

# The Martyr

## St. George Orthodox Church

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January 7, 2024

### Upcoming Services and Events

- Jan 7 - 9:45 am - General Confession  
Divine Liturgy - Feast of  
Theophany (transferred from  
January 6) with the blessing of  
the holy water
- Jan 14 - 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy w/ visit from  
Bishop Nikodhim followed by 1  
year memorial service for  
Shirley Jordan.
- Jan 21 - 9:45 am - Children meet w/Fr Sergei  
10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

### Prayers for the Blessing

Bishops Paul and John of Aleppo, *captive in Syria*.  
Father Stephen and Pani Debbie Masliuk  
Matushka Evelyn Kreta  
Abbot Archimandrite Seraphim  
*Military Deployment:* Robert Buckles  
*Those who are sick:* Christy & Christina Adams;  
Mildred Arendac; Juan Aguilar, Antonette  
Barmashi, Paul Betts; Sandra Bike; James Brideau;  
Jeannie Brideau; Debi Broadus; Jim Cerner; Joyce  
Chadwick; Frank Chamberlain; Bernard & Kerri  
Christenson; Julie Cipu; Marianna Coca; Anthony  
Cordero; George Costa, Rosemary Delaney, Charlie  
Demetri; Jenna Dionis; Patti Fischer; Louise Karoli  
Gallagher; George Galich; Luba Geeza, Mike Green;  
Patty Ivanov; George Jones; Bill Kovachi; Violet  
Laska; June Lopen, Jonathan Lubin, Thomas  
Matthews; Jaimie McCarvill; Zoe Michael; Michael  
Moras, Jr.; Theodore Morrison; Nezar Nassif,  
Kimberly Orosz; Pat Perrotta, George Piazza; John  
Rafail, Nadia Rehbinder, David; Schutte; Kelly  
Small; Charles & Joann Soter; Ted Tallcouch;  
William Thomas; Paulette Todisco; Margaret Torre;

Mary Valis; Alice Vasil; Joe Vitale; Michael Wilson

*If anyone should be added or removed from this  
list, please contact Kim O'Brien at  
[kimbrien720@gmail.com](mailto:kimbrien720@gmail.com).*

### Prayers in Memoriam

#### 40 Days

Prifteresha Lisa Bouteneff

#### January

- 07 Vasil Cici (1955)  
Dora George Theodos (1983)
- 08 Helen M. Nasse Liolin (2002)  
Bishop Mark (Forsberg) (2018)
- 11 Eleanor Lillian Phillips (1987)
- 12 Billy Arthur (1976)
- 13 Theodore Leka (1972)  
Andromaqi (Anna) Kovachi (1990)  
George (A. Thanes) Athanas (2001)

### Thanks to many for their Stewardship!

The parish of St. George extends our thanks to the many people who helped to make our Christmas services beautiful and meaningful celebrations, and to those who helped support St. George with their dedicated stewardship work over the past year. Continue below to read the details.

First off, we would like to offer our sincere thanks to Fr. Sergei Bouteneff who has been a critical person in his support of St. George. He has served St. George in his

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retirement by filling in as our parish priest for over 5 years, from September 2018. We are eternally grateful!

Additionally, we would like to offer our thanks to our Parish Council for their continued stewardship to manage the leadership of St. George over the past year - many having served the Council over several years. Our Parish Council is manned by Bill Kovachi (President) along with Laura Coughlin, Luba Csernica, Peter Dacey, Joe Galich, Louise Gallagher, Cathy Hotova, and Bob Lazar.

In 2023, the Parish Council organized a committee to focus on the search for a permanent priest for St. George. That committee reports to and participates with the Parish Council on all its efforts and tasks. Our thanks to our Search committee members: from the Parish Council: Peter Dacey, Laura Coughlin, and Bill Kovachi, and from the Parish body: Gloria Athanas, Greg Buzi, and Curt Dionis.

Bob Lazar for his assistance in the sanctuary – he faithfully helps at all services.

To Louise Gallagher for baking Meshe each week for our Divine Liturgies.

Our thanks to the Choir for their singing at all of the services the past year. Additional thanks to our choir director Karen Masek, and to our back-up directors Laura Denisevich and Laura Coughlin.

To Louise Gallagher and Bob Lazar who faithfully change the table cloths and candles when required by feast or church season. Special thanks to Louise who also irons and prepares all the table cloths ahead of time so they are ready to be switched out.

Cantors Peter Dacey and Charles Soter for their dedication to the readings and chanting at our services. To the Altar Servers for their time and assistance.

To Louise Gallagher for all her outside landscaping work, the purchasing and planting of plants and flowers, watering during the warm weather, etc. keeping the entrance to our church beautiful.

Thanks to Melissa Galich and Joe Galich for putting up the Christmas tree, to Jennifer Goetz for decorating the Church, and to Louise Gallagher for setting up and

placing the poinsettia plants for the Feast of the Nativity of Christ.

To Luba Csernica and Cathy Hotova for the live-streaming of services.

Many thanks to Curt Dionis for leading and coordinating the Church School program. Also to Pauline Dionis and Nicole Dionis for their teaching and backup coordination to the program.

Thanks to Cathy Hotova, Louise Gallagher, and Kim O'Brien for all their efforts keeping coffee-hour refreshments and supplies purchased and available, and the Coffee Hour set-up and ready to go each Sunday. Also thanks to Greg Buzi who is our backup coffee brewer.

To Curt and Nicole Dionis, and Pauline Dionis for coordinating and organizing the St. Nicholas Party for the parish's children. Also thanks to Keith Cryan (Santa) for his visit for the children.

Thanks to the following for their contribution to fundraising efforts this past year; To the Teuta Ladies Society and the Parish Council for organizing and holding a Parish Picnic in September. The picnic was a success both socially and financially. Our thanks go out to a group of bakers from the Teuta Society who participated multiple times making Lakrors for sale. The group included Pam Buzi, Laura Chadwick, Laura Coughlin, Diane Cryan, Laura Denisevich, Sue Galich, Linda Lazar, Karen Masek, Kim O'Brien, and Lorraine Vangel. Proceeds from all sales went to the Teuta Society.

To Donna Kerma for holding pop-up stores selling jewelry and collectables this past year.

To Dave Denisevich for making, and Jim Bowe for decorating, and selling Easter bunny boxes and children's step stools, and to Dave Denisevich for making and selling wooden cutting and serving boards.

To Jim Bowe and Diane Cryan for making Christmas ornaments and Christmas gnomes for sale.

To the Teuta Ladies Society for organizing a very successful Fall Bazaar – the 1st time in 3 years due to the COVID pandemic. We wish to thank the dozens of volunteers who worked the Bazaar - with the organizing,

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set-up, cooking, baking, donating, working the event, cleaning up. and assisting with the Bazaar in some way

To Brooke & Sophie Dionis, Pauline Dionis, and Fr. Sergei for delivering our collected frozen hams and turkeys to local food shelters.

To Gregory Buzi II for leading a Lenten Akathist and prayer group during Christmas Lent

To our St. George "Elves": Pam Buzi, Sharon Buzi, Laura Chadwick, Laura Coughlin, Diane Cryan, Luba Csernica, Laura Denisevich, Sue Galich, Jennifer Goetz, and Kim O'Brien, who assembled and delivered Christmas Cheer to our senior parishioners who are restricted at home. Also many thanks to our Church School children for their hand-made Christmas cards that were delivered as part of the Christmas Cheer package.

And finally, to all those who came to pray and celebrate the services.

### January Charity

Continuing for the month of January, our charity tray will benefit Caroline's Place <https://carolynsplace.org/>. This charity comes to us through the suggestion of Pauline Dionis who knows Sofia Cole, a parishioner of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church in Southbury. Sofia is a high school senior and the granddaughter of Father Vladimir Aleandro. She is a volunteer at Caroline's Place which is a Catholic pregnancy resource center in Waterbury.

Caroline's Place relies totally on individual donations so your generosity is especially appreciated. You can read more about the charity on the link above.

### Collecting frozen Hams and Turkeys

As we did last year, over the next 3 months (from November 2023 through January 2024), St. George will be collecting frozen hams and turkeys. They can be placed in the church's freezers located in the Church Hall Storage Room.

This charity project's intent is to donate the hams and turkeys to local soup kitchens during February 2024 - this is typically when food donations are low.

Thank you again for your continued support of our various Charity efforts throughout each year!

### Pastoral Emergency Care

If there is an emergency, and you would like a priest to contact you, call Father Sergei at 203-331-2251 (cell), 203-713-6007 (home) or Bill Kovachi at 203-449-4404.

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