
W^{the}onderworker

Saint George Orthodox Church

First Quarter, 2014

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Inside this issue of *The Wonderworker*, you will find some very important things: the *House Blessing Schedule* is on page 2 and the "Konizmat" listing is on page 3.

A few words about these two items.

The *House Blessing Schedule* is based upon the schedule as distributed in past years. If your name is here and you do not wish to have your house blessed or cannot meet me on the scheduled day, please call me as soon as possible. If your name is not here, but you would like your house blessed, please call me as soon as possible so I can add you to the list. My cell phone number is 203-598-4678.

As in past years, the listings in each section are in alphabetical order. I will call to set up the actual time of the visit. No visit will be made without an appointment.

Weekday and Saturday visits will be made throughout the day, beginning at about 10:00 a.m. Sunday visits will be made in the afternoon.

Again, my cell phone number is 203-598-4678.

The "Konizmat" List includes all the icons that are offered this year., including two new ones Please make your selection on the form at the bottom of the page and return it to Church, either in person or by mail.

As always, the format is a "silent auction." In case of a tie bid, the icon will go to the bid placed first.

Bids will be accepted to the end of the Divine Liturgy on *Sunday, January 19th*. Distribution will take place after the Divine Liturgy on *Sunday, January 29th*. Winners get to keep their icons until the *First Sunday of Great Lent – March 9th*. On that day they are triumphantly returned at the procession of the Great Entrance.

In addition, this issue includes a short selection from the *Spirituality* volume of Fr. Thomas Hopko's *The Orthodox Faith* (both in English and Albanian), a listing of coming events for the next quarter and articles about the up-coming Parish Meeting, the visit of the Myrrh-streaming Icon of St. Anna to our parish and a notice about the Coffee Hour sign-up sheet in the Church Hall.

As we begin this new year of 2014, I ask that God bless all of us and grant us His blessings and every good thing!

In Christ,



House Blessing Schedule 2014

Monday, January 6:

Nursing Homes

Tuesday, January 7:

Fairfield: Bochino, Dionis, P. Lazar,
C. Lundquist, Z. Michael,
Nauchy, Vissar

Thursday, January 9:

Bridgeport: Billings, Brideau, Broadus,
Kerma, Ndini, V. Soter, Sotir

Fairfield: V. Michael

Friday, January 10:

Trumbull: J. Dionis, Panoli, K. Peters, Reh

Saturday, January 11:

Bridgeport: Bindner, Cryan, E. Lundquist,
Medero

Sunday, January 12:

Monroe: Alston, G. Buzi, P. Buzi,
Francisco, Jaworski, J. Rubis,
Quinn

Monday, January 13:

Huntington: Barmashi, Jordan

Seymour: G. Buzi II

Shelton: Geeza

Tuesday, January 14:

Fairfield: Kovachi

Southport: G. Boria

Westport: Christianson

Thursday, January 16:

Stratford: Bode, J. Caliendo, DiIulio, Hurd,
J. Pando, K. Pando, Patria,
C. Peters, C. Soter

Friday, January 17:

Easton: Dacey, Lazar, Tallcouch, Vasil

Saturday, January 18:

Trumbull: Bowe, Chadwick, Csernica,
Galich, Gartsu, Nikola

Saturday, January 25:

Milford: Masek, O'Brien, Yapo

Orange: Michael, Moras, Stockel

West Haven: P. Caliendo

Sunday, January 26:

Weston: Goetz

Westport: Lambert, Theodos

Saturday, February 1:

Newtown: Tollkuçi

Sunday, February 2:

Trumbull: Coughlin, Denisevich, P. Dionis,
Gallagher, Nichio, Watson



Konizmat 2014

Festal Icons

1. Nativity of the Virgin
2. Elevation of the Cross
3. Presentation of the Virgin
4. Nativity of Christ (2)
5. Theophany
6. Theophany Cross
7. Meeting of the Lord ("*Papandia*")
8. Annunciation to the Theotokos
9. Raising of Lazarus
10. Entry of the Lord into Jerusalem ("*Palm Sunday*")
11. Resurrection of the Lord
12. Ascension of the Lord
13. Pentecost
14. Holy Trinity
15. Transfiguration of the Lord
16. Dormition of the Theotokos

Saints' Icons

1. The Virgin Mary (*Kursk-Root Icon*)
2. Anna, Mother of the Virgin Mary
3. Adrian & Natalia
4. Anthony the Great
5. Athanasius of Alexandria
6. Athanasius & Cyril of Alexandria
7. St. Basil the Great (2)
8. Catherine of Alexandria
9. Charalampos
10. Christopher
11. Constantine & Helen
12. Cyril & Methodius, Evangelizers of the Slavs
13. Demetri of Thessalonica (2)
14. Dionysius the Areopagite
15. Dorothea

16. Elias the Prophet
17. Elizabeth, Mother of John the Baptist
18. George the Martyr (2)
19. Gregory the Great
20. Helen, Equal to the Apostles
21. Herman of Alaska
22. Herman & Innocent of America
23. Innocent, the Evangelizer of America
24. Joachim & Anna, parents of the Virgin Mary
25. John the Baptist and Forerunner
26. John the Evangelist and Theologian
27. John Chrysostom
28. Luke the Evangelist
29. Mark the Evangelist
30. Mary of Egypt
31. Matthew the Evangelist
32. Michael the Archangel
33. Moses the Prophet
34. Nectarios of Aegina
35. Nicholas, the Wonderworker
36. Nina, Evangelizer of Georgia
37. Olga, Equal to the Apostles
38. Panteleimon, the Healer
39. Patrick of Ireland
40. Paul the Apostle
41. Peter & Paul, the Apostles (2)
42. Romanos the Singer
43. Sergius of Radonezh
44. Spyridon
45. Theodore the General
46. Thomas the Apostle
47. Timothy the Apostle
48. Twelve Apostles

Your Name: _____

Your envelope number: _____

Your selection: _____

Your bid: _____

The Devil

The scriptures and the lives of God's saints bear witness to the existence of the **devil**. The devil is a fallen bodiless spirit, an angel created by God for His service and praise. Together with the devil, are his hosts of wicked angelic powers who have rebelled against the goodness of God and seek to pervert and destroy God's good creation.

How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, Day Star, son of Dawn! (*Isaiah 14:12*)

And the angels which did not keep their own position but left their proper dwelling have been kept by Him in eternal chains in the nether gloom until the judgment of the great day... (*Jude 6, Cf. 2 Peter 2:4*)

...the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the world — he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. (*Revelation 12:9*)

In the New Testament the Lord Jesus speaks of the devil whom He called the "**prince of this world.**" (*John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11*) in this way:

He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (*John 8:44*)

The devil and his multitude of evil spirits, "**the principalities ... the powers ... the world rulers of this present darkness ... the spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places**" (*Ephesians 6:12*) war against man seeking to destroy him by ensnaring him in sin.

Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. (*1 Peter 5:8*)

Christ has destroyed the power of the devil. He came into the world precisely for this reason. If one is "in Christ" he is led out of temptation and delivered from the evil one. If one is in Christ, the devil, who is also called **Satan**, which means the **Adversary** who "**disguises himself as an angel of light**" (*2 Corinthians 11:14*), cannot deceive or harm him. To be victorious over the alluring and deceiving temptations of the devil is the goal of spiritual life.

from *The Orthodox Faith*,
by Fr. Thomas Hopko



Djali

Shkrimet dhe jetët e shenjtorëve të Perëndisë sjellin dëshminë e ekzistencës së **djallit**. Djalli është një frymë e rënë pa trup, një engjell i krijuar nga Perëndia për shërbimin dhe lavdërimin e Tij. Së bashku me djallin, është ushtria e tij e fuqive të këqia engjëllore që u rebeluan kundër mirësisë së Perëndisë dhe kërkuan të prishnin dhe shkatërronin krijimin e mirë të Perëndisë.

Po si ke rënë prej qiellit, o Lucifer, ylli i Ditës, bir i Agimit (Isaia 14:12).

Dhe engjëjt që nuk e mbajtën pozitën e tyre por e lanë banesën e tyre, janë mbajtur nga ai në pranga të përjetshme në errësirë për gjyqin e ditës së madhe... (shih Juda 6, 2 Pjetri. 2:4).

...dhe djalli, satani, që mashtron tërë dheun, u hodh mbi tokë; me të u hodhën edhe engjëjt e tij (Zbulesa 12:9).

Në Dhiatën e Re Zoti Jisu flet për djallin, të cilin e quan **"princ i kësaj bote"** (Joani 12:31, 14:30, 16:11), në këtë mënyrë:

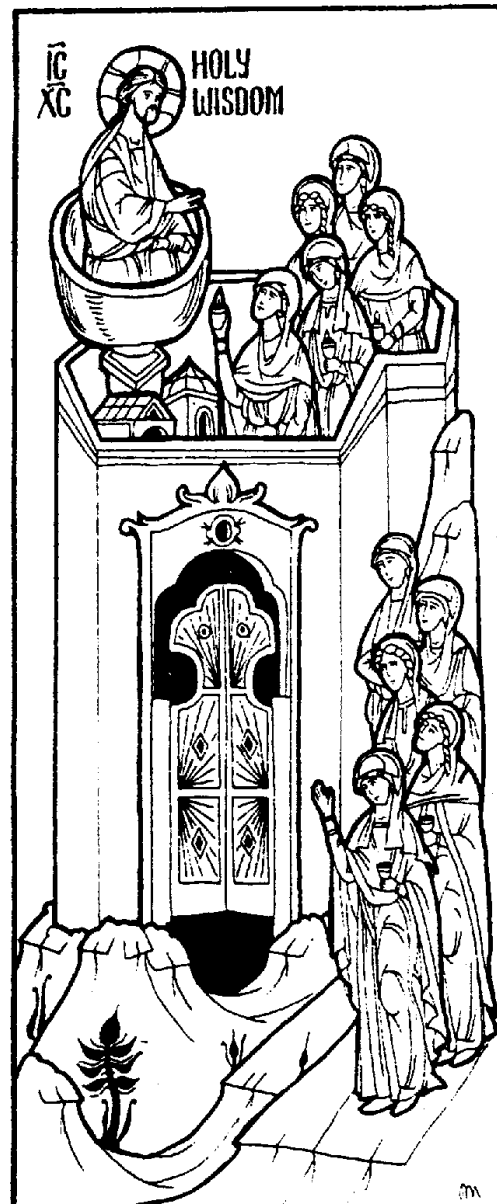
Ai ishte vrasës që nga fillimi dhe nuk qëndroi në të vërtetën, sepse në të nuk ka të vërtetë. Kur thotë të rrema, flet nga vetvetja, sepse është gënjeshtar dhe ati i rrenës (Joani 8:44).

Djali dhe shumica e frymërave të këqija të tij, **"principatat ... pushtetet ... sunduesit e botës së errësirës të kësaj epoke ... frymërat e mbrapshta në vendet qiellore"** (Efesianët 6:12). luftojnë kundër njeriut, duke kërkuar ta shkatërrojnë atë me anë të kapjes në lakun e mëkatit.

Kundërshtari juaj, djalli, sillet rreth e qark si një luan vrumbullues, duke kërkuar cilin mund të përpijë (1 Pietri. 5:8).

Krishti e ka shkatërruar fuqinë e djallit. Ai erdhi në botë, pikërisht, për këtë arsye. Nëse dikush është "në Krishtin" ai është jashtë tundimit dhe është i çliruar nga i ligu. Nëse dikush është në Krishtin, djalli, i cili quhet, gjithashtu, **Satan**, që do të thotë **Kundërshtari**, i cili **"shndërrohet në engjell drite"** (2 Korinthianët 11:14), nuk mund ta mashtrojë ose ta dëmtojë atë. Të jesh fitimtar mbi tundimet joshëse dhe mashtruese të djallit, ky është qëllimi i jetës shpirtërore.

nga Besimi Ortodoks (The Orthodox Faith)
i At Thomas Hopko



Coming Events

January

- 1: New Year's Day
St. Basil the Great
- 6: The Theophany of our LORD
10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy and
Blessing of Water
- 19: 12:30 p.m. — Teuta Society Christmas
Luncheon at Roberto's Restaurant in
Monroe

February

- 2: Meeting of our LORD in the Temple
10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy
Parish Membership Meeting
- 9: Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee
(The period of the Lenten Triodion begins)
- 22: First Memorial Saturday of 2014
10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy
- 23: Meatfare Sunday
(Last day to eat meat before Pascha)

March

- 2: Forgiveness Sunday
- 3: Great Lent begins
- 9: The Sunday of Orthodoxy
(Konizmat Icons returned to Church)
- 23: Holy Martyr Nikon:
Archbishop Nikon's Nameday
- 25: The Annunciation to the Virgin Mary
10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy
- 30: Archbishop Nikon's visit
10:00 a.m. Hierarchal Divine Liturgy
- 31: St. Innocent of Moscow
and North America

Looking ahead...

- April 13: Palm Sunday
- April 20: Pascha and Western Easter
- April 23: Bright Wednesday
Saint George Day
- May 11: Mother's Day
- May 26: Memorial Day
- May 29: The Ascension of our LORD
- June 7: Memorial Saturday
- June 8: Pentecost
- June 15: Father's Day



Myrrh-streaming Icon comes to Saint George Church

On Wednesday, December 11, 2013, the **Mystery of Holy Unction** was celebrated in Saint George Church.

The service, sponsored by the *Orthodox Clergy Association of Greater Bridgeport*, was blessed with the presence of the **Myrrh-streaming Icon of St. Anna, Mother of the Virgin Mary** (see photograph at right).

Eight priests and one deacon celebrated the service and more than 70 people gathered with them to pray and to be anointed with the Holy Unction. Our choir and readers and guest readers from other parishes chanted the responses and read the epistles.

In 2004, while pastor of a Russian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia, Archimandrite Athanasy (Mastalski) noticed that an Icon of St. Anna he had brought to Philadelphia from the Mount of Olives Convent in Jerusalem was streaming myrrh, a fragrant, slightly oily liquid which initially looked like tear drops, as if St. Anna was crying.

In the Fall of 2012, Archimandrite Athanasy moved to St. Tikhon's Monastery and brought the Icon with him. It has a wonderful heavenly fragrance but is not currently weeping.

Assistance and healings are still wrought by the miraculous Icon of St. Anna and she continues to work wonders for those who approach with faith.



Parish Meeting to be held

Following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 2, 2014, the Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple, a General Meeting of our Parish Membership will be held in the Church Hall.

A number of important issues will be discussed and decided at this meeting, including the election of Parish Council members, financial reports and a budget for the coming year.

Be sure to attend and participate!

Coffee Hour Sign-up Poster

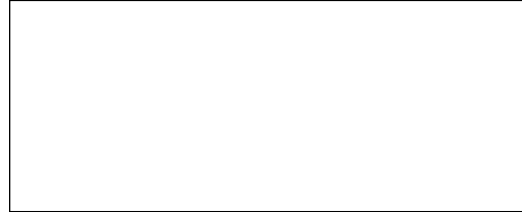
Hanging on the bulletin board in the Church Hall again this year is a poster where people can sign up to host **Coffee Hour** on Sunday mornings.

This is a way for us all to see if there are available Sundays and to plan ahead for any special occasions we might want to share with our Parish family: birthdays, namedays, memorials, etc.

Be sure to take a look at it and put your name down to host in the near future.

Saint George Orthodox Church
5490 Main Street
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611-2932

FORWARD AND ADDRESS CORRECTION



The Wonderworker

The Wonderworker
is a quarterly publication of
Saint George Orthodox Church,
Trumbull, Connecticut
a parish of the
Albanian Archdiocese
of the
Orthodox Church in America
Archpriest Dennis R. Rhodes,
Rector
James Bowe
Council President