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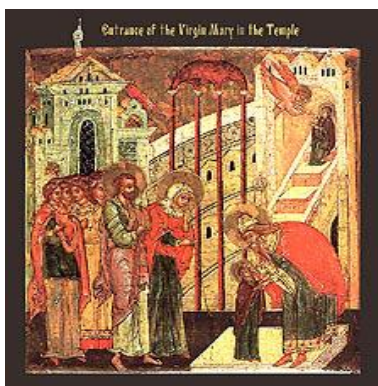
Archpriest John Jillions, Retired – Attached

www.AllSaintsHartford.org Father's Cell: (860) 278-6387

Good Morning and Welcome!

November 24, 2024

Afterfeast of the Entry of the Most Holy Mother of God into the Temple



Sunday, November 24th 9:00 a.m. [Divine Liturgy \(In-Person/Virtual - Click for Zoom Link\)](#)

Wednesday, November 27th 6:00 p.m. [Daily Vespers/Adult Education \(Virtual Only – Click for Zoom Link\)](#)

Saturday, November 30th 10:00 a.m. [Divine Liturgy \(In-Person/Virtual - Click for Zoom Link\)](#)

Andrew the 1st Called Apostle 12:00 p.m. [Vespers \(In-Person/Virtual - Click for Zoom Link\)](#)

Sunday, December 1st 9:00 a.m. [Divine Liturgy \(In-Person/Virtual - Click for Zoom Link\)](#)

Welcome

Welcome to all those visiting *All Saints* today!
Please join us downstairs for *Fellowship after Liturgy!*

Thank You

Thank you to Tom & Gail Denisky for raking the leaves around the front of the church this past week.

Happy Anniversary

Paul & Elizabeth Thomas – November 24th

Adult Education

Wednesday Vespers/Adult Education will meet next on November 27th – at which time we will be discussing Chapter 2 of *Acquiring the Mind of Christ* by Archimandrite Sergius.

Theology Café

The next gathering of the Theology Café will be December 10th - all are welcome, bring a friend! 7:30 PM at 107 Elizabeth St., Hartford CT. Please RSVP to Amy Hayashida by December 8th. (937-631-5989).

Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Tuesday, December 17th beginning at 6:00 p.m. - Zoom meeting.

Words from Father Constantine

The Entry of the Most Holy Mother of God into the Temple

According to Holy Tradition, the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple took place in the following manner. The parents of the Virgin Mary, Saints Joachim and Anna, praying for an end to their childlessness, vowed that if a child were born to them, they would dedicate it to the service of God. When the Most Holy Virgin reached the age of three, the holy parents decided to fulfill their vow. They gathered together their relatives and acquaintances, and dressed the All-Pure Virgin in Her finest clothes. Singing sacred songs and with lighted candles in their hands, virgins escorted Her to the Temple (Ps. 44/45:14-15). There the High Priest and several priests met the handmaiden of God. In the Temple, fifteen high steps led to the sanctuary, which only the priests and High Priest could enter. (Because they recited a Psalm on each step, Psalms 119/120-133/134 are called “Psalms of Ascent.”) The child Mary, so it seemed, could not make it up this stairway. But just as they placed Her on the first step, strengthened by the power of God, She quickly went up the remaining steps and ascended to the highest one. Then the High Priest, through inspiration from above, led the Most Holy Virgin into the Holy of Holies, where only the High Priest entered once a year to offer a purifying sacrifice of blood. Therefore, all those present in the Temple were astonished at this most unusual occurrence.

After entrusting their child to the Heavenly Father, Joachim and Anna returned home. The All-Holy Virgin remained in the quarters for virgins near the Temple. According to the testimony of Holy Scripture (Exodus 38; 1 Kings 1: 28; Luke 2: 37), and also the historian Josephus Flavius, there were many living quarters around the Temple, in which those who were dedicated to the service of God dwelt. The earthly life of the Most Holy Theotokos from Her infancy until She was taken up to Heaven is shrouded in deep mystery. Her life at the Jerusalem Temple was also a secret. “If anyone were to ask me,” said Saint Jerome, “how the Most Holy Virgin spent the time of Her youth, I would answer that that is known to God Himself and the Archangel Gabriel, Her constant guardian.”

But there are accounts in Church Tradition, that during the All-Pure Virgin’s stay at the Temple, She grew up in a community of pious virgins, diligently read the Holy Scripture, occupied Herself with handicrafts, prayed constantly, and grew in love for God. From ancient times, the Church has celebrated the Feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple. Indications that the Feast was observed in the first centuries of Christianity are found in the traditions of Palestinian Christians, which say that the holy Empress Helen (May 21) built a church in honor of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple.

Therefore, the High Priest, seeing that this child, more than anyone else, had divine grace within Her, wished to set Her within the Holy of Holies. He convinced everyone present to welcome this, since God had advanced it and approved it. Through His angel, God assisted the Virgin and sent Her mystical food, with which She was strengthened in nature, while in body She was brought to maturity and was made purer and more exalted than the angels, having the Heavenly spirits as servants. She was led into the Holy of Holies not just once, but was accepted by God to dwell there with Him during Her youth, so that through Her, the Heavenly Abodes might be opened and given for an eternal habitation to those who believe in Her miraculous birthgiving.

Fellowship Hour Sign-Up

Hosts and Hostesses needed for Fellowship Hours – please see the clipboard/sign-up sheet at the coffee window – please sign up for a Sunday or two that are convenient for you! Any questions, please see Monica Kapral. Thank you!

Church Metrics – Memory Eternal!

Lawrence Richards – 11/25/93; Elizabeth Borichewsky – 11/26/00; Nadja Grischuk – 11/28/82;
Mary Zaharevitz – 11/30/04; Lydia Baboval – 11/30/06

Commemorations

Living:

Margaret, Roger, Daniel, Nicholas, Diane, Susan, Eileen, Mike, Ron

Departed:

Alina, Jozef, Theresa, James, Genevieve, Patrick, Shotiko, Glenn, Andrew, Ann Marie

Troparion/Kontakion

Troparion — Tone 4

Today is the prelude of the good will of God, / of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. / The Virgin appears in the temple of God, / in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. / Let us rejoice / and sing to her: / “Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.”

Kontakion — Tone 4

The most pure Temple of the Savior; / the precious Chamber and Virgin; / the sacred Treasure of the glory of God, / is presented today to the house of the Lord. / She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, / therefore, the angels of God praise her: / “Truly this woman is the abode of heaven.”

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

<https://www.oca.org/readings/daily/2024/11/24/2>

Gospel according to Luke 13:10-17

<https://www.oca.org/readings/daily/2024/11/24/3>

Outreach Opportunites

Reminder - Feed a Friend – Sunday – December 8th

Please put your lunches into refrigerator in the Church Hall (Thank You!)

Help the poor, the hungry, the homeless, and the victims of domestic abuse here in the Greater Hartford region by giving them something that's hard to come by: A Free Lunch! We'll deliver bagged lunches to [Loaves and Fishes](#) in Hartford, beginning today and every second Sunday of each month, who has numerous men, women, and children, who will appreciate the food you provide and the love that you show in making it. This is a great opportunity to get your kids to help and discuss with them the words of Christ: "When I was hungry, you fed me...."

To participate - Make & bring a brown-bag lunch to Church which includes all of the following:

- 1) Sandwich,
- 2) Piece of Fruit
- 3) Bag of Chips/pretzels
- 4) Canned/Bottled Drink &
- 5) Desert (pudding, cookie, etc.)

Important Note: For the purpose of uniformity, please include all/only the items above.

Also PLEASE write type of sandwich (and the presence of any allergens) on bag.

Coats for CT

We will be *collecting new and slightly used coats* for donation to *Coats for CT* through Best Cleaners. If you have a new or slightly used coat(s) that you would like to donate, please bring them to the box located in the Church Hall, Donation Corner. If you have any questions, *please contact Mary Beth Stenko*, who is coordinating this effort. *Thank you!*

Foodshare

There is a basket for donations of nonperishable food items for *Foodshare* in the “Donations Corner” in the Church Hall – NEW LOCATION! We are also in need of brown bags with handles. Also, please avoid food items in glass containers. *Please remember to thank God for your blessings by helping those in need. God Bless and Thank you!*

Golden Elephant

Golden Elephant Update: She is in need of cleaning supplies, hangers, dog toys, a cat box with liter and gift cards (VISA, grocery stores). *Thank you!*

Second Sunday of Advent – Wreath Reading

Light Green Candle – which expresses *faith*.

Light Blue Candle – which expresses *hope*.

The second candle reminds us of the hope we have that Christ will come again this year to bring new joy into our lives.

Now that Advent lights are two,
Let us hasten to renew our vows
To pilgrim over field and stone
To find the Child and be at home.

Come, Lord, into our joyless world. Put a smile on our lips and a song in our hearts. We have been sad too long. Amen.

All Saints Bookstore – December Sale

Beginning next Sunday, *December 1st through to Sunday, December 29th* all items in the bookstore will be 15% off! If you are looking for a unique gift for someone, please stop by after Liturgy. Any questions, please see Cathy Vargas or Michael Stenko. *Thank you!*

St. Tikhon’s Seminary Choir Returns to Connecticut for the annual Sacred Music Concert!

We invite you to join us for a special evening of sacred music performed by the talented seminarians of St. Tikhon’s Seminary. This concert, dedicated to the memory of our beloved former chancellor and pastor emeritus, The Very Rev. Mitered Archbishop Nicholas Timpko, is a cherished annual tradition that brings together our community in celebration and remembrance.

The concert will be held at Three Saints Orthodox Church in Ansonia, CT, on Sunday, December 8th, at 4:00 p.m. All donations will go to support “*The Very Rev. Mitered Archbishop Nicholas Timpko St. Tikhon’s OCA Seminarian Memorial Scholarship,*” which contributes to the formation and education of future priests and leaders in the Orthodox Church.

While admission is free, we appreciate and encourage donations in support of this vital scholarship fund. Please see the flyer posted on your church bulletin board for more information. Checks can be made payable to Three Saints Orthodox Church (with “STOTS” in the memo line) and mailed to:

Three Saints Orthodox Church
ATTN: Scholarship
26 Howard Ave,
Ansonia, CT 06401

May our good Lord bless you for your generosity!

Please see Walter Alesevich with any questions or your donations! Thank you!

Donations Due by November 30th. Thank you!

Sponsored by the
Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America



ST. NICHOLAS WISH LIST PROGRAM

For over 24 years the FOCA has gathered wish lists from married students at St. Tikhon's and St. Vladimir's Seminaries (gift card donations are sent to St. Herman's of Alaska). These lists are filled by parishes, chapters, or individuals from around the country. In those 24 years, we have fulfilled the wishes of over 1,000 seminarian families and have donated over \$120,000 to the married seminarians families at St. Herman's seminary.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Parish/Chapter

- Hold a fundraiser to purchase items on the list
- Make a paper tree and place ornaments of the wanted items for parishioners to take, they purchase and return items by a given date
- Hold a gift card collection - ask for donations from the list below

OBTAIN A LIST by emailing michaelsteffaro@comcast.net

Monetary donations should be made payable to the FOCA
Gift card donations should be sent to Allison Steffaro ASAP

Send either to Allison Steffaro, 38 Beryl St. South River, NJ 08882

All wish list items **MUST BE
DELIVERED TO THE SEMINARY BY
DECEMBER 3rd**

***If you live in the New Jersey area you
can drop them off at the Steffaro home
by December 4th***

Gift Cards Needed:

- Amazon
- Target
- Walmart
- Khols
- Barnes and Noble

Please Note

Any photos taken at Church events may be used on the Church website or Facebook page. If you have any questions on this, please see or contact Father Constantine. <https://www.oca.org/files/PDF/official/2018-1024-socialmediaguidelines-clergy-lay-leaders.pdf>

Have a Blessed Week!