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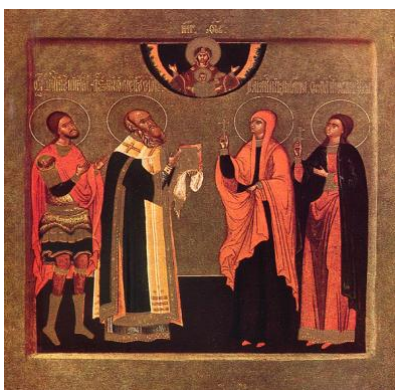
*Archpriest John Jillions, Retired – Attached*

[www.AllSaintsHartford.org](http://www.AllSaintsHartford.org) Father's Cell: (860) 278-6387

## **Good Morning and Welcome!**

*November 17, 2024*

*Saint Gregory, Wonderworker of Neocaesarea*



*Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>* 9:00 a.m. [Divine Liturgy \(In-Person/Virtual - Click for Zoom Link\)](#)  
*Steward Sunday – Basket at end of Liturgy for your donation*

*Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>* 6:00 p.m. [Daily Vespers/Adult Education \(Virtual Only – Click for Zoom Link\)](#)

*Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>* 8:30 a.m. [Divine Liturgy \(In-Person/Virtual - Click for Zoom Link\)](#)  
*Entrance of Theotokos into Temple*

*Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>* 10:00 a.m. *Lenten Retreat*  
4:00 p.m. [Vespers \(In-Person/Virtual - Click for Zoom Link\)](#)

*Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>* 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!*

### **Steward Sunday – November 17<sup>th</sup>**

*Stewards Sunday is a time for us to reflect on our role as faithful stewards in the life of the Church. The Office of Pastoral Life and the Thriving in Ministry Program rely on the generous support of the faithful. Your stewardship helps provide the resources and infrastructure necessary to ensure our clergy families have the tools and support they need to thrive. With the matching grant from the Lilly Endowment, every dollar contributed toward this program is doubled, amplifying the impact of each contribution. The basket at the end of Liturgy this Sunday - November 17<sup>th</sup> will be for Stewards Sunday.*

## Thank You

Thank you to all those that brought in lunches last Sunday. 137 lunches were delivered to Loaves and Fishes on Monday. Thank you to Tom, Gail and Walter for delivering the lunches.

## Adult Education

Wednesday Vespers/Adult Education will meet next on November 20<sup>th</sup> – at which time we will be discussing Chapter 1 of *Acquiring the Mind of Christ* by Archimandrite Sergius.

## Theology Café

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

## Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 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!

Mary Boiko – 11/22/77; Fredic Lichatz – 11/22/83; Mary Komarinetz – 11/23/91

## 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 8

You became worthy of your name through your way of life: / through your vigilance in prayer and your constant works of mercy. / Therefore, O Father Gregory, beseech Christ God to enlighten our minds, / that we may not sleep in sin, which leads to death!

### Kontakion — Tone 2

You received the power to perform miracles, / frightening the devils and healing the sick through your wonderworking. / All-wise Father Gregory, / your deeds truly entitle you to be called “Wonderworker”!

## Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20

<https://www.oca.org/readings/daily/2024/11/17/2>

## Gospel according to Luke 12:16-21

<https://www.oca.org/readings/daily/2024/11/17/3>

## Outreach Opportunites

### Reminder - Feed a Friend – Sunday – December 8<sup>th</sup>

*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!*

## *First Sunday of Advent – Wreath Reading*

*Light Green Candle* – which expresses faith.

The first candle reminds us of faith; the faith we have in God that He will keep His promise to send His Son.

One Advent candle now we light  
To show the coming gift of light  
Now hasten to our darkened sight  
The light that's given from above.

Dear God, as the world that sat in darkness looked forward to Your coming, so we on this first Sunday of Advent light the candle of our anticipation. We eagerly desire Your coming to our souls to dispel the darkness of sin and prideful living, to ignite in us the flame of love and service to our fellow humans. Amen.

# Advent Retreat – “Through The Cross, Joy”

*All Saints Orthodox Church*  
205 Scarborough St, Hartford CT

*Saturday November 23, 2024 10AM – 4PM*

## Dr. John Barnet



John Barnet is Associate Professor of New Testament at the seminary, where he teaches courses in New Testament and biblical Greek. He completed his doctoral studies at Duke University under the direction of Professor Dan O. Via.

**Our Advent Retreat begins at 10AM and will conclude at 4PM with Vespers. A light breakfast with coffee will be provided at 9AM and lunch is included. A Twenty (\$20) dollar donation is suggested. To register please go to:**



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<https://allsaintshartford.org/church-events/>



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

*Donations Due by November 30<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto: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!*