



# 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](mailto:terryvilleorthodoxchurch@gmail.com)

[www.terryvilleorthodoxchurch.org](http://www.terryvilleorthodoxchurch.org) • [www.facebook.com/TerryvilleOrthodoxChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TerryvilleOrthodoxChurch)

## Sunday, November 26, 2023

**25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8.** The Righteous Gideon. Ven. Alypius the Stylite of Adrianopolis (7th c.). Dedication of the Church of the Greatmartyr George at Kiev (1051-54). Repose of St. Innocent, first Bishop of Irkutsk (1731). Ven. James the Solitary of Syria (457).

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/11/26>

### Services and Events, Upcoming

**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, and by the Annual Visit of Saint Nicholas to the Parish Children.

**(NOTE: We will have Choir rehearsals on Sundays, December 3, 10, and 17, immediately after the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. These rehearsals are to prepare for Christmas.)**

**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.

**Subject to change: Thursday, December 7, 7:00 PM, On-line:** Terryville Parish Bible Study, on-line, via Zoom video teleconference. *(We are planning for this session, but it may need to be postponed.)*

**Saturday, December 9, 6:00 PM:** Vigil (Great Vespers with the Reading of the Resurrectional Matins Gospel)

**Sunday morning, December 10, 8:15 AM to 9:00 AM:** Parish Education in the Parish Basement Social Hall

**Sunday, December 10, 9:15 AM:** Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Sunday morning Coffee Social Hour.

**December 12 and 13:** We will **NOT** have services in our parish for the Feast of Saint Herman of Alaska on December 12-13. Fr. John will be away those days at Saint Tikhon's Monastery, S. Canaan, Pennsylvania, where he has been invited to be present for events marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the departure from this life into eternal life of his maternal grandfather, Protopresbyter Alexander Schmemmann of blessed memory. Memory Eternal!

**Thursday, December 14, 7:00 PM, On-line:** Terryville Parish Bible Study, on-line, via Zoom video teleconference

**Saturday, December 16, 6:00 PM:** Vigil (Great Vespers with the Reading of the Resurrectional Matins Gospel)

**Sunday morning, December 17, 8:15 AM to 9:00 AM:** Parish Education in the Parish Basement Social Hall

**Sunday, December 17, 9:15 AM:** Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Sunday morning Coffee Social Hour.

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

**NO BIBLE STUDY: We will not have Bible Study on Thursday, December 21.**

**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



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## **Choir Rehearsals in preparation for the Christmas Holidays**

Dear Members of the Terryville Parish Choir:

In preparation for the Christmas holidays (the Feast of the Birth of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ), we will hold Choir Rehearsals after the conclusion of the Sunday morning Divine Liturgies on December 3, 10, and 17.

Thank you, so much, dear Choir Members, for your ministry of choral music in our Parish! Thank you!

In Christ, Fr. John H.

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## **Join the Choir!**

I hear so many of you singing in Church with sweet, prayerful, pious voices from among the congregants. Be brave and generous! Join the Choir! It is a wonderful, joyful, and edifying way to participate in our liturgical services at Church. No prior experience necessary!

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## **Advent Confession Appointments: Participate in the Sacrament of Confession in Preparation for the Feast of Christmas**

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.

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.

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## **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 Archimandrite Benedict on Saturday, December 2, by Protodeacon Paul and Patty Nimchek, and by Fr. John Hopko and Fr. David Koles.

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

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## **Update from Teodora and Jacob in Serbia**

Teodora and Jacob J. (whom we are happy to call our parishioners, even at the great distance they are presently from us) send us prayerful and loving greetings from Teodora’s home country of Serbia where, just over a month ago, they were united in the Sacrament of Marriage. They will be living in Belgrade (Teodora’s hometown) for a while, as Teodora finishes her education, and while working on immigration issues. They do hope to be here in Connecticut eventually, and with us at Saints Cyril and Methodius Church. Fr. John enjoyed video-conferencing with Teodora and Jacob on the day after Thanksgiving. They look extremely happy! Many Years!

# 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**

Archpriest Anthony Gori—diocesan priest	d. 11/13/23
Protodeacon Nicholas Jannakos—acquaintance of Fr. David K.	d. 11/18/23
Terri K.—daughter of the late George and Olga K.	d. 11/14/23
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

## **Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!**

Vasily Senetcen	11/26/1926
Christine Homsevich	11/26/1931
Elena Homsevich	11/26/1931
Iosephat Dziamba	11/26/1960
Michael Duke	11/27/1960
Konstanty Kisiel	11/27/2000
Anna Delendik	11/28/1929
Panteleimon Dziamba	11/28/1931
Olga Wrettick	11/29/1966
Stephen Kablesch	11/29/1992
Procopiy Chervoniak	11/30/1956
(Matushka) Olga Kiryluk	12/1/2003
Mary Kostyk	12/2/1984
Dan Vasiliu	12/2/2010

## **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; unwell  
Matushka Elisabeth B.—extremely unwell  
Archpriest Sergei B.—at request of Fr. John H.  
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  
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  
Jesse—at request of John G.; unwell and in need of prayers  
Jeffrey—at request of John G.; unwell and in need of prayers  
Ninoos—at request of John G.; unwell and in need of prayers  
Harry—at request of Joan M.; joint replacement surgery  
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  
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.—underwent surgery on November 20, now recovering

### **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  
Meredith and the child to be born of her—Fr. John's nephew's wife  
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  
And all those who are or will be traveling during this holiday season

### **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.; 82<sup>nd</sup> 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**

Nicholas T. – Joanne T.'s son 11/27



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## 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!

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## Further Update about Marilou P., following surgery and time spent in rehabilitation:

As of Saturday, November 25, our fellow parishioner Marilou P. is still in rehabilitation at Ingraham Manor, 400 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

Marilou is still recovering from the surgery she required to repair her hip and leg after suffering a fall at home a while back. Thankfully, during the last few weeks Marilou has made significant progress in her rehabilitation. Marilou is working hard, so that she might soon be released from inpatient care, and then return home.

**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.

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## St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary Choir comes again to Connecticut for a special Sacred Music Concert

Three Saints Orthodox Church, Ansonia, CT, will again be hosting A Concert of Sacred Music, sung by seminarians from St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary ("STOTS"), South Canaan, PA, on Sunday afternoon, December 3, 2023, at 4:00 PM.

In honor of former diocesan chancellor and beloved pastor emeritus of Three Saints Church, Ansonia, Fr. Nicholas Timpko, Three Saints Church is helping fund "The Very Rev. Mitered Archbishop Nicholas Timpko St. Tikhon's OCA Seminarian Memorial Scholarship" through freewill offerings collected at this concert. There is no admission fee, but the freewill donations collected will help fund the Timpko Scholarship to help prepare priests and leaders within the Orthodox Church.

Donation checks may be made out to "Three Saints Orthodox Church" (with "STOTS" written on the memo line), and can be handed in at the concert or may be mailed to:

Three Saints Orthodox Church, ATTN: Scholarship  
26 Howard Ave., Ansonia, CT 06401

Contact Deacon Peter Romanovsky at 203-305-5683 or [pwromanovsky89@gmail.com](mailto:pwromanovsky89@gmail.com) for more information or visit the Ansonia Parish website at <https://www.threesaintschurch.org>.



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# Scripture Readings, etc.

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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>

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*The End! Glory be to God!*

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