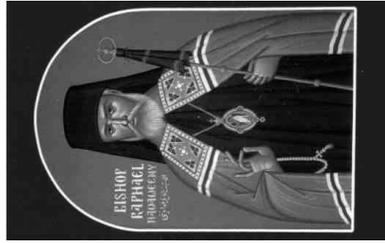


HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH



FEBRUARY 2008

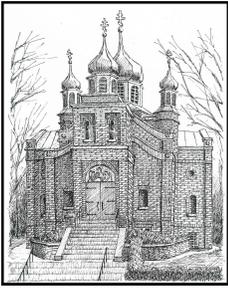


HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
305 Washington Street
P. O. Box 2876
New Britain, CT 06050-2876

HÖLY TRINITY ÖRTHÖDÖX CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Greeters: P & D Steffick		Cleaners: D & P Bartos		1 Festal Great Vespers 6:30 p.m.	2 MEETING OF THE LORD Festal Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Olga Fedak Panikhida 3:30 p.m. Great Vespers 4:00 p.m.
3 36th after Pentecost Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour – Bradani / E. Cherpak Men's Club Meeting & Lunch	4	5	6	7	8	9
				CT Deanery Mtg. @ Waterbury 7:00 p.m.	GAME NIGHT 6:00 p.m.	Mr. Aguzzi & Z. Foster Panikhida 3:30 p.m. Great Vespers 4:00 p.m. Confession
10 37th after Pentecost ZACHARYS SUNDAY Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour – Bichun / Labas / Steffick	11	12 IVERON ICON OF THE THEOTOKOS	13	14	15	16
						Great Vespers 4:00 p.m. Confession
17 PUBLICAN & PHARISEE Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour – UConn OCF	18	19	20	21	22	23
			Daily Vespers 6:30 p.m. Diocesan Council Meeting 7:30 p.m.		FAST FREE WEEK	Great Vespers 4:00 p.m. GENERAL CONFESSION
24 PRODIGAL SON Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour – Tabakow, Zagorska, et al.	25	26	27 ST. KIPRIAN, BISHOP OF BROOKLYN (Diocesan Council Snow date)	28	29	MARCH 1 Great Vespers 4:00 p.m. Confession
	Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p. m.					



Monthly Newsletter of HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

305 Washington Street • PO Box 2876 • New Britain, CT 06050-2876

www.htocnb.org

FEBRUARY 2008

HOUSE BLESSINGS: The home blessing this year was a tremendous joy. I had a wonderful time visiting with everyone, some 50+ homes. Next year I will again be making some adjustments to the schedule in order to give enough time to visit with everyone and to fit all our schedules. I also hope the list will grow so that we can get as close to 100% as possible. Thank you, everyone, for your kindness as I journeyed around central Connecticut.

Fr. David

STEWARDSHIP (Pledge): All parish members should have received their respective 2008 Financial Pledge Forms. You are asked to prayerfully consider your pledge to the parish for 2008, raise your pledge from previous years if you are not tithing yet, and return the form no later than February 17th.

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:21

MEN'S CLUB: The annual Men's Club Lotto will be renewed in February. This fundraiser has donated this past year \$500 to DNE Youth Rally, \$500 to the Christmas Stocking project and \$1500 to rebuild the two downstairs entry ways at the front of the church. Please see a Men's Club member to renew or join!

PARISH COUNCIL: The 2008 Parish Council, elected at the annual parish meeting, will be installed with prayers at the end of liturgy on February 10th, subject to approval of the elections by His Grace, Bishop NIKON. All elected council members are asked to be present for that service. The first meeting of the new council will be held on Monday, February 25th, at 7:00 P.M.

GAME NIGHT: The Sisterhood will be hosting a "Game Night" on Friday, February 8th at 6:00 p.m. EVERYONE is invited ... young & old. Bring your favorite board game and join in the fun!! Pizza, salad and beverages will be available.



GENERAL CONFESSION: is normally held on the last Saturday of each month (except for lenten periods), following Great Vespers. All regular communicants should make every effort to attend each General Confession. The next General Confession will be held on February 23rd. This will be the last general confession before Great Lent.

The February monthly charity collection is for the **Martha and Mary House** of Escondido, CA. Martha and Mary House was incorporated as a religious non-profit institution in the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the West, in November 2001 and to our knowledge the first Orthodox Christian Maternity Home in the United States.

As an Orthodox Christian Maternity Home, we provide pregnant women in crisis an alternative to abortion. We teach about decision-making, about choices and consequences, courtship, purity and abstinence before marriage, the sacrament and holiness of marriage, and God's design for the nurture of children in families with a father and mother who belong to God, to one another, and to their children.



MARTHA AND MARY
HOUSE

An Orthodox Christian Maternity Home
for women in crisis who choose
life for their unborn child

Working with local

Archpriest David Koles, Rector
9 Frankie Lane
Terryville, CT 06786
Phone: 860-573-0013
Email: frdavid@htocnb.org

agencies and volunteers, we help facilitate a healthy birth for the babies and a healthy spiritual rebirth for the new mothers. An Orthodox priest who is a clinical therapist visits the House weekly. He joins us for morning prayer and provides counseling. You can read about Martha and Mary House at <http://www.o.ca.org/RHArticle.asp?SID=15&Article ID=239> or go to their website at:

www.marthaandmaryhouse.org

CHURCH RENOVATION

UPDATE:

A systematic plan has been developed to address the problems in the following manner:

- ◆ Once it is determined that the outside water problems have been addressed, repair and re-plaster the interior church walls *[summer '08]*
- ◆ Paint the interior of the church. *[before 2013]*
- ◆ Paint the downstairs and replace ceiling tiles *[winter '08]*
- ◆ Complete the downstairs area with new indoor/outdoor carpet, with tile to cover the area of the coffee hour set-up *[summer '08]*



100 PLUS

As you review the points listed above, one can see that the additional expenses are yet to be determined. But it is important to remember that our church building is approaching the 100 year mark in 2013, not to be confused with the 100th anniversary of the parish in 2002.

Many have contributed to the Hundred Plus Club to honor the hundred plus years since our founding. Individuals may join by making donations to the building fund in denominations of \$100. This will be in addition to one's annual pledge. The funds will be used solely for the purpose of renovating our church building.

In 2007 we have collected \$ 6000.00.

JOIN THE 100 PLUS CLUB

Birthdays & Anniversaries

in FEBRUARY:

6	Diane Polzun	1947
7	Adam Salina	1975
8	Ellen Santoro	1953
10	Philip Cook	1986
13	Katherine Petriw	
15	Mary Glowacki	1921
17	Kristina Bouteneff	1993
20	Katarina Delaney	2004
25	Nick Dresko	1983
5	Peter & Ann Anop	1994
21	Paul & Janet Culton	1959



* * * * *

* From Tania and Kristina Bouteneff: *

* *"We want everyone to know that we*

* *have moved to Ss. Cyril and Meth-*

* *odius Church in Terryville. We feel*

* *badly that we were unable to tell*

* *everyone about this individually.*

* *We already miss Fr. David and all*

* *the wonderful and caring parish-*

* *ioners at Holy Trinity who*

* *'adopted' Kristina so warmly, and*

* *who made Holy Trinity our true*

* *home for 10 years. We will cer-*

* *tainly be coming back 'home' for*

* *services from time to time!"*

* * * * *

“WHEN I WAS SICK YOU CAME TO ME”

The following parishioners (and friends) are now home-bound or in long-term care facilities. If there are any names missing, please inform Fr. David. The regular schedule of visitations is included on the monthly calendar. Parishioners are welcomed and encouraged to make regular visitations to nursing homes and shut-ins. Our loved ones **NEED** to feel connected to their parish family.

Jerome Home, New Britain
Sadie Albino
Ann Laska



Ledgecrest Nursing Home, Berlin

Natasha Zaiko
Nicholas Zamayduk

Walnut Hill, New Britain

Agnes Makula
Olga Skotnicki
Mary Cherpak

Newington Care, Newington

Mary Salina

Middlewoods, Newington

Jennie Skovich

Atrium at Rocky Hill

Jean Prusik

Brittany Farms, New Britain

Olga Halajko

St. Lucian's Residence, New Britain

Mary Kotrady

Arden Courts, Avon

Mildred Dobrowolski

Ingraham Manor, Bristol

Eulah (Julianna) Chesky

At Home: Mary Bogdan, Anne Cherpak, Mary Glowacki, Sophie Johnson, Helen Karabin, Susan Labas, Lillian Madaluno, Mary Roman, Maria Stregotsky and Zenaida Zapatka.

Katheryna Bondarenko	85	February 3 1980
Eva Hamisevich	28	February 4 1920
Natalie Lestoric	80	February 4 2002
Child John Tarlevsky	1 day	February 5 1918
Walter Panasevich	55	February 5 1964
Marion Dounouk	15	February 5 1965
Irene Turek	74	February 5 2004
Peter Jazkevich		February 7 1989
Child Nina Hulisa	7 mo	February 8 1917
Child Olga Kuharchuk	4 mo	February 8 1917
Joseph Hamilla	84	February 8 1984
Geraldine Karpey	61	February 8 1985
Conrad Filipchuk	56	February 9 1932
Paul Bogdan	65	February 9 1955
Zinada Foster	88	February 9 2007
Peter Hamilla	33	February 10 1916
Child Lydia Hamisevich	7 mo	February 10 1917
Helen Velichko	56	February 11 1930
Alexei Lewczyk	69	February 12 1959
Protodn Nicholas Panteleeff	85	February 12 1961
Michael Molchan	75	February 12 1964
Anna Horbal	84	February 12 1981
Child Nicholas Panasevich	2 mo	February 13 1916
Naum Sobchuk [Sovchuk]	61	February 13 1956
Mary Hamilla	80	February 13 1958
George Cocores	35	February 13 1960
Natalia Karpey	84	February 13 1973
Alexandra Neverovich	86	February 13 1983
Walter Wanik	61	February 13 1995
Alexandra Bichun	57	February 14 1959
Nadezhda Novosett	93	February 16 1990
Sarah Belomyzy	83	February 16 1995
Child Mary Hiov	5 mo	February 17 1911
Pauline Dyranka	82	February 17 1996
John Fedorovich	38	February 19 1926
Stephen Klotz		February 19 1959
Nona Grusha	87	February 19 2000
Basil Pracalo	77	February 20 1968
George Cherpak	96	February 20 1983
Stephen Karpey	66	February 21 1942
Joseph Pich	77	February 21 1996
Mary Paquette	98	February 21 2002
Child Katherine Cherpak	7	February 22 1911
Child Tekla Russin	9 mo	February 23 1903
Mary Semanchik	15	February 23 1910
John Lehman	64	February 23 1950
Anastasia Pelik	62	February 23 1954
Helen Wlasuk	71	February 23 1960
Mary Gasparini	94	February 25 1998
Andrew Lenik	35	February 26 1930
Katherine Smoluk	73	February 26 1971

NEWLY DEPARTED:

Matrona Aguzzi (12/30)
Sonia Zardecki (1/6)



PARISH DIPTYCHS

Please remember our departed brothers and sisters in your prayers.

Theodore Karpey		February 1 1982
Olga Kotlarz		February 1 1985
Teresa (Parasceva) Walker	84	February 1 1999
John Balkun	70	February 2 1966
Vasilina Koliv	17	February 3 1913
Gregory Stankevich	62	February 3 1949
Trofim Kirichov	62	February 3 1956
John Klotz, Sr.	80	February 3 1968

Alexander Kotrady		February 26 1985
Child (No name) Pruta	4	February 27 1937
Pearl (Paraskeva) Liwen	95	February 27 1987
Justina Sulima	69	February 28 1969
Elia Podubinsky	38	February 29 1916

ВѢЧНАА ПАМЯТЬ

FEASTDAYS IN FEBRUARY:

Meeting of The Lord (February 2): Forty days after Christ was born he was presented to God in the Jerusalem Temple according to the Mosaic Law. At this time as well his mother Mary underwent the ritual purification and offered the sacrifices as prescribed in the Law. Thus, forth days after Christmas, on the second of February, the Church celebrates the feast of the presentation called the **Meeting** (or **Presentation** or **Reception**) of the Lord.



Iveron Icon of the Theotokos (February 12th):

Rejoice, Keeper of the Portal most gracious, who dost open to the faithful the doors of Paradise. (Akathist refrain)

The original Miraculous Icon of the Iveron Mother of God is on Mount Athos. By tradition, it was painted by the apostle and evangelist Luke.

In the 9th century, this Icon was in the possession of a widow who lived in Nicea. It was during the reign of the iconoclast Byzantine emperor Theophilus that soldiers came to the house of the widow, where in a small chapel the Iveron Icon of the Mother of God occupied a place of honor. One of the soldiers struck the Icon with his sword, and immediately blood began to flow from the gashed cheek of the Virgin. Shaken by this miracle, the soldier instantly repented, renounced the iconoclast heresy, and entered a monastery. On his advice, the widow concealed the Icon in order to avert its further desecration. After praying for guidance before the Icon, the widow put the Holy Image into the sea. To her immense surprise and joy the Icon did not sink but, remain-



ing upright, drifted away in a westerly direction.

Many years later this Icon appeared on the Holy Mountain ("in a pillar of fire" as Athonite tradition recounts) from the sea, close by the Iveron monastery. At that time the holy monk Gabriel was one of the brotherhood in this monastery. The Mother of God appeared to him in a vision and directed him to convey to the abbot and brothers of the monastery that She wished them to have Her Icon as their help and salvation. She told Gabriel to approach the Icon on the waters without fear and take it with his hands. Obedient to the words of the Mother of God, says Athonite tradition, Gabriel "walked upon the waters as though upon dry land," took up the Icon and brought it back to the shore.

The icon was then brought into the monastery and placed in the altar. On the next day the Icon disappeared from the sanctuary, and was found on the wall beside the monastery gate. It was returned to the altar, but the next day it was again found by the gate. This recurred several times, until the Holy Virgin revealed to the monk Gabriel that it was not Her wish for the Icon to be protected by the monks, but that She wished to protect them. After this, a church was built near the monastery gate where the Icon resides to this day.

St. Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27th): Saint Raphael, a man of angelic name and apostolic fervor, was influenced by many cultures. He was born and raised in the Middle East, educated by Greeks at Halki, and by Russians at Kiev, and he spent the last nineteen years of his life as a missionary in North America.



St. Raphael was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America (1904). He was also a tireless laborer who strove to build up the Church (I Cor. 14:12), and his great love and sacrifice for his flock mark him as a true pastor.

St. Raphael came to New Britain when the new church building [our present temple] was built in 1913 to bless the cornerstone. He was consecrated at St. Tikhon's Monastery in May of 2000.



Pledging to Give in Stewardship

The phrase “**Pledging to Give in Stewardship**,”—rightly and fully understood from the Orthodox Christian perspective—contains a message that is critical to our faith.

a) Pledging... means formally promising to give something in the future to help our community plan (“budget”) to achieve goals together with God’s help that none of us could achieve alone.

b) To Give... means voluntarily transferring ownership of anything of value, in love, free of transfer charge. Such giving may be one time or periodic (weekly, monthly, etc.); it may be of money, stocks, bonds or of property (real or personal objects). Christian giving is cheerfully and humbly done, and blesses the donor, as well as others. God has revealed two major ways of giving: “*tithes and offerings.*”

c) In Stewardship... means that the giving occurs within the relationship of a steward or a trustee acting for the benefit of an owner or superior. We are all stewards of God the Owner and Lord. He *entrusts us* with money, jobs, family, and life itself. We are to administer wisely what He has given us, which includes tithing and offerings, which will be addressed in these on-going articles.

“**Pledging to Give in Stewardship**” is crucial to our spiritual development as individual Christians and as a parish within Christ’s Church. The concept of pledging, giving, and stewardship are life-changing. Please take time to read the brief articles, and pray that you will know what God wants you to return to him.



We continue to consider:

- **Pledging**—“**promising**”
- **to give**—“to transfer for free”
- **in stewardship**—“as one who is those managing the owner’s wealth.

God has given us clear guidelines which we may choose to apply with His help. Here is a two-part, Bible-based study that reviews some of the key standards of God.

Part I. Know Christ and Walk in His Love. Giving is based on *knowing Christ*, and *abiding in His love*.

- John 3:16, “*For God so loved . . .*”
- 1 John 4:7-21, “*Beloved, let us love one another . . .*”
- Ephesians 3:14-19 “*For this reason I bow my knees . . .*”
- Ephesians 5:1-2 “*Therefore, . . . walk in love . . .*”
- Mark 12: 29-31 “*Love God . . . and your neighbor . . .*”
- John 13:34-35 “. . . *love as I have loved you*”
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 “. . . *the greatest of these is love*”

Giving is one discipline (“training regimen”) of God’s Kingdom (Mt 6: 1-4) that “. . .you may become partakers of the divine nature. . .” (2 Peter 1:4) When we give as God says, we are by grace practicing an action (“giving”) that God consistently practices by nature.

Part II. We are Stewards who will Render an Account. Christian giving is only possible in the context of our knowing we are, and behaving as, faithful stewards of God gifts.

- *Give as a faithful steward.* All we have is God’s, entrusted to us. Genesis 1:26-27, Matthew 25:14-46, Luke 12:42
- *Motives* for giving are love, and humility. Matthew 6:1-4, 21, 24; 1 John 4:17-5:3.
- *Methods* of giving are tithes & offerings. Malachi 3:6-12; Matthew 23: 23; Luke 21: 1-4)
- *Results* of giving are thanks, and blessings. Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35, 2 Corinthians 8-9.

Jesus told us, “If you love me, obey my commandments” (John 14:15). He who gave all for us, wants us to know the joy of trusting Him, and giving.

Pledging to Give in Stewardship

*We continue to consider **pledging** (promising) to give (to transfer in love for free) in stewardship (as those who manage value in trust for the true owner).*

From the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese web-site - <http://www.antiochian.org/node/16515>



Parish Council Minutes

The January 2008 Parish Council meeting was held in the church hall on Monday, January 14, 2008. Warden Paul Salina called the meeting to order at 7pm. A quorum was noted. The meeting began with an opening prayer “O Heavenly King”.

Pastor's Report: Father David has almost finished with the house blessings. He has visited 51 homes with 10 remaining on the schedule. Father reported a wonderful Nativity fast. There isn't anything new on the National or Diocesan level.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the November 2007 minutes as submitted Nelson Potter/Peter Anop. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: George Ludko presented the November and December 2007 financial reports.

November income	\$50,980.00	(large expenses - Beaver Street repairs, utilities,
Expense	\$50,034.35	FOS pledge, withholding & SS, fair share,
Inc/exp	\$ 945.65	bishop's visit, lawn maintenance)

November charity \$441.00 - Friendship Center
Rosemary Delaney has audited November.

December Income	\$19,401.00	(large expenses-utilities,
Expense	\$12,640.25	lawn care & snow
Inc/exp	\$ 6,760.75	plowing, fair share, withholding & SS)

December charity \$585.00 - Warm the Children

Motion to accept the November audited report Paul Culton/Marion Bichum.

2007 recap

income	\$252,587.36	[It was noted that
expense	\$284,869.99	many projects that have
exp/inc	\$ 32,282.63	been ongoing were completed in 2007.]

OLD BUSINESS

***Caretaker's House:** Paul Salina indicated that all the work has been completed. He has put a timer on the outside front porch light. Paul has met with Lori Vranes and they have cleaned out 99% of their belongings, moving items to the garage. She hopes to have all items removed shortly. We invested \$7,509 (windows, upgrading the electrical system and removal of the wall separating the kitchen and the pantry) above the amount of the insurance claim. Dan Bradanini is working on some proposals to present at the annual meeting. Paul Salina did open the house so parishioners could see the renovations-the response most often heard was "sell it". Dan will do an analysis of the current market value, and also the financial scenarios if the house rents or sells and investment of the money in a mutual fund.

***Parish Directory:** The directory has gone through a second revision. More photos of 2007 events have been added. Hopefully it will be completed in February.

***Project Management:** The ceiling tiles in the church school will be replaced on Saturday, January 26, 2008. Perhaps the painting can be done during the week. Paul Salina did meet with the Drain Doctor again and the pipe was scoped. While the contractor cannot "guarantee" that we will have no further wa-

ter problems, we have not had any water in the church school since the clean-out occurred. The only way to really check the drains would be to break up the concrete sidewalk area and dig. This would be expensive. The council agreed that the water problem seems to be solved and no further work will be done in this area. Dan Bradanini indicated that he and George Matyczuk will be replacing the black insulated coatings on the air conditioners-the existing ones are deteriorating.

***Parish Cemetery Trustee Committee Recommendations:**

The meeting that was scheduled for last Wednesday was rescheduled to this Thursday due to a funeral. Paul Culton has received some feedback to the "draft". Proposals to increase prices are in process, surcharges to non-members, grave markers, etc. The committee is trying to update the by-laws to make them reasonable and comparable to other cemeteries in the area.

***From the floor:** Paul Salina approached Eva Zagorska to see if she would take the responsibility to bring fresh flowers each week. She has agreed however does not want to be reimbursed at this time. She did agree to submit receipts and get a letter from the church to use for tax purposes.

NEW BUSINESS

***February Charity:** Motion to have the Martha and Mary House in Escondido, CA for February charity Ellen Santoro/Marion Bichum. Motion carried

***Nominating Committee:** Ellen Santoro reported that 3 positions will be vacated this year. Peter Steffick has agreed to accept the position of Assistant Treasurer and Diane Dounouk as an at-large member. Other candidates are also being considered.

***Parish Budget Recommendations for 2008:** A copy is on file with the secretary. Warden Paul Salina reviewed the proposed budget. It was reviewed by the parish council. The budget does include \$1500 for scholarships, \$1500 registration fees for the All-American Council meeting to be held in Pittsburgh and \$1000 for computer replacements. The 100+ club is now a line item as income. Motion to accept the proposed 2008 budget and present it at the annual meeting Paul Culton/Peter Anop.

A discussion arose regarding a smaller weekly attendance at services and not meeting our cash donations budget for 2007. It was noted that the problems with the OCA have affected donations at all levels and many parishes are struggling with diminished numbers in attendance. It was suggested that a message be put in the bulletin reiterating the purpose of pledging and stewardship to our parish.

***Parish Annual Meeting Agenda:** Paul Salina reviewed the proposed agenda for the 2008 annual meeting.

***From the floor:** How can we get membership up???? Need some ideas...

***Annual Meeting:** January 27, 2008 after Diving Liturgy

***Next Meeting:** February 25, 2008 7pm

***Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn 8:15pm Dan Bradanini. The meeting concluded with "It is Truly Meet".

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Bartos