

The Martyr

St. George Orthodox Church

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March 26, 2017

Up-coming Services and Events

Today: *The Sunday after the Annunciation*

9:30 a.m. Church School
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
4:00 p.m. Great Vespers at St. Nicholas Church, Stratford

27: 7:00 a.m. Matins

28: 7:00 a.m. Matins

29: 6:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Presanctified

30: 7:00 a.m. Matins

31: 7:00 a.m. Matins
7:00 p.m. Compline & Salutations

Apr. 1: 4:00 p.m. Great Vespers

2: *The Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt*

9:30 a.m. Church School
9:45 a.m. General Confession
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
4:00 p.m. Holy Unction at Three Saints Church, Ansonia

3: 7:00 a.m. Matins

4: 7:00 a.m. Matins

5: 6:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Presanctified

6: 7:00 a.m. Matins

7: 7:00 a.m. Matins
7:00 p.m. Compline & Salutations

8: *Lazarus Saturday*

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy and Memorial Prayers for Matushka Sofia Rehbinder
4:00 p.m. Great Vespers

9: *Palm Sunday*

9:30 a.m. Church School
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy and Palm Procession
4:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins at All Saints Church, Hartford

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; James Brideau; Debi Broadus; Jim Cerner; Joyce Chadwick; Frank Chamberlain; Bernard & Annie Christenson; Bobby Christo; Tara Coppola; Anthony Cordero; Peter Costa; Renate Deer; Armando Dias; Pandora Dionis; Kevin Donnelly; Danielle & Mary Galich; Louise Karoli Gallagher; 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; Albert Masek, Sr.; Thomas Matthews; Jaimie McCarvill; Theodore Morrison; Andy Nunn; Kimberly Orosz; James Pando; Pat Perrotta; Stephen Phillips; Violet Polena, Dena Soter Reardon; Helen Reh; Linda Rich; David Schutte; Andrea Snedegar; Angie Soter; Charles & Joann Soter; Tessie Sotir; Sue & Thomas Spero; John Szalkowski; Christian Tallcouch; Richard Taylor, Jr.; Thomas Terzakis; Thalia Thomas; William Thomas; Paullette Todisco; Margaret Torre; Alice Vasil; Ann Vitale.

Prayers in Memoriam

40 Days

Matushka Sofia Rehbinder; William Vasil

March

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: Patty & Kiril Ivanov in honor of Kiril's Birthday

Apr. 2: Laura Chadwick and Premier Jewelry

9: ???

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

Parish Finances

Be sure to take a look at the sign at the Candle Desk which shows our current month's income and expenses.

New Parish Education Effort

As a part of our ongoing **NCD** program, copies of the booklet, *Journey Through Holy Week* are available today.

Please take one today and read it. We will discuss it at Coffee Hour on *Palm Sunday*, April 9th, to help us participate more fully in the services of Holy Week.

Presanctified and Adult Education

This Wednesday, the **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m., followed by a pot-luck Lenten dinner in the Church Hall.

During dinner, we will be listening to talks by the late Fr. Thomas Hopko on "The LORD's Prayer."

Special Coffee Hour to be held

Next Sunday, April 2nd, Coffee Hour will be sponsored by **Laura Chadwick and Premier Jewelry**.

The proceeds of any jewelry purchases will be used to offset costs for the upcoming *Church Bazaar*. The jewelry will be displayed during Coffee Hour after Liturgy.

Sunday Lenten Vespers Services

On the Sundays of Great Lent, **Great 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 at Saint Nicholas Church in Stratford
- April 2nd Unction at Three Saints Church in Ansonia

Lenten refreshments will be served following all services.

Easter Egg Hunt

We will have our traditional **Easter Egg Hunt** after Paschal Vespers on Easter Day, April 16th.

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

Crop Walk

On Sunday, May 7th, the 43rd **Greater Bridgeport Crop Hunger Walk** will be held at Seaside Park in Bridgeport.

Let's see if we can put together a team from St. George to participate in this effort to combat hunger and poverty in our area and around the country.

Let Father Dennis know if you are interested.

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 14th. 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.

Memorials and the Paschal Season

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

Charity Collection

This month we are supporting **LifeBridge**, an organization that assists many people in our area. Please be generous!



Hebrews 6:13-20

Brethren, when God made His promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater to swear by, He swore by Himself, saying, "I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you." And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the firmness of His will interposed an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort — we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope we have, as a sure and firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as He became a High Priest forever according to the order of Melchisedek.

Mark 9:17-31

At that time one of the crowd came to Jesus and bowed to him saying, "Master, I have brought to You my son, who has a dumb spirit; and whenever it seizes him it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth; and he is wasting away. And I told Your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." And He, answering him, said, "O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to me."

And they brought him to Him; and the spirit, when it saw Jesus, immediately threw the boy into convulsions, and he fell down on the ground and rolled about foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long is it since this has come upon him?" And he said, "From his infancy. Oftentimes it has thrown him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." But Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to the man of faith." At once the father of the boy cried out and said with tears, "I do believe; help my unbelief." Now when Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, go out of him and enter him no more." And crying out and violently convulsing him, it went out of him, and he became like one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand, and raised him and he stood up. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And He said to them, "This kind can be cast out in no way except by prayer and fasting." And leaving that place, they were passing through Galilee, and He did not wish anyone to know it. For He was teaching His disciples, and saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and having been killed, He will rise again on the third day."

Hebrenjve 6:13-20

Vëllezër: Perëndia, kur i premtoi Abrahamit pasi s'kishte asnjë më të madh, mbi të cilin të betohej, u betua mbi veten e tij, duke thënë: "Vërtet duke bekuar do të të bekoj, dhe duke shumuar do të të shumoj". Edhe kështu Abrahami, duke pritur me durim, fitoi premtimin. Sepse njerëzit betohen mbi më të madhin, dhe betimi mbi ata është fundi i çdo kundërshtimi për të vërtetuar. Kështu Perëndia, duke dashur t'u tregojë më tepër trashëgimtarëve të premtimit pakthyeshmërinë e vullnetit të tij, vuri ndërmjetës betimin, që me anë dy gjërash të pakthyeshme, në të cilat është e pamundur të gënjejë Perëndia, të kemi ngushëllim të fortë ne që u sulëm që të mbajmë shpresën që kemi përpara, të cilën e kemi si spirancë të shpirtit të sigurt e të vërtetë, dhe që depërton përbrenda perdes, atje ku Krishti hyri për ne e na hapi udhën, pasi u bë kryepriфт sipas rregullit të Melkisedekut.

Marku 9:17-31

Në atë kohë, një prej turmës u përgjigj, e tha: "Prura tek ti tim bir që ka frymë të pagojë. Edhe kudo ta zërë, e hedh poshtë dhe shkumëzon, e kërcëllin dhëmbët e tij, dhe thahet. Edhe u thashë nxënësve të tu ta nxjerrin, por nuk mundën." Edhe ai iu përgjigj e tha: "O brez i pabesë, deri kur do të jem bashkë me ju? Deri kur do t'ju duroj ju? Silleni

atë tek unë." Edhe e prunë tek ai; dhe kur pa atë, përnjëherë fryma e shkleu; dhe ai ra përdhe, dhe rrokullisej duke shkumëzuar. Edhe ai pyeti të atin e atij: "Sa kohë ka qëkurse i ngjau kjo?" Edhe ai tha: "Qëkurse ishte djalë i vogël. Edhe shumë herë e hodhi edhe në zjarr dhe në ujëra, që ta humbasë; po nëse mund të bësh gjë, le të të dhimbset për ne dhe ndihmona." Edhe Jisui i tha këtë: "Nëse mund të besosh, të gjitha janë të mundura për atë që beson." Edhe përnjëherë i ati i djalit të vogël thirri me lot, duke thënë: "Besoj, Zot. Ndhmoi pabesisë sime." Edhe Jisui kur pa se po shtohet turmë, qortoi frymën e ndyrë, duke i thënë: "Frymë e pagojë dhe e shurdhër, unë të urdhëroj, dil nga ai, dhe të mos hysh më tek ai." Edhe fryma duke bërtitur e duke e shklyer atë fort, doli; dhe djali u bë si i vdekur, kaq sa shumë veta thoshin se vdiq. Edhe Jisui e kapi për dore dhe e ngriti; edhe u ngrit. Edhe kur hyri në një shtëpi, nxënësit e tij e pyesnin veçan se pse ne nuk mundëm ta nxjerrim. Edhe ai u tha atyre: "Ky farë kombi s'mund të dalë me tjetër gjë, veçse me falje e me agjërim." Edhe si dolën andej, shkonin nëpër Galile, dhe s'donte ta marrë vesh njeri. Sepse mësonte nxënësit e tij, e u thosh atyre se i Biri i njeriut u dorëzohet njerëzve, dhe do ta vrasin, dhe si të vritet, të tretën ditë do të ngjallet.