

# 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***

- 1/6 Sunday**  
***Feast of Theophany: The Commemoration of the Baptism of our Lord***  
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy  
 With the Rite of The Great Blessing of the Water  
 And Installation of the New Parish Council
- 1/7 Monday**  
*(Parish Council meeting postponed to 1/14)*  
 6:00 to 8:00 PM – Wake for Sonya Petroff  
 7:30 PM – Memorial Service for Sonya Petroff
- 1/8 Tuesday**  
 10:00 AM – Funeral for Sonya Petroff
- 1/9 Wednesday**  
 8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 1/12 Saturday**  
**NO EVENING SERVICE IN TERRYVILLE**
- 1/13 Sunday**  
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy  
*(With Fr. Sergius Halvorsen presiding in Fr. John's place. See note in bulletin, for details.)*
- 1/14 Monday**  
 7:00 PM – Parish Council Meeting *(rescheduled)*
- 1/16 Wednesday**  
 8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 1/19 Saturday**  
 6:00 PM – Vigil
- 1/20 Sunday**  
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy  
*(Fr. John will be departing immediately following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in order to travel to the Waterbury Parish, where he will preside there at the rescheduled Annual General Meeting of the Parish.)*
- 1/23 Wednesday**  
 8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 1/26 Saturday**  
 6:00 PM – Vigil
- 1/27 Sunday**  
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 1/30 Wednesday**  
 8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 2/1 Friday**  
***Eve of the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord***  
 6:15 PM – Vespers with Divine Liturgy

## Sunday, January 6, 2019

### *The Feast of Theophany*

January 6, annually, is the Feast of Theophany, when we commemorate the Baptism of our Lord by John the Baptist in the River Jordan

### Some Significant Dates in the First Half of 2019

- Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord – Sunday, January 6
- Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple – Saturday, February 2
- Pre-Lenten Memorial Saturday – Saturday, March 2
- Meat-fare Sunday – Sunday, March 3
- Forgiveness Sunday – Sunday, March 10
- **First Day of Great Lent – Monday, March 11**
- First Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts in Lent – Wednesday, Mar. 13
- Sunday of Orthodoxy, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent – Sunday, March 17
- Feast of the Annunciation – Monday, March 25
- Middle Sunday of Great Lent, Veneration of the Holy Cross – Mar. 31
- Last Day of Great Lent – Friday, April 19
- Lazarus Saturday – Saturday, April 20
- Palm Sunday – Sunday, April 21
- **Holy Week – Monday, April 22, through Saturday, April 27**
- Great and Holy Thursday – Thursday, April 25
- Great and Holy Friday – Friday, April 26
- Great and Holy Saturday – Saturday, April 27
- **Holy Pascha (Easter) – Sunday, April 28**
- **Feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius – Saturday, May 11**
- Feast of Mid-Pentecost – Wednesday, May 22
- Leave-taking of Pascha – Wednesday, June 5
- Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord – Thursday, June 6
- Feast of Holy Pentecost – Sunday, June 16
- The Apostles Fast – Monday, June 24, through Friday, June 28
- Feast of Saints Peter and Paul – Saturday, June 29

# 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***

Sonya Petroff—Marilou's sister and our fellow parishioner d. 1/4/2019

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

Cyril Goidich	1/6/1937
Malakai Motylvk	1/6/1941
Anne Toropilo Rossini	1/6/2009
Maria Duke	1/7/1946
Joseph Arburr	1/7/1970
John Witik	1/9/1988
Nicholas Toropilo	1/10/1970
John Fill	1/10/1986
Maria Vanokhy	1/12/1932
Martha Hasko	1/12/1967

## **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 Steven Belonick—C. Belonick's brother; suffering terribly in illness  
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  
Alex—John Dubnansky's brother, suffering permanent effects of stroke  
Darlyne—facing health challenges; daughter of Bob and Vera Martin

child Asa—great-grandson of friend of E. Watras; child with developmental challenges  
Barbara—Arlene Osuch's sister; epilepsy with complications  
William "Bill" Markovich—unwell and in need of prayerful support  
Donna—Ann Sovyrda's niece; kidney disease  
Dayrl—Ann Sovyrda's niece; kidney disease  
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer  
MaryEllen—Louine King's daughter-in-law; declining due to Huntington's Disease  
Virginia ("Gina")—Elena Watras' sister; unwell and in need of prayers  
Dawn—friend of Joan Markovich; Stage Four lung cancer  
Michael—nephew of Joan Markovich; in need of prayerful support  
Anna Szepele—Waterbury parishioner; unwell and in need of prayerful support  
Vera—Waterbury parishioner; unwell and in need of prayerful support  
Eleanor—Rdr. Joseph Boruch's mother; chronic health challenges  
Maria Oraschewsky—now requires dialysis three times a week  
Charlotte—Chezelle Serev's mother; unwell and in need of prayerful support  
Nina Gorbachev—former parishioner; unwell and in need of prayerful support  
Mark—friend of Frank Guba; 2<sup>nd</sup> phase non-Hodgkin's lymphoma  
Michael—friend of Frank Guba; awaiting the possibility of a lung transplant  
Arthur James "A.J." Brauer—Food Pantry volunteer; recent heart surgery  
Glen Sheets—Jennifer Wegh's uncle; severe heart related issues  
Carol Johnson—still unwell and in need of our prayerful support  
Beverly Kuzmich—had surgery on January 3<sup>rd</sup> to stabilize broken wrist

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

Eva Kopcha—at Sheriden Woods, Bristol  
Irene Kiehart—Jayne Grasso's mother; now resident in Connecticut  
Mary Fomenko—shut-in at home  
Robert (Bob)—Patty Nimchek's brother

### ***Expectant Mothers***

Breanna and the child to be born of her – The Serevs' niece and her baby

### ***Those traveling and soon to be traveling***

John "Jack" Kriniske—traveling this week

### ***Those from among us serving on active duty 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  
Joshua Pcsolyar—fiancé of a niece of Fr. John's; U.S. Army pilot, now in Afghanistan

### ***Birthdays***

Richard Koski 1/11

# NEWS AND NOTES

**MEMORY ETERNAL—Sonya Petroff:** After a long chronic illness, and a brief acute illness, Sonya Petroff entered into blessed repose on Friday evening, January 4. Here are the details of her funeral: Monday, January 7, Calling Hours at Church from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, with Memorial Service at 7:30 PM. Tuesday, January 8, Funeral Service at 10:00 AM, with burial following immediately in the Parish Cemetery. Please keep Sonya's sister, Marilou, and her brother, Stephen, in your prayers, together with all those family members and friends who mourn Sonya's loss. Memory Eternal!

**THIS WEEKEND – Installation of Year 2019 Parish Council:** The Year 2019 Parish Council will be formally installed at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning, January 6. **The first regular monthly meeting of the Year 2019 Parish Council has been rescheduled from Monday, January 7, to Monday evening, January 14, beginning at 7:00 PM.** (We have had to reschedule the meeting due to Sonya Petroff's funeral arrangements.

**House Blessings in the Theophany Season:** It is now time for the annual blessings of homes. House Blessing Forms are now available in the Narthex. If you want your home blessed this year, please fill out a form and return it in the box provided. Thank you!

# MORE NEWS AND NOTES

**Parish Financial Secretary—Status of the Position:** Given Tim Osuch's need to relinquish the position, we are grateful for Melanie Osuch's willingness to take on the position of Acting Financial Secretary, by decision of the Parish Council. On Sunday, January 27, at the conclusion of the Sunday morning Divine Liturgy, we will have a Special Assembly of the Parish, immediately after the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, to confirm Melanie as Financial Secretary. Thank you Tim for your service. Thank you Melanie for your willingness to take up this position and to finish out Tim's term of office.

**2019 Pledge Forms:** The Pledge Form Packets for 2019 have been distributed. Please review your packet carefully. Please make a serious and prayerful decision about how you are going to support our parish financially in the coming year, and then fill out and return your pledge form using the envelope provided in the packet. If you have any questions about this matter, please see Fr. John. *(If you did not receive a Pledge Form Packet in the mail, and you require one, please pick up a copy of the Pledge Form Packet in the Narthex of the Church. Thank you!)*

**Fr. John will be away Saturday through Monday, January 12-14:** Fr. John will be away from Terryville from Saturday, January 12, through Monday, January 14. He will be traveling with family members to the Albany, NY, area, to participate that weekend in the marriage of Shelby (Sophia) Duchow to Paul Giokas, which is taking place at Saint Basil's Orthodox Church, Watervliet, NY, on Sunday afternoon, January 13. Shelby is former member of our parish, having been received into the fullness of the Orthodox Faith here in Terryville in August 2011. Shelby is, also, a past member of our Diocesan Youth Rally staff. Shelby is now a second-year student at Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary.

*(IMPORTANT NOTE: Fr. Sergius Halvorsen is scheduled to substitute for Fr. John on Sunday morning, January 13. Since Deacon Paul Nimchek will also be away that same weekend, we will NOT have our usual Saturday evening Vigil service on Saturday evening, January 12. Please, consider attending Saturday evening worship in one of our neighboring parishes that evening.)*

**Sunday, January 20—rescheduled Annual General Meeting in the Waterbury Parish:** On Sunday, January 20, Fr. John will be departing immediately following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy here in the Terryville Parish in order to travel to the Waterbury Parish, where he will preside there at the rescheduled Annual General Meeting of that Parish. Please pray for the goodness and success of that meeting. Thank you.

**Fr. John needs help with a project—are you the right person to provide assistance?** The Parish Council has authorized the installation of a Simplisafe ([www.simplisafe.com](http://www.simplisafe.com)) Alarm and Security System in our Church Building. Fr. John requires assistance in designing, ordering, installing, and administering this system. Are you the right person to help him with this task? If so, please, contact him at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

**Weather Related Cancellations:** If we need to cancel parish services and/or other events due to bad weather, those announcements will appear on NBC Connecticut Television and on the NBC Connecticut Internet website. We will, also, send out an email to the Parish email group and post an announcement on the Parish website. Finally, you can always call the Parish House (860-582-3631) for further information. *(NOTE: If you need to have your email address added to the Parish email group, please contact Fr. John.)*

**Online Donations to the Parish:** A PayPal Donation "button" is located on our parish website to make online donations possible. Our parish is registered as a charity with PayPal, so we have slightly lower fees connected to the use of that means of receiving donations. For us, PayPal's fees are 2.2% + \$0.30 per transaction and no monthly fee. (So, for example, a donation of \$100.00 given via PayPal will realize us actual income of \$97.50.)

# Readings from Holy Scripture

*Scripture Readings for the Feast of the Theophany, which takes place each year on January 6*

## **The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Titus (Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7)**

My son Titus, the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. but when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

## **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew (Matt. 3:13-17)**

At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

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## **Details about House Blessings**

The Annual Blessings of Homes takes place each year following the Feast of Theophany in January. Fr. John will contact those who have requested home blessing to set up an appointment to perform this service.

When the Fr. John comes to bless your home, the following should be arranged:

A table should be set in a central place, covered with a clean tablecloth. Often the dining room table, cleared of nonessential items, is used for this purpose. On this table should be placed:

- A candle in a candlestick, lighted. This candle will be used by a member of the household to lead the priest through the house during the service of blessing.
- A bowl filled with Holy Water that was blessed during this present year's celebration of Theophany.
- An icon, if the place where the table is located does not have one visibly nearby.
- A list of the names of the living and departed members, relatives and friends of the household whom you wish to have mentioned during the service of blessing.

During the brief service of blessing the following points should be observed:

- All electronic devices (televisions, computers, tablets, gaming systems, smart-phones, etc.) should be turned off and all headphones should be removed.
- All members of the household should be gathered, standing and appropriately attired, at the table where the service will begin. (Neat, clean, casual clothing is fine, but no dirty work clothes or T-shirts with slogans, etc. should be worn.) Non-Orthodox and/or non-believing members of the household are asked to be respectful during the service, or respectfully to absent themselves.
- Pets should be appropriately secured.
- The doors to each room of the home should be opened and, if necessary, lights should be turned on throughout the house. A member of the household should be selected ahead of time to lead the priest through the house during the blessing. This person should have determined his or her route ahead of time and should carry a lighted candle during this portion of the service. Children usually enjoy being invited to do this task. More than one child can certainly participate in this part of the service, if they so desire.
- It ought to go without saying, but when the time comes for the visit of the priest, the house should be in "bless-able" condition, not necessarily pristine, but neat and presentable.