
W^{the}onderworker

Saint George Orthodox Church

First Quarter, 2011

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

It is my great pleasure to address you for the first time from the pages of *The Wonderworker*. At the suggestion of our Parish Council, this will be a quarterly publication. It is intended to keep all of our parishioners and friends up to date on the life of Saint George Church. The title, *The Wonderworker*, is a reference to our Patron Saint, who is known as a "Great Martyr, Victory-bearer and Wonderworker."

Every issue will include a listing of upcoming events, both during the current quarter and in the near future, as well as brief announcements and an article about one of the saints or feasts to be celebrated during that quarter.

Inside this first issue, 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. There may well be errors or omissions. I apologize for them and ask you to call me at 203-345-3504 to let me know so that I can correct them.

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 visits will be made in the afternoon and evening. Saturday visits will be made throughout the day. Sunday visits will be made in the afternoon.

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.

Again, my telephone number is 203-345-3504.

The *Konizmat list* includes the icons that are offered this year. 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 16*, and distribution will take place after the Divine Liturgy on *Sunday, January 23*. Winners get to keep their icons to the *First Sunday of Great Lent – March 13*. On that day they are triumphantly returned at the procession of the Great Entrance.

May God bless you all throughout the coming year!

Fr. Dennis

House Blessing Schedule 2011

Thursday, January 6:

Bridgeport:.....Bindner, Cryan, E. Lundquist

Fairfield:Nauchy, Vissar

Friday, January 7:

Huntington:Adams, Geeza, Jordan

Seymour:Tallcouch

Saturday, January 8:

Milford:O'Brien, Yapo

Stratford:Hurd, B. Kerma, Patria,
K. Pando, C. Soter

Sunday, January 9:

Trumbull:Coughlin, P. Dionis, Nichio,
Watson

Monroe:G. Buzi, Jaworski

Monday, January 10:

Newtown:Themel, Tollkuçi

Wednesday, January 12:

Bridgeport:.....Billings, V. Soter, Sotir

Thursday, January 13:

Fairfield:Bocchino, Dionis., P. Lazar

Friday, January 14:

Bridgeport:.....Brideau, K. Kerma, Ndini,
W. Soter

Saturday, January 15:

Monroe:Alston, P. Buzi, Demetri,
Lazor, Rubis (2), Quinn

Shelton:.....Demetri

Monday, January 17:

Fairfield:V. Michael, Morcone,
Broadus

Wednesday, January 19:

Milford:Masek

Stratford:Bode, DiIulio, J. Pando

Thursday, January 20:

Bridgeport:K. Thanas

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

Friday, January 21:

Orange:Michael, Moras, Stockel

Saturday, January 22:

Easton:.....Lazar, Tallcouch, Taylor,
Vangel, Vasil

Norwalk:.....Clark

Stamford:.....Wight

Weston:Goetz

Westport:.....Theodos

Monday, January 24:

Danbury:.....Lazos

Sandy Hook:Athanas

Wednesday, January 26:

Fairfield:C. Lundquist, Z. Michael

Thursday, January 27:

Fairfield:Christianson, Kovachi

Southport:G. Boria

Friday, January 28:

Trumbull:LaBache, Nikola, Plasa

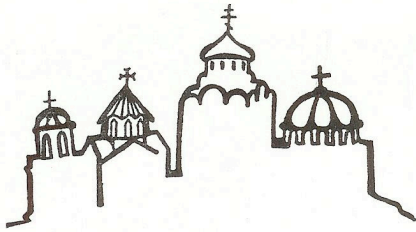
Saturday, January 29:

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

Konizmat 2011

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



Saint's Icons

1. Adrian & Natalia
2. Anthony the Great
3. Athanasius of Alexandria
4. Athanasius & Cyril of Alexandria
5. St. Basil the Great (2)
6. Catherine of Alexandria
7. Charalampos
8. Christopher
9. Constantine & Helen, Equals to the Apostles

10. Cyril & Methodius, Evangelizers of the Slavs
11. Demetri of Thessalonica (2)
12. Elias the Prophet
13. Elizabeth (Mother of John the Baptist)
14. George the Martyr (2)
15. Gregory the Great
16. Helen, Equal to the Apostles
17. Herman of Alaska
18. Herman & Innocent of America
19. Innocent, the Evangelizer of America
20. Joachim & Anna, parents of the Virgin Mary
21. John the Baptist
22. John the Evangelist
23. John Chrysostom
24. Luke the Evangelist
25. Mark the Evangelist
26. Mary of Egypt
27. Matthew the Evangelist
28. Michael the Archangel
29. Nectarius of Aegina
30. Nicholas, the Wonderworker
31. Nina, Evangelizer of Georgia
32. Olga, Equal to the Apostles
33. Panteleimon, the Healer
34. Patrick of Ireland
35. Paul the Apostle
36. Peter & Paul, the Apostles (2)
37. Romanos the Singer
38. Sergius of Radonezh
39. Spyridon
40. Theodore the General
41. Thomas the Apostle
42. Timothy the Apostle
43. Twelve Apostles

Your Name: _____

Your envelope number: _____

Your selection: _____

Your bid: _____

Coming Events

January

- 2: Parish Council Installation
- 6: Theophany
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Water
House Blessings Begin
- 16: Teuta Ladies' Society Post Holiday Luncheon at Tashua Knolls in Trumbull
Last day to submit *Konizmat* bids
- 23: Distribution of *Konizmat* Icons
Parish Body Meeting

February

- 2: Meeting of the Lord (*Papandia*)
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 6: Sunday of Zacchaeus
- 13: Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee
- 20: Sunday of the Prodigal Son
- 26: Memorial Saturday
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 27: Meatfare Sunday (*last day to eat meat before Pascha*)

March

- 6: Forgiveness Sunday
- 7: First Day of Great Lent
- 12: Theodore Saturday
- 13: Sunday of Orthodoxy
Return of *Konizmat* Icons
- 20: Sunday of Saint Gregory Palamas
- 25: Annunciation to the Mother of God
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 27: Sunday of the Holy Cross

Looking ahead

- April 17: Palm Sunday
- April 24: Pascha
- April 25: Feast of Saint George, *transferred*
- June 11: Memorial Saturday
- June 12: Pentecost
- September 22 – 24: Archdiocesan Assembly hosted by our parish
- February 27, 2012: Great Lent begins
- April 8, 2012: Western Easter
- April 15, 2012: Pascha

Parish Council for 2011 to be installed

The following people have been elected to serve on our Parish Council for 2011:

- Laura Chadwick — *President*
- Nardi Tollkuci — *Vice President*
- Kim O'Brien — *Treasurer*
- Bob Lazar — *Building and Grounds*
- Luba Csernica — *Financial Secretary*
- Mary Nikola — *Corresponding Secretary*
- Jean Brideau — *Recording Secretary*
- Joann Soter — *Trustee*

With the blessing of Bishop NIKON, they will be installed in office on Sunday, January 2, 2011.

Congratulations! May God bless them as they fulfill their ministry in the parish.



Feasts and Saints of the Orthodox Church

January 6: The Theophany of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ

Theophany is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (*Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22*). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by St. John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the form of a dove. From ancient times this Feast was called the Day of Illumination and the Feast of Lights, since God is Light and has appeared to illumine "those who sat in darkness," and "in the region of the shadow of death" (*Matthew 4:16*), and to save the fallen race of mankind by grace.

In the ancient Church it was the custom to baptize catechumens at the Vespers of Theophany, so that Baptism also is revealed as the spiritual illumination of mankind.

The origin of the Feast of Theophany goes back to Apostolic times, and it is mentioned in The Apostolic Constitutions (*Book V:13*). From the second century we have the testimony of St. Clement of Alexandria concerning the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, and the night vigil before this Feast.

There is a third century dialogue about the services for Theophany between the holy martyr Hippolytus and St. Gregory the Wonderworker. In the following centuries, from the fourth to ninth century, all the great Fathers of the Church: Gregory the Theologian, John Chrysostom, Ambrose of Milan, John of Damascus, commented on the Feast of Theophany.

The monks Joseph the Studite, Theophanes and Byzantios composed much liturgical music for this Feast, which is sung at Orthodox services even today. St. John of Damascus said that the Lord was baptized, not because He Himself had need for cleansing, but "to bury human sin by water," to fulfill the Law, to reveal the mystery of the Holy Trinity, and finally, to sanctify "the nature of water" and to offer us the form

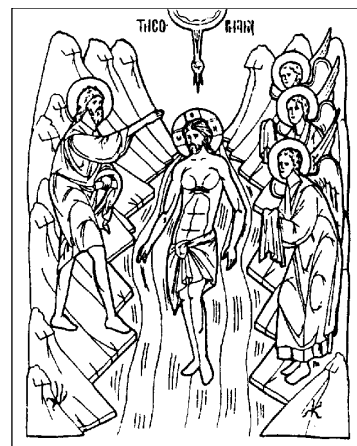
and example of Baptism.

On the Feast of the Baptism of Christ, the Holy Church proclaims our faith in the most sublime mystery, incomprehensible to human intellect, of one God in three Persons. It teaches us to confess and glorify the Holy Trinity, one in Essence and Indivisible. It exposes and overthrows the errors of ancient teachings which attempted to explain the Creator of the world by reason, and in human terms.

The Church shows the necessity of Baptism for believers in Christ, and it inspires us with a sense of deep gratitude for the illumination and purification of our sinful nature. The Church teaches that our salvation and cleansing from sin is possible only by the power of the grace of the Holy Spirit, therefore it is necessary to preserve worthily these gifts of the grace of holy Baptism, keeping clean this priceless garb, for "As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ" (*Galatians 3:27*).

On the day of Theophany, all foods are permitted, even if the Feast falls on a Wednesday or Friday.

Taken from
Feasts and Saints of the Orthodox Church,
found on the website of the
Orthodox Church in America:
www.oca.org



The Wonderworker

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Trumbull, Connecticut
a parish of the
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FORWARD AND ADDRESS CORRECTION

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