



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, March 23, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 6. Veneration of the Cross. Martyr Nikon and 199 disciples with him in Sicily (251). Ven. Nikon, Abbot of the Kiev Caves (1088). Martyrs Philetas the Senator, his wife, Lydia, their sons Macedon and Theoprepus, Chronides the Notary, and Amphilochius the Captain, in Illyria (117-138). Righteous Basil of Mangazea in Siberia (1600). Monastic Martyr Luke of St. Anne's Skete (Mt. Athos—1802).

[Lives of the Saints - Orthodox Church in America](#)

Services and Events, Upcoming

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

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.

SPRING CLEANING MORNING AT CHURCH! Saturday, March 29, 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon: On Saturday, March 29, from 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon, we will be doing spring cleaning at Church. If you are able to be of assistance that morning, please, come and help clean the Church in preparation for Holy Week and Holy Pascha. Thank you!

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.

CHOIR REHEARSAL/WARM-UP BEFORE LENTEN VESPERS: on Sunday, March 30, we will have a Choir Warm-up Session at 3:15 PM, before Vespers which is scheduled for 4:00 PM.

HERE IN THE TERRYVILLE PARISH: Sunday, March 30, 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

CHOIR REHEARSAL. Saturday, April 5, 4:30 PM: The Choir will practice on this occasion specifically in preparation for the Paschal Midnight Services.

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 "Plashchinitza/Epitaphion")

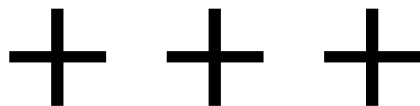
Great and Holy Friday, April 18, 7:00 PM: Matins of Great and Holy Saturday, with the Lamentations over the Tomb, and the Procession

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
- 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.



“The more you pray for him [the devil] to leave, the more tightly he embraces you. Show contempt for the devil. Don't meet him head on. When you struggle against the devil with obstinacy, he flies at you like a tiger or a wild cat. When you shoot a bullet at him, he lobs a hand-grenade at you. And when you throw a bomb at him, he launches a rocket against you. Don't look at evil. Turn your eyes to God's embrace and fall into His arms and continue on your way. Abandon yourself to Him; love Christ; live in vigilance. Vigilance is essential for the person who loves God.”

– A saying of Saint Porphyrios of the Skete (Small Monastery) of Kafsokalyvia on Mount Athos (d. 1991, canonized a saint in 2015)

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

Zachary Lyga d. 3/9/25
 Nicholas Bobrovsky—a lay man who did much in our Diocese d. 3/4/25
 Cheryl—a Food Pantry volunteer d. 3/4/25
 Emily—acquaintance of the Nimcheks; a victim of cancer d. 2/29/25

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Lyba Duke 3/23/1925
 John Muchka 3/23/1970
 Theodore Mychniow 3/24/1956
 Anna LaRoche 3/24/1998
 Myron (Miroslav) Toropilo 3/24/2002
 Joanna Cefaratti 3/25/2012
 Maria Hubchik 3/26/1946
 Nicholas Maichak 3/26/1961
 Martha Grabchuk 3/26/1965
 Arlene Osuch 3/27/2011
 Beverly Kuzmich 3/27/2020
 Theodore Kozar 3/28/1936
 Michael Kandybaik 3/28/1961

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, please pray fervently
 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.
 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
 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
 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 due to a chronic illness
 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 be asked to pray for general well-being
 Amy—a woman for whom we have be 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
 Ingrid—battling cancer; friend of Nina and John D.
 Terry—battling cancer; friend of Nina and John D.
 Victor—family member of Nina and John D.; suffering in illness
 Alex—family member of Nina and John D.; suffering in illness
 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
 child Matthias—an infant who has not endure two open heart surgeries
 child Noelle—Bob M.’s granddaughter; recently unwell with some chronic issues
 child Nicholas—at request of Dennis K.; suffering with illness
 child Rafael—child born at 26 weeks of gestation; at request of friends of Hopkos
 Christine—at request of Elaine H.; blindness cause by aneurysms
 Jill—friend of Elaine H.; recovering from surgery
 Timothy—relative of Joan M.; surgery
 Nancy B.—our fellow parishioner; recovery from yet another surgery
 Mary V.—acquaintance of Lucy C. and Peter H.; suffering in illness
 Barbara—Cynthia B.’s cousin; mourning loss of stepson
 Andrea—friend of Helena G.; mourning loss of her daughter
 Joanne—acquaintance of Helena G.; mourning passing of her husband
 Ramon—parishioner Lewis H.’s grandfather; seriously ill
 Lewis—parishioner Lewis H.’s father; unwell, but improving

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
 Claudia B.—Macrina H.’s mother
 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

Emilia and the child to be born of her
 Bianca and the child to be born of her—family member of Lynn H.’s
 Katherine and the child to be born of her—relative of Fr. John and family
 Jenna and child to be born of her—friend of Lucy C.

Wedding Anniversaries

None this week

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

John (Jack) K.—away in Florida
 Matthew A.
 Fr. David K. – traveling on several occasion this week to serve in other parishes

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

J. Nicholas O. 3/24
 Vera W. 3/28

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!

Lenten Confessions! Make your appointment now, if you have not already done so!

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 11.

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.

Lenten Mission Vespers, Sunday afternoon, March 30:

Looking ahead, we will be hosting the Deanery for a Vespers service on Sunday March 30th. The Parish Sisterhood will organize a soup, bread, and dessert Lenten meal for those who attend. A sign up for that is now available.

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!

