

The Martyr

St. George Orthodox Church

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March 25, 2018

Up-coming Services and Events

Today: *Annunciation to the Virgin Mary*
Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

9:30 a.m. Church School
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
4:00 p.m. Holy Unction at Three Saints Church, Ansonia

26: 7:00 a.m. Matins

27: 7:00 a.m. Matins

28: 7:00 a.m. Matins
6:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Presanctified

29: 7:00 a.m. Matins

30: 7:00 a.m. Matins

31: *Lazarus Saturday*

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
4:00 p.m. Great Vespers

April 1: *Palm Sunday*

9:30 a.m. Church School
9:45 a.m. General Confession
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Holy Week—See Service Schedule insert

8: *Pascha—The Resurrection of Christ*

11:00 a.m. Paschal Vespers and Easter Egg Hunt

Prayers for Blessings and Health

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

Nicole Dionis, *our Catechumen.*

Those who are sick: Archbishop Nikon; Fr. Steven Belonick; Fr. Daniel Montgomery; Fr. Dimitrie Vincent; Christy & Christina Adams; Mildred & Michael Ar-endacs; Thomas Batura; Paul Betts; James Brideau; Debi Broadus; Arlene Bunnell; Sharon Buzi; Jim Cerner; Joyce Chadwick; Frank Chamberlain; Bernard & Annie Christenson; Bobby Christo; Tara Coppola; Anthony Cordero; Peter Costa; Richard Crane; Renate Deer; Armando Dias; Pandora Dionis; Mary

Galich; Louise Karoli Gallagher; Luba Geeza; Irene Jordhamo Hughes; Shirley Hunter; Nancy Hurd; Kiril Ivanov; Sug Jones; Donald & Shirley Jordan; Christy Lambert; Violet Laska; Bruce Lazar; June Lopen; Carole Lundquist; Steven Malandra; Karen Marlin; Jeannine Masek; Thomas Matthews; Jaimie McCarrill; Serge Mihaly; Michael Moras, Jr.; Theodore Morrison; Andy Nunn; Kimberly Orosz; James Pando; Katherine Pando; Pat Perrotta, Judi Petro; Dena Soter Reardon; Helen Reh; Linda Rich; David Schutte; Andrea Snedegar; Angie Soter; Charles & Joann Soter; Tessie Sotir; Sue & Thomas Spero; Christian Tallcouch; Thomas Terzakis; Thalia Thomas; William Thomas; Poullette Todisco; Margaret Torre; Alice Vasil; Ann Vitale.

Prayers in Memoriam

40 Days

Lawrence Beck; Matushka Barbara Kucynda;
Eileen Bochino; Vangel Michael

March

25 Priftëresha Helen Tallcouch (1979)
26 Frosina Vissar (1964)
Kosta Vangel (1963)
27 Kosta Lika (1975)
28 Julia Peters (1997)
29 Helen Tallcouch (2016)
30 Thomas Vani Thanas (1961)

Coffee Hour

Today: The Galich Family

April 1: ??

8: Paschal Easter Egg Hunt

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

Readers Wanted

We are looking for people to read the Epistle during the Divine Liturgy on Sunday.

If you would like to help with this, please speak with Father Dennis.

Sunday Lenten Vespers Services

On the Sundays of Great Lent, Vespers is celebrated at 4:00 p.m. in various parishes in the Greater Bridgeport area. Here is the list of those services for this year.

- Today: Unction at Three Saints Church in Ansonia.
- April 1: Bridegroom Matins at All Saints Church in Hartford.

Lenten refreshments will be served following all services.

Myrrhbearing Women

It's that time again for our **Myrrhbearing Women** to gather to decorate the *Petafi* (*Christ's Tomb*).

Great and Holy Friday is on April 6th. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. and the decorating will take approximately 2 hours.

Everyone is welcome. If you have any questions, please contact *Pauline Dionis* at 203-261-0611.

Easter Egg Hunt

We will have our traditional **Easter Egg Hunt** after Paschal Vespers on Easter Day, April 8th.

We are looking for donations of candy and plastic eggs in preparation. See *Sue Galich* if you can help.

Memorials and the Paschal Season

According to Orthodox teaching, from Lazarus Saturday to Thomas Sunday no Memorial Services may be served in the Church—our departed will only be commemorated at the *Proskomedia* (Liturgy of Preparation).

New Educational Mini-Series to be held

On the last Wednesday of April and May, there will be another adult education "mini-series" offered. This series will focus on Angels and will be held in our Church Hall at 7:00 p.m., following the celebration of the Akathist Hymn, "Glory to God for All Things." Watch *The Martyr* for more information.

Charity Collection

This month, our Charity Collection will help support **Bridgeport Rescue Mission**, an organization that assist needy people in our area.

Please be generous!



Today is the beginning of our salvation,
the revelation of the eternal mystery!
The Son of God becomes the son of the Virgin
as Gabriel announces the coming of grace.
Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos:
Rejoice, O Full of grace,
the LORD is with you.

Hebrews 2:11-18

Brethren, the Sanctifier and the sanctified are all of one nature; therefore He is not ashamed of calling them brethren and saying, "I will declare Your name to my brethren; in the midst of the Church I will sing Your praise." And again, "I and my children whom God has given me." Now since children have blood and flesh in common, so He likewise has shared in the same, that through death He might destroy the one who had the power of death, that is, the devil; and might deliver those who throughout their life were kept in slavery by the fear of death. For of course it is not angels He is assisting, but the offspring of Abraham. Wherefore it was right that He should in all things be made in the likeness of His brethren, so that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest before God to expiate the people's sins. For because He Himself has suffered and was tempted, He is able to help those who are tempted.

Luke 1:24-38

In those days Elizabeth, the wife of Zechariah conceived and she secluded herself for five months, saying, "Thus has the LORD dealt with me in the days when He deigned to take away my reproach among men." Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a

man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And when the angel had come to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace, the LORD is with you. Blessed are you among women." When she had heard him she was troubled at his word, and kept pondering what manner of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found grace with God. Behold, you shall conceive in your womb and shall bring forth a son; and you shall call His name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Most High; and the LORD God will give Him the throne of David His father, and He shall be king over the house of Jacob forever; and of His Kingdom there shall be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How shall this happen, since I do not know man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon you and the power of the Most High shall overshadow you; and therefore the Holy One to be born shall be called the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth your cousin also has conceived a son in her old age, and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month; for nothing shall be impossible with God." But Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the LORD; be it done to me according to your word." And the angel left her.

Hebrenjve 1:11-18

Vëllezër, ai që shenjtëron edhe ata që shenjtërohen janë të gjithë prej njërit, shkak për të cilin nuk turpërohet t'i quajë ata vëllezër, duke thënë: "Do t'u rrëfej emrin tënd vëllezërve të mi, në mes të kishës do të të lavdëroj". Edhe prapë: "Unë do të kem shpresën time në atë"; dhe përsëri: "Ja unë, dhe djemtë që më dha Perëndia". Edhe meqenëse djemtë kanë marrë pjesë prej mishi e gjaku, edhe ai gjithashtu mori pjesë prej po atyre gjërave, që të prishë me anë të vdekjes atë që ka pushtetin e vdekjes, domethënë djallin, edhe të shpëtojë të gjithë ata, të cilët për frikën e vdekjes ishin gjithë jetën e tyre nën skllavëri. Sepse me të vërtetë nuk u ndihmon engjëjve, po farës së Abrahamit i ndihmon. Prandaj duhej t'u ngjante në gjithçka vëllezërve, që të bëhej kryepriфт i dhembshur dhe besnik në punët që kanë të bëjnë me Perëndinë, që të bëjë falje për mëkatet e popullit. Sepse me atë që pësoi vetë kur u nga, mund t'u ndihmojë atyre që ngiten.

Llukai 1:24-38

Në ato ditë, Elisabeta, gruaja e Zaharisë, mbeti shtatzënë; dhe e fshihte veten pesë muaj, duke thënë se kështu bëri ZOTI mbi mua në këto ditë që hodhi sytë e tij mbi mua, që të heqë përgojimin tim në mes njerëzve. Edhe në të gjashtin muaj, engjëlli Gavril u dërgua prej Perëndisë në një

qytet të Galilesë, që e kishte emrin Nazaret, te një virgjëreshë, që ishte fejuar me një burrë, që quhej Josif, prej shtëpisë së Davidit; dhe emri i virgjëreshës ishte Mariam. Edhe engjëlli kur hyri tek ajo, tha: "Gëzohu, o hirplotë. ZOTI është bashkë me ty. E bekuar je ti në mes të grave." Edhe ajo, kur e pa, u turbullua për fjalën e tij; dhe mendohej ç'të jetë vallë kjo përshëndetje? Edhe engjëlli i tha: "Mos u tremb, Mariam; sepse gjete hir pranë Perëndisë. Edhe ja tek do të mbetesh shtatzënë, dhe do të lindësh djalë, dhe do t'ia quash emrin Jisu. Ky do të jetë i madh, dhe Bir i të Lartit do të quhet; dhe ZOTI Perëndi do t'i japë atij fronin e Davidit, atit të tij. Edhe do të mbretërojë në shtëpinë e Jakovit në jetë të jetëve, dhe mbretëria e tij nuk do të ketë mbarim." Edhe Mariami i tha engjëllit: "Si do të jetë kjo punë, sepse unë s'njoh burrë?" Edhe engjëlli u përgjigj e i tha: "Shpirti i Shenjtë do të vijë mbi ty, dhe fuqia e të Lartit do të të hiesojë; prandaj edhe ajo foshnjë e shenjtë që lind prej teje do të quhet Bir Perëndie. Edhe ja Elisabeta, farefisi yt, edhe ajo mbeti shtatzënë me bir në pleqëri të saj, dhe ky muaj është i gjashti i asaj që quhet shterpë. Sepse s'ka punë që të jetë e pamundur për Perëndinë." Edhe Mariami tha: "Ja shërbëtorja e ZOTIT, u bëftë mbi mua sipas fjalës sate." Edhe engjëlli iku prej saj.