

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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Schedule of Services

- 4/28 Great and Holy Pascha ("Easter Sunday")**
12:00 NOON – Paschal Vespers, with the Procession and the Reading of the Gospel Accounts of the Our Lord's Resurrection
- 4/29 Bright Monday**
IN NEW BRITAIN: 9:00 AM – Paschal Divine Liturgy, with Festive Procession, at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, New Britain, CT
- 5/1 Bright Wednesday**
7:00 PM – Paschal Vespers, followed by a festive, Paschal "Bring-and-Share" Meal
- 5/4 Bright Saturday**
IN WATERBURY: 9:30 AM – Paschal Divine Liturgy, at Nativity of the Holy Virgin Mary ("Saint Mary's) Orthodox Church, Waterbury, CT. At the conclusion of this Liturgy, we will serve a Thanksgiving Prayer Service, including commemoration of the founders, benefactors and contributors, at the exterior front steps of the Parish Temple, which is now being prepared for dismantling.
- 5/5 Thomas Sunday**
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
12:15 AM – Blessing of the Graves in the Parish Cemetery
- 5/6 Monday**
7:00 PM – Monthly Meeting of the Terryville Parish Council
- 5/7 Tuesday**
Feast of Saint Alexis, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America
IN CLINTON, CT: 9:00 AM – Festal Divine Liturgy, at Saint Alexis Church, Clinton, CT, for the Parish Feast Day of that Parish
- 5/8 Wednesday**
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 5/10 Friday**
Eve of the Feast of Sts Cyril and Methodius
7:00 PM – Vespers
- 5/11 Saturday**
Feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius
9:15 AM – Festal Divine Liturgy, commemorating our Patron Saints

Sunday, April 28, 2019

The Great and Holy Feast of Feasts,
Holy Pascha: The Resurrection of Our
Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ

Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

With great joy we greet you on the occasion of Holy Pascha. We pray that the Lord God will bless you and yours in this holy season and throughout the year to come. Thank you for all your love and support.

Asking forgiveness and prayers, and with love in the risen Christ,

Fr. John, Macrina, and Family

REGARDING THE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION AT HOLY PASCHA

All Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, love of neighbor and self-discipline (including personal participation during Pre-Lent, Great Lent or Holy Week in the Sacrament of private and personal Confession) are invited to receive the Holy Eucharist during the Paschal Divine Liturgy. All others are asked to refrain from participation. If you have any questions about this Eucharistic discipline and practice, please see Fr. John, before services begin. Thank you for your cooperation with this guideline, which is in accord with the usual, traditional and normative practice of the Church.

News and Notes

Thank You! Thanks and appreciation are offered today, as we celebrate Holy Pascha, to Michael Nimchek, Choir Director, and Richard Koski, Assisting Choir Director, and to all the members of our Parish Choir for their loving service today and throughout the year. Gratitude is also given to all those who in any way helped prepare our parish for Pascha—cleaning, ironing, vacuuming, polishing, flower arranging, wax-removing, raking, sweeping, baking etc., etc. Thanks to all those who in any and every way support the holy, life-giving and saving work of Christ's Holy Church!

IN NEW BRITAIN: Bright Monday, April 29, 9:00 AM – Paschal Divine Liturgy and Festive Procession: This year, on Bright Monday, instead of having a service in our Parish, we will be joining with Fr. David Koles and the parishioners at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 305 Washington St, New Britain, CT, to celebrate a festive, Paschal Divine Liturgy and Procession. The Divine Liturgy will begin New Britain that morning at 9:00 AM.

Bright Wednesday, May 1 – Paschal Vespers and “Bring-and-Share” Meal, 7:00 PM: On Wednesday evening, May 1, we will have a festive occasion in our Parish. We will celebrate Paschal Vespers at 7:00 PM, and then enjoy a festive, Paschal “Bring-and-Share” Meal together downstairs in the Basement Social Hall. During Great Lent we enjoyed Wednesday evening worship and fellowship, and we would like to do this again, in a festive and Paschal manner, during Bright Week.

IN WATERBURY: Bright Saturday, May 4, 9:30 AM – Bright Saturday Liturgy in the Waterbury Parish Chapel: On Saturday, May 4, beginning at 9:30 AM, we will serve a Paschal Divine Liturgy in the Waterbury Parish Chapel, located at 3125 N. Main Street, Waterbury, CT. At the conclusion of this Liturgy, we will serve a Thanksgiving Prayer Service, including commemoration of the founders, benefactors and contributors, at the exterior front steps of the Parish Temple, which is now being prepared for dismantling.

Thomas Sunday Blessing of Graves, Sunday, May 5, 12:15 PM: On Sunday, May 5, we will celebrate the Sunday after Pascha, Thomas Sunday. As is our parish's custom for Thomas Sunday, weather and ground conditions permitting, we will bless the graves in the parish cemetery that day beginning at 12:15 PM. (**NOTE: Looking Ahead!** The Waterbury Parish Cemetery blessing will take place on Sunday, June 23, beginning at 12:45 PM.)

Monday, May 6 – May Meeting of the Terryville Parish Council: The May Meeting of the Terryville Parish Council will take place on Monday evening, May 6, beginning at 7:00 PM.

IN CLINTON: Tuesday, May 7 – Festal Divine Liturgy at Saint Alexis Orthodox Church on the occasion of that parish's patronal feast day: On Tuesday, May 7, beginning at 9:00 AM, Festal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at Saint Alexis Orthodox Church, 108 E Main St, Clinton, CT, on the occasion of that parish's patronal feast day. Fr. John will be participating there in his capacity as District Dean of the Connecticut Deanery, and anyone who would like to accompany him that morning is welcome to do so.

May 10th and 11th – Feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius: We will celebrate our parish's patronal feast day with the following schedule: On Friday evening, May 10, the Eve of the Feast, we will celebrate Vespers beginning at 7:00 PM. On Saturday morning, May 11, the actual Feast Day, we will celebrate the Festal Divine Liturgy beginning at 9:15 AM. Please plan to participate in the commemoration of our Patrons, Saints Cyril and Methodius.

Monday, May 20 – May Meeting of the Waterbury Parish Council: The May Meeting of the Waterbury Parish Council will take place on Monday evening, May 20, beginning at 6:00 PM.

Needs of the Food Pantry—May we all remember the needs of others at Holy Pascha! 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 goes grocery shopping, it would be appropriate and worthy of a blessing for us to purchase some items for donation to the Food Pantry.

LOOKING AHEAD: Graduates: If you or a member of your family is graduating this spring, please let us know, so that we might share the news with our Parish Family, and offer our congratulations and prayerful best wishes.