

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

1/19 Sunday – 31st Sunday after Pentecost
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
with Installation of the 2020 Parish Council
(Fr. John will be departing immediately following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in order to travel to the Waterbury Parish, for a General Meeting there.)

1/22 Wednesday
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)

NOTE: Fr. John will be away the weekend of January 25-26 attending a family wedding. Nevertheless, services will take place as usual here, with substitute clergy. Please see the notes about this on page 3 of this bulletin for details.

1/25 Saturday
6:00 PM – Vigil (Led by our own Pdn. Paul in Fr. John's absence.)
Followed by Choir Rehearsal

1/26 Sunday – 32nd Sunday after Pentecost
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy (Fr. Vladimir Aleandro will preside in Fr. John's absence.)

1/29 Wednesday
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)

2/1 Saturday
Eve of the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple
6:00 PM – Vigil
Followed by Choir Rehearsal

2/2 Sunday – 33rd Sunday after Pentecost
Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
Followed by a Special, Very Brief, One-Issue, General Meeting of the Terryville Parish

2/3 Monday
7:00 PM – February Monthly Meeting of the Terryville Parish Council

2/5 Wednesday
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)

2/8 Saturday
9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon: Spring (Late Winter!) Cleaning of the Church
6:00 PM – Vigil
Followed by Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 19, 2020

Sanctity of Life Sunday

The 31st Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 6

January 19, annually, is the commemoration of, among others, the Venerable Macarius the Great, and Saint Mark, Bishop of Ephesus

A Note from Fr. John – Thank you, for your kindness last Sunday

Last Sunday morning, January 12, on very short notice, I was required by my duties as Dean of the Connecticut Deanery to be away from Terryville, and to be present instead as the presiding priest in one of our fellow Deanery Parishes.

Here are the circumstances that resulted in that sudden and unexpected absence: The pastor of that other parish became suddenly and dangerously ill late on Saturday evening, January 11, and ended up in the hospital, in critical care. We were extremely worried for him. At that late hour on Saturday night—having been informed of this daunting circumstance, and after consultation with our Diocesan authorities—it was decided that I, in my official capacity as Dean, should travel on Sunday morning, January 12, to preside in that parish and to be with the parishioners there in their time of need. Thus, last Sunday morning, I was elsewhere, and Protodeacon Paul was leading worship here in our parish.

As it turns out, praise be to God, the priest in that other parish has come through his dangerous and life-threatening health crisis in much better than expected condition, and much more quickly than expected, too. Nevertheless, it was important for me, as Dean, to be available, even on a Sunday morning, and on very short notice, to meet the pressing needs of one of our fellow parishes in the Deanery.

I want to thank you all, and especially Deacon Paul, for your spiritually mature and deeply kind response to the unusual circumstances we faced last Sunday morning. I am grateful.

Also, I have received a communication from our Diocesan Chancellor, Fr. John Kreta, specifically thanking us in the Terryville Parish for so readily meeting the needs of a fellow parish here in Connecticut. We also have the thanks of the parish that we assisted, through my presence there.

I am blessed to be the priest and pastor in this parish. Thanks, again.

With prayerful best regards,

In Christ, *Fr. John H.*

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

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Mat. Elizabeth Bacon—Fr. John Bacon's wife | d. 1/15/2020 |
| James ("Jim")—an acquaintance of Fr. John's | d. 1/4/2020 |
| William "Bill" Balamaci—an active Orthodox Christian here in CT | d. 12/30/19 |
| Charlotte—Chezelle Serev's mother | d. 12/23/19 |
| Steven Belonick—Cynthia's father | d. 12/21/19 |

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Joseph Tkach | 1/19/1922 |
| John Liba | 1/19/1922 |
| Michael Glowa | 1/19/1933 |
| Mary Cleveland | 1/20/1972 |
| Afton Tkachuk | 1/21/1958 |
| Natalie Witik | 1/21/1988 |
| Anna Stanko | 1/21/1990 |
| Julia Maichack | 1/21/2012 |
| Isodore Kablesh | 1/22/1960 |
| Joseph Duke | 1/23/1935 |
| Mary Duke | 1/23/1985 |
| Julia Biscoe | 1/24/1944 |
| Fotia Veshman | 1/24/1939 |
| Michael Susla | 1/24/1963 |
| William Glowa | 1/25/1987 |
| Olga Wrettick | 1/25/2008 |

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

Priest Steven H.—recent episode of acute ill health; doing well now
Fyodor (Frank) Guba—increasing sufferings from Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
Dolores Twombly—permanent colon malfunction following colon cancer treatment
child Drew—grandson of friends of the Nimcheks; ongoing treatment for eye cancer
Alex—John Dubnansky's brother, suffering permanent effects of stroke
Darlyne—facing health challenges; daughter of Bob and Vera Martin
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; suffering with Huntington's Disease
Maria Oraschewsky—now requires dialysis three times a week
Mark—friend of Frank Guba; battling non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
Michael—friend of Frank Guba; rehabbing after bilateral lung transplant
Mat. Cindy Voytovich—health challenges at this time
Yelena "Lenna" Massicotte—facing serious health challenges at this time
Katie and Aubrey—a mother and daughter for whom we have been asked to pray
Tanya Beach—suffering long-term and lingering effects of brain hemorrhage
Helen—friend of Anna Marie Boruch; suffering in illness
Eleanor—Rdr. Joseph Boruch's mother; increasing health challenges
Mark—a profound diabetic that we have been asked to pray for
Heather—an acquaintance of C. Palleria; battling significant health challenges
Crystal—Heather's twin sister; similar health challenges as Heather's
Steven—Barbara Simard's son; very seriously ill
Mary Lynn—friend of Donna Osuch; battling breast cancer
Anna—friend of Patty Nimchek; has requested our prayers
Mary—relative of Mike Liverman; requesting prayers for health
Simone—relative of Mike Liverman; requesting prayers for health
Anna Szepele—recently increasingly unwell; please keep Anna in your prayers
Barbara—friend of Patty Nimchek; unwell and in need of prayerful support

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

Robert (Bob)—Patty Nimchek's brother

Mothers and Newly Born Children

Yesenia and the daughter newly born of her—Jayne Grasso's new granddaughter!

Expectant Mothers

Amanda and the child to be born of her—Amanda is Carolyn Palleria's niece
Marina and the child to be born of her—Marina is one of Fr. John's many nieces
Maryna and the child to be born of her—Maryna & Amar are expecting a child in May

Travelers, Those Soon to be Traveling, and Those Apart from Us

John "Jack" Kriniske—presently away in Florida

Those from among us serving on active duty in the Armed Forces

Joel Orelup—U.S. Navy; hospital corpsman ("medic")
Joseph Bellmay—a Terryville neighbor; U.S. Marine Corps
Joshua Pcsolyar—fiancé of a niece of Fr. John's; U.S. Army pilot
Alexander—relative of C. Palleria's; 82nd Airborne Division soldier deployed in Iraq

Birthdays

Veronika "Nika" Dubnansky—John's daughter 1/20

FASTING DAYS – Some Notes and Comments from Fr. John

Unfortunately, the small 2020 pocket calendars that we are distributing are sadly unreliable as to their listing of the usual "fasting days." Not all the fasting days are noted properly or accurately in those pocket calendars. **Please rely on the 2020 wall calendars, which we have also distributed, for more accurate information regarding fasting days.**

We remind everyone that almost every Wednesday and Friday throughout the entire year is a fasting day, with few exceptions. Those exceptions occur most often during weeks following the celebration of certain Great Feasts, such as Pascha, Pentecost, and Christmas, and sometimes before the start of long fasting seasons.

Also, we are instructed to fast during the forty days of Great Lent, the entire week of Holy Week, the forty days of Advent, during the Apostle's Fast from All Saints Day until the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul on June 29, and during the two-week long Dormition Fast before the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15. We also fast on certain specific days, such as the Commemoration of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist on August 29, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 14, and the Eve of Theophany on January 5.

We are also called upon to abstain entirely from food and drink for at least six hours, and more properly from midnight, in preparation for receiving Holy Communion. This is the norm, unless we have discussed with our pastor any requirement for some necessary adjustments for health reasons, such as the need to take certain vital medications.

Fasting is an important discipline, healthy for us both spiritually and physically. We should embrace the practice of fasting, and, in so doing, learn its important benefits by experience.

For further information about fasting, you may read the article about fasting that is posted on our parish website at <https://www.terryvilleorthodoxchurch.org/files/Bulletin-Supplement-16Feb2014-Fasting-Great-Lent.pdf>. That article speaks specifically about fasting during Great Lent, but is also instructive about Orthodox Christian fasting, more generally.

News and Notes

THIS WEEKEND: Formal installation of the 2020 Parish Council: The Year 2020 Terryville Parish Council will be formally installed at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on this Sunday morning, January 19, since we were unable to accomplish this installation on Sunday, January 12.

THIS MONDAY, JANUARY 20: Fr. John attending the Funeral of Matushka Elizabeth Bacon: Matushka Elizabeth Bacon, wife of Fr. John Bacon, a retired priest of the Boston Deanery, entered into blessed repose on January 15. Fr. John will be away all day on Monday, January 20, traveling to and from Saint Mark Church, Kingston, MA, to attend Mat. Elizabeth's funeral. Please pray for Matushka Elizabeth and for all those who mourn her loss. Memory Eternal!

NEXT WEEKEND: Fr. John away, January 25 to 27: Fr. John will be away the weekend of Saturday, January 25 and Sunday, January 26, attending a family wedding in Michigan. On Saturday evening, January 25, Protodeacon Paul will lead our Saturday evening Vigil service, and on Sunday morning, January 26, Archpriest Vladimir Aleandro will be here in Terryville in order to preside at the celebration of the Sunday morning Divine Liturgy. (Please keep Benjamin and Meredith in your prayers, as they prepare for marriage. Ben is both Fr. John's nephew and Godson. Ben and Meredith met at Orthodox Christian summer camp, some summers ago.)

NEXT WEEKEND: Pastoral Coverage during Fr. John's absence next weekend: As mentioned in the previous note, Fr. John will be away the weekend of Saturday, January 25 and Sunday, January 26. His actual absence will be for three days, Saturday the 25th through Monday the 27th. During Fr. John's absence, in the case of a true pastoral emergency requiring the ministry of a priest, please contact Fr. David Koles at 860-573-0013. (Alternatively, you may also contact any priest of one of the parishes of the Diocese of New England's Connecticut Deanery. You may also reach out to our parish deacon, Protodeacon Paul Nimchek at 860-489-3220.)

LOOKING AHEAD – Special, Very Brief, One-Issue, General Parish Meeting, Sunday, February 2: On Sunday, February 2, immediately after the conclusion of the Sunday morning Divine Liturgy, there will be a special, very brief, one-issue, General Meeting of the entire membership of the Terryville Parish. The purpose of this meeting, the only agenda item, will be to authorize the cost of the replacement of the elderly gas boiler (“furnace”) in the Parish House. The Parish Council has discussed this matter, and is proposing that we accept a bid from our HVAC contractor, Pelletier Mechanical Services, LLC, of Thomaston, CT, in the amount of \$7752.00 to replace the existing unit with a Slant Fin Model S150 Chimney Vent Cast Iron Gas Boiler. On account of the amount of the expenditure proposed, which is above and beyond what the Parish Council can expend on its own, this matter is being brought to the full parish, as required by our parish bylaws. If, ahead of this meeting, you have any questions or concerns about this matter, please, see Fr. John or Paul Senetcen, our Lay President.

House Blessings are ongoing: Each year, after Theophany, we perform the annual house blessings. Fr. John has already been out blessing homes, during the several weeks since the Feast of Theophany on Monday, January 6. If you have not already done so, please, contact Fr. John at your earliest convenience to schedule a date and time to have your home blessed.

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.)

LOOKING AHEAD -- Parish “Spring” Cleaning, Saturday morning, February 8: We will have a Church “Spring” Cleaning Session on Saturday morning, February 8, beginning at 9:00 AM. Please note this occasion in your calendar and plan to participate. Many hands make the work quick and easy! (We are scheduling this day for a little earlier in the year than usual, well before Spring, taking into account the upcoming Crosby/Hopko wedding. Thank you for your understanding.)

LOOKING AHEAD – A Parish Wedding, Sunday, February 16: David Crosby and Lucy Hopko will be married here in our Parish on Sunday afternoon, February 16. We congratulate Lucy and David, and pray that they will enjoy many, many blessed and fruitful years together. Many Years!

LOOKING AHEAD – Choir Rehearsals, January 25, February 1, and February 8: In preparation for upcoming events—including the wedding of David Crosby and Lucy Hopko—the Parish Choir will have rehearsals after the conclusion of the evening worship services on Saturdays, January 25, February 1, and February 8.

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 web-site. 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.)

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE WATERBURY PARISH:

Waterbury Parish Meeting, this Sunday, January 19, 2020, 12:15 PM: There will be a full meeting of the Waterbury Parish membership on this Sunday, January 19, 2020, at 12:15 PM. The venue for the meeting will be the Chapel in the Parish Community Center, located at 3125 N. Main Street, Waterbury.

This Waterbury Parish meeting, although taking place in 2020, will, among other functions, serve as the 2019 General Meeting of the Waterbury Parish. The agenda of this meeting is to discuss and address extraordinarily important issues pertinent to the future of the Waterbury Parish.

A Prayer asking God to be Patient with us and to Deliver us from Darkness and Sin

We beseech You, O Lord Our God, be patient with us sinners. O You Who know our weakness, protect the work of Your hands, now and in times to come. Deliver us from all temptation and all danger, and from the powers of darkness in this world, and bring us into the Kingdom of Your Only Son and Our God. For to Your Most Holy Name be the glory—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever, to the ages of ages. Amen.

(Source: Praying with the Orthodox Tradition, SVS Press, ISBN 13 9780881411560 – a lovely compilation of prayers for the various times of the day.)

Readings from Holy Scripture

Scripture Readings for Sunday, January 19, 2020

The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy (1 Tim. 1:15-17)

My son, Timothy: This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke (Luke 18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.