

## 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, December 3, 2017

### *The 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 1*

Commemoration of the Prophet Zephaniah  
Commemoration of Saint John the Silent of St. Sabbas  
Monastery

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

- 12/3 Sunday**  
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 12/4 Monday**  
7:00 PM – Parish Council Meeting
- 12/6 Wednesday**  
***Feast of Saint Nicholas***  
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)  
7:00 PM – Advent Vespers
- 12/9 Saturday**  
6:00 PM – Vigil  
*Followed by Choir Rehearsal*
- 12/10 Sunday**  
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy  
"Visit of Saint Nicholas"
- 12/13 Wednesday**  
***Feast of Saint Herman of Alaska***  
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)  
7:00 PM – Advent Vespers
- 12/16 Saturday**  
6:00 PM – Vigil  
*Followed by Choir Rehearsal*
- 12/17 Sunday**  
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 12/20 Wednesday**  
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)  
7:00 PM – Advent Vespers
- 12/23 Saturday**  
6:00 PM – Vigil  
*Followed by Choir Rehearsal*
- 12/24 Sunday**  
***Christmas Eve***  
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy  
4:00 PM – Vigil of Christmas,  
Followed by "Parish Holy Supper"
- 12/25 Monday**  
***Feast of Christmas***  
9:00 AM – Festal Divine Liturgy

## PARISH HOLY SUPPER

### Christmas Eve, after Vigil

Immediately following the conclusion of the Vigil of Christmas on Christmas Eve, there will be a "bring-and-share" Holy Supper in the Church Basement Hall. While many families have household events then, others are pleased to gather at the Church at that time for this traditional meal.

If you are planning to participate in the Parish Holy Supper, please sign up on the sheet posted in the Church Basement indicating what you will be bringing so that we might then ensure that all needs are met for the Holy Supper. Suggestions are included on the sign-up sheet as to foods and other items that are needed for the Supper. If you have any questions about this, please see 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***

Michael "Mischa" Semanitzky	d. 12/3/17
child Maven-- child of friends of the G. and D. Wegh Family	d. 11/29/17
Ronald—a Food Pantry volunteer	d. 11/27/17
Valentina Tichy Rhodes—acquaintance of the Hopkos	d. 11/17/17
Anatoli Demanosow—grew up in our parish	d. 11/1/17
Nadia Krawczyk—Bob Matzkevich's mother-in-law	d. 11/2/17

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

Eleanor Plasko	12/3/1966
Tito Zadvorny	12/3/1962
Mary Waite	12/3/2009
Joseph Kiehart—Jayne Grasso's father	12/3/2015
Katherine "Kay" Rewak Kopcha	12/3/2016
Gabriel Hasko	12/4/1963
Christina Banziruk	12/7/1968
Stella Redman	12/8/2007

## **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***

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  
child Matthew—son of friends of M. Osuch; genetic disorder with medical complications  
child Ava—young daughter of friends of Melanie Osuch; suffering seizures  
Alexander—acquaintance of M. Osuch; suffering and in need of God's mercy and help  
Michele—very close friend of M. Osuch; troubled and in need of God's mercy and help  
Anna Osuch—suffering in ill health  
Jadwiga ["Yahd-vee-gah"]—mother of an acquaintance of E. Watras; cancer  
Steven Belonick—Cynthia Belonick's father; unwell  
Phyllis George—Donna Kriniske's cousin; battling breast cancer  
Alex—John Dubnansky's brother, suffering permanent effects of stroke

Darlyne—facing health challenges; daughter of Bob and Vera Martin  
Gregory Shesko—long-time laborer in the Diocese of New England; lung cancer  
child Asa—great-grandson of friend of E. Watras; child with developmental challenges  
Barbara—Arlene Osuch's sister; epilepsy with complications  
Anatoli—a friend of Tania Bouteneff; diagnosed with colon cancer  
Galina—wife of above-mentioned Anatoli  
William "Bill" Markovich—recently unwell  
Samantha—extremely ill child for whom we have been asked to pray  
Eugene—Tania Bouteneff's uncle; battling cancer  
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  
Zachary—nephew of acquaintances of Nimcheks; recent double lung transplant  
George Klachany—our fellow parishioner; still in need of prayers for health  
Virginia ("Gina")—Elena Watras' sister; unwell and in need of prayers  
Dawn—friend of Joan Markovich; Stage Four lung cancer  
Vince—friend of the Oraschewsky Family; colon cancer  
Vera Bouteneff—Tania Bouteneff's mother; presently unwell  
Galina—Svetlana Shorey's sister-in-law; suffering with cancer  
Barbara Sovyrda—Mark Sovyrda's former wife; health challenges  
Joan Spencer—has asked for our prayers  
Bachloan—friend of Jeanne Moore; recent open heart surgery  
Jerry Grasso—Jayne Grasso's husband; unwell and in need of prayers

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

Eva Kopcha—at Sheriden Woods in Bristol; now on hospice care  
Sonya Petroff—at Sheriden Woods in Bristol  
Irene Kiehart—Jayne Grasso's mother; now resident in Connecticut  
Mary Fomenko

### ***Those from among us serving in the Armed Forces***

Joel Orelup—U.S. Navy, hospital corpsman ("medic") serving with the Marines  
Joseph Bellmay—a Terryville neighbor; U.S. Marine Corps

### ***Travelers, those soon to be traveling and those away from us***

Douglas Henrick—O. Petroff's great-grandson; in China until spring 2018  
Peter and Chezelle Serev  
Maria Oraschewsky—traveling to Germany and then to visit family  
Yelena, Steve, and Nicholas Granoth  
Jayne and Jerry Grasso  
John "Jack" Kriniske

### ***Birthdays***

Sean Nicholas Orelup	12/6
Effie Saltourides	12/7

## News and Notes

**Advent Confession Appointments:** The Nativity Fast (Advent) lasts for the forty days from November 15 until the celebration of The Nativity (Birth) of our Lord, Christmas, on December 25. Each of us should be observing the Fast in an appropriate manner. Besides keeping the Fast, during Advent we should all make, prepare for and keep an appointment to take part in the Sacrament of Personal and Private Confession. Fr. John hears Confessions by appointment. Please contact Fr. John to make your appointment. Thank you for your cooperation!

**Annual Terryville "Christmas Walk", Sunday December 3:** The annual Terryville Christmas Walk is scheduled for this weekend, on Sunday, December 3, 2017, beginning at 3:00 PM and ending at about 6:00 PM. Listed in order of visitation, the seven participating local Christian communities this year are: Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, Saint Casimir's Roman Catholic Church, Saint Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church, and Terryville Congregational Church. NOTE: This year Fr. John is NOT requiring the participation of the Choir for this event. Rather, he has prepared a simple service that he will be able to perform together with the Walk participants.

**Special Basket Collection to Benefit our Seminaries:** This weekend, on Sunday, December 3, we will be having a “Special Basket” Collection at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy to benefit the three seminaries of the Orthodox Church in America: Saint Vladimir’s Seminary, Crestwood (Yonkers), New York; Saint Tikhon’s Seminary, South Canaan, Pennsylvania; and Saint Herman’s Seminary, Kodiak, Alaska. In our 2017 Parish Budget we have an expenditure line item for the support of our seminaries. This planned collection will help meet that line item. That line item is \$1270.00, which is (roughly) about one percent (1%) of our annual income budget for 2017. The Orthodox Church in America, by means of a formal resolution passed at the Seattle All-American Council several years ago, has asked every parish to pledge 1% of their annual income each year towards the support of the seminaries. In terms of breaking down our donation between the three schools, we are planning to send 40% of our total donation to Saint Vladimir’s Seminary, 40% to Saints Tikhon’s Seminary, and 20% to Saint Herman’s Seminary.

**Choir Rehearsals during the Nativity Fast:** On Saturday nights throughout the month of December leading up to the Feast of Christmas, we will be having Choir Rehearsals following the conclusion of the Vigil service, in order to prepare for the Feast.

**December Parish Council Meeting, Monday, December 4:** The December Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday evening, December 4, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Church Basement Social Hall, as usual. This is the last meeting of the 2017 Parish Council. The Year 2018 Parish Council will begin its work in January.

**Advent Vespers, Wednesday evenings in December:** On Wednesday evenings in December, during the several weeks leading up to the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas), we will celebrate Daily Vespers beginning at 7:00 PM. This has been our custom for many years now and is an edifying part of our liturgical preparations to celebrate the Feast.

**New Altar Server Robes:** We have new gold-colored altar server robes for our altar servers. We decided to buy these robes because our altar servers have grown tall, and we do not have sufficient number of robes that are long enough to fit them properly. The total cost for the four new robes was just under \$600.00, including shipping from Russia where they were made. The cost of these robes is being covered from the Parish Memorial Fund, so these robes will be used in our Parish in memory of our departed loved ones and fellow parishioners. Memory Eternal!

**Annual “Visit of St. Nicholas”, Sunday, December 10:** On Sunday, December 10, during the Coffee Hour after the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, our children (with all of us!) will enjoy the Annual “Visit of St. Nicholas” to the Parish.

**Fr. John away for the day, Friday, December 15:** On Friday, December 15, Fr. John will be out of town and away for the day.

**Christmas Services in our Parish:** The Services for the Feast of the Nativity (Birth) of Our Lord in our parish will take place as follows: On Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy as usual in the morning at 9:15 AM. Then, in the evening of the same day, we will celebrate the Vigil of Christmas at 4:00 PM, followed by the Parish Holy Supper. On Christmas Day, Monday, December 25, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the Feast beginning at 9:00 AM.

**Weather Related Cancellations:** If we need to cancel parish services and/or other events due to bad weather, those announcements will appear on NBC Connecticut Television and on the NBC Connecticut Internet web-site. Also, you can always call the Parish House (860-582-3631) for further information.

# Readings from Holy Scripture

## *Scripture Readings for the 26th Sunday after Pentecost, this year December 3*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Ephesians (Ephesians 5:9-19)**

Brothers and Sisters: Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.

### **The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke (Luke 18:18-27)**

At that time: a ruler of the synagogue asked Jesus, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

## *Scripture Readings for the 27th Sunday after Pentecost, this year December 10*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Ephesians (Ephesians 6:10-17)**

Brothers and Sisters: Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; above all taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

### **The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke (Lk. 17:12-19)**

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."