

The Martyr

St. George Orthodox Church
5490 Main Street, Trumbull, CT 06611

Pastor: Archpriest Dennis Rhodes
Phone: 203-345-3504, cell: 203-598-4678

December 5, 2010
Church: 203- 268-1968

Up-coming Services/Events

- Today:** 9:30 a.m. General Confession
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Community-wide St. Nicholas party
- 11:** 4:00 p.m. Advent Vespers followed by personal confessions
- 12:** 9:30 a.m. Church School
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy and 40-Day Memorial for Peter Thanas
- 18:** 4:00 p.m. Advent Vespers followed by personal confessions
- 19:** 9:30 a.m. Church School
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 24:** 5:00 p.m. Compline and Carol Sing
- 25: The Nativity of Christ**
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 26:** 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Prayers in Memoriam

40 Days

Peter Thanas, Augustin Vincent
Albert Chapar, Sr.

December

- 05 **Prifteresha Kaliroi Costa** (1997)
- 06 Norman Panoli (1975)
Mary V. Taylor (1991)
- 10 Louis A. Leka (1955)

Prayers for Blessings/Health

His Grace **Bishop NIKON**; **Christy Adams**;
Kirsten Battachio (USMC); **Paul Betts**;
Georgika Boria; **Diana Breaz**; **Sharon Buzi**;
Ralph Deer; **Charles Dougiello, Sr.**; **Jason Gartsu (USAR)**; **Albert Glucksnis**; **Cindy Held**;
Richard Hirst; **Nicholas Hotova**; **Diane**

Hoffmeyer; **Eva Karajani**; **Meni Kyriacou**;
Katherine LaBache; **Christy Lambert**;
Elizabeth Lambro; **Dhimitra Leka**; Infant
Adelynn, Erin, John Louis Jr; **Thomas Matthews**; **Barbara Evans Maynard**; **Kelly Montagna**; **Louise Moran**; **Theodore Morrison**; **Peter Naum**; **James Pando**; **Minnie Phostole**; **Pandora Plasa**; **Eleanor Polena**;
Violet Polena, **Mark Sabatino**; **David Schutte**;
Noella Sidarweck; **Gloria Simo**; **David Snedegar**; **Thomas Soter**, **Tessie Sotir**; **Jo Anne Tallcouch**; **Mary & Peter Themel**;
Christy, Michael, Thalia & Leonora Thomas;
Vincent J. Torre; **Aphrodita (Rita) Vangel**;
Galina Voronin; **Kaitlyn Woolard**.

As a community of Faith our prime responsibility is to support one another – in both faith and action. Prayer combines both. Please submit the name of the person for whom you wish to pray – and remember that when the prayers have been answered, to take that name off the list as well.

Coffee Hour

- Today:** Church School Friends and Family St. Nicholas Day Party
- 12:** 40-Day Memorial for Peter Thanas
- 19:** ????????????????
- 26:** ????????????????

If you would like to sponsor coffee hour, please notify Kim O'Brien. Phone: 203-877-2286 or email: IBALL007@aol.com

Community Christmas Card

As in years past we will be collecting contributions for our annual *Community Christmas Card*. All entries must be made by next Sunday, **December 12** for the card to be printed and mailed in a timely manner.

Please fill out one of the forms available at the Candle Desk and give it to **Mary Nikolla** or mail it to Church.

From the Church School



For the month of December we will be collecting to help renovate our Albanian Archdiocesan Chancery Offices.

Every year, our Church School students make Christmas Cards to send to the people on our Prayer List. Some of the people on that list are family members or friends of parishioners and are not on our mailing list. Please make sure to give **Father Dennis** or **Laura Coughlin** the addresses of such people and of any other shut-ins who might like to receive a card from our children.

Orthodox Book Club

Father Dennis is leading an *Orthodox Book Club* at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Park Avenue, Bridgeport, at 7:00 on Tuesday evenings.

We are now reading and discussing Fr. Meletios Webber's book, *Bread & Water, Wine & Oil: An Orthodox Christian Experience of God*.

When we have finished that book, we will read and discuss a variety of other books about the Orthodox Faith and spirituality.

All are invited.

Women's Council News

The **Women's Council of Eastern Orthodox Christian Churches of Greater Bridgeport** will hold its next Regular Monthly Meeting on Saturday, December 11, 1:30 pm, at our Church. We need a good show of attendance, since we will be discussing the location of next year's Fashion Show and our January Post-Holiday Luncheon.

Ladies, please try to attend.

December Charity Collection

During November and December, our monthly Charity Collection will support Chancery renovations for our Albanian Archdiocese.

Parish Council News

The Church Council held its monthly meeting in November, and the following items were discussed:

- We will collect names and donations for the Community Christmas Card now through December 12th. The card will go out in the mail.
- In October \$380.00 was collected for the Turkana people of Kenya. These funds will go toward the efforts to supply them with clean water.

- We are currently looking into bumpers to install in the parking spaces that align the sidewalk in the back lot.
- The Charity Collection for the month of January will be for the Thomas Merton House.
- The possibility of a food festival for the Spring was discussed, date to be determined.
- There will be a Valentine's Dance on Saturday, February 12th. Details to follow.
- We continue to update our parish address list and membership.
- Painting the inside of the Church was discussed as a project for the beginning of the Spring. This will be presented to the parish at the next General Meeting.
- It is time to start the next phase of the Church's icon project. The iconostasis is in disrepair and parishioners have expressed an interest in a new one to match the rest of the Church and the icons. This topic will be presented to parishioners at the next General Parish Meeting in January.

The Nativity Fast

We are now in the midst of the **Nativity Fast** (sometimes known as **Advent**), which began on November 15th and lasts through the Divine Liturgy of Christmas Day.

During this time, Orthodox Christians fast and pray in preparation for the Feast.

According to the Tradition of the Church, we observe this Fast by abstaining from meat (including poultry and eggs), dairy, olive oil and wine. On Wednesdays and Fridays, we also abstain from fish. While many people relax these rules, particularly until after Thanksgiving, it is important that we do as much as we can, so that we can properly prepare ourselves spiritually for the Great Feast of our Lord's Nativity.

Also, in keeping with Parish tradition, Great Vespers will be celebrated at 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays during Advent. This offers us a way to increase our prayer life and also provides an opportunity for personal confession.



For the month of December we will be collecting to help renovate our Albanian Archdiocesan Chancery Offices.