

The Martyr

St. George Orthodox Church

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Archpriest Dennis Rhodes, Rector

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December 25, 2016

Up-coming Services and Events

Today: *The Nativity of our LORD, Jesus Christ*

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

29: 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayers

30: 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayers

31: 4:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Jan. 1: *The Circumcision of our LORD, Jesus Christ*

9:45 a.m. General Confession

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy and Prayers
for the New Year

2: 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayers

3: 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayers

4: 6:30 p.m. "Glory to God for All Things"

5: 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayers

6: *The Theophany of our LORD, Jesus Christ*

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy and Blessing
of Water

7: 4:00 p.m. Great Vespers

8: *The Sunday after the Theophany*

9:30 a.m. Church School

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Prayers for Blessings and Health

Bishops Paul and John of Aleppo, *captive in Syria.*

Dimitri Ndini (*USMC*), *serving in our armed forces.*

Those who are sick: Archbishop Nikon; Fr. Daniel Montgomery; Christy Adams; Matushka Suzanne Aleandro; Michael, Mildred & Michael Arendacs; Paul Betts; Eileen Bochino; Serge Bouteneff; James Brideau; Debi Broadus; Matushka Mara Burns; Sharon Buzi; Jim Cerner; Joyce Chadwick; Frank Chamberlain; Bernard & Annie Christenson; Bobby Christo; Tara Coppola; Anthony Cordero; Peter Costa; Renate Deer; Armando Dias; James & Pandora Dionis; Kevin Donnelly; Danielle Galich; Mary Galich; Louise Karoli Gallagher; Lynn

Graceski; Irene Jordhamo Hughes; Shirley Hunter; Nancy Hurd; Kiril Ivanov; Sug Jones; Donald & Shirley Jordan; Christy Lambert; Violet Laska; Bruce Lazar; June Lopen; Nicolas Lucas; Carole Lundquist; Steven Malandra; Albert Masek, Sr.; Thomas Matthews; Jaimie McCarvill; Theodore Morrison; Andy Nunn; Kimberly Orosz; James Pando; Pat Perrotta; Stephen Phillips; Violet Polena, Dena Soter Reardon; Linda Rich; Mason Ruskowski; David Schutte; Andrea Snedegar; Angie Soter; Charles & Joann Soter; Tessie Sotir; Sue & Thomas Spero; John Szalkowski; Christian & Theodore Tallcouch; Richard Taylor, Jr.; Thomas Terzakis; Thalia Thomas; William Thomas; Poullette Todisco; Margaret Torre; Alice & William Vasil; Ann Vitale.

Prayers in Memoriam

40 Days

Valentina Woliver; Victor Meskhishvili

December

- 25 Harry Kamberis (1948)
Thomas Tallcouch (1971)
Theresa Goures (1980)
Andromaqi Guri (1985)
Elaine Marko (1988)
George Polena (2004)
- 26 Kulla George Jordhamo (1988)
Theodore Michael (1991)
- 27 Elpinichi Costa (1969)
Emilia Gregory (1993)
- 30 Andromaqi Bedgio (1993)
- 31 Violet Polena Hotova (1998)

Dates Unknown or Not Posted

- 1923 Thomas Dionis
1958 Frank Bellizi
1967 George Tallcouch
1980 Joseph Kubicko

Coffee Hour

Today: Christmas Day

Jan. 1: New Year's Day

8: ?????????????????????????????????????

If you would like to sponsor Coffee Hour, please sign up on the poster in the Church Hall.

Father Dennis to be away

Father Dennis will be leaving after the Divine Liturgy today to visit his family in Philadelphia. He will return on Thursday, December 28th.

Offering Envelopes and Wall Calendars

Offering Envelope Boxes for 2017 are available at the Candle Desk. The **Wall Calendars** have been ordered and will be available as soon as they arrive.

Akathist and Adult Education

The celebration of the Akathist Hymn, "**Glory to God for All Things**" and our Adult Study group will not meet until January 4, 2017.

New Year's Eve Dance

There will be a **New Year's Eve Dance** in the Church Hall on New Year's Eve, December 31st, beginning at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 per person.

Contact *Nardi Tollkuçi* (203-895-4263) or *Aida Kalapo* (203-685-7231) for information and tickets.

General Parish Meeting scheduled

There will be a **General Parish Membership Meeting** on Sunday, January 8, 2017. We will be electing Parish Council members and discussing important needs of our parish community.

Please plan to attend.

Teuta members: Save the Date!

The **Teuta Ladies' Society** has scheduled its **Holiday Luncheon** for Sunday, January 15, 2017, at Gusto's in Milford. Menu choices include *Rosemary Chicken*, *Grilled New York Steak* or *Baked Salmon*. The cost will be \$26.00 per person, which must be paid by check. Indicate your menu choice on the memo line. Guests are welcome.

The deadline for reservations is January 8th. See *Elsie Gartsu* for details or to make your non-refundable reservations.

News from the Women's Council

The **Orthodox Women's Council** will meet on Saturday, January 14th at 1:30 p.m. at *St. Nicholas Antiochian Church* on Park Avenue in Bridgeport.

The **Post-Holiday Luncheon** will take place on Sunday, January 29th at the former **Marisa's Restaurant** in Trumbull. The cost is \$30 per person, and the entree choices are beef, chicken, or fish.

Charity Collection

This month we are supporting the **International Orthodox Christian Charities** as they work to help the people of the city of **Aleppo** in Syria and other places around the world who have been forced from their homes.

Please be generous!



Your Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore You,
the Sun of righteousness,
and to know You, the Orient from on high.
O LORD, glory to You!

Galatians 4:4-7

Brethren, when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!" So that one is no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, an heir also of God through Jesus Christ.

Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, Magi came from the East to Jerusalem saying, "Where is the newborn King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." But when King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and so was all Jerusalem with him. And gathering together all the chief priests and Scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. And they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for thus it is written by the prophet, 'And you, Bethlehem, of the land of Judah are by no means least among the princes of Judah; for from you shall come forth a Leader who shall shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the Magi secretly, and carefully ascertained from them the time when the star had appeared to them. And sending them to Bethlehem he said, "Go and make careful inquiry concerning the Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may go and worship Him." Now they, having heard the king, went their way. And behold, the star they had seen in the East went before them, until it came and stood over the place where the Child was. And when they saw the star they rejoiced exceedingly. And entering the house, they found the Child with Mary His mother, and falling down they worshipped Him. And opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another way.

Galatianëve 4:4-7

Vëllezër: Kur u mbush koha, Perëndia dërgoi të Birin, që lindi prej gruaje dhe që ishte nën ligj, që të shpërblejë ata që ishin nën ligj, që të marrin birësinë. Edhe meqenëse jemi bij, Perëndia dërgoi Shpirtin e Birit të tij në zemrat tuaja, që thërret: Ava, o Atë. Prandaj nuk je më shërbëtor, po bir; dhe nëse je bir, je edhe trashëgimtar i Perëndisë me anë të Krishtit.

Matheut 2:1-12

Si lindi Jisui në Betlehem të Judesë, në ditët e mbretit Irod, ja, ca magë nga Lindja erdhën në Jerusalem, e thoshin: Ku është mbreti i Judenjve që ka lindur? Sepse pamë yllin e tij nga lindja dhe erdhëm që t'i falemi. Edhe mbreti Irod kur dëgjoi, u drodh, dhe bashkë me të edhe gjithë Jerusalem. Edhe si mbloodhi gjithë kryepiftërinjtë dhe shkruesit e popullit, pyeste të merrte vesh prej tyre se ku lind Krishti. Edhe ata i thanë atij: Në Betlehem të Judesë. Sepse kështu është shkruar me anë të profetit: "Edhe ti, Betlehem, dheu i Judesë, aspak nuk je më i vogli ndër zotërinjtë e Judesë; sepse prej teje do të dalë një i parë, i cili do të kullojë popullin tim Izrael". Atëherë Irodi thirri fshehurazi magët, dhe mori vesh mirë nga ata kohën e yllit që ishte dukur. Edhe duke i dërguar ata në Betlehem, tha: Shkoni e vëzhgoni mirë për djalin, dhe si ta gjeni, të më lajmëroni, që të vij edhe unë e t'i falem atij. Edhe ata si dëgjuan mbretin ikën; dhe ja ylli që kishin parë në lindje tek shkante përpara tyre, deri sa erdhi e qëndroi sipër tek ishte djali. Edhe ata kur panë yllin, u gëzuan me gëzim fort të madh. Edhe si erdhën në shtëpi, gjetën djalin bashkë me të ëmën, Marinë, dhe ranë mbi dhe e iu falën atij, dhe si hapën thesaret e tyre, i prunë atij dhurata, ar e temjan e miro. Edhe si iu tregua atyre nga Perëndia në ëndërr të mos kthehen tek Irodi, shkuan në vendin e tyre nga një tjetër udhë.