

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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Sunday, August 16, 2020

10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1. Afterfeast of the Dormition. Translation of the Image “Not-made-by-hands” of our Lord Jesus Christ from Edessa to Constantinople (944). (Third “Feast of the Savior in August”). Martyr Diomedes the Physician of Tarsus in Cilicia (298). Ven. Cherimon (Chæremon) of Egypt (4th c.). The “FEODOROVSKAYA” Icon of the Mother of God (1239).

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/08/16>

The Icon of Christ “Not Made By Hands”

Every year on August 16 the Church commemorates a particular type of icon of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. This icon is called “The Icon of Christ ‘Not-Made-By-Hands’”. It features the face of Christ depicted as an image resting on a cloth background. We have an example of this icon in the very highest point of our Church, hanging in a point of the ceiling, far above the floor of the nave. The story of this type of icon is that its prototype is the first iconographic image of our Lord, and a miraculous one. It is said that during Our Lord’s earthly ministry a ruler of a foreign land who was quite sick heard of Our Lord Jesus Christ’s miraculous healings. This ruler sent a servant to investigate, and this servant brought back to the ruler a cloth with which our Lord had wiped his face. Imprinted upon this cloth was a miraculous image of our Lord, indeed, not-made-by-hands.

In addition, it is possible that this particular type of icon of our Lord was also inspired by the cloth image of a crucified man that today goes by the name of “The Shroud of Turin.” The Shroud of Turin (called this because it is kept as a venerated object in the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Turin, Italy) is a burial-shroud style cloth that shows, in the manner of a photographic negative, the image of the front and back of the body of a crucified man. Many believe that The Shroud of Turin is, in fact, the original and authentic burial shroud of Our Lord, upon which the image of his crucified body was permanently imprinted at the moment of His resurrection. In any case, the face of “The Man of the Shroud” bears a startling resemblance to the classic iconographic rendering of the Icon of Christ “Not-Made-By-Hands.”

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please pray for all victims of disease, disaster, difficulty, and senseless violence throughout the world, especially in this time of pestilence and civil unrest.

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

First of all, we pray for all the thousands of victims of COVID-19. Memory Eternal!

Newly Departed

Tanya Nikituk—of the Waterbury Parish	d. 8/10/2020
Cynthia—Elena Watras's cousin	d. 8/4/2020
Doris Pohlod—our fellow Terryville Parishioner	d. 7/26/2020
Subdeacon Nicholas ("Chuck") Thornhill, of the Salem, MA, Parish	d. 7/26/2020
Olga Shkymba—former member of the Waterbury Parish	d. 7/17/2020
Klaudyna—Kathy Smick's friend; victim of car accident	d. 7/15/2020
George—Jim Liverman's acquaintance	d. 7/13/2020
Irina—acquaintance of the Hopko family	d. 7/12/2020

Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!

Anthony Rokma	8/16/1924
William Papach	8/18/1991
Alexander Desenko	8/20/1957
John Pavelchak	8/20/1987
Clement Passechnuk	8/21/1958
Cyprian Panasuk	8/22/1956
Melanie Duke	8/22/1958

THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S MERCY AND HELP

First of all, we pray for all those suffering due to the present pestilence which is COVID-19, and those working to alleviate their suffering.

Persons captive and suffering for the Faith

Metropolitan Paul and Archbishop John—hostages in Syria

Those who are sick and suffering

Fyodor (Frank) Guba—increasing sufferings from Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
Dolores Twombly—permanent colon malfunction following colon cancer treatment
child Drew—grandson of friends of the Nimcheks; ongoing treatment for eye cancer
Darilyne—facing health challenges; daughter of Bob and Vera Martin
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; suffering with Huntington's Disease
Maria Oraschewsky—now requires dialysis three times a week
Yelena "Lenna" Massicotte—overcoming, by God's grace, serious health challenges
Katie and Aubrey—a mother and daughter for whom we have been asked to pray
Tanya Beach—suffering long-term and lingering effects of brain hemorrhage

Mark—a profound diabetic for whom we have been asked to pray
Walter—an elderly man injured in a fall, for whom we have been asked to pray
Mary Lynn—friend of Donna Osuch; battling breast cancer
Anna—friend of Patty Nimchek; has requested our prayers
Mary—relative of Mike Liverman; requesting prayers for health
Simone—relative of Mike Liverman; requesting prayers for health
Anna Sz.—current health issues, ongoing
Barbara—friend of Patty Nimchek; unwell and in need of prayerful support
James B.—husband of a Waterbury parishioner; unwell, though improving lately
Dorothy F.—Waterbury parishioner; still recovering from a serious surgery
Vincent—relapse of cancer; relative through marriage of P. Oraschewsky
Rosie Dubnansky—recent health issues
Michael "Mike" L.—recent health issues
child George—9-year-old son of a Kenyan Orthodox priest; quite unwell
David B.—acquaintance of Fr. John's; recovering from recent surgery
Paul S.—debilitating knee injury; surgery scheduled for August 26
Bill M.—recovering from a fall in which he suffered a shoulder injury
Christopher—friend of Kathy Mihailoff; struggling with cancer
Paula—friend of Jim Liverman; struggling with cancer
Cheryl—acquaintance of Carolyn P.; upcoming surgery
Dimitri—brother of Carolyn P.; health issues
child Hattie—badly injured in freak accident; request of a family in our parish

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

Robert (Bob)—Patty Nimchek's brother; recently unwell, doing better, lately
Alex—John Dubnansky's brother, suffering permanent effects of stroke
Dolores—Bob M.'s mother, resident in long-term eldercare

Mothers and Newly Born Children

Diana and the child Mariana newly born of her (See note on page 3.)

Expectant Mothers

Nadia and the child to be born of her—Nadia is Rich and Laura K.'s daughter
Anyia and the child to be born of her—Anyia is one of Fr. John's many nieces
Amber and the child to be born of her—a woman enduring a difficult pregnancy

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

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
Alexander—relative of C. Palleria's; 82nd Airborne Division soldier deployed abroad

Anniversaries of Marriage

Gregory & Deborah Wegh 8/18

Birthdays

NONE THIS WEEK

Colin and Theresa: This Sunday afternoon, August 16, Theresa Dziubek and Colin Ventrella will be married at Three Saints Orthodox Church, Ansonia. The wedding had been scheduled to take place here in Terryville, but, for practical reasons during the present public health crisis, it was decided that the much larger Church building in Ansonia would be a better place for the Rite of Holy Matrimony to take place. Fr. John Hopko will preside. May God grant Colin and Theresa many, many, blessed years—Many Years!

A Prayer Request: From a family in our parish for a child in their extended family: Please pray for the child Hattie, a 9-year-old little girl. Hattie was badly injured in a freak accident when a large tree, which had fallen earlier, shifted its weight, moved suddenly and unexpectedly, and struck Hattie who was nearby.

Memory Eternal! Tanya Nikituk, associated with the Waterbury Parish, recently passed from this life to eternal life. She will be buried in the family plot in the Waterbury Parish Cemetery. The burial will take place at the convenience of the family, due, in part, to the limitations placed upon us by the present public health crisis. Please keep Tanya, and those who mourn her loss, in your prayers. Memory Eternal!

News and Notes

UPDATE – Baby Mariana: Joel and Julie Kowaleski’s new granddaughter, Mariana, was born on July 21. A few days after birth she required surgery to correct a blockage in her intestine. Marina is now almost able to feed on her own, and is steadily gaining weight. Mariana is still in the hospital, but continues to hold her own, and is making progress in improved health and strength. Please, keep the newly born child Mariana, with her parents Nicholas and Diana, in your most fervent prayers. May God grant Mariana—and all those who love her, especially her parents, Diana and Nicholas—many, many, blessed years!

Support from the Parish: If you require financial support during this vexing and challenging time, contact Fr. John, personally and confidentially, and he will endeavor to help you get the assistance that you need. The Diocese of New England has reduced by 16.7% the Fair Share contributions that it usually expects from our Parish. This reduction has been put into place with the specific intention that this money—the money that the Parish will not be sending to the Diocese, but will be retaining locally—will be used for charitable and relief purposes. Don’t be shy: If you need help, contact Fr. John. All such contacts will be treated with strict confidentiality and great sensitivity.

Donations to the Parish: Please, continue to support our parish during this challenging time. Donations to the Parish may be submitted via checks made out to and mailed to Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church, 34 Fairview Avenue, Terryville, CT 06786-6329. Also, a PayPal Donation “button” (<https://www.terryvilleorthodoxchurch.org/donatenow>) is located on our parish website to make online donations possible. Our parish is registered as a charity with PayPal, so we have slightly lower fees connected to the use of that means of receiving donations. For us, PayPal’s fees are 2.2%, plus \$0.30 per transaction. (So, for example, a donation of \$100.00 given via PayPal will realize us actual income of \$97.50.)

VTC Bible Study: It appears that we have significant interest in convening an online Bible Study in our parish. Fr. John will be in contact now with those who have expressed an interest, in order to determine which weekday evening would be best for the most interested people. Meetings will take place via video teleconference (VTC), using the service provided by Zoom (<https://zoom.us/>). If you are interested, and have not yet contacted Fr. John about your interest, please, contact him at your earliest convenience.

Saint Theophan the Recluse on “The Sinner’s Condition,” from Chapter Two of his book *The Path to Salvation: A Manual of Spiritual Transformation*.

Once [a person] has turned away from God, the person dwells on himself, and makes self the main goal of his life and activity. This is because at this point, after God, there is for him nothing higher than self, especially because, having previously received every abundance from God and having now forgotten Him, he hurries and takes care to fill himself up with something. The emptiness that has formed inside him because of his falling away from God causes an unquenchable thirst inside him that is vague but constant. The person has become a bottomless abyss. He makes every effort to fill this abyss, but he cannot see or feel it getting full. Thus, he spends his entire life in sweat, toil and great labors; he busies himself with various occupations in which he hopes to find a way to quench his unquenchable thirst. These occupations take up all his attention, all his time and all his activity. They are the highest good, in which he lives with his whole heart. Thus, it is clear why a person who makes self his exclusive goal is never himself; instead, everything is outside him, in things either created or acquired by vanity. He has fallen away from God, Who is the fullness of everything. He himself is empty; it remains for him to seemingly pour himself out into an endless variety of things and live in them. Thus, the sinner thirsts, fusses, and troubles himself with occupations and numerous things outside himself and God. This is why a characteristic trait of sinful life is, in its disregard for salvation, *the care and trouble about many things* (cf. Luke 10:41).

Readings from Holy Scripture

Readings for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, which this year is August 16

The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 4:9-16)

Brothers and Sisters: I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew (Matt. 17:14-23)

At that time a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because you have no faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. This kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were traveling together through Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."

Readings for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, which this year is August 23

The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 9:2-12)

Brothers and Sisters: 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. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew (Matt. 18:23-35)

The Lord spoke this parable, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."