



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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Sunday, February 23, 2025

Sunday of Meat-Fare – Tone 2. Sunday of the Last Judgement. Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (167). Venerable Alexander, Founder of the Monastery of the Unsleeping Ones (ca. 430). Saint Gorgonia, sister of Saint Gregory the Theologian (370)

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Services and Events, Upcoming

(This schedule is subject to change, please confirm the schedule at www.terryvilleorthodoxchurch.org/schedule before coming to Church.)

Wednesday, February 26, 8:00 AM, Matins (Morning Prayers): Our usual and customary Wednesday morning Parish Matins (Morning Prayers) service.

Thursday, February 27, Online Bible Study, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM: We will convene our usual and customary Thursday night Bible Study on this Thursday evening from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM via video teleconference (ZOOM).

Saturday, March 1, 2:30 PM: Baptisms of infants Phoebe C. and Vera H.

On Saturday, March 1, beginning at 2:30 PM, we will have the Rite of Holy Baptism and Chrismation for the newly born infants Phoebe Claire and Vera Lynn, recently born into the families of parishioners. As the mothers of the children, Lucy and Valbona Catherine, will be serving as Godmothers to each other's daughters, these baptisms and chrismations will take place at the same liturgical service, which is truly quite lovely. After the service, there will be a cake and coffee reception in the Downstairs Social Hall of the Church. These events, baptism and chrismation, are not private family events. Rather, they are the moment when those being baptized and chrismated enter into the fullness of the Orthodox Christian Faith. Thus, this is a significant event in our community life. So, we hope that many parishioners will be present to celebrate this event together with those being baptized and chrismated.

Saturday, March 1, Eve of Forgiveness Sunday, 6:00 PM: Saturday evening Vigil.

NOTE: We will NOT have Parish Education/Catechesis on Sunday morning, March 2.

Sunday, March 2, Forgiveness Sunday, 9:15 AM: Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord's Day Divine Liturgy, followed by an abbreviated Coffee Social Hour, after which we will serve **Forgiveness Vespers with the Rite of Forgiveness to begin Great Lent.** (NOTE: Forgiveness Sunday is also called "Cheese-fare" Sunday, as it is the last day on which we eat dairy products until Holy Pascha.)

Monday, March 3, 7:00 PM: Compline, with The Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete

Tuesday, March 4, 7:00 PM: Compline, with The Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete

Wednesday, March 5, 10:30 AM: Divine Liturgy of the PreSanctified Gifts. (This service is being scheduled earlier in the day than usual so as to allow those who are not able to travel after dark to more easily attend.)

NOTE: We will NOT have Parish Online Bible Study on Thursday evening, March 6, nor any other Thursday evening in Great Lent. Weekly Bible Study will return after Pascha.

Thursday, March 6, 7:00 PM: Compline, with The Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete

Friday, March 7, 7:00 PM: General Memorial Service (“Panikhida”) for All Departed

Saturday, March 8, 6:00 PM: Our usual weekly Saturday evening Vigil Service (Great Vespers with elements of Resurrectional Matins).

Sunday, March 9, First Sunday in Great Lent, The Sunday of Orthodoxy, 9:15 AM: Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord’s Day Divine Liturgy, followed by a Lenten Coffee Social Hour.

MERIDEN, CT: Sunday, March 9, Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers, 4:00 PM: On Sunday afternoon, March 9, at 4:00 PM, Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers will be celebrated at Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, Meriden, CT.

Wednesday, March 12, 6:30 PM: Divine Liturgy of the PreSanctified Gifts, followed by a “Bring-and-Share” Lenten meal.

Saturday, March 15, 6:00 PM: Our usual weekly Saturday evening Vigil Service (Great Vespers with elements of Resurrectional Matins).

Sunday, March 16, Second Sunday in Great Lent, 9:15 AM: Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord’s Day Divine Liturgy, followed by a Lenten Coffee Social Hour.

CLINTON, CT: Sunday, March 16, Lenten Mission Vespers, 4:00 PM: On Sunday afternoon, March 16, at 4:00 PM, Lenten Mission Vespers will be celebrated at Saint Alexis Orthodox Church, Clinton, CT.

Wednesday, March 19, 10:30 AM: Divine Liturgy of the PreSanctified Gifts. (This service is being scheduled earlier in the day than usual so as to allow those who are not able to travel after dark to more easily attend.)

Saturday, March 22, 6:00 PM: Our weekly Saturday evening Vigil Service (Great Vespers with elements of Resurrectional Matins), with Bringing out of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross for Veneration.

Sunday, March 23, The Third Sunday in Great Lent, The Veneration of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross, 9:15 AM: Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord’s Day Divine Liturgy, followed by a Lenten Coffee Social Hour.

BRIDGEPORT, CT: Sunday, March 23, Lenten Mission Vespers, 4:00 PM: On Sunday afternoon, March 23, at 4:00 PM, Lenten Mission Vespers will be celebrated at Holy Ghost (Spirit) Orthodox Church, Bridgeport, CT.

Tuesday, March 25, The Feast of the Annunciation, 6:30 PM: Vespers with Divine Liturgy to mark the Feast of the Annunciation.

Wednesday, March 26, 6:30 PM: Divine Liturgy of the PreSanctified Gifts, followed by a Bring-and-Share Lenten Supper.

Saturday, March 29, 6:00 PM: Our usual weekly Saturday evening Vigil Service (Great Vespers with elements of Resurrectional Matins).

Sunday, March 30, The Fourth Sunday in Great Lent, 9:15 AM: Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord’s Day Divine Liturgy, followed by a Lenten Coffee Social Hour.

HERE IN THE TERRYVILLE PARISH: Sunday, March 30, The Fourth Sunday in Great Lent, 4:00 PM: Connecticut Deanery Lenten Mission Vespers, Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church, Terryville, CT.

Wednesday, April 2, 10:30 AM: Divine Liturgy of the PreSanctified Gifts. (This service is being scheduled earlier in the day than usual so as to allow those who are not able to travel after dark to more easily attend.)

Thursday, April 3, 9:00 AM: Lenten Morning Prayers, with The Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete

Friday, April 4, 7:00 PM: The Akathist Hymn to the Most Holy Theotokos

Saturday, April 5, 6:00 PM: Our usual weekly Saturday evening Vigil Service (Great Vespers with elements of Resurrectional Matins).

Sunday, April 6, the Fifth Sunday in Great Lent, 9:15 AM: Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord’s Day Divine Liturgy, followed by a Lenten Coffee Social Hour.

IN ANSONIA: Sunday, April 6, the Fifth Sunday in Great Lent, 4:00 PM: The annual Connecticut Deanery Holy Unction Service, Three Saints Orthodox Church, Ansonia, CT. His Grace Bishop Benedict, presiding.

Wednesday, April 9, 6:30 PM: Divine Liturgy of the PreSanctified Gifts, followed by a Bring-and-Share Lenten Supper

Friday, April 11, 7:00 PM: Vespers to conclude Great Lent and to mark the Eve of Lazarus Saturday.

Saturday, Lazarus Saturday, April 12, 9:15 AM: Divine Liturgy, Lazarus Saturday, commemorating the occasion when Jesus raised His friend Lazarus from among the dead.

Saturday, April 12, Eve of Palm Sunday, 6:00 PM: Great Vespers and Litya, commemorating Palm Sunday, Our Lord's Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem.

Sunday, April 13, Palm Sunday, 9:15 AM: Festal Divine Liturgy for Palm Sunday, followed by a Coffee Social Hour.

IN HARTFORD: Sunday, April 13, Palm Sunday, 4:00 pm: CT Deanery Bridegroom Matins to begin Holy Week, All Saints Orthodox Church, Hartford, CT.

Great and Holy Monday, April 14, 7:00 PM: Bridegroom Matins

Great and Holy Tuesday, April 15, 3:00 PM: Bridegroom Matins. (This service is being scheduled earlier in the day than usual to allow those who are not able to travel after dark to more easily attend.)

Great and Holy Wednesday, April 16, 7:00 PM: Matins of Great and Holy Thursday, commemorating Our Lord Jesus Christ's Last Supper with His Disciples

Great and Holy Thursday, April 17, 10:00 AM: Vespers and Divine Liturgy, Great and Holy Thursday, commemorating Our Lord Jesus Christ's Last Supper with His Disciples

Great and Holy Thursday, April 17, 7:00 PM: Matins of Great and Holy Friday, with the Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels

Great and Holy Friday, April 18, 3:00 PM: Vespers commemorating the Death and Burial of Our Lord, with the Bringing out of the Winding Sheet (The "Plashchinitsa/Epitaphion")

Great and Holy Friday, April 18, 7:00 PM: Matins of Great and Holy Saturday, with the Lamentations over the Tomb, and the Procession

Great and Holy Saturday, April 19, 10:00 AM: Vespers and Divine Liturgy over the Tomb of Christ, with the Many Old Testament Readings, the Changing of the Liturgical Colors from Dark to Bright, and the First Proclamation of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection from the Dead.

Great and Holy Saturday, April 19, 11:30 PM, leading into the Sunday of Great and Holy Pascha, Sunday, April 20: Pascha Midnight Services (Nocturns, Matins, and Divine Liturgy), with the Proclamation of Our Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection from the Dead – Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen!

LOOKING AHEAD further into 2025:

- Sunday afternoon/evening, March 30, our Terryville Parish will host the clergy and faithful of the CT Deanery for a Lenten Mission Vespers Service
- Saturday, April 12, is Lazarus Saturday.
- Sunday, April 13, is Palm Sunday.
- Friday, April 18, is Great and Holy (Good) Friday.
- Saturday, April 19, is Great and Holy Saturday.
- Sunday, April 20, is Holy Pascha.
- Sunday, May 11, is the Feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius, and His Grace, Bishop Benedict will be visiting and presiding.
- Saturday, May 31, is the 45th anniversary of Protodeacon Paul N.'s ordination to the holy diaconate, and the 45th anniversary of the formal Consecration of our Parish Temple.
- Sunday, June 29, is the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, and the 25th Anniversary of Fr. John's Ordination to the Holy Priesthood. (Fr. John was ordained to the Holy Diaconate in May 1993.)
- Monday, July 14 through Friday, July 18, Fr. John and Parish Lay Delegate Deb W. will be in Phoenix, Arizona, representing our Parish at the triennial (once-every-three-years) All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America.
- Friday, August 1, is the 25th anniversary of Fr. John's assignment as Pastor of our Terryville Parish.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Again we pray for all victims of accident, disease, disaster, difficulty, warfare, and acts of terror and senseless violence throughout the world—both those who have died and those who have suffered and yet still live. We especially pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones. Lord, hear us and have mercy!

+ THOSE WHO HAVE DEPARTED THIS LIFE: *Memory Eternal!*

Newly Departed

H.B. Archbishop Anastasios of Albania d. 1/25/25
Emily—acquaintance of the Nimcheks; a victim of cancer d. 2/29/25
Daniel—relative, through marriage of Cynthia B.
Michael—newly departed; acquaintance of Helena G.
Aleksandra—perished in 1/29/25, Wash., DC, air accident, with many others
child Olivia—perished with her mother Aleksandra (above) and others on 1/29
Oleg—a friend of Subdeacon John Paul S. d. 1/24/25
Matushka Suzanne Senyo—acquaintance of Fr. John and Fr. David d. 1/18/25

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Elias Prystash 2/12
Vladimir Lukyantsev 2/12
Adam Mihailoff 2/17
Jeffrey Thomas Moore 2/19
Anna Rosko 2/20
Akim Dubnansky 2/21
Eva Mihailoff 2/21
Olga Rewak 2/24
Roland Oraschewsky 3/1

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

H.E. Archbishop Alexander of the Diocese of the South
Archpriest Vladimir A.—serious illness
Subdeacon John Paul—ongoing health problems
Mother Karitina—nun, an acquaintance of Fr. John H.; battling cancer
Matushka Ann Sh.—at request of Lynn H.
Bill (“Vasilios”) L.—relative of the Sovyrda Family; more unwell of late, please pray fervently
Aaron H. – Fr. Steven H.'s son; recurring and ongoing health issues
Fyodor (Frank) G.—suffering from Multiple Sclerosis (MS); at home
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer
Katie and Aubrey—a mother & daughter for whom we have been asked to pray
Mary Lynn—friend of Donna O.; battling breast cancer
Barbara—friend of Patty N.; unwell and in need of prayerful support
Michael “Mike” L.—ongoing health issues
Paula—friend of Jim L.; struggling with cancer
Dimitri—brother of Carolyn P.; health issues
Thomas—Patty N.'s nephew; battling cancer
Wayne—Donna O.'s father
Dianna—Jennifer W.'s mother; suffering serious and worrisome health problems
Yvonne K.—a person we have been asked to pray for; multiple myeloma
Mark—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); critically ill
Domenic—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); facing serious illness
Louis—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); facing serious illness
Earlene L.—Mike and Jim L.'s mother; health issues
Natonya L.—Mike and Jim L.'s family member; health issues
Bach-Loan—a neighbor of Jeanne M.'s; serious health challenges
Michael “Mike” A.—battling health challenges
Robert Jos.—dealing with health issues
Elizabeth—suffered acute and chronic health issues; friend of Helena G.
Rosemary—member in the New Britain Parish; long-term health challenges
Jon—friend of Forrest and Elaine H., suffering in illness
Mark—a man suffering with cancer; friend of Elaine and Forrest H.
Sonya K.—former W'bury parishioner, health issues
Jeffrey—at request of John G.; unwell and in need of prayers
Patrick—at request of John G.; unwell and in need of prayers
Brittany—relative of Pdn. Paul; young woman facing cancer
Reader Matthew—friend of Subdeacon John Paul S.; in need of prayers
Daniel—son of a friend of Subdeacon John Paul S.; struggling
Joan—grief and chronic illness; req. of Helena G.
Paul S.—health issues
Holly—an acquaintance of Peter H.; unwell and in need of prayers
Laura—friend of Lenna M.; battling brain cancer

Amber—Louine K.'s granddaughter-in-law.
Larissa—daughter of Fr. Michael and Nadia K.; we have been asked to pray for her
Elizabeth S.—mother of an acquaintance of Fr. John's; battling cancer
George—Fr. George Z.'s son; seriously ill
Timothy—Olena's husband; undergoing treatment for a serious illness
Michael—at the request of Nina and John D.; unwell and in need of prayers
Lisa—friend of Helena G.; suffering in illness
Ksenia—our fellow parishioner; recent surgery and further issues thereafter
Irina—Ksenia's mother; battling cancer
Alex—Ksenia's husband; recent illness
Tatyana—Ksenia's mother-in-law; recent health issues leading to job loss
Jacob—family member of Lynn H.; some health issues
Faith—David C.'s cousin; facing health challenges
Bob B.—friend of Melanie O.; battling cancer
Nolan—friend of Corey F.; unwell and in need of prayers
Jacqueline—a woman for whom we have been asked to pray for general well-being
Amy—a woman for whom we have been asked to pray for general well-being
Michael N.—facing health challenges; our devoted and beloved Choir Director
John—Cynthia B.'s uncle—unwell and in need of prayers
Leo M.—Parishioner Lynn H.'s father; unwell and in need of prayers
Claudia—Macrina H.'s mother; recovering from broken hip
Ingrid—battling cancer; friend of Nina and John D.
Terry—battling cancer; friend of Nina and John D.
Louine K.—recently unwell; our fellow parishioner
Fernando—Matthew A.'s grandfather; declining health
Audrey—A.J.'s mother; unwell and in need of prayers
Bob P.—Louine K.'s son-in-law; recovering from an injury suffered in a fall
Susan—Claudia S. and Melanie K.'s sister—ongoing health issues
Matthew A.—seriously injured fingers which required surgical care
child Matthias—an infant who is unwell that we have been asked to pray for
child Noelle—Bob M.'s granddaughter; recently unwell with some chronic issues
child Nicholas—at request of Dennis K.; suffering with illness
Christine—at request of Elaine H.; blindness cause by aneurysms
Jill—friend of Elaine H.; recovering from surgery
Timothy—relative of Joan M.; surgery
Nika D.—John and Nina D.'s daughter; some recent health challenges
Cheryl—a Food Pantry volunteer who is battling a serious illness
Nancy B.—our fellow parishioner; preparing to undergo another surgery
Mary V.—acquaintance of Lucy C. and Peter H.; suffering in illness
Lubomir—Leo K.'s grandfather; surgery
Sarah—friend of Nina and John D.; suffering in illness
Barbara—Cynthia B.'s cousin; mourning loss of stepson
Joanne—acquaintance of Helena G.; mourning passing of her husband

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

Tanya B.—suffering long-term and lingering effects of brain hemorrhage
Claudia A.—Waterbury parishioner; health challenges and now widowed
Dolores M.—Bob M.'s mother; resident in long-term eldercare
Roberta K.—a Waterbury parishioner living in long-term care
Forrest H.—our fellow parishioner, now living in residential care

Expectant Mothers and the Children to be born of them

Alexis and the child to be born of her—Hopko Family member

Newly Married

Nicholas O. and Emily—married on 2/22; Nick is Tim and Donna's son

Wedding Anniversaries

Joel & Julie Kowaleski 2/12; David & Lucy Crosby 2/16

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

Ksenia—traveling abroad to see her mother
Tim, Donna, Christopher and Melanie—in FL for Nicholas and Emily's wedding
Protodeacon Paul and Patty—in FL for Nicholas and Emily's wedding

Those from among us serving in the Armed Forces

Joel O.—U.S. Navy; hospital corpsman (“medic”)
Ian—Fr. David and Melanie's son-in-law; U.S. Army reservist called up for training
Derek—relative of Carolyn P.; U.S. Army soldier
Ruben—acquaintance of the Hopkos, U.S. Marines Corps pilot
Zachary W.—Fr. Zachary W.'s son; U.S. Air Force pilot
John S.—Fr. John's nephew; a U.S. Navy ROTC midshipman

Birthdays

Christyn O. 2/14
Melanie Osuch 2/16
Mark Orelup 2/20

Notes on Parish Life

Vacuuming the Church: We ask that volunteers vacuum the Narthex (entrance area), Nave (main worship space), and Kliros (Choir area) of our Church building each Sunday, *right after the conclusion of the Sunday morning services*. The doing of this uncomplicated, yet needful, task would be a great help. Please consider being this volunteer on at least some occasions. Thank you.

Please, consider hosting Coffee Hour! We need Coffee Hour hosts going forward in the calendar. Please, consider hosting Coffee Hour. Thank you!

Please, remember to fill out and submit your Pledge Form for 2025! Check your email inbox or see Fr. John for more details.

Announcements for the Whole Parish from the Parish Sisterhood

Dear Fellow Parishioners of Saints Cyril and Methodius Church:

Glory to Jesus Christ!

The Parish Sisterhood has two activities coming up that would benefit from the participation of the whole parish.

1) First, is the Psalter Prayer group. **Any parishioner can sign up for this endeavor.** We did this last year with just the sisters, and many felt it was a beneficial way to spend time during Lent. Beginning on the first day of Great Lent on Monday March 3, participants will read their assigned kathisma (group of psalms) preceded by a short prayer. This can be done on your own at any time of the day; most people find that it takes 15-20 minutes per day. Others in the group will be reading their assigned readings such that, every day, within our group, the entire Psalter will be read. Each participant will read through the psalter twice during the 40 days. This may sound confusing, but those who sign up will receive clear directions about what to read and when! You will need a Bible to participate (Fr. John has some to loan if you need one). There is a book available on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) that is already divided into the katismas. (Songs of Praise- A Psalter Devotional for Orthodox Women) Again, any parishioner can sign up for this endeavor. Please text, call or email Lynn Hajjar. (978-886-4459; lynn.hajjar@tahoo.com) to sign up. We need all names by Wednesday Feb 26th please!

3) Second, looking ahead, we will be hosting the Deanery for a Vespers service on Sunday March 30th. The Sisterhood will organize a soup, bread and dessert Lenten meal for those who attend. A sign up for that will be available on February 23 and the weeks after. You can also sign up at the next Sisterhood meeting on Sunday March 2.

With love in Christ,

The Parish Sisterhood

Scripture Readings, etc.

Follow this link, to be taken to a section of the official Orthodox Church in America website at which you can access the Daily Scripture Readings, the Lives of the Saints arranged day-to-day throughout the year, catechetical (instructional) material about the Orthodox Faith, and section featuring Questions and Answers about the Orthodox Faith:

<https://www.oca.org/orthodoxy>

The End! Glory be to God!

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