



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 27, 2022 – Tone 3

Sunday of Meat-fare

SUNDAY OF MEAT-FARE – Tone 3. Repose of St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn (1915). Sunday of the Last Judgment. Ven. Prokopios the Confessor of Decapolis (8th c.). Ven. Titus, Presbyter, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—1190). Ven. Titus the Soldier, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—14th c.). Ven. Thalelæus, Hermit, of Syria (460).

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2022/02/27>

Services and Events, Upcoming

- **Wednesday morning, March 2, 8:00 AM:** Our usual Wednesday morning in-person Matins service.
- **Thursday evening, March 3, 7:00 PM:** ONLINE, via “Zoom,” we will have our usual 90-minute long weekly Bible Study session, continuing our reading of The Gospel According to Saint Matthew.
- **Saturday evening Vigil, March 5, 6:30 PM:** Our usual Saturday evening weekly Lord’s Day Vigil Service.
- **Sunday morning Divine Liturgy, March 6, 9:15 AM:** Our usual weekly Sunday morning Lord’s Day celebration of the Divine Liturgy, beginning at 9:15 AM. **Cheese-fare Sunday. Forgiveness.**
- **Sunday morning, March 6, approximately 10:45 AM:** Abbreviated Forgiveness Vespers, with the Rite of Forgiveness to begin Great Lent.
- **Monday, March 7: First Day of Great Lent. 7:00 PM:** Compline with the Reading of the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete.
- **Tuesday, March 8: Second Day of Great Lent. 7:00 PM:** Compline with the Reading of the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete.
- **Wednesday, March 9: Third Day of Great Lent. 6:30 PM:** Divine Liturgy of the PreSanctified Gifts.
- **Thursday, March 10: Fourth Day of Great Lent. 7:00 PM:** Compline with the Reading of the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete.

Lenten Confessions – Make your appointment now! Great Lent begins on Monday, March 7. Each and every Christian should participate in the saving Sacrament of Holy Confession during the Lenten season, as part of his or her own “Lenten journey.” Please contact Fr. John now to make your Confession appointment, even if you want your appointment to take place later on during Lent. Please make your Lenten confession before the end of Great Lent, that is, by Friday, April 15. By the time we reach Holy Week and Pascha, every member of the Parish should (must!) have participated in the Sacrament of Confession in the Lenten season.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

We pray for all victims of disease, disaster, difficulty, and senseless violence throughout the world.

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

We pray for all the thousands of victims of COVID-19. We pray for all those dying presently in Ukraine, due to the war now going on there. Lord have mercy.

Newly Departed

Archpriest Michael Fortounatto—acquaintance of Hopkos	d. 2/19/22
Peter—a man Fr. John has been asked to pray for	d. 2/24/22
Dorothy—Mat. C. Voytovich's mother	d. 2/17/22
Roy—Jacob J.'s grandfather	d. 2/17/22
Steven Wenslow—Bev. Kuzmich's nephew	d. 2/17/22
Rosemary—friend of Jack K	d. 2/14/22
Robert—an acquaintance of the Hansons	d. 1/30/22
Ben—a friend of Mike A.'s	d. 1/29/22
Joan Impressa—a friend of Marilou P.'s	d. 1/20/22
Dillon—a young man who died, leaving a young family—request of Jacob J.	d. 1/18/22
Patty—a woman we have been asked to pray for	d. 1/18/22
Robert Nethery—once associated with the Waterbury Parish	d. 1/16/22

Anniversaries of Repose – *Memory Eternal!*

Fannie Serduk	2/27/1976
Anna Hricenik	2/27/1988
Vasili Biscoe	3/1/1951
Roland Oraschewsky	3/1/2017
Symeon Papko	3/2/1944
Mary Greziuk	3/2/1956
Lillian Hasko	3/2/2008
Anton Honcharuk	3/3/1974
Donna Marie Kriniske	3/3/2014
Emery Michael Wegh	3/3/2015
Helen Kowaleski	3/4/1997

THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S MERCY AND HELP

First of all, we pray for all those suffering due to COVID-19, and those working to alleviate their suffering. We pray for all those suffering presently in Ukraine, due to the war now going on in that place.

Persons captive and suffering for the Faith

Metropolitan Paul and Archbishop John—hostages in Syria

Those who are sick and suffering

Priest John M.—a young priest, suffering with a vexing illness
Matushka Anne Hosking—chronic illness; in need of our prayers
Matushka Ann S.—chronic health challenges
Fyodor (Frank) G.—suffering from Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
Dolores T.—permanent colon malfunction following colon cancer treatment
child Drew—grandson of friends of the Nimchecks; ongoing treatment for eye cancer
Donna—Ann S.'s niece, Deb W.'s cousin; kidney disease
Dayrl—Ann S.'s niece, Deb W.'s cousin; kidney disease
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer
MaryEllen—Louine K.'s daughter-in-law; suffering with Huntington's Disease
Yelena "Lenna" M.—overcoming, by God's grace, serious health challenges
Katie and Aubrey—a mother and daughter for whom we have been asked to pray
Tanya B.—suffering long-term and lingering effects of brain hemorrhage
Claudia A.—Waterbury parishioner; health challenges and recently widowed
Mary Lynn—friend of Donna O.; battling breast cancer

Barbara—friend of Patty N.; unwell and in need of prayerful support

Dorothy F.—Waterbury parishioner; still recovering from a serious surgery

Michael "Mike" L.—ongoing health issues

child George—young son of a Kenyan Orthodox priest; quite unwell

Bill M.—struggling with health issues, please keep in prayer

Paula—friend of Jim L.; struggling with cancer

Dimitri—brother of Carolyn P.; health issues

Maryna B.—dealing with some health issues

Thomas—Patty N.'s nephew; battling cancer

Wayne—Donna O.'s father

Richard—a man struggling with cancer, for whom we have been asked to pray

George Kla.—our fellow parishioner; facing a variety of health challenges

Lorraine—friend of Joan M.; cancerous blood disease

Joseph—friend of Jeanne M.; in need of prayers

Dianna—Jennifer W.'s mother; suffering some health problems

Thomas—fighting cancer; father of a friend of the Parish (S.H.)

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

Brittney—facing possibly severe health issues; at the request of Kathy M.

Jeanne M.—recovering from joint replacement surgery (doing well)

Albert ("Al")—in need of prayers for healing; very unwell

Kathy S.—Waterbury parishioner; facing health challenges

Earlene L.—Mike and Jim L.'s mother; recent health issues

Natonya L.—Mike and Jim L.'s family member; heart surgery

Bach-Loan—a neighbor of Jeanne M.'s; recent serious health challenges

Barbara S.—W'bury parishioner; recovering from surgery

Rick—Deacon Paul and Patty's nephew; Rick is unwell and in need of prayers

Peter—Deacon Paul and Patty's acquaintance; battling leukemia

Christina—a woman battling cancer; acquaintance of Fr. John H.

James B.—husband of a Waterbury parishioner; very unwell recently

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

Alex—John D.'s brother; suffering permanent effects of stroke

Dolores—Bob M.'s mother; resident in long-term eldercare

Expectant Mothers

Tracey and the child to be born of her—Tracey is G.. and J.. W.'s daughter-in-law

Lucy and the child to be born of her—Lucy C. is our fellow parishioner

Maura and the child to be born of her—Maura is Lucy and David C.'s friend

Katherine and the child to be born of her—relative of the Hopkos

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

All those who are traveling, soon to be traveling, or apart from us

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

Fr. James P., Chaplain (MAJ)—now home from recent deployment

Joel O.—U.S. Navy; hospital corpsman ("medic")

Joseph B.—a Terryville neighbor; U.S. Marine Corps

Joshua P.—husband of a niece of Fr. John's; U.S. Army officer and helicopter pilot

Alexander—relative of Carolyn P.; 82nd Airborne Division U.S. Army soldier

Derek—relative of Carolyn P.; U.S. Army soldier

Wedding Anniversaries

NONE THIS WEEK

Birthdays this coming week

Jayne Grasso	3/3
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Macrina Hopko	3/4
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Prayers Requested: One of our parishioners who is a teacher has asked prayers for one of her students. This student is battling a very serious illness. Please, keep this child and their loved ones in your prayers. Thank you. (Lord, hear us and have mercy!)

Lenten Mission Services in the Connecticut Deanery: We will be having Sunday afternoon/evening Lenten Mission Services in the Connecticut Deanery again this year. This is a longtime custom in the Deanery that we were not able to keep in 2020 and 2021, due to the COVID-19 event. A full schedule of those services will be shared via email this coming week.

Pray for Peace in Ukraine!

Statement on war in Ukraine from our Metropolitan (Presiding Archbishop) Tikhon (2/24/22)

Dearly beloved children in the Lord,

In light of the distressing developments in Ukraine affecting millions of innocent people in the region, I wholeheartedly urge you to pray for peace and the well-being of our brothers and sisters who are enduring this tragic moment.

I ask that the hostilities be ceased immediately and that President Putin put an end to the military operations. As Orthodox Christians, we condemn violence and aggression.

I offer my support and prayers to my brother and concelebrant, His Beatitude Metropolitan Onufriy, who has the most difficult task of leading his beloved flock in this time of pain and anxiety. I also assure my prayers to the other religious leaders serving in Ukraine who have the delicate task of leading their communities in these difficult times.

To our beloved Ukrainian brothers and sisters, as well to all of you who are certainly troubled and concerned about these recent developments, I offer the words that the Lord Himself offers to us through His Psalmist: “The Lord will give strength to His people; The Lord will bless His people with peace (Ps 29:11).”

May we fervently offer our petition to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to have mercy on us “for the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all.”

Yours in Christ,

+Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

Address of His Beatitude Onufriy, Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine, to the faithful and citizens of Ukraine (2/24/22)

Dear brothers and sisters! Faithful to our Ukrainian Orthodox Church!

As the Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, I address you and all citizens of Ukraine. A disaster has happened. Unfortunately, Russia has launched military operations against Ukraine, and at this fateful time I urge you not to panic, be courageous and to show love for your Motherland and for each other. I urge you, first of all, to intensify repentant prayer for Ukraine, for our army and our people, I ask you to forget mutual strife and misunderstandings and unite in love for God and our Motherland.

In this tragic time, we express our special love and support to our soldiers who stand guard and protect and defend our land and our people. May God bless and keep them!

Defending the sovereignty and integrity of Ukraine, we appeal to the President of Russia and ask him to immediately stop the fratricidal war. The Ukrainian and Russian peoples came out of the Dnieper baptismal font, and the war between these peoples is a repetition of the sin of Cain, who out of envy killed his own brother. Such a war is not justified either by God or by people.

I call on everyone to common sense, which teaches us to solve our earthly problems in mutual dialogue and mutual understanding, and I sincerely hope that God will forgive us our sins and God's peace will reign on our earth and throughout the world!

+ ONUFRIY,

Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine
Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Readings from Holy Scripture

Scripture Readings for the Sunday of the Last Judgment, also called Meat-fare Sunday

The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 8:8-9:2)

Brothers and Sisters: Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew (Mt. 25:31-46)

The Lord said to his disciples: "When the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to thee?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Scripture Readings for the Sunday of Forgiveness, also called Cheese-fare Sunday

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans (Rom. 13:11-14:4)

Brothers and Sisters: Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Master is able to make him stand.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew (Mt. 6:14-21)

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."