

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

5/28 Sunday
The Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
 12:15 PM – Memorial Service for Departed Members of Maria Oraschewsky’s Family

5/31 Wednesday
 8:00 AM Matins (Morning Prayers)

6/3 Saturday
Eve of Holy Pentecost
Pre-Pentecost Memorial Saturday
 5:30 PM – General Memorial Service
 Commemorating All Departed Faithful
 6:00 PM – Festal Vigil

6/4 Sunday
Feast of Holy Pentecost
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy, followed immediately by the Service with the Pentecost Kneeling Prayers

6/5 Monday
 7:00 PM – Parish Council Meeting

6/7 Wednesday
NO Matins (Morning Prayers)

*Fr. John will be away for three days,
 June 7 through June 9*

6/10 Saturday
 6:00 PM – Vigil

6/11 Sunday
Feast of All Saints
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy

6/14 Wednesday
 8:00 AM Matins (Morning Prayers)

6/17 Saturday
 6:00 PM – Vigil

6/18 Sunday
Feast of All Saints of North America
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, May 28, 2017

*The Sunday between
 the Feasts of Ascension and Pentecost*

Post-Feast of the Feast of Ascension

**Commemoration of the Fathers of
 the First Ecumenical Council**

May 28, annually, is the commemoration of, among others,
 St. Nicetas, Bishop of Chalcedon (8th c.),
 St. Germanus, Bishop of Paris (6th c.),
 and the Hieromartyr Eutychius, Bishop of Melitene (1st c.)

**Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Christian Church
 Terryville, Connecticut**

VISION – MISSION – VALUES

Our Vision: To receive, accept, make known and share God the Father’s love in all its saving power, through Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit.

Our Mission: To make present in this time and place the fullness of the Orthodox Christian Faith, so that all persons might come to the knowledge of the Truth. We carry out this mission through worship, stewardship, education, nurture, fellowship, charity and outreach.

Our Values: We are traditional: We value time-honored truths and morality. We hold to long-established patterns of worship, devotion and service. We value every person, family, and community. We believe that life lived rightly has boundaries—there are things that we should do and things we should not; but within the structure provided by those limits there is the opportunity for boundless growth, creativity and joy. Indeed, we affirm this apparent paradox: that the path to true freedom and eternal blessedness is to be a servant—to be a servant of God the Father, through Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit.

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

Priest William George—young priest, tragically killed in car accident d. 5/5/17
Allison—friend of Peter Serev d. 5/10/17
Lynda—the mother of Marina Leonidas's Pastor d. 5/13/17
Robert Faria—former member of parish d. 5/17/17

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Anastasia Panasuk 5/30/1974
John Pavelchak 5/31/1920
Nicholas Banziruk 5/31/1949
Francis Chevorniak 5/31/1956
Christine Pasachnuk 5/31/1962
Archpriest Joseph Fedoronko 5/31/1971
Mary (Markovich) Dailey 5/31/2001
Steven Kraynak 6/2/1982
Barbara Lisyk 6/3/1933
Matthew Kopcha 6/3/1958
Walter Petroff 6/3/1975

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 Kriniske's cousin; battling breast cancer
Alex—John Dubnansky's brother, suffering permanent effects of stroke
Darlyne—facing health challenges; daughter of Bob and Vera Martin
Michael "Mischka" 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
Nicole—acquaintance of Tom and Marie Wood; young mother, overcoming leukemia

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
Mary Fomenko—recently unwell
William "Bill" Markovich—recently unwell
Veronika "Nika" Dubnansky—continuing her recovery
Samantha—extremely ill child for whom we have been asked to pray
Eugene—Tania Bouteneff's uncle; battling cancer
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
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer
Lucretia—friend of Jeanne Moore; broken leg
MaryEllen—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
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
Dianna—Jennifer Wegh's mother; suffered an apparent stroke with complications
Robert "Bob" Faria—former member of parish; extremely unwell
John Cordone—Thomas Hopko's grandfather-in-law; now in hospice
John Kuzmich—suffering from lung cancer
Louine "Anna" King—suffering from lung cancer
Irene Kiehart—Jayne Grasso's mother, presently unwell

Shut-ins and those in Nursing Homes

Eva Kopcha—at Sheriden Woods in Bristol
Sonya Petroff—at Sheriden Woods in Bristol

Expectant Mother

Juliana and the child to be born of her—Juliana Dresko Veek and her baby
Olga and the child to be born of her—Olga Fedorcak and her baby
Rachel and the child to be born of her—Rachel Kopcha Goulet and her baby
Brianna and the child to be born of her—Chezelle Serev's niece and her baby
Mikel and the child to be born of her—J. and E. Watras' daughter 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
Tatyana Bristol—traveling to Russia, May 4 to July 19, visiting family

Birthdays

Elliott Wingate

6/1

News and Notes

Sunday, June 4, Feast of Holy Pentecost: Please be reminded that on Sunday, June 4, the Feast of Holy Pentecost, we will serve the Service with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost immediately following the conclusion of the Sunday morning Divine Liturgy. Pentecost is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church Year, and commemorates the occasion when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon Christ's Apostles fifty days after His Resurrection from the dead.

Monday, June 5, June Meeting of the Parish Council: The June Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday evening, June 5, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Wednesday-Friday, June 7-9: Fr. John will be away from Terryville on a personal trip from early Wednesday morning, June 7, until late on Friday evening, June 9.

NOTES FROM FR. JOHN

This past week we celebrated the Feast of the Ascension, and we are still in the post-festal period of celebration. The Feast of the Ascension always falls forty day after Easter Sunday, so it always falls on a Thursday, five weeks and five days after Holy Pascha. What follows is an article by Fr. Thomas Hopko about the Ascension. This is from the Worship volume of his four volume catechetical (religious education) series of books, The Orthodox Faith. The full text of that catechetical series is available on line at the website of the Orthodox Church in America, www.oca.org.

The Feast of the Ascension

Jesus did not live with his disciples after his resurrection as he had before his death. Filled with the glory of his divinity, he appeared at different times and places to his people, assuring them that it was he, truly alive in his risen and glorified body.

To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the Kingdom of God (Acts 1:3).

It should be noted that the time span of forty days is used many times in the Bible and signifies a temporal period of completeness and sufficiency (Genesis 7:17; Exodus 16:35, 24:18; Judges 3:11; 1 Samuel 17:16; 1 Kings 19:8; John 3:4; Matthew 4:2). On the fortieth day after his passover from death to life, Jesus ascended into heaven to be glorified at the right hand of God (Acts 1:9-11; Mark 16:19; Luke 24:51). The ascension of Christ is his final physical departure from this world after the resurrection. It is the formal completion of his mission in this world as the Messianic Savior. It is his glorious return to the Father who had sent him into the world to accomplish the work that he had given him to do (John 17:4-5).

... and lifting his hands he blessed them. While blessing them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ... (Luke 24:51-52).

The Church's celebration of the Ascension, as all such festal celebrations, is not merely the remembrance of an event in Christ's life. Indeed, the Ascension itself is not to be understood as though it were simply the supernatural event of a man floating up and away into the skies. The holy scripture stresses Christ's physical departure and his glorification with God the Father, together with the great joy which his disciples had as they received the promise of the Holy Spirit who was to come to assure the Lord's presence with them, enabling them to be his witnesses to the ends of earth (Luke 24:48-53; Acts 1:8-11; Matthew 28:20; Mark 16:16-14).

In the Church the believers in Christ celebrate these very same realities with the conviction that it is for them and for all men that Christ's departure from this world has taken place. The Lord leaves in order to be glorified with God the Father and to glorify us with himself. He goes in order to "prepare a place" for and to take us also into the blessedness of God's presence. He goes to open the way for all flesh into the "heavenly sanctuary ... the Holy Place not made by hands" (see Hebrews 8-10). He goes in order send the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father to bear witness to him and his Gospel in the world, making him powerfully present in the lives of disciples.

The liturgical hymns of the feast of the Ascension sing of all of these things. The antiphonal verses of the Divine Liturgy are taken from Psalms 47, 48, and 49. The Troparion of the feast which is sung at the small entrance is also used as the Communion Hymn.

You have ascended in glory O Christ our God, granting joy to Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world! (Troparion).

When You fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, and united earth to heaven, You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love You, but remaining with them and crying: I am with you and no one will be against you! (Kontakion)

Readings from Holy Scripture

Scripture Readings for the Sunday between the Feasts of Ascension and Pentecost, on which we commemorate the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles (Acts 20:16-18, 28-36)

At that time, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "You yourselves know how I lived among you all the time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the

disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. John (Jn 17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee, since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made. "I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; for I have given them the words which

thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.