

## 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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### ***Schedule of Services***

- 3/31 Sunday**  
***Third Sunday in Great Lent***  
***The Lenten Veneration of***  
***the Precious Cross of Our Lord***  
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy  
 4:00 PM – Lenten Mission Vespers  
 for the Sunday of the Cross  
 Holy Ghost Orthodox Church, Bridgeport, CT
- 4/1 Monday**  
 7:00 PM – Terryville Parish Council Meeting
- 4/3 Wednesday**  
 6:15 PM – Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified  
 Gifts, followed by a Lenten “Bring-and-Share”  
 Supper
- 4/5 Friday**  
 7:00 PM – Lenten Vespers with Memorial Prayers  
 for the Faithful Departed
- 4/6 Saturday**  
 6:00 PM – Vigil  
 Followed by Choir Rehearsal
- 4/7 Sunday**  
***Fourth Sunday in Great Lent***  
***Commemoration of***  
***Saint John of the Ladder***  
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy  
 4:00 PM – Lenten Mission Vespers  
 for the Fourth Sunday in Great Lent  
 Saints Peter and Paul Church, Meriden, CT
- 4/10 Wednesday**  
 6:15 PM – Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified  
 Gifts, followed by a Lenten “Bring-and-Share”  
 Supper
- 4/11 Thursday**  
 9:00 AM – Lenten Morning Prayers with the  
 Chanting of the entire Great Canon of Saint  
 Andrew of Crete
- 4/12 Friday**  
 7:00 PM – Chanting of the Akathist Hymn in  
 honor of the Mother of God
- 4/13 Saturday**  
 6:00 PM – Vigil  
 Followed by Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, March 31, 2019

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Great Lent – Tone 3

*The Third Sunday in Great Lent: The Lenten  
 Veneration of the Holy and Precious Cross*

On March 31, annually, we commemorate,  
 among others, Saint Innocent of Alaska

### ***Notes from Fr. John: Charity at Pascha***

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Christ is in our midst!

A beautifully appropriate way that we can show gratitude to our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ, for all that He has accomplished for us, is to obey His command that we love one another.

As we prepare during this Great Lent to celebrate Holy Pascha, the Feast of Feasts, it would be especially fitting if each of us would make a loving and generous gift to a charitable endeavor.

Such a gift should be of a truly sacrificial nature—we should “feel it.” If we are giving only from what is “extra” or “leftover,” that is a good thing, but such a gift is not as praiseworthy as the contribution or donation that really requires us to go without something ourselves. Real giving begins when the giving of the gift actually involves us making a significant personal sacrifice.

Let us all consider making a generous and sacrificial charitable gift this year as we again commemorate Christ’s sacrifice of Himself for us and our salvation.

With love in Christ,

***Fr. John***

# 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***

Matushka Julia Petranin—wife of Fr. Jozef Petranin d. 3/17/19  
Samya Rose Stumo—Ethiopian air disaster victim d. 3/10/19

## ***Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!***

Helen Morozuk 4/2/1968  
Pelagia Mozalak 4/2/1969  
John Witick 4/2/1974  
Maria Yatsenick 4/3/1931  
Peter Klachany 4/3/1951  
Etylie Papach 4/3/1964  
Philip Gabor 4/3/1974  
Dimitry Pisaretz 4/5/1931  
Theodore Kowal 4/5/1968  
Archpriest Vladimir Sovyrda 4/5/1987

## **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***

His Eminence Archbishop Nikon—some recent health issues  
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 in need of our prayerful support  
Irene Vassos—member of Diocesan Council; injured in fall  
Nina Gorbachev—has now suffered a stroke; very unwell  
Anna Szepel—recently unwell; Waterbury parishioner  
Yelena Massicotte—facing some health challenges at this time  
Tanya Beach—suffered a brain hemorrhage on 2/13; progressing in rehabilitation

### ***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

### ***Travelers***

Helena Guba—March 21 to March 31

### ***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

### ***Birthdays***

Vera Wegh 3/28  
Nicholas Kowaleski – Julie and Joel's son 4/1  
Joel Orelup – Karry and Mark's son 4/3  
Beverly Kuzmich 4/4

## **The true Christian life is built on grace**

*By Abbot Tryphon. Abbot of All-Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon, Washington*

Many people sail through their life thinking happiness is something they have created for themselves. Good fortune, and success in work and play, is something they've brought about, either through struggle, or by pure luck. Yet when they experience difficult times, or loss of the things that brought them comfort, they despair.

Sometimes it takes the loss of this established order, to enlighten our darkened hearts to the reality that only happiness that is of an eternal nature will never be lost. For such a man, there is nothing that can take away from the comfort and security he experiences that are of a faith based nature. This is because God's grace fills his very essence with such peace, nothing, even loss of worldly comforts, can bring about despair.

How can we possibly despair when we know that the God we worship in Trinity, and Who has created us and our world, is become our Co-suffering Saviour, and has showered us with such an abundance of grace, that no hardship that comes our way can detract from the peace and joy that we have experienced in our life in Christ.

Compared to this grace filled life, all else is but folly. Grace has liberated us from all the temporal nature of earthly happiness, and has taken up residence in our heart, from which springs forth the healing that transforms us. This grace makes us whole, and our sickness disappears as though it never was.

*(Abbot Tryphon [pronounced "Tree-fon"] is the Abbot of All-Merciful Saviour Orthodox Christian Monastery, Vashon, Washington. He is a popular Orthodox Christian writer and speaker. One place to encounter Abbot Tryphon is at his blog located at <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/morningoffering/>.)*

# NEWS AND NOTES

**Lenten Confessions – We are already halfway through Great Lent!** 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.” If you have not already done so, please contact Fr. John now to make your Confession appointment. Please make your Lenten confession before the end of Great Lent, that is, by Friday, April 19. By the time we reach Holy Week and Pascha, every member of the Parish should (must!) have participated in the Sacrament of Confession during the Lenten season.

**Pussy Willows:** Pussy Willows may now be in the proper stage of development to be cut and prepared for Palm Sunday. If you have any pussy willows that you wish to cut and then donate to the Church, please see Fr. John.

**CT Deanery Lenten Mission Services:** During Great Lent this year we are again having Sunday afternoon/evening Lenten Mission services here in the Connecticut Deanery of the Diocese of New England. The remainder of the schedule is:

- Sunday, March 31, the Third Sunday of Lent: Vespers, Holy Ghost Church, Bridgeport, CT, at 4:00 PM.
- Sunday, April 7, the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent: Vespers, Saints Peter and Paul Church, Meriden, CT, at 4:00 PM.
- Sunday, April 14, the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent: Unction Service, Three Saints Orthodox Church, Ansonia, CT, at 4:00 PM
- Sunday, April 21, Palm Sunday: Bridegroom Matins, All Saints Church, Hartford, CT, at 4:00 PM.

**THIS WEEK! Terryville Parish Council Meeting, Monday, April 1, 7:00 PM:** The Terryville Parish Council will meeting on Monday, April 1, beginning at 7:00 PM.

**NEXT WEEKEND! Parish Spring Cleaning, Saturday morning, April 6:** We will have a Church Spring Cleaning Session on Saturday morning, April 6, beginning at 9:00 AM. Please note this occasion in your calendar and plan to participate. Many hands make the work quick and easy! Let’s work together to beautify our Church for Holy Pascha! Thank you!

**All Saints Orthodox Church, Hartford, is sponsoring their annual “Egg-Stravaganza” on Friday-Saturday, April 5-6.** This event features a Food Sale (eat-in and take-away), Egg-themed items for sale, and Pysanky (Egg Decorating) Classes. For further details see the flier posted on the bulletin board in Parish Basement Social Hall or visit their website at <https://www.allsaintshartford.org/eggstravaganza.html>.

**Youth Retreat for Youth AND their Parents – Friday, April 19:** On Friday evening, April 19, All Saint Church, Hartford, CT, is sponsoring another in the continuing series of “Rally-after-Rally” Youth events that we have been having here in Connecticut. The event will be a retreat for youth AND their parents, led by Fr. Sergius Halvorsen. Fr. Sergius will be focusing on the Book of Jonah. The event will begin at 6:30 PM, with the celebration of Vespers (for the Eve of Lazarus Saturday) and continue through to 9:30 PM. A light Lenten dinner will be provided after Vespers. If you are planning to attend this event, please, let Fr. John know. Thank you!

**THANK YOU!** Thanks are expressed to all those who helped host the Mission Vespers Service in our Parish this past Sunday, March 24. We especially thank the Choir, who sang the service. We also send out special thanks to all those who helped with reception after the Vespers, by providing food and by helping with the set-up and clean-up. Thanks to all, and may God bless you for your generous assistance.

# Readings from Holy Scripture

*Scripture Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Great Lent, which is Sunday of the Lenten Veneration of the Cross*

## **The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews (Heb. 4:14-5:6)**

Brothers and Sisters: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

## **The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Mark (Mk. 8:43-9:1)**

The Lord said, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

*Scripture Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, on which we commemorate especially the memory of St. John of the Ladder*

## **The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews (Heb. 6:13-20)**

Brothers and Sisters: when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

## **The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Mark (Mk. 9:17-31)**

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."