Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
305 Washington Street
P. O. Box 2876
New Britain, CT 06050-2876

110th Anniversary of the Sisterhood
107th Anniversary of the Laying of the Cornerstone

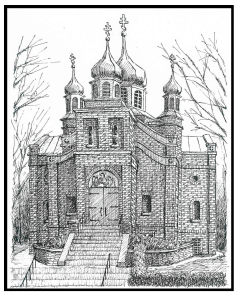
HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

OCTOBER 2020

HÖLY TRÏNÏTY ÖRTHÖDÖX CHURCH

OCTOBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Greeter: G. Dresko	Charity: Fire Relief for the DOW			1 Protection of the Theotokos *[110th Anniversary of the Sisterhood]*	2	3 Scoops for Troops "Thank You" Ice Cream Social 4:00 P.M. Great Vespers 5:00 P.M. (sign-up required) [limited attendance] virtual streaming
4 17th after Pentecost Divine Liturgy 9:00A.M. **(sign-up required)** [limited attendance] virtual streaming	5	6 St. Innocent, Apostle to America Apostle Thomas	7	8	9 St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow	10 Great Vespers 5:00 P.M. (sign-up required) [limited attendance] virtual streaming
11 18th after Pentecost Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council Holy Apostle Philip Divine Liturgy 9:00A.M. **(sign-up required)** [limited attendance] virtual streaming	12 *107th Anniversary of the Laying of the Cornerstone*	13	14	15	16	17 Great Vespers 5:00 P.M. (sign-up required) [limited attendance] virtual streaming
18 19th after Pentecost Holy Apostle & Evangelist Luke Divine Liturgy 9:00A.M. **(sign-up required)** [limited attendance] virtual streaming	19 26 Monk-Martyrs of Zographou on Mt Athos	20	21	22 Kazan Icon of the Theotokos	23 Holy Apostle James	24 "Joy of all who sorrow" Icon of the Theotokos Great Vespers 5:00 P.M. (sign-up required) [limited attendance] virtual streaming
25 20th after Pentecost Divine Liturgy 9:00A.M. **(sign-up required)** [limited attendance] virtual streaming	26 St. Demetrius of Thessalonica Parish Council Meeting 7:00 P.M.	27	28 St. Job of Pochaev	29 Virgin Martyr Anastasia	30 Holy Apostle Mark. of the 70ty	31 New Hieromartyr John Kochurov of Chicago Great Vespers 5:00 P.M. GENERAL CONFESSION (sign-up required) [limited attendance] virtual streaming



Monthly Newsletter of
HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
305 Washington Street • PO Box 2876 • New Britain, CT 06050-2876

www.htocnb.org
OCTOBER 2020

SCOOPS FOR TROOPS:

As a **"Thank You"** for our support for Scoops for Troops during July & August Michael Ahern is hosting an Ice Cream Social for everyone on Saturday, October 3rd, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. If you want to contribute to Scoops for Troops your donations will be gladly accepted!

FLOWERS FOR CHURCH:

We are looking for volunteers to bring fresh cut flowers to church to decorate the central / festal icon &/or in front of the cross on the tomb. If you are able to assist please see Ellen Santoro who is coordinating this effort. **Thank You!**

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE:

Will be baking pies and bread for our home bound families and neighbors. Also they will be giving a bag of apples to the neighbors (any donations of apples will be gladly accepted). Committee members will be contacting those listed a "home bound" to check on the best time to deliver the baked goods. Projected drop off will be second week of October. If you have any questions or want to make a donation please contact Ellen Santoro or Nadine Cabrera, co-chairs pf the PLC**!**

PRIVATE & GENERAL CONFESSION:

With the start of the New Liturgical Year we have been given a blessing by His Beatitude, Metropolitan TIKHON to have Private Confession on a one-on-one basis, social distanced, by appointment. For those who want to come to private confession please contact Fr. David via email, text or phone to set up a convenient time. 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 Saturday, September 26th.

The October charity collection is for **Fire Relief** in the Diocese of the West.

Statement from
Archbishop Benjamin
on the Wildfires in the
Western US

The news from the West has been practically apocalyptic of late with wildfires throughout the West, especially in California, Southern Oregon and Washington State. I am presently aware that several families have lost everything to these fires and others are threatened. Not only that, whole towns have gone up in flames affecting the lives of many with loss of homes and jobs. Yesterday the skies in San Francisco were dark orange – so dark that the streetlamps were still lit at noon. Thankfully, while threatened, no churches have been lost.

Fr. Matthew Tate of the Annunciation Orthodox Church, Milwaukie, Oregon wrote:

"Seven families are in the Red Zone (leave now) and have evacuated. At least two of the homes are likely to burn. The others are in the path of one of the fires.

Most of us are either in the Yellow (get ready now) or Green (be prepared to leave) Zones. This includes the whole area around the church property. The winds have abated but the fires are very active and close. From my office window I cannot see beyond about 100 feet due to smoke. It is eerie and worrisome for everyone."

Fr. Andreas Blom, who lives in Talent, OR was evacuated with his family yesterday. There was really concern his home and church were lost to the flames. He was able to return home today to pick up a few things and found everything across the street from his house was totally lost to the fire. His home and the church have survived so far. At this writing, three families from his mission were burnt out though.

First of all, we ask for your prayers for everyone, Orthodox and non-Orthodox who have experienced loss. Secondly, should you wish to help, donations can be sent to:

Archangel Gabriel Orthodox Church
attn: Fire Relief
PO box 823
Ashland, OR 97520

Donations will be used to help not only our own parishioners,

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

but also our neighbors in this time of crisis.

We thank you in advance.
+Benjamin
Archbishop of San Francisco and the West

Please be generous by using the envelopes provided in our monthly mailing. Collection will be taken on the last Sunday of the month.

PARISH COUNCIL:

The next meeting of the 2020 Parish Council will be held on Monday evening, October 26th at 7:00 p.m. All council members are asked to make every effort to attend the meeting.

Birthdays & Anniversaries in OCTOBER:

1	Eva Baltadzhiev	2009
8	Marie Shimchick	1963
11	Lora Baltadzhiev	2012
15	Peter Sahin	2009
16	Andrew Pulcini	2000
17	Kiara Dresko	2015
19	Henry David Mah	2014
20	Olivia Salina	2003
23	Antoinette Rudy	1920
23	Juliana Veek	1984
25	Rosemary Delaney	1951
25	Christopher Adams	1989
26	Alex Polzun	1938
27	Stella Liwen	1921
27	Priya Karabin	1981
28	Alicyn Pulcini	1965
30	Jean Murr	1941
31	Kenneth Wagner	1944

7	Patrick & Gale Dilger	1990
14	Brian & Juliana Veek	2012
15	Simon & Mariel Sahin	2004
20	Jason & Amber Fiedler	2002
23	Michael & Jillian Wanik	1988

"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
Alexander Dubnansky

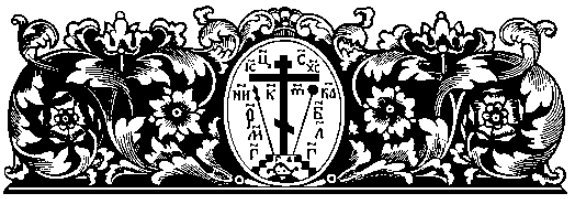
Monsignor Bojnowski Manor, New Britain
Mary Camarata

The Summit, Plantsville
Nick Tabakow

Grandview Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center [Walnut Hill Care Center], New Britain
Martha Cherpak

Avon Health Center, Avon
Stella Liwen

At Home: Helen Anop, Jim Dounouk, Joseph Kowar, Antoinette Rudy and Katherine Szestakow.



PARISH DIPTYCHS

Please remember our departed brothers and sisters in your prayers.

Joseph Mannon	37	October	1913
Child John Cherpak	1 day	October 1	1918
Paul Blake		October 2	1959
Peter Fetzko	82	October 2	1991
Anna Makula	94	October 2	2007
Martha Cherpak	24	October 3	1918
Child Anna Hofedalko	1	October 3	1928
Juliana Dubovsky	72	October 3	1966
Alexandria Brown	79	October 3	1990
Mary Fetzko	81	October 3	1997
Stephen Hleschak	49	October 4	1928
Child Zenaida Shumansky	1 mo	October 5	1906
Julian Hrusha	26	October 5	1915
Lavrenty Baldowsky	56	October 5	1938
Anna Wanik	55	October 5	1952
Walter Karpie	60	October 5	1975
Alexandra Kovalevich	99	October 5	1993
Mary Glowacki	90	October 5	2008
Edward M. Czerwinski	54	October 5	2010
Child Adam Dziamba	4 days	October 6	1909
Peter Kosko	46	October 6	1995
Kashauka Uzefa	36	October 7	1914
Gregory Terasimov		October 7	1914
Mary Hanska	24	October 7	1942
Anna Klotz	84	October 7	1971
John Ludko	84	October 7	1994
Michael Cherpak	29	October 8	1918
Antonina Gelazin	71	October 8	1961
Evgenia Shimchick		October 8	2000
Elizabeth Stankevich	28	October 9	1918
Anton Minchuk	33	October 10	1918
Stephanida Manchuk	23	October 10	1918
Alexander Muchinsky	23	October 10	1919
Stephen Piluten	35	October 11	1918
Andrew Lehman		October 12	1967
John Labas, Sr.	80	October 12	1969
Zenaida Burak		October 12	1987
Sophie Anop	89	October 12	1988

Elizabeth Kuhar	63	October 12 1992
Child Eugenia Chamilov	3 mo	October 14 1915
Carl (Cyril) Schaplak	73	October 14 1972
Peter Anop	53	October 15 1952
Child Peter Licki	5 mo	October 16 1908
George Uhroros	33	October 16 1918
Constantine Likuda	38	October 16 1918
Vera Panasevich	27	October 16 1918
Child Lydia Pyachetsko	5	October 16 1930
Mary Fetzko	74	October 17 1957
Helen M. Spearen	90	October 17 2006
Andrew Belomyzy	53	October 18 1928
Katherine Novick	32	October 18 1954
Barbara Dimnitch	75	October 18 1962
Mary Karpey		October 18 1982
Theodore Urish	33	October 19 1918
Child John Zdanuk	2 mo	October 21 1911
John Panasevich	26	October 21 1918
Mary Alexeef	71	October 21 1960
Wasile Zurawlew		October 21 1979
Olga Ziegler	82	October 21 2001
Theodora Stefik	25	October 22 1949
Irene Dubovsky	65	October 23 1956
Antoinette Sachok	72	October 23 1984
Donna Balkun	55	October 23 2001
Child John Mayopit	1 day	October 25 1908
Ignatius Boytik	57	October 25 1932
Mary Baranov	64	October 25 1954
Nikita Bichun	63	October 25 1960
Eugenia Tilley	63	October 26 1976
Sophie Stankevich	66	October 26 1980
Anastasia Harko		October 26 1985
Michael Bichun		October 26 2000
Simon Pazeychuk	26	October 28 1918
Peter Kunchik	64	October 28 1952
Anatole Zaiko	59	October 28 1973
Nadia Lashenka	67	October 28 1980
Walter Sitkiewicz	59	October 29 1947
Gregory Taran	18	October 30 1908
Sophie Karabin	71	October 30 1958
Gary Allen Karpey	18	October 30 1980
Mary Suski	89	October 30 2006
Joseph Burak	16	October 31 1934
Andrew Golyshko	69	October 31 1958
John Horbal		October 31 1979
Anne Zuk Novack	78	October 31 2008

ВѢЧНАЯ ПА́МЯТЬ

Saints Spyridon and Nikodemos the Prosphora-Bakers of the Kiev Caves

johnsanidopoulos.com/2017/10/saints-spyridon-and-nikodemos-prosphora.html

Saints Spyridon and Nikodemos the Prosphora-Bakers of the Kiev Caves fulfilled their obedience of baking prosphora for thirty years.

Saint Spyridon was a pious and simple man and charitable in his deeds when he came to the monastery in the time of Abbot Pimen (1132-1141), no longer a young man. The ascetic combined his hard work with unceasing prayer and the singing of Psalms. Even during his life Saint Spyridon was glorified by miracles. He was illiterate, but knew the entire Psalter by heart, and would sing the entire Psalter on a daily basis, whether he was chopping wood for the fire, kneading the dough, walking or resting.

Once, while baking prosphora, the fire from the furnace caused a fire in the kitchen. Spyridon quickly went out to gather water in his hair shirt and returned calling for the brothers to come help him extinguish the fire. While trying to extinguish the fire, his mantle caught fire from the oven. The fire was put out with the water, Spyridon's mantle remained whole and the water did not flow out of the hair shirt.

Saint Spyridon reposed in 1148. Saint Nikodemos labored with Saint Spyridon in the kitchen for thirty years and led a very strict and prayerful life. Their relics are in the Near Kiev Caves of Saint Anthony. The fingers of Saint Spyridon's right hand are positioned to make the Sign of the Cross with three fingers.

They are commemorated on October 31, September 28 (Synaxis of the Saints of the Kiev Caves) and the Second Sunday of Great Lent.

Troparion in the Fourth Tone
While you made loaves for the Eucharist with your own hands, with your mouths you offered unceasing psalmody to the Lord as a sacrifice of praise, O blessed Spyridon and honored Nikodemos. Entreat Christ God together on behalf of our souls.

Kontakion in the Third Tone
That you might reveal your burning love for the Lord, O wondrous Spyridon, with your mantle you stop up the mouth of the furnace which was burning mightily; and that you might show forth the well-spring of the waters of the gifts of the Spirit which dwelt within you, bearing water in your robe you extinguish the flame of the fire. Wherefore, as you have boldness before the Lord, ever pray with the blessed Nikodemos on behalf of us who sing hymns of you.

Prayers for the baking of Prosphora

Before baking:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit …..

O Lord Jesus Christ, only-begotten Son of the Eternal Father, who has said with Your most pure lips, "Without Me, you can do nothing," O Lord, my Lord, in faith I accept Your words, help me, a sinner, to prepare the bread of offering, that the works of my hands may be acceptable at Your Holy Table, and may become through the operation of Your Holy Spirit, the communion of Your most pure body for me and all Your people.

…. always now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

After baking:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit …..

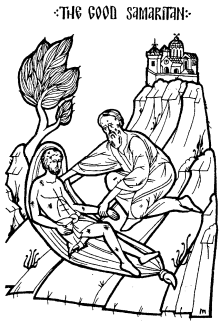
O Lord and Master Jesus Christ, our God, who alone has power to forgive the sins of mankind, do You, O good One, who loves mankind, forgive all the sins that I have committed in knowledge or in ignorance, and make me worthy to receive without condemnation, Your Divine, Immaculate and Lifegiving Mysteries, not unto punishment or unto increase of sin, but unto purification and sanctification and a promise of Your Kingdom and the Bread of Life, as a protection and a help against all adversaries. For You are a God of mercy and compassion and love toward mankind, and unto you we send up glory, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

ON THE CHURCH AS A SPIRITUAL HOSPITAL

By Metropolitan Hierotheos Vlachos

If a person does not follow the "right way" he cannot ever reach his destination. If he does not take the proper "remedies," he cannot ever acquire health; in other words, he will experience no therapeutic benefits. If we compare Orthodox spirituality with other Christian traditions, the difference in approach and method of therapy is evident.

A fundamental teaching of the Holy Fathers is that the Church is a "Hospital" which cures the wounds of man. In many passages of Holy Scripture such language is used. One such passage is that of the parable of the Good Samaritan: "But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had com-passion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, and gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you" (Luke 10:33-35).



In this parable, the Samaritan represents Christ who cured the wounded man and led him to the Inn, that is to the "Hospital" which is the Church. It is evident here that Christ is presented as the Healer, the physician who cures man's maladies; and the Church as the true Hospital. It is very characteristic that Saint John Chrysostom, analyzing this parable, presents these truths emphasized above.

Man's life "in Paradise" was reduced to a life governed by the devil and his wiles. "And fell among thieves," that is in the hands of the devil and of all the hostile powers. The wounds man suffered are the various sins, as the prophet David says: "my wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness" (Psalm 37). For "every sin causes a bruise and a wound." The Samaritan is Christ Himself who descended to earth from Heaven in order to cure the wounded man. He used oil and wine to "treat" the wounds; in other words, by "mingling His blood with the Holy Spirit, he brought man to life." According to another interpretation, oil corresponds to the comforting word and wine to the harsh word. Mingled together they have the power to unify the scattered mind. "He set him on His own beast," that is He assumed human flesh on "the shoulders" of His divinity and ascended incarnate to His Father in Heaven.

Then the Good Samaritan, i.e. Christ, took man to the grand, wondrous and spacious inn - to the Church. And He handed man over to the inn keeper, who is the Apostle Paul, and through the Apostle Paul to all bishops and priests, saying: "Take care of the Gentile people, whom I have handed over to you in the Church. They suffer illness wounded by sin, so cure them, using as remedies the words of the Prophets and the teaching of the Gospel; make them healthy through the admonitions and comforting word of the Old and New Testaments."
Thus, according to Saint Chrysostom, Paul is he who maintains the Churches of God, "curing all people by his spiritual admonitions and offering to each one of them what they really need."

In the interpretation of this parable by Saint John Chrysostom, it is clearly shown that the Church is a Hospital which cures people wounded by sin; and the bishops and priests are the therapists of the people of God.

Parish Council Meeting - August 31, 2020

Members in Attendance via video conference: Fr. David Koles, Daniel Belonick, Chris Adams, Sarah Clark, Rosemary Delaney, Greg Dresko, Al Hromi, Marina Kaplan, Paul Salina, Rachel Santoro and Stephanie Thomas. Gladys Labas was also in attendance

Meeting Called to Order at 7:01 p.m. and began with O Heavenly King.

Dan Belonick read from Fr. Schmemann on the liturgical new year.

Pastor's Report:
Joy to be able to celebrate together these past two months and looking forward to seeing more of the parish in the future.

The way the calendar falls, we will be moving feast days to better allow parishioners to attend.

Remember the anniversary of our Eminence's passing.

Diocesan council will be meeting next week, and we will find out if there is an assembly happening this year and other important things within the deanery.

Warden's Report:
Thank you to the reopening committee for all their work in preparation for the services and procedures and their ongoing stewardship during this time, especially to Greg Dresko and Rosemary Delaney.

This summer has been a time of additional challenge to people with losing power and dealing with the damages of the storm. We, as a parish, should be more ready and aware with being ready to offer help and support to others.

Secretary's Report:
June minutes were approved with edits via an e-vote.

Financial Report:
Stephanie Thomas shared the balance sheet of the church accounts and presented the June and July figures, which have been audited.

Total June income -	$ 10,823.00
Total June expenses -	$ 11,912.40
Expenses over Income-	$ -1,089.40
Total July income -	$ 12,187.00
Total July expenses -	$ 14,636.95
Expenses over Income-	$ -2,449.95

Stephanie Thomas outlined the major expenses, some unexpected, that came up over the last two months. One of which was $888 for new lighted exit signs for the church, which may have been the result of the lightning strike on Broad Street during a recent storm.

Al Hromi motioned to approve the adjusted June and July financial report as presented, Chris Adams seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dan Belonick thanked Chris Adams and Stephanie Thomas and the auditors for continuing to serve the church and carry on the finances through the pandemic.

Finance Committee:
Chris Adams shared documents on the Morgan Stanley investments showing the June and July numbers holding steady in June and experiencing a 2% growth in July.

Donations, while they have gotten lighter slightly, are continuing to come in and Chris Adams still feels we do not need to dip into dividend funds.

Building and Grounds:
Dan Belonick noted that the gate was smashed in again. The cords were pushed though as a car attempted to turn around in the parking lot. Looking for ideas to make the cord more visible. Reflective tape will be added by Tim/Sarah Clark and Rachel Santoro will call the gate company.

The parish is now set up for the internet. (Note - the ACTUAL address of the church is 295 Washington Street, 305 belongs to the old rectory.) Modem is located at the candle stand. Signal is strong upstairs and spotty in the basement and will look into extending the signal. We will be very selective about sharing access information. Timothy Clark will handle cleaning up the exposed cords.

Dan Belonick noted that the arch leak spots have dried out over the months the church has been closed. The reopening committee and attendees have done a good job of wiping down seats and cleaning up candle stands. At least monthly the regular cleaning needs to happen, vacuuming, dusting, candle stands, etc. Dan asked Fr David to ask 2-3 people for the first weekend of the month.

Parish Life:
Rachel Santoro noted an excellent turnout for the donation collection. She especially thanked the Thomas family for posting flyers around the neighborhood. The committee will stay in touch with the Chrysalis Center to provide continued support.

Phone calls to parishioners are continuing. Fr. David asked that council members make this week's calls and ask about people's returning to church. Greg Dresko noted the success the parish has had so far with people attending. The Council discussed if creating an outdoor liturgy experience would be something that people would be interested in and willing to help prepare. Possible outdoor service on 9/20 at the church grounds. Bring-your-own-chair optional.

Cemetery Committee:
Gladys Labas shared that there was some damage from the storm. Large branches were removed by the landscaping crew, but no fence, gate, or monuments were damaged.

Old Business:
Council agreed that the Covid-19 reopening plans are moving along well, all are complying with protocols. Fr. David asked about adding the post-Liturgy bread. Between the additional risk, increased clean up requirements, the Council determined that the altar boys should put bread into baggies with an option for attending parishioners to take on their way out.

Dan B asked for the whole council to start looking to seek out Parish Council 2021 prospective members, including replacement Warden.

New Business:
Greg Dresko motioned that New Britain's Boys and Girls Club would serve as the charity for September, Chris Adams seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The Council noted that they are aware that this is the second contribution this year to the Boys and Girls Club, but each one was for separate purposes.

Dan Belonick motioned that IOCC would serve as the charity for October, Chris Adams seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting -
Regular Council Meeting: Monday, September 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Chris Adams motioned to adjourn at 8:18 p.m., Paul Salina seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Clark

Save the date!
Sunday, January 31, 2021
OUR ANNUAL MEETING

We are in need of **YOUR** service on the Parish Council, especially in a leadership position.

Parish Council service is a diaconal function which brings faithful stewards spiritual growth and rewards. One should not shy away from such an opportunity. Prayerfully consider this vocation to be a council member who will meet a need of the Church and don't hesitate to respond positively to this stewardship request to lead our parish.

TOP 10 TIPS TO LIVING AN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WAY

1) Attend the Divine Services

Participation in the liturgical life of the church is at the heart of the Orthodox way of life. Regular attendance on Saturday evenings, Sunday mornings, , the 12 Great Feasts, and other special times throughout the year (like Great Lent), is a must to living a healthy Christian

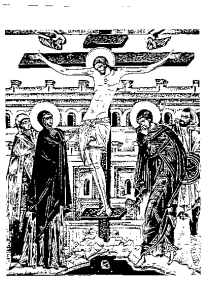
2) Confess Your Sins

Ask God to help you see your own faults and weaknesses. Go to the Sacrament of Confession with sorrow for what you've done and hope for a new beginning through God's grace and mercy. Confession should be regular, once a month or more; at the very least during the four fasting seasons.

3) Receive Holy Communion

Frequent and fervent reception of the Body and Blood of Christ is in-dispensable to growing closer to God. Be sure to follow the preparation guidelines, make frequent confession, and remember to offer prayers of thanksgiving afterwards.

4) Keep the Fasts



Fasting on Wednesdays, Fridays, and other fasting days and seasons, should indicate to us whether or not our Christianity is truly about denying ourselves, taking up our crosses and following Christ. Health issues, others questions? Ask your priest.

5) Make Your Home a Family Church

Maintain an icon corner where you say your morning and evening prayers. Place an icon or cross in every room so that you remember God during the day. Have your home blessed each year. Pray unceasingly.

6) Be a Good Steward

Remember that God will hold you accountable for the time, talents, and treasure He has entrusted to your care. Our stewardship indicates what we truly love (God or other things), for where our treasure is, there will our heart be also.

7) Study the Scriptures

Read from the Holy Bible every day without fail. This is God's Word to you. Your church wall calendar gives the appointed Epistle and Gospel reading for each day.

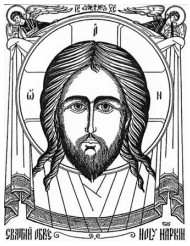
8) Assembly a Home Library

In addition to the Scriptures, we should read the Lives of the Saints, the writings of the Holy Fathers, and other spiritual texts. Ask your priest for some advice. What are you reading now?

9) Be Quick to Forgive and Slow to Judge

Always ask forgiveness when we hurt someone, even if it is unintentional. Remember that if we don't forgive others, then God won't forgive us. Likewise, don't judge your neighbor or you will fall under God's just judgment.

10) Trust in God; Not Yourself



Believe what the Lord teaches through His Church. Don't subject the Word of God to your own personal review; we don't know better than He does. The way to the Kingdom is to follow Christ; we cannot make it there ourselves.

The above list is not exhaustive but it does offer a good starting point to ordering our lives as Orthodox Christians. Be sure not to pick and choose only the tips that you like since 7 or 8 out of 10 will not get us to the eternal finish line.

From Christ the Savior Orthodox Mission + Dagsboro, DE + http://www.orthodoxdelmarva.org