



SAINT VASILIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

502 FRANKLIN STREET • WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601

Church Phone: (315) 788-4920 • Website: www.saintvasilios.org

SAMUEL THOMAS

Parish Council President
(315) 782-1763

REVEREND FATHER PHILIP YANULIS, *Proistamenos*

(315) 468-4814 (HOME) or (315) 413-0024 Ext. 12 (OFFICE)

OLGA THOMAS

Choir Director and Organist



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Future Services

Biblical readings listed below cite page numbers where the Epistle and Gospel readings can be located in The Orthodox Liturgy (black-covered book) found in the pew racks. You may want to refer to your Bible for those readings not available in The Orthodox Liturgy book. Services are only held at the times listed below.

- Nov. 4 **Divine Liturgy**10:30 a.m.
5th Sunday of Luke
Epistle Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10, pg. 149
Gospel Reading: Luke 16:19-31, pg. 148
- Nov. 8 **Synaxis of Archangels, Michael and Gabriel**
Thursday
- Nov. 9 **Saint Nektarios, the Wonderworker**
Friday
- Nov. 11 **Veterans Day**
8th Sunday of Luke
Divine Liturgy10:30 a.m.
Epistle Reading: II Corinthians 4:6-15, pg. 137
Gospel Reading: Luke 10:25-37, pg. 153
- Nov. 13 **Saint John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople**
Tuesday
- Nov. 14 **Saint Philip, the Apostle, and Saint Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessaloniki**
Wednesday
- Nov. 15 **Nativity (Christmas) Fast Begins**
Thursday
- Nov. 16 **Saint Matthew, the Apostle and Evangelist**
Friday
- Nov. 18 **Divine Liturgy**10:30 a.m.
9th Sunday of Luke
Epistle Reading: Ephesians 4:1-7, pg. 153
Gospel Reading: Luke 12:16-21, pg. 155
- Nov. 21 **Presentation of Our Most Holy Glorious Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, in the Temple**
Wednesday
- Nov. 22 **Thanksgiving Day**
Thursday
- Nov. 25 **Saint Katherine, the Great Martyr of Alexandria, and Saint Mercurios, the Great Martyr of Caesarea**
13th Sunday of Luke
Divine Liturgy10:30 a.m.
Epistle Reading: Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5*
Gospel Reading: Luke 18:18-27, pg. 160
- Nov. 30 **Saint Andrew, the First-Called Apostle**
Friday
- Dec. 2 **Divine Liturgy**10:30 a.m.
14th Sunday of Luke
Epistle Reading: Ephesians 6:10-17, pg. 156
Gospel Reading: Luke 18:35-43, pg. 161
- Dec. 4 **Saint Barbara, the Great Martyr**
Tuesday
- Dec. 6 **Saint Nicholas, the Wonderworker**
Thursday

- Dec. 9 **The Conception of Saint Anna of Our Most Holy Glorious Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary**
10th Sunday of Luke
Divine Liturgy10:30 a.m.
Epistle Reading: Galatians 4:22-27*
Gospel Reading: Luke 13:10-17, pg. 156
- Dec. 12 **Saint Spyridon, the Wonderworker**
Wednesday
Saint Peter, the Aleut
- Dec. 15 **Saint Eleutherios, the Holy Martyr**
Saturday
- Dec. 16 **Sunday of the Holy Forefathers of Christ**
11th Sunday of Luke
Divine Liturgy10:30 a.m.
Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:4-11, pg. 158
Gospel Reading: Luke 14:16-24, pg. 158
- Dec. 23 **Pre-Nativity: the Genealogy**
Sunday before the Nativity
Divine Liturgy10:30 a.m.
Epistle Reading: Hebrews 11:9-10; 32-40, pg. 164
Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:1-25, pg. 165
- Dec. 24 **Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ**
Monday
The sanctuary will be open from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 25 **Holy Nativity / Christmas Day**
Tuesday
The sanctuary will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
- Dec. 27 **Saint Stephen, the First Martyr**
Thursday
- Dec. 30 **Post Nativity**
Sunday after the Nativity
Divine Liturgy10:30 a.m.
Epistle Reading: Galatians 1:11-19, pg. 168
Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-23, pg. 169
- Jan. 1 **Circumcision of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ**
Tuesday
Saint Basil the Great / New Year's Day
The sanctuary will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
- Jan. 6 **The Divine Theophany of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ / Great Blessing of the Waters**
Sunday
Divine Liturgy10:30 a.m.
Epistle Reading: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7, pg. 171
Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17, pg. 172

* The reading is not available in The Orthodox Liturgy book.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to inclement weather, services may be cancelled either the evening before the service or by 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Long distance travelers will be notified first, followed by local parishioners. The sanctuary will remain open for prayer. Should you have a question about a service, please contact Samuel Thomas.



Saint Katherine, the Great Martyr of Alexandria

**FEAST DAY: SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 25**

Saint Katherine, who was from Alexandria, was the daughter of Constatas (or Cestus). She was an exceedingly beautiful maiden, chaste and of illustrious wealth, lineage and learning. By her steadfast understanding, she utterly vanquished the passionate and unbridled soul of Maximinus, the tyrant of Alexandria.

Saint Katherine's eloquent language skills stopped the mouths of philosophers who gathered to dispute with her. She was bestowed with "the crown" of martyrdom in the year 305. Her holy relics were taken by Angels to the holy mountain of Sinai; where they were discovered many years later.

The famous monastery of Saint Katherine was originally dedicated to the Holy Transfiguration of the Lord and the Burning Bush, but it was later dedicated to Saint Katherine. This is also the feast day of Saint Mercurios, the Holy Great Martyr.

*The deadline for the submission
of items for the
January / February 2019 Newsletter
is Sunday, December 16.*

Christmas Eve & New Years Day

There will be No Services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. On Monday, December 24, the sanctuary will be open from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., and on Tuesday, December 25, the sanctuary will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1, is the feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ and Saint Basil the Great. This also is the name day of our church. The sanctuary will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. There will be no service.

General Assembly Meeting

Following the Divine Liturgy on September 30, a General Assembly meeting was held to discuss the financial statement of the church and other matters of business.

earned from investment accounts. It was noted that in 2017 a total of \$575.00 was spent on church and parish house repairs. Additionally, lawn and tree care and snow removal costs amounted to \$4,150.00. Due to recent church renovations to the exterior front staircase to the church, there is the strong possibility that there may be a monetary deficit for the year ending 2018.

It was noted that although small in numbers, volunteers have very recently begun Christmas pastry sale preparations. These fundraisers are essential in maintaining a balanced budget each year as it generates nearly one third of the parish's annual income.

Concerns were expressed for dwindling church attendance, and at this time Divine Liturgies will be conducted each week. Since Father Philip Yanulis travels from Syracuse to Watertown, there are many times that a service is cancelled due to inclement weather. Therefore, it is in the best interest of the parish to offer services on a consistent basis.



THE PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN BY MIHAI BICA.

Pictured to the left is Father Philip conducting the Artoklasia service with the following altar servers who are in a clockwise order: Nicklas Lloyd, Mavryck Lloyd, Theodore Hewko and Kostas Valtadoros.

Anniversary Commemoration

The 67th Anniversary of the Consecration of Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church was commemorated on Sunday, October 7. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, an Artoklasia service was held. On Sunday, October 7, 1951 the church was consecrated with a relic of Saint Haralambos, the Holy Great Martyr.

Pictured to the left is Father Philip conducting the Artoklasia service with the following altar

Altar Christmas Plants



Red leaf poinsettia plants will be placed in the sanctuary in mid-December. The cost of a six inch potted plant is \$10.00. If you desire, your donation may be made in memory of a loved one. When you submit your monetary donation, please clearly indicate in writing the memorial information. It will be published in the January / February 2019 Newsletter unless otherwise directed by the donor. This should be received by Sunday, December 16. Thank you for your donation.

Christmas Greek Pastry & Bread Sale



Pastry preparations began on Saturday, September 29 and will continue each Saturday through December 1 beginning at 10:00 a.m. The pastry cupping schedule will be announced on Sunday, December 2. The sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, December 7 & 8. Flyers advertising the sale will soon be available in the church hall.

Flutes will be prepared on Tuesday, November 27 at 9:00 a.m. and Baklava will be prepared on Friday, November 30 and Saturday, December 1 at 9:00 a.m. If you would like more information, please contact Samuel Thomas at (315) 782-1763 or you may email him at samuelthomas422@yahoo.com.

Ingredients Fund: Each year donations are solicited for the Christmas Greek Pastry & Bread Sale Ingredients Fund; this also includes baking cups, pastry boxes, wax paper and other materials. Your donation will help reduce the costs for this fundraiser. The expenses for the 2017 Christmas Sale were approximately \$3,253.50. This amount would be significantly greater, but there are some ingredients that are purchased and donated by generous individuals. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Staircase Renovations



Pictured above & to the right: The newly completed staircase is rebuilt.



Photos below: A pictorial progression is shown of the rebuilding— from the original condition, to tearing down and building anew!

As reported in the September/October Newsletter, the two walls of the exterior staircase to the church required repairs. When the stucco was removed from the outside of the walls, it was discovered the concrete blocks on both sides of the staircase had significantly deteriorated and required complete removal to the ground. The foundation below the ground was thoroughly examined and was found to be in good condition.

The original estimate for removal and replacement of the stucco finish was approximately \$13,000.00. Since the concrete blocks had to be replaced, the cost of the project increased to \$28,000. This amount included the cost of materials, labor and disposal fees. The Parish Council approved this expenditure on September 12, and the work began on September 13 and was completed on

October 12. The large yew or bush that was located on the left front corner of the church had to be removed. Below is a pictorial review of the project from start to finish. The blocks were waterproofed, and an exterior parge finish will be applied in the spring. The moldings above the restroom windows will also be replaced in the spring.

Evans Caulking of LaFargeville, New York completed the work. Jerry Evans, proprietor, John Bauder, master mason, and Robert Bauder, apprentice mason, worked efficiently and diligently to create a lasting piece of architecture.

Brick replacement at the top of the front wall just below the parapet on the right hand side of the church will be attempted next year. Suitable and matching replacement bricks are being researched at this time.



THE PHOTOGRAPHS WERE SUBMITTED BY JERRY EVANS AND MIHAI BICA.



IN MEMORIAM

A Mnimósino service was held on August 12 for **Floarea Cálugáreanu** (40 days). "Eonía i mními." "Eternal be her memory."

A Trisagion prayer service was held on August 19 for **Emanuel Yanulis** (46 years), and **Dimitroula Yanulis** (32 years). "Eonía i mními." "Eternal be their memory."

A Mnimósino service was held on August 26 for **Ioannis Kalamaras** (7 years), **Eleni Kalamaras** (12 years), **Kostas Kalamaras** (17 years), **Frank Piotrowski** (24 years), and **Chester Bened** (8 years). "Eonía i mními." "Eternal be their memory."

A Mnimósino service was held on September 23 for **John Booras** (15 years), and **Maria Booras** (3 years). "Eonía i mními." "Eternal be their memory."

A Mnimósino service was held on October 21 for **Kathy Westfall** (40 days), **Theodora Lemonides** (40 days), **Lucia Neforos** (20 years), **Barbara Cannellos** (25 years), **George Cannellos** (5 years), **Robert Cannellos** (13 years), **Helen Cannellos** (22 years), **Constantine Cannellos** (16 years), **Denise Cannellos** (17 years), and **Barbara Alexander** (57 years). "Eonía i mními." "Eternal be their memory."

A Mnimósino service was held on October 28 for **Elena Dumitru** (6 years), **Rodica Maxim** (4 years), and **Stefana Zamfir** (2 years). "Eonía i mními." "Eternal be their memory."



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

We pray for the **persecuted Christians and others who are victims of the horrific acts of terrorists and brutality by Muslim extremists, and for those innocent people who suffer from conflict and corruption** throughout the world.

We pray for the safety of the **10th Mountain Army Division**, who are stationed at Fort Drum, New York and Fort Polk, Louisiana, and for the **United States Armed Forces**, who are stationed in Afghanistan and Iraq and in other places throughout the world.

We pray for the repose of the souls of **those who lost their lives or were injured** in the war against terrorism.

We pray for the well-being of our **military families**

We pray for the **victims and the congregation of the Tree of Life Synagogue** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where a deadly attack took place on October 27.

We pray for the **victims of Hurricanes Florence and Michael** which struck the Florida panhandle, Georgia, North and South Carolina and Virginia, and for the **victims of the earthquake and tsunami** which struck Indonesia.

We pray for the **victims of the Indonesian plane crash** that took place on October 29.

We pray for the **relief workers and many volunteers** who have brought aide to the areas devastated by natural disasters.

Sympathy is extended to the **relatives and friends** of Floarea Cálugáreanu.

Sympathy is extended to the **relatives and friends** of Theodora Lemonides and Kathy Westfall.

Remember the following in your prayers: **Stavros Anthony, Florence Bajjaly, Gheorghe Berea, Father John Demos, Dolly Georgiade, Karl Kissman, Lynn Kissman, Isaac Lichtenstein, Father Chris and Presvytéra Roula Matos, Anna Pialoglous, Nick, Mary and John Politis, Helen Thomas and Eleni Valtadoros.**

If you have a prayer request or wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact Father Philip Yanulis or a parishioner.

Potsdam, New York

On Sunday, October 14, Father Philip Yanulis conducted a Divine Liturgy in the chapel of Trinity Episcopal Church in Potsdam, New York. There were approximately 14 people in attendance. A thank you is given to everyone who assisted with the service. The next Divine Liturgy will be scheduled in the spring. Appreciation is extended to Dr. George and

Mary Mina for hosting a dinner following the service at Sergi's Italian Restaurant in downtown Potsdam.

In Appreciation

Thank you to the following September / October coffee hour hosts: Bica family, Dr. Steven Kalamaras, Karl and Lynn Kissman, Thomas family and the Yanulis family.

National Church Music Sunday

On October 7, National Church Music Sunday was celebrated. Appreciation was extended to the choir who faithfully offer their God-given talents each Sunday along with the chanter and the readers of the Creed. The following people were honored: **Choir:** Presvytéra Connie Yanulis, ConnieNicole Yanulis, DanielleLynn Yanulis and StephanieAlexandra Yanulis. **Chanter:** David Lichtenstein and **Readers:** Dr. Steven Kalamaras and Pashalina Valtadoros. A special thank-you was extended to Olga Thomas for her many dedicated years of service as **choir director, organist** and **vocalist**.

🎵🎵🎵 "Music allows your heart to sing and nourishes your emotional soul." 🎵🎵🎵