

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

- 6/15 Saturday**
Eve of Holy Pentecost
Pre-Pentecost Memorial Saturday
 5:30 PM – General Memorial Service
 Commemorating All Departed Faithful
 6:00 PM – Great Vespers with Litya
- 6/16 Sunday**
Feast of Holy Pentecost
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy, followed immediately
 by the Service with the Pentecost Kneeling
 Prayers
- 6/17 Monday**
 The Waterbury Parish Council Meeting,
 scheduled for 6/17/2019 has been **CANCELLED**
- 6/19 Wednesday**
 8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 6/22 Saturday**
 6:00 PM – Vigil
 Followed by Monthly Rite of General Confession
- 6/23 Sunday**
Commemoration of All Saints
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 6/24 Monday**
Feast of the Nativity of John the Baptist
First Day of the Apostle's Fast
 9:00 AM – Prayer Service to St. John the Baptist
- 6/26 Wednesday**
 8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 6/28 Friday**
Eve of the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul
AT CHRIST THE SAVIOR CHURCH, SOUTHBURY
 6:30 PM – Vespers and Divine Liturgy in the
 Southbury Parish, followed by a "Bring-and-
 Share" Supper
- 6/29 Saturday**
Feast of Saints Peter and Paul
 6:00 PM – Vigil
 Followed by Choir Rehearsal
- 6/30 Sunday**
Commemoration of All Saints of North America
 9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, June 16, 2019

Holy Pentecost

On Holy Pentecost we commemorate the occasion when, fifty days after the resurrection from the dead of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the Apostles of Christ. Through that outpouring, the Apostles were strengthened to preach the Good News about Our Lord, and to grow the Church, the Body of Christ.

Sunday, June 16, is Father's Day!

On Father's Day we offer our prayerful gratitude to all our wonderful fathers, grandfathers, Godfathers, and spiritual fathers—to all those who exercise fatherly ministry on our behalf. Thank you, and may God bless you!

God as "Fire" – from the writings of Saint Nikolai Velimirovitch, as quoted by Fr. Thomas Hopko during Fr. Thomas's podcast, God as a Consuming Fire, Ancient Faith Radio, May 21, 2010

Saint Nikolai writes:

We often speak of the fire of envy, the fire of hatred, the fire of lust, the fire of every vicious passion. Of course, such fire was not brought to the earth by Christ, the King of glory and truth. Far from it! That impure, unclean fire comes from the whirlwind of the fires of hell which splashes over the whole earth. But Christ brought that holy fire with which he has been burning and glowing from eternity to eternity. That is the ...

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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

Madeline—Jacob Janco's great aunt d. 6/10/2019
Marion—Louine King's sister d. 5/22/2019
Louis Alverides—Marilou Petroff's cousin d. 5/21/2019

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Anna Sobestanovich 6/16/2006
Maria Sarafin 6/17/1947
Anna Biscoe 6/18/1994
Archimandrite Anthony Repella 6/18/1957
Michael Baritsky 6/19/1947
Ellen Senetcen 6/19/1971
Mary Fill 6/21/2010
Xenia Bystry 6/22/1986

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—ongoing health issues
Archpriest Steven Belonick—C. Belonick's brother; suffering in serious 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
Nina Gorbachev—very unwell
Mat. Cindy Voytovich—facing health challenges at this time
Barbara—friend of Jack Kriniske; hip replacement surgery followed by complications
Yelena "Lenna" Massicotte—facing serious health challenges at this time
Vincent—Maria Oraschewsky's brother-in-law; battling cancer
Katie and Aubrey—a mother and daughter for whom we have been asked to pray
Anna Szepele—recently unwell; Waterbury parishioner
Tanya Beach—recovering from brain hemorrhage; returned home this past week
Vera Wegh—recently unwell

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

Eva Kopcha—at Sheriden Woods, Bristol
Irene Kiehart—Jayne Grasso's mother
Mary Fomenko—serious health situation two weeks ago; now seemingly stabilized
Robert (Bob)—Patty Nimchek's brother

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

Elena Watras
Marilou Petroff—will be traveling next weekend
And all those traveling during these summer months

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

Anniversaries of Marriage

Fr. John & Macrina Hopko 6/17

Birthdays

Luda Saltourides 6/16
John Osuch 6/19
Ann Sovyrda 6/22

[This article, from the writings of Saint Nikolai Velimirovitch, continues here from page one of this bulletin]

... fire of truth and of love, a pure fire, a divine fire, from the eternal hearth which is called the Holy Trinity. It is the fire of truth out of which pours the warmth of love, the fervor of love. It is the fire by which a Christian burns but remains unconsumed, just like the burning bush in the desert that Moses beheld that burned but remained unconsumed. It is the fire which the prophet Jeremiah felt in his bones and which compellingly drove him to proclaim God's truth.

It is the fire that came down upon the apostles in the form of fiery tongues when the Holy Spirit was sent into the world from the risen Christ. [It is] the fire which enlightened and illumined the simple fishermen and made them the greatest and wisest of men. It is the fire that shone on the face of the archdeacon Stephen at the time of his martyrdom and made his appearance like that of an angel of God. It is the spiritual fire of truth and love by which the apostles and missionaries have regenerated the world, reviving the corpse of a godless humanity; cleansing it, enlightening and illumining it. Everything in this world that has any good to it is of that heavenly fire which the Lord came to cast upon the earth.

This is the heavenly fire by which the soul is purified, just as gold is purified with earthly fire. By the light of that fire, we know the Way. We find out where we are from, and where we are going; we know our Heavenly Father, and our eternal fatherland. By that divine fire, our heart is warmed with the unspeakable love for Christ, just like the two apostles in Emmaus on the road they felt and described when they said, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he spoke to us, and he opened to us the Scriptures on the way?"

That fire moved Christ himself, to come down to earth from heaven, and it moves us to rise up from earth to heaven. We all were baptized by that holy fire according to St. John the Baptist's words when he said, "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." That fire creates an indescribable zeal for every good in one's heart. That fire gladdens the righteous and torments the sinners. It also torments us often, until we are completely cleansed of every unrighteousness, injustice, and impurity. For it is written, "Our God is a consuming fire." Peace and joy of the Lord be with you.

News and Notes

THIS WEEK: Tuesday, June 18—Fr. John away all day: Fr. John, together with Macrina Hopko, will be away for the day on Tuesday, June 18. They are traveling that day to the Boston area to visit with our diocesan hierarch, His Eminence Archbishop NIKON, who continues to suffer in illness. Please, pray for our Archbishop and for Fr. John and Macrina's safe travels. Thank you.

LOOKING AHEAD: Feast of Saints Peter and Paul—in the Southbury Parish: The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul falls this year on Saturday, June 29. This year we will mark that Feast by worshipping with the clergy and faithful of Christ the Savior Orthodox Church, Southbury, CT. Specifically, we will join with the clergy and faithful in the Southbury Parish on the Eve of the Feast, Friday evening, June 28, beginning at 6:30 PM, for the celebration of Vespers with Divine Liturgy. That service will be followed by a "Bring-and-Share" Supper. Fr. Vladimir Aleandro, the Pastor in Southbury, is retiring on June 30. Fr. Vladimir and his wife, Matushka Suzanne, and their family, spent many years as a laypeople here in the Terryville Parish, until Fr. Vladimir studied as a "late vocations" student at Saint Vladimir's Seminary before being ordained to the holy priesthood in 1995. Also, Fr. Vladimir (like Fr. John Hopko) celebrates the anniversary of his ordination on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. This year will be Fr. Vladimir's 24th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood, and Fr. John's 19th anniversary. Also, likely to be present that day is Fr. Moses Locke, the priest recently graduated from Saint Tikhon's Seminary, who will be taking over from Fr. Vladimir as Pastor in Southbury, effective July 1. This is an opportunity for us, prayerfully and supportively, to share in the time of transition taking place in the Southbury Parish at the end of this month.

LOOKING AHEAD: Sunday, June 30 – Pilgrimage to All Saints of North America Church, Salisbury, Connecticut: On Sunday, June 30, which, this year, is the Feast of All Saints of North America, we have an opportunity, once again, to make a pilgrimage to pray before and venerate the relics of ten of the saints of North America. At 4:00 PM on that Sunday afternoon, at All Saints of North America Church, 313 Twin Lakes Road, Salisbury, CT (just 40 miles northwest of Terryville), the Akathist Service to the Saints of North America will be celebrated before the relics of ten of the saints of North America. At the conclusion of that service we will have the opportunity to venerate the relics of those saints and to be anointed with holy oil. The ten saints—small portions of whose relics are enshrined at All Saints of North America Church, Salisbury—are Saint Herman, Wonderworker of Alaska; Saint Innocent, Apostle to America; Saint Tikhon, Enlightener of North America; Saint Alexis of Wilkes-Barre and Minneapolis; Saint Raphael of Brooklyn; Saint Nicolai of Zicha; Saint John of San Francisco; the Holy New Martyr Saint Vasily (Basil) Martysz, the Archpriest and Military Chaplain; Saint Sebastian of Jackson, and Saint Mardarije of Libertyville. You may access and read accounts of the lives of all these saints at the Lives of Saints section of the Orthodox Church in America website: <https://oca.org/saints/lives>.

Additional Note regarding the Pilgrimage to Salisbury: Before the Akathist Service to the Saints of North America, which begins at 4:00 PM, there will also be a service celebrated at 3:00 PM in the Salisbury Parish. That service will be a Prayer Service to the Mother of God, the Most-Holy Theotokos, beseeching her consoling intercession before her Son and our God, our Lord Jesus Christ, especially for those who are ill and afflicted.

LOOKING AHEAD: A Celebration of Pastoral Transition, Christ the Savior Orthodox Church, Southbury, Connecticut, Sunday, July 7, 3:00 PM: On Sunday afternoon, July 7, at 3:00 PM in the afternoon, there will be a *Celebration of Pastoral Transition* at Christ the Savior Orthodox Church, Southbury, Connecticut. During that event, Fr. Vladimir Aleandro will ceremonially pass over the care of that parish to its new pastor, Fr. Moses Locke. The event will begin with the Akathist Service "Glory to God for All Things," and continue thereafter with a picnic. Fr. John Hopko, our Pastor, will be attending the celebration, not only to represent our parish, but also in his capacity as Dean of the Connecticut Deanery. We are all invited to participate. If you are planning to attend that event, please, contact Fr. John Hopko, to let him know of your plans. The Southbury Parish is asking, well in advance, to be informed about how many people from our parish are planning to be there that day for the event.

LOOKING AHEAD: Reception into the Fullness of the Faith, July 28: On Sunday, July 28, in a solemn rite beginning at 9:00 AM, before the beginning of the Divine Liturgy, and to be fulfilled by anointing with Holy Chrism and reception of Holy Communion during the Divine Liturgy, Jacob Janco will be received into the fullness of the sacramental communion and fellowship of the Orthodox Church. Jacob's sponsor will be Peter Hopko. Please keep Jacob in your prayers as he prepares for this event. Many Years!

Readings from Holy Scripture

Scripture Readings for the Sunday of Holy Pentecost

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles (Acts 2:1-11)

At that time, when the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because

each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. John (John 7:37-52; 8:12)

At that time, on the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The

officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Scripture Readings for the First Sunday after Holy Pentecost, which is All Saints Day

The Reading from the Book of Hebrews (Hebrews 11:32-12:2)

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats,

destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew (Matt. 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30)

The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to

you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first.