

Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Christian Church

A Parish of the Diocese of New England of the Orthodox Church in America

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Sunday, January 27, 2019

35th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 2

Commemoration of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, who suffered under the yoke of God-less atheism in the 20th century

January 27, annually, is a commemoration of Saint John Chrysostom (d. 407 AD)

Schedule of Services

- 1/26 Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil
Followed by Monthly Rite of General Confession
- 1/27 Sunday**
Commemoration of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors who suffered under Totalitarianism in the 20th Century
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 now twice-rescheduled Annual General Meeting of that Parish.)
- 1/30 Wednesday**
Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs
CHANGE TO SCHEDULE!!!
9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Feast at Three Saints (Hierarchs) Church, Ansonia, CT, on the occasion of that Church's patronal feast.
- 2/1 Friday**
Eve of the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord
6:15 PM – Vespers with Divine Liturgy
- 2/2 Saturday**
Feast of the Meeting of the Lord
6:00 PM – Vigil
Followed by Monthly Choir Rehearsal
- 2/3 Sunday**
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 2/4 Monday**
7:00 PM – Terryville Parish Council
- 2/6 Wednesday**
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 2/9 Saturday**
5:30 PM – “40th Day” Memorial Service in Memory of Sonya Petroff
6:00 PM – Vigil
- 2/10 Sunday**
Zacchaeus Sunday
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 2/13 Wednesday**
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 2/16 Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil

Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple *February 1-2, 2019*

This coming week we will mark one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Orthodox Christian Year when we celebrate the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple. This Feast commemorates the occasion when, forty days after His birth, our Lord was presented in the Temple at Jerusalem in accordance with the religious laws and customs of the time.

We will have the following worship service in the Church to keep the Feast: On Friday evening, February 1, the Eve of the Feast, beginning at 6:15 PM, we will celebrate Vespers with Divine Liturgy (“Vesperal Liturgy”).

Please be reminded that the minimum fasting/abstinence discipline for preparing to receive Holy Communion at Eucharistic Liturgies celebrated in the evening is total abstinence from all food and drink from midday (that is, from six hours before the service begins).

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

His Grace Bishop Athanasios of Western Kenya d. 1/4/2019
Glen Sheets—Jennifer Wegh's uncle d. 1/11/19
Sonya Petroff—Marilou's sister and our fellow parishioner d. 1/4/2019

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Theodore Duke 1/27/1997
Julia Pavelchak 1/27/1935
Steven Pohlod 1/27/1958
Maria Yakowitz 1/28/1949
Pauline Osuch 1/28/2001
June F. Pavelchak 1/28/2009
Matushka Sofia Fedoronko 1/30/1946
Samuel Wrettick 1/30/1987
Anna Kowaleski 2/1/1991
Stella Adams 2/1/2008
Zachary Lyga 2/2/1954

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 in perilous 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
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
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
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
Mark—friend of Frank Guba; battling non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
Michael—friend of Frank Guba; rehabbing after bilateral lung transplant
Carol Johnson—still unwell and in need of our prayerful support
Beverly Kuzmich—had surgery on January 3rd 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

Laura Koski—trip to India

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, now in Afghanistan

Anniversaries of Marriage

Bill & Joan Markovich 1/28

Birthdays

Claudia Anderson 1/23
Joan Markovich 1/28
Jeanne Moore 1/28
Claudia Senetcen 1/30

St. John Chrysostom on the Necessity of Reading the Bible Daily

I also always entreat you, and do not cease entreating you, not only to pay attention here to what I say, but also when you are at home, to persevere continually in reading the divine Scriptures.

When I have been with each of you in private, I have not stopped giving you the same advice. Do not let anyone say to me those vain words, worthy of heavy condemnation, "I cannot leave the courthouse, I administer the business of the city, I practice a craft, I have a wife, I am raising children, I am in charge of a household, I am a man of the world; reading the Scriptures is not for me, but for those who have been set apart, who have settled on the mountaintops, who keep this way of life continuously."

What are you saying, man? That attending to the Scriptures is not for you, since you are surrounded by a multitude of cares? Rather it is for you more than for them. They do not need the help of the divine Scriptures as much as those do who are involved in many occupations. The monks, who are released from the clamor of the marketplace and have fixed their huts in the wilderness, who own nothing in common with anyone, but practice wisdom without fear in the calm of the quiet life, as if resting in a harbor, enjoy great security; but we, as if tossing in the midst of the sea, driven by a multitude of sins, always need continuous and ceaseless aid of the Scriptures. They rest far from the battle, and so they do not receive many wounds; but you stand continuously in the front rank, and you receive continual blows. So you need more remedies.

St. John Chrysostom, On Wealth and Poverty, pg. 58, Saint Vladimir's Seminary Press

NEWS AND NOTES

THIS WEEKEND: Sunday, January 27—the once-again rescheduled Annual General Meeting in the Waterbury Parish: On Sunday, January 27, 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 now twice-rescheduled Annual General Meeting of that Parish. Please pray for the goodness, worthiness, and success of that meeting. Thank you.

Wednesday, January 30 – Feast of the Holy Hierarchs – CHANGE TO PARISH SCHEDULE: We will NOT have our usual Wednesday morning Matins service this coming week. Rather, we are invited to attend the Festal Divine Liturgy taking place that Wednesday morning, January 30, at Three Saints (Three Hierarchs) Church, Ansonia, CT. The Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs is that parish's patronal feast day. The Liturgy begins there that morning at 9:00 AM. The Church is located at 26 Howard Ave, Ansonia, CT 06401.

2019 Pledge Forms: We thank all those who have filled out and returned their Year 2018 pledge forms. We respectfully ask those who have not yet turned in a pledge form to do so, please. If you need a pledge packet, please see Fr. John.

House Blessings are Ongoing: We are deeply engaged in the annual House Blessing season now. If you have not yet scheduled Father John to bless your home, and you would like him to do so, please contact him at your earliest convenience. 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) 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!

LOOKING (WAY!) AHEAD: Youth Rally, August 12-17, 2019: The Year 2019 Annual Diocesan Youth Rally will take place August 12-17, 2019. Youth Rally is open to all Diocesan Youth who have finished 5th grade and who have not yet celebrated their 18th birthday. Volunteer Adult Staff Members are required to make this event possible. Staff Members will arrive a day early, on Sunday evening, August 11, and stay the entire week. For further information, please contact Fr. John, who will once again this summer serve as Youth Rally Director and Rector.

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.*)

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.)

Needs of the Food Pantry: On an almost constant basis, for the purpose of distribution to its clients, the Plymouth Community Food Pantry needs personal care items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, hair brushes, etc. Also, the Food Pantry just about always requires donations of condiments and spices, such as ketchup, mustard, vinegar, cooking oil, BBQ sauce, pickle relish, table salt, black pepper, onion and garlic powder, dried herbs, etc. You can drop off your donations in the basket in the Narthex of our Church, or in the big green bin located by the exit staircase in the Church Basement Social Hall. Every time any of us go grocery shopping, it would be appropriate and worthy of a blessing for us to purchase some items for donation to the Food Pantry.

Readings from Holy Scripture

Scripture Readings for the 35th Sunday after Pentecost, this year January 27

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians (Col. 3:12-16)

Brothers and Sisters: Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew (Matt. 25:14-30)

The Lord spoke this parable: "For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'

Saint John Chrysostom said this more than 16 centuries ago:

“Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness.”