the Annual General Meeting, please, prepare that report and submit it to Fr. John H., *at your earliest convenience*. Thank you.

Advent Confession Appointments: Make your appointment now!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: Glory to Jesus Christ!

It is usual and customary for Orthodox Christians regularly to participate in the Sacrament of Confession. **I would suggest—in the strongest possible way—that we *all* make an appointment to participate in the Sacrament of Confession between now and the Feast of the Birth of Our Lord (Christmas, December 25).**

It is, of course, our usual custom to participate in the Sacrament of Confession during the Nativity Fast (Advent), the forty-day period leading up to Christmas. The Nativity Fast begins each year on November 15, and we are now already into the month of November, so the season of preparation is upon us.

So, please, contact me, at your earliest convenience, so that we can get an appointment for you into the calendar, and then prepare ourselves to participate in the essential and saving Sacrament of Confession.

In Christ, Fr. John H.

Fr. Benedict Churchill elected Bishop of New England

On Saturday, October 28, [Priest Benedict Churchill was nominated to be Bishop of New England](#), our diocesan bishop. On Tuesday, November 7, [Fr. Benedict was formally elected to be our bishop](#) by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA). His title will be “Bishop of Hartford and New England.” The election took place during the Holy Synod’s 2023 fall session, on the opening day of that session.

Fr. Benedict recently took initial monastic vows at Saint Tikhon’s Monastery, South Canaan, Pennsylvania. Then, on Wednesday, November 8, Fr. Benedict was advanced to the rank of Archimandrite, which is the highest rank a monastic priest can be awarded. Bishops in the Orthodox Church traditionally take at least initial monastic vows as part of their path to being a bishop. (For more about Orthodox monasticism visit this [LINK](#).)

The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA) meets twice a year, in the fall and in the spring. (The word “synod” means official assembly.) Each session of the Holy Synod lasts about four or five days. In the Orthodox Church, bishops are elected by bishops. In the Orthodox Church in America the members of a given diocese have the privilege to nominate a candidate to be considered by the Holy Synod of Bishops for election. For full information about this matter, please see [Article VIII of the Statute](#) (official bylaws/constitution) of the Orthodox Church in America.

[Fr. Benedict](#) will be consecrated a bishop and formally installed as our diocesan hierarch on Saturday morning, December 2, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, 165 Park Drive, Boston, Massachusetts.

Our parish will be represented at the consecration and installation of Bishop-elect Hieromonk Benedict on Saturday, December 2, by Protodeacon Paul and Patty Nimchek, and by Fr. John Hopko and Fr. David Koles.

If anyone is interested in attending the Divine Liturgy with the consecration and installation of the new bishop on Saturday morning, December 2, please let Fr. John H. know.

NOTE: The liturgical services and rites will be followed by a festive banquet at another site in Boston. The cost for that banquet will be \$75.00 a person. Fr. John and Fr. David will be attending that banquet, but it is not necessary to attend the banquet. One can certainly just attend the Church services, without choosing to attend the banquet.

Please, pray for Archimandrite Fr. Benedict, for the Holy Synod of Bishops, and for our diocese, the Diocese of New England.



PARISH PRAYER LIST

Again we pray for all victims of disease, disaster, difficulty, warfare, and acts of terror and senseless violence throughout the world—both those who have died and those who have suffered and yet still live. We especially pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones. Lord, hear us and have mercy!

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

Newly Departed

David L.—cousin of Marilou P. d. 10/21/23
Joanna—an acquaintance of Fr. John H. d. 10/21/23
Spiro—Elena W.'s cousin d. 10/19/23
Mark Kiryluk—son of Fr. Nicholas and Mat. Olga K. d. 10/5/23

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Catherine Plasko 11/12/2002
Mikolai Sulima 11/13/2006
Xenia Shakhno 11/14/1939
Ignaty Sobestanovich 11/14/1963
Anna Wazorko 11/15/1953
Michael Myshka 11/16/1945
Paraskeva Glowa 11/17/1917
Mary Uckin 11/18/1982
John Fomenko 11/18/1998

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

Archpriest Andrew Tregubov—priest in New Hampshire; recently unwell
Archpriest Mark Sh.—at request of Lynn H.
Matushka Ann Sh.—at request of Lynn H.
Matushka Anne Hosking—chronic illness; in need of our prayers
Fyodor (Frank) G.—suffering from Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer
Katie and Aubrey—a mother & daughter for whom we have been asked to pray
Tanya B.—suffering long-term and lingering effects of brain hemorrhage
Claudia A.—Waterbury parishioner; health challenges and now widowed
Mary Lynn—friend of Donna O.; battling breast cancer
Barbara—friend of Patty N.; unwell and in need of prayerful support
Michael “Mike” L.—ongoing health issues
Paula—friend of Jim L.; struggling with cancer
Dimitri—brother of Carolyn P.; health issues
Thomas—Patty N.'s nephew; battling cancer
Wayne—Donna O.'s father
Dianna—Jennifer W.'s mother; suffering health problems
Yvonne K.—a person we have been asked to pray for; multiple myeloma
Mark—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); critically ill
Domenic—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); facing serious illness
Louis—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); facing serious illness
Kathy (Katherine) S.—Waterbury parishioner; facing health challenges
Earlene L.—Mike and Jim L.'s mother; health issues
Natonya L.—Mike and Jim L.'s family member; health issues
Bach-Loan—a neighbor of Jeanne M.'s; serious health challenges
Marisa—a young girl, acquaintance of the Nimcheks, who is quite unwell
Stephen—facing long-term health challenges; at request of Marilou P.
Emily—acquaintance of the Nimcheks; facing serious illness, courageously
Michael “Mike” A.—battling health challenges
Robert Jos.—dealing with some health issues

Forrest H.—husband of Elaine H.; ongoing health challenges
Elizabeth—suffered acute and chronic health issues; friend of Helena G.
Rosemary—member in the New Britain Parish; long-term health challenges
Kirk—nephew of Joan M. and Jeanne M.; recovering from cardiac surgery
Andrea—mourning loss of loved one; req. of Helena G.
Jon—friend of Forrest and Elaine H.; recovering from brain surgery
Jeffrey G.—John G.'s father; recovering from surgery
Mark—a man suffering with cancer; friend of Elaine and Forrest H.
Sonya K.—former W'bury parishioner, unwell
Nyla—at request of John G.; unwell and in need of prayers
Harry—at request of Joan M.; joint replacement surgery
Matushka Deborah Belonick—severely broken leg, still requiring rehabilitation
Brittany—relative of Pdn. Paul; young woman facing cancer
Ruth S.—friend of the Hopkos; badly injured in a fall
Alexandra—Fr. John H.'s sister; suffers with Neurofibromatosis Type 2 (NF2)
Reader Matthew—friend of Subdeacon John Paul S.; in need of prayers
Oleg—friend of Subdeacon John Paul S.; very worrying diagnosis of health issue
John—a man suffering from cancer (Justine S.'s father)
Bill (“Vasilios”) L.—relative of the Sovyrda Family; unwell and in need of prayers
Matthew—someone for whom we have been asked to pray
Jeanne—recent health issues, requesting our prayers
Joan and Robert—mother and son coping with chronic illness—req. of Helena G.
Marilou P.—our fellow parishioner; rehab after surgery to treat broken hip and leg
Paul S.—recovering from recent medical procedure
Elena W.—upcoming surgery on November 20th

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

Alex—John D.'s brother; suffering permanent effects of stroke
Dolores M.—Bob M.'s mother; resident in long-term eldercare
Vera M.—now at Anthology in Farmington
Roberta K.—a Waterbury parishioner living in long-term care
Dorothy F.—Waterbury parishioner
Matushka Ann S.—our fellow parishioner; now living in residential care

Mother and Newly Born Child

Amber and the child newly born of her—Louine K.'s granddaughter-in-law

Expectant Mothers and the Children to be born of them

Liridona and the child to be born of her—Valbona H.'s sister-in-law
Kate and the child to be born of her—Lynn H.'s family member
Justine and the child to be born of her—a frequent visitor to our Parish
Melanie and the child to be born of her—George and Jenn. W.'s daughter-in-law
Chabela and the child to be born of her—friends of Leo K.
Diana and the child to be born of her—Julie and Joel K.'s daughter-in-law
And all the expectant mothers and their children

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

Christyn O. – away on study fellowship
Lewis and Valbona and Family—will soon be traveling

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

Joel O.—U.S. Navy; hospital corpsman (“medic”)
Shelby—Joel O.'s wife; also a U.S. Navy medic
Alexander—relative of Carolyn P.; 82nd Airborne Division U.S. Army soldier
Derek—relative of Carolyn P.; U.S. Army soldier
Ruben—acquaintance of the Hopkos, U.S. Marines Corps pilot
Zachary W—Fr. Zachary W.'s son; U.S. Air Force pilot

Wedding Anniversaries

NONE THIS WEEK

Birthdays

Karry O. 11/13

We pray for all military veterans today, especially those traumatized in any way by their service. Lord, have mercy.

Pray for Peace: Please pray for all those throughout the world, known and unknown to us by name, who have died and who are suffering due to armed conflict.

Presently there is significant warfare, causing tens of thousands of deaths and incredible suffering, ongoing in Ukraine, in the Middle East, in Myanmar, in the Maghreb, in Ethiopia, and in Sudan. There are lesser conflicts going on in many other places, as well, costing thousands more deaths. To give but one example, the ongoing drug war in Mexico has cost thousands of lives.

Please, pray for peace. Pray for those who have died. Pray for those who yet still live, but who have been victimized. Pray for all those who have suffered loss. Lord, hear our prayer!

Support the Plymouth Community Food Pantry at Thanksgiving! Donations of money are most useful!

The very best way to support [The Plymouth Community Food Pantry](#) is with a monetary donation. (As you surely know, the Food Pantry is housed in our Parish Community Center building, at the far end of the Parish Parking lot from the Church building.)

Yes, in-kind donations of non-perishable food items are useful, but the fact of the matter is that the Food Pantry can purchase food at prices not available to the general public. Also, they can purchase exactly what they need to distribute, when they need it. **So, please, in this holiday season, consider a financial gift to the Plymouth Community Food Pantry.** Click on this [LINK](#) to be taken directly to the donate now page on the Plymouth Community Food Pantry website.

If you prefer to send a check, make that check out to *The Plymouth Community Food Pantry*, and send that check to *The Plymouth Community Food Pantry, 20 Dewey Avenue, Terryville, CT 06786.*

[The Plymouth Community Food Pantry](#) presently serves more than 150 households each month, and anticipates this year distributing the full makings of a traditional Thanksgiving meal (a turkey, and all the customary sides and condiments!) to at least 170 households.

Remember a household can be a single person or a large family. The average household size in our town is between 2 and 3 persons. So, 170 households likely represents about 425 people.

If you do want to provide in-kind donations of non-perishable foods, **canned cranberry sauce, jarred gravy, and boxed stuffing mix** are the most useful donations.

Thanks for your support. May our merciful and compassionate Lord inspire you and bless you in all your charitable endeavors.

Update about Marilou P., following recent surgery, and time now spent in rehabilitation:

Our fellow parishioner Marilou P. is still in rehabilitation at Ingraham Manor, 400 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010. She has been there now for quite a while and will likely be there for some time to come. Marilou is still recovering from the surgery she required to repair her hip and leg after suffering a fall at home some weeks ago.

Unfortunately, there is communicable illness among the staff and residents of Ingraham Manor, so call ahead, and check first, before visiting.

The main phone number at Ingraham Manor is 860-584-3400, and if you call that number you can ask to be connected to Marilou's room. She will be pleased to receive phone calls from us, her fellow parishioners of the Terryville Parish.

Ingraham Manor has visiting hours throughout most of the day, but the best time to visit Marilou is between 3:00 and 4:30 PM, and also, perhaps, between 6:30 and 8:00 PM. Marilou will be happy to receive visitors from her fellow Terryville parishioners.



Scripture Readings, etc.

Follow this link, to be taken to a section of the official Orthodox Church in America website at which you can access the Daily Scripture Readings, the Lives of the Saints arranged day-to-day throughout the year, catechetical (instructional) material about the Orthodox Faith, and section featuring Questions and Answers about the Orthodox Faith:

<https://www.oca.org/orthodoxy>

The End! Glory be to God!

+ + +