

HOLY TRINITY
ORTHODOX CHURCH



JANUARY 2009



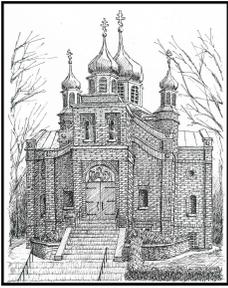
HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

305 Washington Street
P. O. Box 2876
New Britain, CT 06050-2876

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JANUARY 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Greeter:	Cleaner:	January Charity: Holy Resurrection Church, Berlin, N.H.		1 CIRCUMCISION / ST. BASIL THE GREAT Fast Free 12/25 – 1/4	2 ST. JULIANA OF LAZAREVSK	3 Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
4 29 th after Pentecost Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour -	5 (Strict Fast Day) Festal Vesperal Liturgy & Great Blessing of Water 6:00 p.m.	6 THEOPHANY	7	8	9	10 ST. GREGORY OF NYSSA Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> H O M E B L E S S I N G 1/6 – 1/15 see page 7 for schedule </div>						
11 30 th after Pentecost Church School 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour -	12 ST. SAVVA OF SERBIA Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	13	14	15	16	17 ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
18 31 st after Pentecost Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour -	19	20	21 ST. MAXIMUS THE CONFESSOR	22 36 th "March for Life" - Washington, DC	23	24 BL. XENIA OF PETERSBURG Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
25 32 nd after Pentecost Church School 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour – ANNUAL PARISH MEETING	26	27 ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM	28	29	30 THREE HIERARCHS 25 th Annual Fr. Alexander Schmemmann Lecture @ SVS	31 Great Vespers 4:00 p.m GENERAL CONFESSION



Monthly Newsletter of
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www.htocnb.org
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HOUSE BLESSINGS: The schedule for house blessings is included in this news letter. The house blessings will begin on January 6th. Please try to be available at your scheduled date and time. When Father arrives, please have the following ready: a bowl for holy water, an icon, a candle, and separate lists of living and departed loved ones for remembrance. Stereos and televisions should be turned off. If you are on the list and need to cancel or change your appointment, or if you are not on the list and wish to be added, please call Father's cell number ASAP. Anyone wishing to have the house blessed will be accommodated.

PARISH COUNCIL: The final scheduled meeting of the 2008 Parish Council will be held on Monday evening, January 12th. We will review the proposed operating budget for presentation to the annual meeting, go over final preparations for the annual meeting, and finish any business still outstanding. All council members are reminded of the schedule change and asked to make every effort to attend the meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING: The annual parish meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25th, following liturgy and coffee hour. All voting members of the parish are asked to plan on being present and participating in the meeting. You are a voting member if:

- You are at least 18 years of age.
- You participate in the Sacraments of Confession and Communion regularly, but at least annually, in the parish.
- You have made a stewardship (financial) commitment to the parish.

If you have any questions about your eligibility please see Fr. David or Paul Salina.

STEWARDSHIP (Pledge): In anticipation of the annual meeting and our 2009 Operating Budget, everyone is reminded that the financial package will be distributed at church to each parishioner before the meeting. In this package you will receive a copy of the proposed budget for 2009 as established by the parish council, your 2008 Statement of Giving to the parish (for tax purposes), and

your 2009 Financial Pledge Form. You are asked to prayerfully consider your pledge to the parish for 2009, raise your pledge from previous years if you are not tithing yet, and return the form no later than February 8th.

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

STEWARDSHIP (Service):

Parish Council: This is another form of stewardship. The time is drawing near when we will have our Annual Meeting and there will be openings that need to be filled on the council. There are a few members who have served for many years. Whenever they were asked to serve they said yes. But now they must take a break. It is time for others to show the same dedication to our parish and "step-up" and take their place so that these faithful servants may have a well deserved rest.

Greeters and Cleaners: New empty lists are now posted on the bulletin board as you enter downstairs. On the cleaners list there were about six different names for the twelve months. **Team up** with someone so one person does not have to work alone cleaning the whole church and hall. We NEED your help!!! PLEASE add your name to the list this year.

Coffee Hour hosting: Phyllis & David Bartos will again be compiling the list for hosting our 'fellowship' hour after Divine Liturgy. Again, you can form a group, spread out the tasks and take a couple of weeks during the year.

**Thank You in advance for your time, talent
and treasure in service to
Our parish!!**

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

FAST-FREE: The time between the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord (December 25th) and the Sunday before Theophany (January 4th) is a fast-free period in the Orthodox Church. The Eve of Theophany (January 5th) is a **strict-fast day**.

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 January 31st.

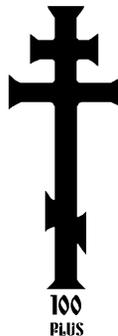
The January monthly charity collection is for the **Holy Resurrection Church, Berlin, NH**. This parish which was founded in 1915 has fallen on hard times. Berlin, New Hampshire was a paper mill town and even before the tough economy hit this part of New England was in a depressed state of affairs. There is a handful of dedicated faithful people who are trying to repair the rectory and church in hopes of having a full time priest assigned. We know what it takes to keep our 95 year old building in top shape and we have the second largest parish in the Diocese. Let us help our brothers and sisters in Christ in their struggles to preserve their place of worship. The collection will be taken on the last Sunday of the month. Please use the envelope provided in your monthly mailing.

CHURCH RENOVATION UPDATE:

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

- ◆ Repair and re-plaster the interior church walls [*summer - fall '09*]
- ◆ Paint the interior of the church. [*summer - fall '10*]

As you review the points listed above you will note that we are down to the last two items. These will take some research to determine the best course of action. 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.



Thank you to all who have contributed these past two years but we are not finished. Additional expenses are yet to be determined. We have 4+ years until we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Consecration of our church on Washington Street.

During 2008 we collected \$ 3200.00

JOIN THE 100 PLUS CLUB



Birthdays & Anniversaries in JANUARY:

3	Daniel Bradanini	1945
6	George Ludko	1945
6	Jillian Wanik	1964
11	James Dounouk	1937
13	Jennifer Wykes	1972
15	Katherine Szestakow	1922
16	Barbara Burrill	1952
25	Ruth Lucas	1928



“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.

Ledgecrest Nursing Home, Berlin
Natasha Zaiko
Nicholas Zamayduk

Walnut Hill, New Britain
Agnes Makula
Olga Skotnicki
Mary Cherpak

Jerome Home, New Britain
Sadie Albino
Ann Laska

Arbor Rose, New Britain
Sophia Johnson
Nona Belomyzy

Newington Care, Newington
Mary Salina

Middlewoods, Newington
Jennie Skovich

Atrium at Rocky Hill

Jean Prusik

Brittany Farms, New Britain

Olga Halajko

St. Lucian Residence, New Britain

Mary Kotrady

At Home: Mary Bogdan, Anne Cherpak, Helen Kovalevich,
Helen Karabin, Susan Labas and Mary Roman.



PARISH DIPTYCHS

Please remember our departed brothers and sisters in your prayers.

Anna Hamilla	67	January 1 1927
Agatha Gedz	79	January 1 1965
Anton Bichun	80	January 1 1972
Michael Romanuk		January 2 1948
Valerian Garlewski	54	January 3 1947
Frank Smith	62	January 3 1956
Theodora Mazufek	43	January 4 1931
John Bilas	70	January 5 1960
Daniel Panish	86	January 5 1965
Evdokia Noveck	65	January 5 1965
Vera Neill	20	January 5 1984
Child Lydia Mazur	8 mo	January 6 1927
Helen Srachno	16	January 7 1936
John Karpie	65	January 7 1959
Helena Bichun	81	January 8 2000
Child William Koles, Jr.	2 days	January 9 1947
Waselesia Dudchick	73	January 9 1963
Child Stephen Yanushkevich	9 mo	January 10 1908
Peter Saskevich	55	January 10 1927
John Baldowski	55	January 10 1971
Mary Hamilla Carlson	95	January 10 2004
Basil Hulis		January 11 1919
William Koles, Sr.	61	January 11 1979
Irene Panasuk	70	January 12 1941
Vladimir Baranovsky	50	January 13 1947
Wasil Panasewich	58	January 13 1978
Nina Molchan	88	January 13 2007
John Tarasov	38	January 14 1927
Helen Verbitsky	77	January 14 1968
Olga Matyczuk	69	January 14 1994
Paul Gelazin		January 14 2002
Mary Ankuda	50	January 15 1926
Basil Pavarno	32	January 16 1913

Mary Shatula	78	January 16 1936
Modest Nazaruk	71	January 16 1962
Mary Cherpak	89	January 16 1974
Peter Sokoloski, Sr.	72	January 17 1961
John Gadzik	61	January 18 1983
Anna Garlewski	94	January 18 1992
Sophie Belonitsky	62	January 19 1939
Child Peter Burak Jr.	2 days	January 19 1951
Vladimir Dankevich	49	January 19 1971
Child Jennifer Smith	2	January 19 1997
Stephen Podonuk	43	January 20 1940
Borys Karanowytch	75	January 20 1982
Violet (Valentina) Wellman		January 20 1987
Michael Hrablook	80	January 20 2001
Akim (Joachim) Dimnitch	73	January 21 1973
Robert Walls	84	January 21 1975
Mary Martinuk	49	January 22 1935
Anton Radionchik	79	January 22 1970
John Makula	69	January 23 1968
Joseph Bylek	79	January 23 1969
Lydia Levy	46	January 23 1974
Katherine Steffick	91	January 23 1975
Arthur Novick	74	January 23 1992
Peter Molchan	45	January 25 1963
Sophie Kwasnick	53	January 25 1967
Alexander Semascho	80	January 25 1973
Philip Baboval	88	January 27 1982
Methilde Shevchuk	90	January 27 2002
Child Vladimir Pravka	1	January 28 1922
Vaslov Antonik	55	January 28 1947
Leonty Homrafucuk	58	January 28 1951
Nikolai Vholek	65	January 28 1958
Nicholas Grusha	88	January 28 1971
Yaroslav Roman	82	January 28 1992
Daniel Martinook	79	January 28 2005
Valerian Bielomizy	78	January 29 1968
Anna Opanasenko	83	January 29 1986
Michael Piekarski	63	January 30 1962
Olga Fedak	88	January 31 2006

ВѢЧНА ПАМЯТЬ

The Great Feast of Theophany

The Blessing of Water

In the Book of Genesis, we read that creation began when the Spirit of God moved over the face of the waters. (Gen. 1:2) Throughout the Bible, water plays an important and a 'mystical role' in human existence and in man's



relationship with God the Creator.

Water has the capacity to produce death, as recounted in the story of Noah and the ark (Gen. 6); or to produce life, as noted in the story of Moses' striking the rock in the desert to produce water for the parched wanderers (Numbers 20). While the waters of the Red Sea

parted to allow the Hebrews to pass over in safety (and thus preserve life), the same waters came rushing upon the Pharaoh and his army drowning them.

In the New Testament, we see water becoming the means by which the Trinity was revealed during the Baptism of Jesus, which we celebrate on the Feast of Theophany on January 6 each year. In the Baptism of Jesus, at the hands of John the Baptist, the spiritual significance and potential of water as the source of life is again revealed and reaffirmed just as in Genesis, the first book of the Bible.

In a sermon on Theophany, St. John Chrysostom says: "On this day Christ was baptized; through His Baptism He sanctified the element of water. There let us all draw of the water and store it in homes, because on this day the water is consecrated."

In blessing water on the Feast Day, we ask and pray that the original purpose of water, as a source of life, blessing and holiness be revealed to us as we drink it. In the Garden of Eden, Adam enjoyed a unique and lordly relationship with Creation. After the Fall as he was expelled from Paradise, he heard the words, "Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life." (Genesis 3:17) From that point Adam would be subject to Creation, and not a master. Yet through Christ, the curse is lifted, just as the curse of death is lifted from the human race through the Resurrection. Because of Christ's coming and His work of salvation and redemption (as the hymns say, "dispensation"), Man and Creation are reconciled. Creation is able once more to meet not only the physical needs of man, but the elements of creation can be, and are, sources of grace and healing as we worship the Lord of Life.

When we bless water - or any other material object - and when we celebrate the Mysteries (Sacraments) of the Church, we reverently and gratefully proclaim that Christ Himself (in the words of the Divine Liturgy) "offers and is offered" blesses and sanctifies the world (cosmos) as the Great High Priest.

The celebration of the Great Blessing of Water is an affir-

mation that through Christ's own baptism, He who is our loving Lord has lifted the curse of Adam's sin, and given the creative goodness of God's creation back to mankind once again.

Troparion - Tone 1

When Thou, O Lord, was baptized in the Jordan the worship of the Trinity was made manifest, for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee and called Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ, our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

Kontakion – Tone 4

Today Thou hast shown forth to the universe, and Thy light O Lord has shone on us, who with understanding praise Thee. Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, O Light unapproachable.

From the Prayer for the Blessing of Water

O King, Who loves mankind, be present now as Thou wast at the Jordan through the coming of Thy Holy Spirit and sanctify this water. And confer upon it: the grace of redemption, the blessing of the Jordan. Make it a source of incorruption, a gift of sanctification, a forgiveness of sins, a protection against disease, a destruction of demons, inaccessible to evil powers and filled with angelic strength; that all who draw from it and drink of it may have it: for the cleansing of their soul and body, for the healing of their passions, and for the sanctification of their homes, and for every purpose that is fitting.

The Blessing of Homes

The custom of blessing homes during the Theophany season is of special beauty and significance. It is not simply a sentimental tradition without meaning, nor is it a custom whose meaning we have forgotten, like an old friend whose face we remember, but whose impact on our life has been forgotten.



When an Orthodox Christian believer moves into a new home, he dedicates his new home as the abode of a follower of Christ. He asks that God, the source of all goodness and the Giver of every perfect gift, to bless his house and all that is within it; he recalls that Jesus Christ, His Son, came to bring Salvation to all, even as He brought Salvation to the house of Zaccheus; he prays that the Holy Spirit may abide in it, guiding those who dwell in it in the Paths of righteousness.

On the Feast of Theophany we rededicate our home

for its original purpose, just as we must periodically re-dedicate our life to Christ. We do it especially on this Feast because this is the day on which we remember in the Church Year the coming of Christ who began His Ministry when He descended into Jordan to be baptized by St. John the Forerunner and Baptist. He enters again into our lives reminding us that we must "repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand."

An Orthodox Christian must dedicate not only himself and his house to the Lord, but his daily work and all his efforts as well. All things are to be done to the glory of God. That is why in the Orthodox Church, not only religious objects, such as icons, crosses, churches and vestments, are blessed, but also homes, fields, animals and all objects which are used in our daily life for the good of man. In this the Church expresses its faith that the Holy Spirit's sanctifying action extends over the whole Creation.

HOUSE BLESSING SCHEDULE 2009

January 6, 2009 TUESDAY, 11:00 A.M.

A Bichun	G Liwen
S Zurawlew	Culton
S Matyczuk	Everson
Shafran	Szestakow
Bogdan	

January 7, 2009 WEDNESDAY, 11:00 A.M.

Rudy	Potter
Balkun	Tynik / Ferrandino
Gunning	E Ludko
Raymond	Wanik
Lucas	

January 8, 2009 THURSDAY, 1:00 P.M.

H Roberts	M Karabin
Dorsey	P Anop
G Matyczuk	Wykes
Tabakow	

January 9, 2009 FRIDAY, 2:00 P.M.

G Ludko	Murphy
M Horbal	P Salina
Camarata	A Salina
Pulcini / Helen Anop	

January 10, 2009 SATURDAY, 2:00 P.M.

Cook	Dilger
B Burrill	Fiedler
K Delaney	

January 12, 2009

Polzun
E Bichun
Luzetti

MONDAY, 1:00 P.M.

Zagorska
R Delaney

January 13, 2009

S Liwen
Murr
Roman
Myszka

TUESDAY, 2:00 P.M.

H Karabin / Ahern
Martin
P Steffick

January 14, 2009

Bradani

WEDNESDAY, 6:00 P.M.

January 15, 2009

Prigodich
L Matyschuk
J Steffick
Beck

THURSDAY, 2:00 P.M.

Santoro
Cabrera
Bartos



The November 2008 Parish Council meeting was held in the church hall on Monday, November 24, 2008. Warden Paul Salina called the meeting to order at 7pm. A quorum was noted and the meeting began with "O Heavenly King". Paul Salina welcomed Nadine Cabrera to the council meeting.

Warden Paul Salina suspended the agenda at this time in order for Nadine Cabrera to present a report on the investment funds. Nadine reported on the necessary actions that were taken. Nadine indicated that it was important for the council to understand that things needed to move quickly and why. She informed us that she contacted Paul Salina in September and discussed what the potential needs of the church would be for the next 5 years (examples of potential needs were 100 year anniversary of the building, not meeting our pledge goals). She suggested that we remove some funds before the market tanked. Approximately \$50K was taken out of the investment funds and moved to FDIC insured money market accounts at TD Banknorth and Bank of America. Since we withdrew the 50K, we have lost \$20K in the investments still left in the market. The consensus is as long as you don't need it, don't touch it. The money isn't truly lost until the stock is sold. Keeping the remaining funds in the market for the long term should see it move up in the next few years. The Stanley stock has taken the biggest hit from 9-30-08 to now as the market has tanked. Approximately \$10K has been taken from the cemetery

funds to pay bills. The Fidelity account has been closed. We have lost more in the cemetery funds than in the endowment funds. Nadine is hoping the market will turn upward within 5 years. Thank you Nadine.

Pastor's Report Father David reported there will be 2 panikhidas in the next 2 weeks - for Val Zuralew and Eugene Hamisevich. He also advised us that Father Gregory Woolfenden's funeral will be the first week of December. There will be choir rehearsal on Saturday at 2pm. There will be Liturgies for St. Nicholas and St. Herman. Church clean up will follow Liturgy on Dec 6. The Deanery meeting is next week and they will be discussing Lenten Vespers - how to get more people to attend as clergy mostly attends it at this time. Father received a 2nd thank you letter from St. Vladimir's seminary/Fr. Chad Hadfield, Chancellor and CEO, for our support at OE Day with kielbasa/hotdogs. The new vestments, purchased by the Sisterhood, have arrived and will be blessed by Bishop Nikon during his visit. In four years we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church building and it is time to start planning now. Father is looking for a date -perhaps a date around the original consecration date so he can book Metropolitan Jonah. Father is doing some research.

Secretary's Report Motion to accept the October 2008 minutes as submitted Nelson Potter/Dan Telechkya. Motion carried

Financial Report

October income	\$12,951.00	(large expenses - prop ins. Fair share, Soc. Sec. and withholdings,
October expense	\$16,785.55	prop. maint, fence repair, legal fees)
Exp/Inc	(\$3,834.55)	

Ann Myszka has audited the October report. Motion to accept the audited report Marion Bichun/Diane Dounouk. Motion carried. George Ludko reported that some accounts are not current and future reports will reflect a more accurate date. The report on the endowment and cemetery funds presented by Nadine earlier is more accurate. He is also in the process of going to the Secretary of the State to obtain copies of HTOC Corporation papers-banks have more stringent rules now and require them.

OLD BUSINESS

***Caretaker's house** Paul Salina reported that the realtor is trying to get people into the house. She has had a few people look at it but has indicated that it will not sell over \$100K. She will let Paul know if anyone makes an offer. At this time, the council agreed to lower the price to \$95K.

***Project Management Review** The snowplowing contract has been awarded to Weber. Marion Bichun will contact Bill Kapura again regarding the stove hood. Paul will also contact a plumber regarding the water fountain. The plexi-

glass on the front sign was broken and is currently being replaced by the Glassman.

***All-American Council** Bishop Benjamin's report was very clear and he spoke very frankly. He spoke of restitution/lawsuits/IRS and the attorneys are still looking into everything. We are now trying to move forward. Bishop Benjamin asked for forgiveness. There are many things that need to be proven but there are no paper trails. It is truly time to move forward. Bishop Jonah was chosen by the Holy Synod of Bishops to give the responses at the "Town Hall" type of meeting. He spoke well, honestly and forthright also indicating there was no excuse for what happened in the past and we can't dwell on it and need to move on. Archbishop Job and Bishop Jonah were the top two candidates receiving votes during balloting of the delegates. Bishop Jonah was the junior most of all the Bishops being a Bishop for only 11 days. He also was not in any part of the scandal. The Synod of Bishops then met to discuss the nominees and they selected Bishop Jonah as the new Metropolitan. One of the most important items discussed along with the election of the new Metropolitan was the direction of the OCA. It was discussed that funds belong at the Diocesan and Parish levels-we need to build from the bottom up. We are hoping that Metropolitan Jonah will be in New England in October attending the Diocesan Assembly in Waterbury. He may also be attending other Diocesan assemblies.

***Bishop Nikon's Visit** Paul Salina indicated that all arrangements have been made.

***St. Nicholas Brunch** will be December 7 and Marion Bichun will be organizing the event.

***From the Floor** Wreaths and flowers for Christmas are all set.

NEW BUSINESS

***Annual meeting** The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 25, 2009. If anyone is interested in being on the nominating committee please see Paul Salina.

***Charity for January** Motion to have Holy Resurrection Church in Berlin, NH be the January charity by George Ludko/Ann Myszka. A motion to have the February Charity to benefit the Stremsky Family, the largest family in Russia, from the city of Saraktash on the edge of the Urals, in central Russia was made by Marion Bichun/Diane Dounouk. Motion carried.

***From the floor** Ann Myszka reported that over 12 coats were collected and will be delivered to the YWCA and the Interval House in Hartford. She also reported that the food collected will be delivered to the Friendship center.

***Motion to adjourn** Motion to adjourn by Paul Culton 8:06pm. The meeting concluded with "It is Truly Meet".

NEXT MEETING January 12, 2009 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Bartos