

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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Schedule of Services

- 9/3 Sunday**
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 9/6 Wednesday**
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 9/7 Thursday** (*In the Waterbury Parish!*)
Eve of the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
6:15 PM – Vespers with Divine Liturgy

*(NOTE: This service will take place in the **WATERBURY** Parish, as this day is their patronal feast-day!)*

- 9/8 Friday**
Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
9:00 AM – Service of Intercession to the Most-Holy Theotokos
- 9/9 Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil
- 9/10 Sunday**
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
Followed by Special Parish Meeting (Please see details about this meeting on the "New and Notes" page of this bulletin.)
- 9/11 Monday**
7:00 PM – Parish Council Meeting
- 9/13 Wednesday**
Eve of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
NQ Matins
6:15 PM – Vespers with Divine Liturgy
- 9/14 Thursday**
9:00 AM – Matins for the Feast
- 9/16 Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil
- 9/17 Sunday**
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 9/20 Wednesday**
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 9/23 Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil
Followed by Monthly Rite of General Confession

Sunday, September 3, 2017

The 13th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 4

Commemoration of the Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and those martyred with him (early 4th c.)

Commemoration of the Venerable Theoctistus of Palestine (5th c.)

Commemoration of Saint Phoebe the Deaconess (1st c.)

Hurricane Harvey Response Fund

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) has set up a **Hurricane Harvey Response Fund** to help respond to the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Louisiana.

Donations to this fund may be made at www.iocc.org. Or, you may donate by mail by sending a check made out to IOCC to 110 West Road, Suite 360, Baltimore, MD 21204. Specify that it is for the Hurricane Harvey Response Fund. All donations to IOCC are tax-deductible as IOCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. IOCC's Federal Tax ID number ("FEIN number") is 25-1679348.

92 cents of every dollar donated to IOCC goes directly to humanitarian work. The other 8 cents meets administrative and fundraising costs. IOCC has been in existence since 1992, providing Orthodox Christians in North America with an organization they can trust to accomplish good things with their charitable donations.

Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org), which is an independent charity watchdog organization, presently gives IOCC a four-star rating, which is their highest, and a numerical rating of 92.92 out of a possible 100. To compare IOCC to other charities, visit Charity Navigator's website.

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

John—Thomas Hopko's grandfather-in-law d. 8/31/17
Tatiana—a woman we have been asked to pray for d. 8/19/17
Michael—father of a friend of the Hopko family d. 8/20/17
Catherine—Fr. Vladimir Aleandro's aunt d. 8/24/17
Stephen Kowalchuk—was member of parish as a child d. 8/31/17

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Gregory "Harry" Kablesch 9/3/1967
Lucy Brozinski 9/3/1989
Anna Glowa 9/4/1913
William Hasko 9/4/1992
Elizabeth Zadvorni 9/5/1947
Metro Panchok 9/5/1957
Anastasia Lyga 9/6/1962
Anna Kablesch 9/6/1966
Ann Plasko 9/8/1950
Martha Witick 9/9/1970
Patrick Gurgigno 9/9/1980

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 Drew—grandson of friends of the Nimcheks; ongoing treatment for eye cancer
child Matthew—son of friends of M. Osuch; genetic disorder with medical complications
child Ava—young daughter of friends of Melanie Osuch; suffering seizures
Alexander—acquaintance of M. Osuch; suffering and in need of God's mercy and help
Michele—very close friend of M. Osuch; troubled and in need of God's mercy and help
Anna Osuch—suffering in ill health
Jadwiga ["Yahd-vee-gah"]—mother of an acquaintance of E. Watras; cancer
Steven Belonick—Cynthia Belonick's father; unwell
Phyllis George—Donna Krinske's cousin; battling breast cancer
Alex—John Dubnansky's brother, suffering permanent effects of stroke
Darilyne—facing health challenges; daughter of Bob and Vera Martin
Michael "Mischa" Semanitzky—Dn. 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
child Asa—great-grandson of friend of E. Watras; child with developmental challenges
Barbara—Arlene Osuch's sister; epilepsy with complications
Anatoli—a friend of Tania Bouteneff; diagnosed with colon cancer
Galina—wife of above-mentioned Anatoli
William "Bill" Markovich—recently unwell
Samantha—extremely ill child for whom we have been asked to pray
Eugene—Tania Bouteneff's uncle; battling cancer
Donna—Ann Sovyrda's niece; kidney disease
Deryl—Ann Sovyrda's nephew; kidney disease
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer
MaryEllen—Louine King's daughter-in-law; declining due to Huntington's Disease
Zachary—nephew of acquaintances of Nimcheks; recent double lung transplant
George Klachany—our fellow parishioner; still in need of prayers for health
Virginia—Elena Watras' sister; unwell and in need of prayers
Dawn—friend of Joan Markovich; Stage Four lung cancer
Vince—friend of the Oraschewsky Family; colon cancer
child Maven—child of friends of the G. and D. Wegh Family; serious medical condition
Vera Bouteneff—Tania Bouteneff's mother; presently unwell
Galina—Svetlana Shorey's sister-in-law; suffering with cancer
Archpriest Vladimir Horoszczak; underwent open heart surgery on June 27
Peter Oraschewsky—hip joint replacement surgery earlier this summer
Barbara Sovyrda—Mark Sovyrda's former wife; health challenges
Mary—Deacon Paul Nimchek's sister; back surgery
John Kuzmich—suffering from lung cancer
Louine "Anna" King—suffering from lung cancer
Mary Fomenko—recently unwell; now back home, but still ailing
Joan Spencer—has asked for our prayers
Archpriest Steven Voytovich—severely injured foot

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

Eva Kopcha—at Sheriden Woods in Bristol
Sonya Petroff—at Sheriden Woods in Bristol
Irene Kiehart—Jayne Grasso's mother; now resident in Connecticut

Those from among us serving in the Armed Forces

Joel Oreup—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
Mark & Karry Oreup and Family
Lucy Hopko—in the Dominican Republic, 9/3 through 9/9 on medical mission

Wedding Anniversaries

Sarah Senecten Gaulin & Justin Gaulin 9/4

Birthdays

NONE known to be occurring this week

A Prayer in the Face of Inclement Weather

O Master, Lord our God, Who through Thy consubstantial Word, Who is without beginning, and Thy life-giving Spirit, Who is equal in honor, hast brought everything out of nothingness into being; Who hast set sandy barriers to the sea, and hast weighed the mountains and the valleys in a balance; Who hast measured the skies and holds the water in the palm of Thy hand; Who hast given to this visible world of the senses its law and rules, its harmony and order; Who hast appointed changes to the weather and variations in the orbit of the sun; Who, through the mingling of the elements, holds all things together by Thine inexpressible power and keeps them free from harm and intact: Do Thou Thyself, all-good King, extending to us Thine innate and customary love and goodness, visit the work of Thy hands. Do not deprive us of Thy mercies and Thy compassion, and do not destroy Thine inheritance, for Thou hast ineffably created us in Thine own image. Thou hast given Thine only-begotten Son as a ransom for us, and through the mystical communion of Thy Spirit hast made us share in Thine own

divinity; forgive, we pray, the multitude of our sins in the far greater multitude of Thy mercies. Thou didst wash away the sins of humanity through the Cross and the Blood of Thy Son. Restore the world of nature, which has been grievously disturbed into an unnatural state, and restore it to its natural harmony and order. Make the great ocean return to its usual calmness, bring to end the tempest and the disturbance of the elements that threaten us, order the winds to blow once more with gentleness and moderation. Rebuke the raging of the sea and the unnatural violence of the gales; let the storm be stilled and the tempest return to tranquility, through the intercession of the most blessed Lady Theotokos, of all the Angels and Saints, and the good pleasure and love of Thine only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou are blessed, together with Thine all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

This prayer was provided to us by Bishop Thomas (Joseph), a bishop of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

A Pilgrimage to Waterbury!

“A Pilgrimage to Waterbury”, Thursday evening, September 7, Eve of the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos: On Thursday evening, September 7, our parish will be marking the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos (one of the twelve “great” feasts of the Church year), by joining the faithful people of Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church, 3125 North Main Street, Waterbury, to celebrate the Feast. That evening, beginning at 6:15 PM, we will celebrate Vespers and Liturgy (“Vespereal Liturgy”) in the Chapel located within the Community Center at the Waterbury Parish. Fr. John Hopko will preside at the Vespereal Liturgy in his capacity as Pastoral Administrator of the Waterbury Parish. We will, also, be joined by clergy and parishioners from the Salisbury, Meriden, and Hartford Parishes. The services will be followed by a meal offered by the Waterbury parishioners in the Waterbury Parish Community Center Social Hall, located in the same building as the Chapel.

Please, consider making the effort to participate in this event. The present group of faithful parishioners in Waterbury are a group of good and dedicated persons seeking to revitalize their parish as it works through some extraordinarily difficult issues. They could use our prayerful support.

News and Notes...

Special Basket Collection in Support of the Parish Scholarship Fund, Sunday, September 3: Thursday, August 31, was the 29th anniversary of the death of Fr. Nicholas Kiryluk, in whose memory our Parish Scholarship Fund is named. Many of us remember him (together with Matushka Olga, his wife, who passed away on December 1, 2003) with great warmth. This weekend, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, September 3, we will have a Special Basket Collection in honor of Fr. Nicholas and his family members with all proceeds benefiting the Parish Scholarship Fund. Please be generous in support of this worthy cause. The Parish Scholarship Fund offers scholarships for higher education (beyond high school) to parish members.

Burial in Parish Cemetery, Tuesday, September 5—Mr. Stephen Kowalchuk: This past week a man named Stephen Kowalchuk died in Bristol. He was 87 years old. Stephen grew up in our parish, but did not attend here as an adult. Stephen’s only living family is an older sister, and some nieces and nephews. Some months ago, Stephen himself being incapacitated due to dementia, his family approached our parish to confirm that Stephen might be able to be buried in our Parish Cemetery next to his parents. Taking into account that Stephen was a professing Christian, that his parents were members of the Church, and that there is a plot available next to his parents that is very unlikely to be of use to any other person, Fr. John, having consulted with our Cemetery Sexton, Greg Wegh, gave his blessing for Stephen to be buried next to his parents. Such an accommodation is not unprecedented, as our existing Cemetery guidelines do say that children may be buried next their Orthodox Christian parents in our Cemetery, whether or not those children are practicing Orthodox Christians. That guideline is probably meant for the sake of minor (not adult) children, but nevertheless in this case (as in several previous cases), Fr. John felt that a favorable blessing was warranted and in good order. We note that this man, Stephen, regularly visited his parents’ graves in our Parish Cemetery, and was sometimes encountered there by members of our parish. Fr. John will be doing a brief service for Stephen at Funk Funeral Home in Bristol on Tuesday morning, September 5, and immediately thereafter burial will take place in the Parish Cemetery. Please keep the newly departed servant of God, Stephen, in your prayers.

Special Parish Meeting, Sunday, September 10: Next weekend, on Sunday, September 10, after the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, and after we have had some time for “coffee and...”, we will be having a special meeting of the Parish. This meeting is to discuss in some depth the question of how we wish to address the issue of Church Growth and Development in our Parish. Presently, we are in the midst of an eight-week-long preaching program, during which we are exploring some of the characteristics manifested by healthy, growing, and developing parish churches. The purpose of this preaching program is to prepare us for our meeting in September, by raising awareness of this significant issue and some of its relevant aspects. Please, plan now to make the time to participate in our special meeting on September 10. Each and every one of us matters, and makes a difference. Your presence is vital to the fruitfulness of our planned September 10th gathering—do not doubt that truth!

September Meeting of the Parish Council, Monday, September 11: Our Parish Council will hold their September monthly meeting on Monday, September 11, beginning at 7:00 PM.

To stay informed about events via email, please, join the parish “Google Group”: If you have not already done so, please join our parish’s “Google Group.” This email group is replacing the previous email mailing list that our parish had from the old, obsolete parish email address, so you must join the Google Group in order to continue receiving the informational emails about parish events and occurrences that are occasionally sent out by Fr. John. To join the group either respond to the invitation email that was sent to you on Friday, September 1, or send an email to Fr. John at the parish email address terryvilleorthodoxchurch@gmail.com authorizing him to add you to the group. Thank you!

Readings from Holy Scripture

Scripture Readings for the 13th Sunday after Pentecost, this year September 3

The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 16:13-24)

Brothers and Sisters: Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew (Matt. 21:33-42)

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

Scripture Readings for the 14th Sunday after Pentecost, this year September 10

The Reading from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (2 Cor. 1:21-2:4)

Brothers and Sisters: It is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew (Matt. 22:1-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.' But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment; and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."