



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

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Sunday, December 10, 2023

27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2. Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugephus, of Alexandria (ca. 313). St. Joasaph, Bishop of Belgorod (1754). Martyr Gemellus of Paphlagonia (ca. 361). Ven. Thomas of Bithynia (10th c.). Righteous King John of Serbia, and his parents Righteous Stephen, Despot of Serbia, and Venerable Angelina of Serbia.

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/12/10>

Services and Events, Upcoming

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

Saturday, December 9, 6:00 PM: Vespers, led by Protodeacon Paul. (Fr. John will be away leading an Advent Retreat for Diocesan Youth.)

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 Choir Rehearsal and by our usual Sunday morning Coffee Social Hour.

Tuesday, December 12, Eve of the Feast of Saint Herman of Alaska, 6:30 PM: Vespers

RESCHEDULED! Tuesday, December 12, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM: Inaugural Young Men's Meeting in our Parish, Dinner followed by Discussion.

Wednesday, December 13, 8:00 AM, Feast of Saint Herman of Alaska: Our usual Wednesday morning Matins, with added hymns and prayers to Saint Herman

NO BIBLE STUDY: We will not have Bible Study on Thursday, December 14.

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 Gospels 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 (*NOTE: As it is Christmas Eve, we will NOT have our usual Coffee Social Hour after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning, December 24.*)

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



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 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.

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.

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 Michael Oleksa—prominent priest in Alaska d. 11/29/23
Priest Anthony Gori—diocesan priest d. 11/13/23
Protodeacon Nicholas Jannakos—acquaintance of Fr. David K. d. 11/18/23
Matushka Elisabeth B. d. 11/25/23
Terri K.—daughter of the late George and Olga K. d. 11/14/23

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Vladimir Shymansky 12/11/1921
John Vanoni 12/11/1930
Emelian Lazarko 12/11/1946
Dimitry Kucirka 12/11/1963
Sydney Isidore Brenner 12/11/1992
Vera Kisiel 12/11/2014
Anna Gamernik-Samdetski 12/12/1914
Maria Belitsa 12/12/1942
Alexander Oleshko 12/13/1965
Joseph Kovaleski 12/13/2006
Anna Kyschersky 12/15/1938
Anastasia Kyschersky 12/15/1938
Justina Stashenko 12/15/1964
Fotina Alemoni 12/15/1998
John Tikhansky 12/16/1918
Olga Grischuk 12/16/1927

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
Archpriest Vasily G.—unwell and in need of prayers; a diocesan priest
Archpriest Vladimir A.—unwell and in need of prayers; a diocesan priest
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; still recovering from surgical repair of broken leg
Paul S.—recovering from recent medical procedure
Elena W.—underwent surgery on November 20, now recovering
Amber—Louine K.'s granddaughter-in-law.
Dmitry S.—Nina D.'s father; in hospice care
Alex D.—John D.'s brother; in hospice care

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

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, Father and Child Lost at Birth

Chabela and Miguel and their child who sadly did not survive childbirth (11/30)

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
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
Courtney and the child to be born of her—Mark and Karry O.'s daughter
Valbona (Catherine) and the child to be born of her—our fellow parishioner
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.; 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

Thomas W. 12/11

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!

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!

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