

# 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, December 4, 2022

**25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 8.** Glorification of Hieromartyr Protopresbyter Alexander (Hotovitzky) (1994). Greatmartyr Barbara and Martyr Juliana, at Heliopolis in Syria (ca. 306). Ven. John of Damascus (776). St. John, Bishop of Polybotum (8th c.).

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2022/12/04>

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## Services and Events, Upcoming

**Sunday, December 4, 9:15 AM:** Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord's Day Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Coffee Social Hour

**FOR THE WATERBURY PARISHIONERS—A GENERAL MEETING: Sunday, December 4, 2022, at 12:30 PM, via video teleconference (ZOOM):** We will hold a general meeting of all parishioners with roots in the Waterbury Parish. *Watch your email inboxes for the necessary Zoom link!*

**Tuesday, December 6, Feast of Saint Nicholas, 8:00 AM:** Prayer Service to Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, on the occasion of his annual feast day

**Wednesday morning Matins, December 7, 8:00 AM:** Morning Prayers Service (a simplified order of Matins), beginning at 8:00 AM, on Wednesday.

**Thursday evening, December 8: NO** Terryville Parish Bible Study (Fr. John must attend a CT Deanery Meeting this evening, instead of leading Bible Study.)

**Saturday, December 10, 2022, 6:00 PM:** Our usual weekly Saturday evening Vigil Service (Great Vespers with elements of Resurrectional Matins)

**Sunday, December 11, 9:15 AM:** Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord's Day Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Coffee Social Hour

**Tuesday, December 13, Feast of Saint Herman, 9:00 AM:** Prayer Service to Saint Herman of Alaska, on the occasion of his annual feast day

**TERRYVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 PM:** Terryville Parish Council Meeting beginning at 7:00 PM. This meeting will be convened by video-teleconference, via Zoom.

**Wednesday morning Matins, December 14, 8:00 AM:** Morning Prayers Service (a simplified order of Matins), beginning at 8:00 AM, on Wednesday.

**Thursday, December 15, 2022, 7:00 PM:** Our usual weekly online Thursday evening Bible Study session, via teleconference (ZOOM)

**FR. JOHN OUT OF OFFICE: Friday, December 16:** Fr. John will be out of the office and away from Terryville all day long.

**Saturday, December 17, 2022, 6:00 PM:** Our usual weekly Saturday evening Vigil Service (Great Vespers with elements of Resurrectional Matins)

**Sunday, December 18, 9:15 AM:** Our usual Sunday morning celebration of the Lord's Day Divine Liturgy, followed by our usual Coffee Social Hour

**Wednesday morning Matins, December 21, 8:00 AM:** Morning Prayers Service (a simplified order of Matins), beginning at 8:00 AM, on Wednesday.

**Wednesday, December 21, 7:00 PM:** Pre-Feast Vespers, with the singing of pre-festal hymns.

**Thursday evening, December 22:** NO Terryville Parish Bible Study

**Friday, December 23, 7:00 PM:** Small Compline with the Reading of the entire Infancy Narratives from the Gospels of Saint Matthew and Saint Luke.

**Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve, 4:00 PM:** Christmas Vigil.

**Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day, 9:15 AM:** Festal Divine Liturgy.

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## News and Notes

**Choir Rehearsal:** From now (Sunday, December 4) until Christmas we shall have Choir Rehearsals after the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (Christmas!).

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Please, consider signing up to host one (or some) of our Sunday morning Coffee Social Hours. Thank you!

**2023 Orthodox Wall Calendars:** The Annual Wall Calendars for 2023 are available for distribution in the Narthex. As always, they are sponsored by Scott Funeral Home of Terryville. Please, take a 2023 wall calendar for your household. (One per household, please, until we know that every household has at least one. Thank you!)

+ + + **Daily Confession of Sins** + + +

+ + + I confess to Thee, my Lord, God and Creator, to the One glorified and worshipped in Holy Trinity, to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all my sins which I have committed all the days of my life, at every hour, in the present and in the past, day and night, in thought, word and deed; by gluttony, drunkenness, lustfulness, secret eating, idle talking, despondency, indolence, contradiction, neglect, aggressiveness, self-love, hoarding, stealing, lying, dishonesty, excessive curiosity, jealousy, envy, anger, bitterness, resentment, remembering wrongs, hatred, and mercenariness [“mercenariness” is doing things only out of a love of money, rather than from conviction]; and, also, by all my senses: sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch; and, also, all other sins, spiritual and bodily, through which I have angered Thee, my God and Creator, and caused injustice to my neighbors. Sorrowing for this, but determined to repent, I stand guilty before Thee, my God. Only help me, my Lord and God, I humbly pray Thee with tears. Forgive my past sins by Thy mercy, and absolve me from all I have confessed in Thy presence, for Thou art good and the Lover of men. Amen. + + +

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## **Notes from Fr. John: Participate in the Sacrament of Confession**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:      Glory to Jesus Christ!

It is usual and customary for Orthodox Christians regularly to participate in the Sacrament of Confession. I would suggest—in the strongest possible way—that we all make an appointment to participate in the Sacrament of Confession between now and the Feast of the Birth of Our Lord (Christmas, December 25).

It is, of course, our usual custom to participate in the Sacrament of Confession during the Nativity Fast (Advent), the forty-day period leading up to Christmas. The Nativity Fast begins each year on November 15, and we are now already into the month of December.

So, please, contact me, at your earliest convenience, so that we can get an appointment for you into the calendar, and then prepare ourselves to participate in the essential and saving Sacrament of Confession.

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### **Special Collections, this weekend and upcoming:**

**On Sunday, December 4, our Parish will have a special collection at the end of the Divine Liturgy to benefit Stewards of the OCA (Orthodox Church in America).** To learn more about Stewards of the OCA please visit <https://www.oca.org/become-a-steward>. On the official website of the Orthodox Church in America, Stewards of the OCA is described in this way: “When you give to the Stewards of the OCA you support the expansion of the mission by providing much needed funding for the various ministries of the OCA like: Mission and Evangelism and the Mission Planting Grant Program, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Christian Education and the Department of Music and Translations each of which provide excellent resources for our parish choirs and education programs just to name a few.” Please consider becoming a Steward of the OCA.

**On Sunday, December 18, our Parish will have a special collection at the end of the Divine Liturgy to benefit our Orthodox Church in America (OCA) Seminaries.** The OCA has three seminaries: [Saint Tikhon’s Seminary](#) in Pennsylvania, [Saint Vladimir’s Seminary](#) in New York, and [Saint Herman’s Seminary](#) in Alaska. The first two are general Orthodox Christian seminaries, serving the needs of the whole Church. Saint Herman’s Seminary in Alaska serves the particular and specific needs of the OCA Diocese of Alaska. Please, support Orthodox theological education in North America. Thank you.

# PARISH PRAYER LIST

**We pray for all victims of disease, disaster, difficulty, and senseless violence throughout the world.**

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

*We pray for all the thousands of victims of COVID-19. We pray for all those who have perished in Ukraine, due to the war going on there. Lord have mercy.*

## **Newly Departed**

Dolores Twombly, our fellow parishioner d. 11/25  
Marina Bobrovsky—of the Pittsfield, MA, Parish; acquaintance of many d. 11/29

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

Gabriel Hasko 12/4/1963  
Christina Banziruk 12/7/1968  
Stella Redman 12/8/2007

## **THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S MERCY AND HELP**

*First of all, we pray for all those suffering due to COVID-19, and those working to alleviate their suffering. We pray for all those suffering presently in Ukraine, due to the war going on there. We pray for all who mourn the loss of loved ones.*

## **Persons captive and suffering for the Faith**

Metropolitan Paul and Archbishop John—hostages in Syria

## **Those who are sick and suffering**

Matushka Anne Hosking—chronic illness; in need of our prayers  
Matushka Ann S.—chronic health challenges  
Fyodor (Frank) G.—suffering from Multiple Sclerosis (MS); recent surgery, too  
Donna—Ann S.'s niece, Deb W.'s cousin; kidney disease  
Dayrl—Ann S.'s niece, Deb W.'s cousin; kidney disease—awaiting transplant  
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer  
MaryEllen—Louine K.'s daughter-in-law; suffering with Huntington's Disease  
Yelena "Lenna" M.—overcoming, by God's grace, serious health challenges  
Katie and Aubrey—a mother & daughter for whom we have been asked to pray  
Tanya B.—suffering long-term and lingering effects of brain hemorrhage  
Claudia A.—Waterbury parishioner; health challenges and now widowed  
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  
child George—young son of a Kenyan Orthodox priest; quite unwell  
Bill M.—struggling with health issues, please keep in prayer  
Paula—friend of Jim L.; struggling with cancer  
Dimitri—brother of Carolyn P.; health issues  
Maryna B.—dealing with some health issues  
Thomas—Patty N.'s nephew; battling cancer  
Wayne—Donna O.'s father  
George Kla.—our fellow parishioner; facing a variety of health challenges  
Joseph—friend of Jeanne M.; in need of prayers  
Dianna—Jennifer W.'s mother; suffering some health problems  
Thomas—fighting cancer; father of a friend of the Parish (S.H.)  
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  
Brittney—facing possibly severe health issues; at the request of Kathy M.  
Kathy S.—Waterbury parishioner; facing health challenges  
Earlene L.—Mike and Jim L.'s mother; health issues  
Natonya L.—Mike and Jim L.'s family member; heart surgery  
Bach-Loan—a neighbor of Jeanne M.'s; recent serious health challenges  
Rick—Deacon Paul and Patty's nephew; Rick is unwell and in need of prayers  
Peter—Deacon Paul and Patty's acquaintance; battling leukemia  
Marisa—a young girl, acquaintance of the Nimcheks, who is quite unwell  
Stephen—facing health challenges; at request of Marilou P.  
Emily—acquaintance of the Nimcheks; a person facing serious illness, courageously  
Dorothy F.—Waterbury parishioner; unwell and in need of our prayers  
Michael "Mike" A.—battling some health challenges  
Robert J.—dealing with some health issues  
Geraldine—acquaintance of Helena G.; battling lung cancer  
Forrest H.—husband of Elaine H.; ongoing health challenges  
John B.—acquaintance of Jeanne M.; facing health challenges  
Andrei—young man with serious health challenges; grandson of Fr. John's uncle  
Elizabeth—suffered acute and chronic health issues; friend of Helena G.  
Rosemary—dedicated member in the New Britain Parish; health challenges  
Olga—John K.'s sister-in-law; unwell and in need of our prayers  
Kirk—nephew of Joan M. and Jeanne M., recovering from cardiac surgery  
Infant Thomas—grandnephew of Elena W., born prematurely  
Thomas and Ada—the infant Thomas's parents, in need of our prayerful support  
Elena W.—our fellow parishioner; underwent knee joint replacement surgery on 11/21  
Johnathan—son of Alison and Mike A.; severely injured in tree trimming accident  
child Xander—son of some friends of Mike A; underwent surgery on October 16  
Paul S.—upcoming medical procedure on December 6  
Mary—relative of David C.; recently unwell  
Cameron—relative of David C.; in need of prayerful support  
Joshua—relative of Carolyn P.; recently diagnosed with a vexing illness  
Andrea and Alexandra—mother & daughter who need prayers; req. of Helena G.

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

Dolores M.—Bob M.'s mother; resident in long-term eldercare

## **Expectant Mothers and the Children to be born of them**

Kristen and the child to be born of her  
Katrina and the child to be born of her  
Alexis and the child to be born of her

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

John "Jack" K.

## **Those from among us serving on active duty in the Armed Forces**

Joel O.—U.S. Navy; hospital corpsman ("medic")  
Joseph B.—a Terryville neighbor; U.S. Marine Corps  
Joshua P.—husband of a niece of Fr. John's; U.S. Army officer  
Alexander—relative of Carolyn P.; 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division U.S. Army soldier  
Derek—relative of Carolyn P.; U.S. Army soldier  
Ruben—acquaintance of the Hopkos, U.S. Marines Corps pilot

## **Birthdays**

Sean O.—Mark and Karry O.'s son 12/6  
Effie S.—John and Luda S.'s daughter 12/7

**Prayers Requested:** Maryna B., friend of our Terryville Parish, and a native of Kharkiv, Ukraine, asks prayers for the health and salvation of her family and friends in Ukraine, including, specifically, her grandmother **Larissa**. Larissa, and others dear and known to Maryna, are still in Kharkiv, a city whose people have been suffering greatly, due to attacks by the military of the country of Russia. (Lord, hear us and have mercy!)

**Prayers Requested:** Lenna M., our fellow parishioner, also asks prayers for the health and salvation of family members in and from Ukraine, including, specifically, her second cousin **Ludmilla**, Ludmilla's daughter **Nadia**, Nadia's husband **Alexei**, and their children **Sofia** and **Anna**. (Lord, hear us and have mercy!)

**Prayers requested:** For Maryna B.'s brother **Dmytro**, sister-in-law **Yuliia**, and their child **Milana** (born May 6, 2022). (Lord, Jesus Christ, King of Peace, hear our prayers! Lord, have mercy.)

**Prayers Requested, related to the troubles created by the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine:** Elena Watras asks prayers for her Goddaughter **Vera** and her family members **Pavel**, **Timothy**, **Nina**, **Anya**, **Mitya**, **Petya**, and all their extended family.

## Here's a message from Three Saints Church, Ansonia, CT

### **THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4!! St. Tikhon's Seminary Choir comes again to Connecticut for a special Sacred Music Concert!**

Three Saints Orthodox Church in Ansonia, CT will again be hosting a Concert of Sacred Music, sung by seminarians from St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary in South Canaan, PA on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM.

As with last year, to honor our former chancellor and beloved pastor emeritus, we will be funding "The Very Rev. Mitered Archpriest Nicholas Timpko St. Tikhon's OCA Seminarian Memorial Scholarship". A further blessing has been offered in the form of a \$5,000 matching grant from a donor in our parish. There is no admission fee, but donations will help fund the scholarship, to help prepare priests and leaders within the Orthodox Church.

Donation checks made out to Three Saints Orthodox Church (with STOTS written on your memo line) may be mailed to: Three Saints Orthodox Church, ATTN: Scholarship, 26 Howard Ave, Ansonia, CT 06401. For more information, contact Rdr. Peter Romanovsky at 203-305-5683 or [pwromanovsky89@gmail.com](mailto:pwromanovsky89@gmail.com). And you can look us up at: [www.threesaintschurch.org](http://www.threesaintschurch.org).

May our good Lord bless you for your generosity!

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### **Scripture Readings, etc.**

For decades, it has been our custom to share Scripture Readings the Parish Bulletin. However, it seems better now to provide links to the Daily Scripture Readings and other resources located on the official website of the Orthodox Church in America, [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org):

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>

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*The End! Glory be to God!*