

St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church Bulletin
Special Holiday Edition

Christmas and Theophany 2013

Fr George Lardas, Rector – Telephone 203 / 209-9374

Web Site: StNicholasStratford.org



V Rev Fr George Lardas,
Rector,
and Leo “Dexter” Peavy,
Starosta,

with the entire
Parish Council

Wish our parishioners and
friends

A blessed
Christmas
and a happy and
prosperous New
Year!



Troparion of Christmas, Tone 4

*Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, * hath shined the light of knowledge upon the world, * for thereby they that worshipped the stars * were instructed by a star * to worship Thee the Sun of Righteousness * and to know Thee the Dayspring from on high, ** O Lord, glory be to Thee*

Kontakion of Christmas, Tone 3

*Today the Virgin giveth birth to Him Who is transcendent in essence * and the earth offereth a cave to Him Who is unapproachable * angels with shepherds give glory * with a star the Magi do journey: * for our sakes is born a young Child ** Who is pre-eternal God.*

Тропарь Рождества, Гласъ 4

*Рождество Твое, Христе Божие, * возсия миру свѣтъ разума: * въ немъ бо звѣздамъ служящии, * звѣздодоу учахуся, * Тебѣ кланяются Солнцу правды, * и Тебѣ въдети съ высоты востока: ** Господи, слава Тебѣ.*

Кондакъ Рождества, Гласъ 3

*Дѣва днесь Пресущественнаго раждаетъ, * и земля вертѣтъ Неприступному приноситъ * ангели съ пастырьми славословятъ, * волсви же со звѣздоу путешествуютъ: * насъ бо ради родися Отроча младо ** Предвѣчный Богъ.*



Troparion of Theophany, Tone 1

*When Thou wast baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, * the worship of the Trinity was made manifest, * for the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee * that Thou art my beloved Son, * and the Spirit in the form of a dove * confirmed the certainty of that word. * O Christ God, who wast made manifest, * and dost enlighten the world, ** glory be to Thee.*

Kontakion of Theophany, Tone 4

*Thou didst appear today unto the whole world, * and the light of Thy countenance, O Lord, is signed upon us, * who with knowledge cry unto Thee, * Thou hast come, Thou hast appeared, ** O Light unapproachable.*

Тропарь Богоявленія, Гласъ 4

*Во Иорданѣ крещаящуся Тебѣ Господи, * Троицкое явися поклонѣніе: * Родителевъ бо гласъ свидѣтельствоваше Тебѣ, * возлюбленнаго Тя Сына именуя, * и Духъ въ видѣ голубинѣ, * изъясноваши словесе утверждѣніе. * явлейся Христе Божие, ** и миръ просвѣщѣй слава Тебѣ.*

Кондакъ Богоявленія, Гласъ 4

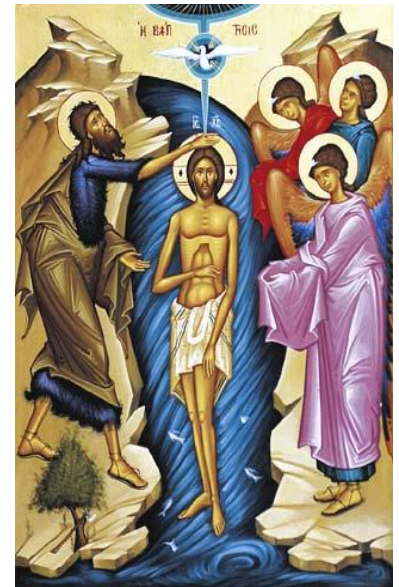
*Явлейся еси днесь вселенный, * и свѣтъ Твоѣй, Господи, знаменася на насъ, * въ разумъ поющихъ Тя: * прииди еси, и явлейся еси, ** Свѣтъ неприступный.*

о. Георгий Лардас,
Настоятель,
и Лев Пиви, Староста,

со всем Церковно-
Приходским Советом

Сердечно приветствуем всех
наших прихожан и друзей

С Рождеством
Христовым,
и с счастливым
Новым Годом!



St Nicholas Parish Bulletin – January 2013

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Announcements

Verse: And, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. – Matthew 2:9.

Гръцки: Ἡ εἰς βορρῆα, ἣν εὗρον ἐν τῷ ἑσπέρῳ, ἦλθεν ἔμπροσθέν αὐτῶν, ἕως ἵνα ἴσθαι ἡμῶν ἐπὶ τῆς ἀστῆρος, ἣν εὗρον ἐν τῷ ἑσπέρῳ. – Ἐπὶ τῆς ἀστῆρος, ἣν εὗρον ἐν τῷ ἑσπέρῳ.

Стихъ: И се, звезда, которую видѣли они на востокѣ, шла передъ ними, какъ наконецъ пришла и остановилась надъ мѣстомъ, гдѣ былъ Младенець. – Отъ Матѳея 2:9.



This Bulletin

Special Services: Included in this Bulletin is the schedule of special services for Christmas and Theophany as well as the schedule of blessing of homes with holy water. If you have not had your house blessed in the past and would like to be included, please contact Fr George before Theophany so that we may add your name to the list.

Sponsor the Bulletin: If you wish to sponsor any future issues in whole or in part, please contact our treasurer, Anastasia Milligan or ask at the Candle Desk. You may donate in memory of a departed relative, or for some milestone, a birthday, anniversary or other celebration. The cost of the Bulletin is approximately \$125.

The Bulletin by Email: It costs about \$1.25 each to produce copies of the Bulletin. Please consider receiving the Bulletin by email, which costs nothing. If you wish to change to email, please contact glardas@cs.com. We also invite our readers to support this Bulletin by donations. **Do you wish to be taken off our mailing list?** Please contact us and we will remove your name from our monthly bulletin mailing.

General Parish Meeting

This year's Annual General Parish Meeting will take place after the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday 3 February**. We invite all our members to attend and participate. Please remember that those eligible to vote are those who have confessed and received Communion at least once in the past year and who are up to date in their dues. If you wish to participate, please be sure to fulfill your obligations.

Annual Dues: We ask our parishioners who are not current in their dues please see our Treasurer, Anastasia Milligan. These dues help maintain our parish and give us the privilege of voting and making our voice heard at the Annual Parish Meeting. Donations over and above the dues are also most welcome.

Sponsor the Coffee Hour: The Sisterhood is happy to hold the Coffee Hour every Sunday for the sake of fellowship and the community of our Parish. However, we find the same ladies working in the kitchen Sunday after Sunday. Since many of our Sisterhood are no longer so young and able, we are seeking volunteers to give the ladies in the Sisterhood a rest so that they may attend the Divine Liturgy in peace.

We need families or individuals (men can do this too!) to take responsibility for preparing and serving a meal on a rotating basis. Ideally this responsibility would not fall more than once every six weeks or so, and so it would not be a great burden. This is also an opportunity to showcase our culinary skills. It is a Christian duty to support the Parish, and there is much blessing in it. To sign up see Joan Hudobenko.

Services

Inclement Weather: Winter sometimes brings stormy weather. We ask our parishioners to use good judgment and common sense not to drive when conditions are dangerous. As weather varies from place to place, it may be that services will be held as scheduled, despite the fact that conditions in your area are difficult. To find out whether services are cancelled or delayed, call 203 / 375-4793. If you hear the usual greeting, services will be held as scheduled. Otherwise the message will inform you whether services are cancelled or delayed. In general, if Fr George can arrive at the church, services will be held however many or few people are present. Weather advisories will also be posted on our Parish website, www.StNicholasStratford.org.

Nativity Fast (Advent): The Nativity Fast continues until Christmas Day, 7 January. During this time we abstain from meat, eggs and dairy products. On Wednesdays and Fridays we also abstain from fish, wine and oil. Some keep a strict fast Mondays. The fast becomes stricter on the day after Ss Spyridon and Herman, 25 December, after which we do not eat fish until Christmas Day.

Strict Fast: Please do not forget that the Nativity Fast continues up to Christmas. The day before Christmas (Sunday 6 January) and the day before Theophany (Friday 18 January) are both strict lenten days, on which we abstain from meat, eggs, dairy products, and fish. The evening meal on Christmas Eve should be fully lenten.

Holy Supper: The traditional Holy Supper on Christmas Eve will be held at 5 pm before the Christmas Vigil on Sunday 6 January in the Church Hall. Matushka Ann is organizing this and

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will have a signup sheet downstairs. Bring your favorite lenten dishes. We also need volunteers to help with cleanup.

Christmas: Vigil for Christmas will be at 6:30 pm Sunday 6 January, and Divine Liturgy at 10 am on Monday 7 January.

Christmas Trapeza: The Divine Liturgy on Christmas day will be followed by a festive meal and singing of carols and Christmas songs. Matushka Ann is organizing this meal and would be appreciative of help. Please see her if you would like to participate. Feel free to bring your favorite non-lenten dish!

Holy Innocents: This year our Moleben to the Holy Innocents Killed by Herod will be dedicated to the victims of the Sandy Hook shootings in Newtown. The moleben will include the *prayer for the victims of the shootings* authorized by Metropolitan Hilarion. At the end of the service we will hold a *plate collection* to benefit the families of the victims, and read the names of those killed and light a candle for each. The service begins at 6:30 pm on Friday 11 January.

Saint Basil's Day and New Year: Vespers for the Circumcision of our Lord and St Basil and the Old Calendar New Year will be at 6:30 pm Sunday 13 January. The Vespers will be followed by a moleben for the New Year. There will be no services on Monday morning 14 January.

Theophany: Vigil for Theophany will begin at 6:30 pm Friday 18 January, and Divine Liturgy will be at 9:30 am Saturday 19 January.

Blessing of Waters: There will be two Blessings of Waters, the first during Vigil on Friday evening 18 January, and the second at the end of the Divine Liturgy on Saturday 19 January.

Blessing of Homes: Starting on Theophany Day, Saturday 19 January, Fr George will be blessing homes with Holy Water. The schedule of house blessings is attached to this bulletin. Please see the Question and Answer section below about House Blessings.

Molebens: To mark the lesser holy days in January, we will serve a moleben at 6:30 pm on Wednesday 30 January for *St Antony the Great*.

Chronicle

Newtown: We have all been affected by the shooting and killing of the twenty children and six teachers at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown on Friday morning 14 December. Many of us know some of the families personally. We are not an island, but part of the community around us, and so we struggle to come to grips with the enormity of the calamity. There is no fathoming this evil, for evil is irrational. We only know that it is ultimately from the Enemy of our Salvation, who hates us, and everything living, with an intense and personal hatred. As St Peter says, *Your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour* (1 Peter 5:8). It is one thing when people are killed in a natural disaster, for these things happen in the course of nature, but it is another thing when it is a human agent who kills out of insane hatred. It is truly demonic. As a Christian Community, it is therefore needful that we do what we can, *For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil* (1 John 3:8). To this

end we are holding a collection for the victims of the shootings, and a prayer service to the Holy Innocents Killed by Herod at 6:30 pm Friday 11 January.

Statement from the Office of the First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad in connection with the attack on the elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut

Dear brethren, sisters and children!

With horror I followed the tragedy that unfolded yesterday in a school in the state of Connecticut, during which a murderer spared neither children nor even his own mother; and I hasten to express unto all my deepest sympathy amid your common sorrow. I am praying for the repose of the children and those who suffered with them, and for their bereaved parents, relatives, classmates, teachers and friends. May the Lord give His people strength and bless their hearts with His heavenly peace. May Jesus Christ our God bless the self-sacrificing teachers who saved the terrified children and showed them an example of Christian love. With all my soul I desire that the consolation of Christ and help from heaven be granted you!

With this statement, I call upon the rectors of our parishes and the superiors of our monasteries to insert the following petition in the Augmented Litany at the Divine Liturgy:

To Thee, O Lord, Who art in heaven, we raise up the eyes of our soul, and lift our hands, and sigh from the depths of our heart, and praying with our speech we cry out: give rest to the blessed children and to those who suffered with them in this present calamity and grief: hearken to those who mourn and grieve, and await Thy consolation, asking Thy goodness; we ask Thy mercy and seek to find grace before Thee, and we knock at Thy door: open to us the doors of Thine abundant kindness, and forsake us not unto the end, for Thy name's sake. Let us all say: Lord, quickly hearken and have mercy on us all.

Yesterday's tragedy again reminds us that we must cherish the sacred gift of life and one another, following the commandments of God, and thus bring forth the light of Christ in this fallen world, rendering it less dark.

With love in the Lord and a request for your prayers,

+Hilarion,
Metropolitan of New York & Eastern America,
First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad.

15 December 2012

Bell Ringing: At 9:30 am Friday 21 December, Nancy Milligan, our Treasurer, and Sonya DeBiase, rang the bells at St Nicholas Church and lit a candle for each of the victims of the Sandy Hook shootings, as part of the general observance of mourning exactly a week after the event.

Collection: We are holding a collection from now until Friday 11 January for the families of the victims of the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School. We will have a plate collection on the Sunday before Christmas, 6 January, but if you wish to give before then, we will take your donations at the Candle Desk.

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Please be sure to indicate that this is for Newtown. If you wish to give directly, you may go on-line at

<http://www.crowdrise.com/SHSRelief>

or mail your checks to Sandy Hook School Support Fund, c/o Newtown Savings Bank, 39 Main Street, Newtown CT 06470. However, if you give at the Candle Desk, the donation will be credited to St Nicholas Church.

Our Parish

Christmas Flowers Collection: During the Nativity Fast, up until Christmas, donations to the collection box in the middle of the church are for Christmas flowers, and for the decoration of the church for the Christmas season.

Lampada Sponsorship: Offerings may be made to sponsor the lighting the lampadas at the Divine Liturgy, either in memory of loved ones, or in gratitude for blessings received, or for any other good intention. The sponsorship of the lampadas is \$25 for all the lampadas in the church. Register at the Candle Desk if you wish to sponsor the lampadas, in whole or in part, on a Sunday of your choice.

Become a Member: If you attend services but are not a member, would you please consider joining? The cost is not great - \$150 per adult, or \$300 for families with two adults and any number of children. This amounts to about \$12.50 a month per person. We have an introductory rate for students.

Consider the Church in Your Will: Please consider including St Nicholas Church in your will. There are many advantages in making the Church one of your beneficiaries. It is possible to structure the bequest so that there is little loss to the estate. Please contact our Starosta, Dexter Peavy, for more information.

Utilities: Please remember that on the *first Sunday* of each month there is a special collection for *utilities*.

Candle Desk

Candle Desk Duty: We need people to watch the Candle Desk, handle donations, light candles, and ring the bell during services – one person for Vigil and two for the Divine Liturgy. Unfortunately, Walter Wolog, who handles the sign-up sheet, is not able to find people for all positions.

Sisterhood

Pelmeni Dinner: The annual *pelmeni* dinner will be held after the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday 27 January**. Please support the Sisterhood fundraiser by attending the dinner. If you cannot attend, frozen *pelmeni* can be purchased in the church hall.

Bliny: Our annual *Bliny* luncheon will be after the Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of Meat Fare at the beginning of Cheese-Fare Week (*Maslenitsa*), 10 March. Please support the Sisterhood by attending and participating in this delicious meal.

Coffee Hour Supplies: The Sisterhood again is in need of donations of supplies for our Coffee Hour. We need paper plates, Styrofoam soup bowls, cups, and paper napkins. We also need

food supplies and willing hands to help prepare, set things up and clean up. Please see Joan Hudobenko if you wish to help.

Our Children

Food Drive: Our children collected six bags of food for the Sterling House Food Pantry during October and the first part of November. These will be delivered the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. We thank all our parishioners who participated, and we plan to continue collecting food for the unfortunate through the winter holiday season.

Help Wanted

This section: There are some small things that need to be done around our church that we are not able to get to due to short-handedness or lack of time or skill. We are therefore including this section in case someone in our Community is willing and able to help. It is a blessed thing to help the Church and to promote the ministry in even the most mundane ways.

Lights: About one-third of the light bulbs on the great candleabra in the church are burned-out. So are two of the spotlights in the loft, and others around the church. We should like to have these all fixed by Christmas for a more brilliant feast. If you wish to help please see either Fr George or our Starosta, Dexter Peavy.

Parish Records: After Christmas and before Theophany, while Fr George is not teaching, he will be computerizing our Parish Records. This will involve copying the Metrical Book into an Excel spreadsheet. He needs someone to help who can read (handwriting) and type both Russian and English. Please see Fr George if you are able to help.

Sound System: Once upon a time we had a sound system that sent the sound of the Liturgy downstairs into the Church Hall, and amplified the service from the front of the church in the back by the entrance where there is much coming and going, making it hard to hear. The sound system also made it possible to address the public at our Festivals, and to record the service for our shut-ins. The system has not worked for several years. We are looking for someone to volunteer to update our system and make it functional again. Please see Fr George if you would like to help.

Liturgical Notes

Red: The altar cloths and vestments remain red until Christmas Eve, Sunday 6 January.

Decorations: After the Divine Liturgy on Christmas Eve, Sunday 6 January, we decorate the church with poinsettias and lights.

White: After the Divine Liturgy on Christmas Eve, Sunday 6 January, we change all altar cloths and vestments to white.

Gold: After the leave-taking of the Feast of Theophany, Monday 27 January, we change the altar cloths and vestments to gold. They remain gold until Vespers on Forgiveness Sunday, 17 March, when the cloths are changed to black.

Question and Answer

Q: *Fr George, I would like my house blessed with Holy Water this year. What must I do, and what do I need?*

A: It is a good thing to have your house blessed each year, essentially rededicating it and the household to Christ for the coming year. First, check the House Blessing Schedule included in this Bulletin. If your name is not on it, or if you are listed under the heading, By Appointment, please contact me and we will set up a time. For blessing a house with Holy Water at Epiphany, you need to prepare the place where the prayers may be said, by your Icon Corner, or if you do not have one, set one up. You need a table, a white cloth on the table, a bowl to hold the Holy Water (many like to use crystal), sufficient Holy Water from the service of the Blessing of Waters (if you did not take any home I will bring it), an Icon of our Saviour (of His Baptism if possible), a candle on a candlestick and a match to light it. The Icon should be propped up on the table or hanging on the wall (at your Icon Corner), the bowl should be on the white cloth with the candlestick behind it.

When I arrive, you lead me to the place where we will begin the prayers. We light the candle, and we say the initial prayers. When we come to the singing of the Troparion of the Feast (either in Slavonic or in English, *When Thou wast baptized in the Jordan, O Lord* – see the first page of this Bulletin for the text) we go from room to room. Please sing along if you can. You lead the way with the candle. If you have a child in the house, a son or daughter, they carry the bowl ahead of me as I sprinkle each room with Holy Water. At every room we go to the Icons in the corner, which we sprinkle first, and then the rest of the room. I will go to whichever rooms you wish to be blessed.

We then return to the table before the Icon where we started and finish the prayers there. If there are any sick in the household, I will also read the prayers for the sick, and prayers for any other intentions you wish. At the end, after the Exclamation of the Dismissal, we sing many years to the members of the household, and each member comes one at a time from the most senior to the youngest to be sprinkled with Holy Water. The whole service should take no more than 15 or 20 minutes.

Q: *May I offer you some refreshments? I would like to have you stay for more than just a few minutes.*

A: You are certainly welcome to offer whatever you wish. However, please remember that I am usually on a tight schedule. If you have me stay for more than a few minutes, please let me know ahead of time so that I might adjust my schedule.

Q: *How much should I give you for coming to my house?*

A: That is entirely up to you. When I was ordained I gave an oath not to require anything for the sacraments or blessings of the Church. To make such a request is a sin, and it is called *simony*, and it is forbidden by the Canons of the Church. Therefore, for example, the schedule of donations posted at the Candle Desk is a guide, not a demand. And everyone may give however much one is willing and able to give.

However, please remember that the Church and her ministers do not subsist on nothing. We are able to serve out of the freewill offerings of the faithful. Some are able to give only a little, and

that is fine, and others are able to give more. Please, however, keep in mind that travel is not so inexpensive as it once was.

Prayer Requests

Reminder: If you need a hospital visit or wish Fr George to visit a sick relative, please call and let us know. Hospitals no longer give out information to non-relatives without express permission, so if you want the priest to know your or your loved one's condition you must inform the hospital or nursing home in writing.

Pray for our Soldiers: Although we do not have any parishioners of St Nicholas Church on active duty now, our parishioner, Vera Peebles asks prayers for her granddaughter's fiancé, John, who is stationed in a troubled zone in the Middle East. There are also many Orthodox Christians in the Armed Forces and serving in the War. Please keep them and all our soldiers in your prayers.

Asking Prayers: Please remember the following names in your prayers:

Ailing Clergy: Archbishop Paul (Pavlos) of Astoria (Greek Old-Calendar), Archbishop Nikon (OCA), Protopriest Theodore Shevzov, Reader Vladimir.

Ailing Parishioners: Emilia Hramov, Martin Hudobenko, Kiril (Charles) Nettle, Matushka Katherine Papov, Vera Peebles and her daughter Janet, Galina Penchuk, Galina Rudins, Angelina Schneider, Tatiana Sergievsky, Michael Shigalkowski, Elena and Ludmila Skorik, Irina Stettinin, Valentina and Denis Zimbalkin.

Ailing Orthodox: Stephanie Hrynyk, Uliana Drobot, Nina Boldyreff, Nadezhda Jakovenko, Helen Raduk, Yvette (Eve) Girard, Sophia, Peter Nelson, Desislava Dimitrova, and Margaret, and Galina Rudins' daughter-in-law Elizabeth (Lori), and also the servants of God Velitchka and Sophia. Prayers are also asked for child Taras, and infant Matvey and infant Gabriel John, born premature.

Ailing Non-Orthodox: Veronica Wlodarski, the daughter of Elizabeth Wlodarski, Sophia Sallitan, the daughter of Tatiana Sergievsky, Arlene Meloni, Mother-in-law of Anastasia Milligan, and Dexter Peavy's mother, Elizabeth.

Other Requests, Clergy: Archpriest Alexander Fedorowsky, Archpriest George Mitchell (facing frivolous, but expensive lawsuits).

Other Requests, Orthodox: David, Ambrose, Matthew, and Nicholas, Andrés.

Other Requests, Non-Orthodox: Ken, and Daniel.

Soldiers, Orthodox: Michael, Timothy, and Sarah.

Soldiers, Non-Orthodox: John, and Jordan.

Is Anyone Sick? "Let him call the presbyters," as it says in the Epistle of St James. If you know anyone who needs attention please let Fr George know. Call 203 209-9374 and leave a message. **Is Anyone Better?** If you have submitted any names for the list of prayers for the sick and that person has recovered, please let us know so we can keep the list a manageable length.

Announcements – January 2013

Administrative

Deadline for Submissions: Notices from parishioners or parish organizations must be submitted to Fr George by the 18th of the month for inclusion in the next Bulletin.

Mark Your Calendar

Please mark these events of the coming months in your calendar:

Sunday 3 February – General Parish Meeting

Thursday 15 February – Presentation of our Lord

Sunday 10 March – *Bliny* Dinner

Sunday 17 March – Forgiveness Sunday

Monday 18 March – Lent begins

Sunday 7 April – Annunciation Day

Saturday 20 April – Children’s Lenten Retreat

Sunday 21 April – Children’s Communion Breakfast

Sunday 28 April – Palm Sunday

Wednesday 1 May – Holy Wednesday, Holy Unction

Thursday 2 May – Holy Thursday

Friday 3 May – Good Friday

Saturday 4 May – Holy Saturday

Sunday 5 May – Pascha

Monday 6 May – Children’s Paschal Liturgy



RETROSPECTIVE 2012

In the year 2012 we had nine baptisms, one engagement, one silver anniversary, and five funerals, and two former parishioners were buried elsewhere.

In February, Fr George participated in a panel discussion, *The Pew*, held and recorded at St Dimitrie’s Romanian Church in Easton; the discussions were edifying and wide ranging and were received with great interest by the audience. During Lent Fr George and our parishioners participated in the Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers at St John’s on Mill Hill, St John’s on Broadbridge, St George’s in Trumbull, and St John’s on Silver Lane. In March Fr John Perich gifted our church with relics of St Nicholas of Zhicha and St Nectarios of Pentapolis from St Tikhon’s Monastery. On Pentecost Tatiana Porfirieva held a bake sale to benefit our Sisterhood. In October we were blessed with the visit of the Myrrh-Streaming Hawaii Iveron Icon. Also in October the Peavy family gifted the Parish with a mother-of-pearl hand blessing Cross and an Icon of the Mystical Supper for our kitchen on the occasion of Leo (Dexter) and Maria’s 25th Anniversary. Also in October Hurricane Sandy hit Stratford and the Northeast; fortunately, there was no damage to the church, and minimal damage to our parishioners’ homes. In December our neighbors in Newtown were hit with an unfathomable calamity when a madman killed 20 children and 6 teachers; this hit close to home, and many of our people knew the families of the victims. In December also, our Sisterhood held the annual St Nicholas Day Dinner to benefit the replating of the brass candle stands and the Gospel Book.

Baptisms: *Savva Kirillovich Gustyatin*, the son of Elena Sergeevna Gustyatin; *Ariana Avy (Anna in Baptism) Borukovich*, the daughter of Vladimir and Yulia Borukovich; *Daria*, the daughter of Dmitry Melnikov and Svetlana Biserova; *Gwyneth Maria*, the daughter, and *Benjamin Evan (Ivan in Baptism)*, the son of Valeriy and Yuliya Fedorov; *Karen (in Baptism Katherine)*, the daughter of Jaime and Lilia Pallares; *Stephania (Sephanida in Baptism)*, the daughter of Oleg and Maria Poleschuk; *Jayden Walter Cruz (Vladimir in Holy Baptism)*, the son of Benjamin Cruz and Jessica Marie Ostrinsky. Congratulations to the parents and sponsors. Many years! *Mnogaja ljeta!*

Engagement: Reader James Lardas and Karen (Katherine) Pallares, wedding to be in May 2013.

Anniversary: Our Starosta Leo (Dexter) and Maria Peavy; 25th Anniversary

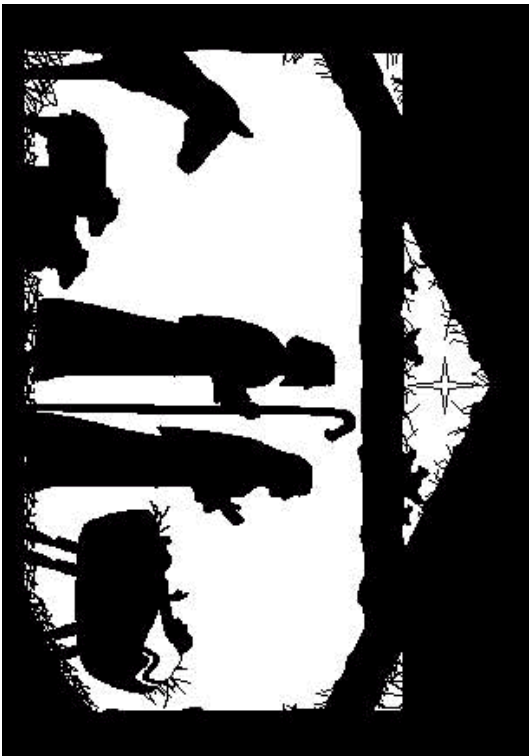
Funerals: At St Nicholas – *Neila (Neonilla) Kriston (in absentia)*, *Tillie Kodnia*, *John Sotir Bludevich*, *Howard Weinberg*, *Olga Timoshuk Paradiso*. Buried elsewhere – *Anatole Sapronov*, *Helen Fomenko Etheridge*. Eternal be their memory! *Vechnaja pamjat’*.

*St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
Bulletin*

*Special Holiday Edition
Christmas and Theophany 2013*

*Fr George Lardas, Rector – Telephone: 203 / 209-9374
Web Site: StNicholasStratford.org*

*Средство пружемством всех наших пружожан и друзей
С Рождеством Христовым,
и с счаплением Новым Годом!*



Saint Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
1 Honeyspot Road, Stratford, CT 06615
Church: 203 375-4793; Priest: 203 209-9374
Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia
V. Rev. George Lardas, Rector



St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church

Calendar – January 2013

Fr George Lardas, Rector – Telephone 203 / 386-9516 Rectory; Emergency: 203 / 209-9374

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Dec 2012 <i>(17 Dec 2012)</i> Sunday of the Holy Forefathers, 30 th after Pent, Tone 5 Liturgy 10 am Fast day	31 (18) <i>Secular New Year's Eve</i> Fast day	1 Jan 2013 <i>(19 Dec 2012)</i> <i>Secular New Year 2013</i> Fast day	2 (20) Fast day	3 (21) Fast day	4 (22) Royal Hours for Christmas 9:30 am Fast day	5 (23) Vigil 5 pm Fast day
6 (24) Sunday before Christmas, 31 st after Pent, Tone 6 Liturgy 10 am Holy Supper 5 p Vigil with Litya 6:30 pm Strict fast	7 (25) CHRISTMAS Liturgy 10 am Festive Trapeza 12 noon	8 (26) Synaxis of the Theotokos, 2 nd Day of Christmas No services	9 (27) No fast	10 (28) No fast	11 (29) Holy Innocents Moleben 6:30 pm No fast	12 (30) Vigil 5 pm
13 (31 Dec 2012) Sunday after Christmas, 32 nd after Pent, Tone 7 Liturgy 10 am Vespers with Litya & Moleben for the New Year 6:30 pm	14 (1 Jan 2013) Circumcision of our Lord, St Basil the Great Old Calendar New Year 2013 No Liturgy	15 (2) St Seraphim of Sarov Moleben 6:30 pm	16 (3) No fast	17 (4) No fast	18 (5) Theophany Eve Royal Hours 9:30 am Vigil with Blessing of Waters 6:30 pm Strict Fast	19 (6) THEOPHANY Liturgy 9:30 am Blessing of Waters 12 noon Blessing of homes begins Vigil 5 pm
20 (7) Sun after Theoph, 33 rd after Pent, Tone 8, Synaxis of St John the Baptist Liturgy 10 am Children's Christmas Party (Yolka) 12 pm	21 (8) <i>Martin Luther King Day</i>	22 (9) No fast	23 (10) Fast day	24 (11) No fast	25 (12) Fast day	26 (13) Vigil 5 pm
27 (14) 34 th Sunday after Pentecost Tone 1 St Nina Liturgy 10 am	28 (15) No fast	29 (16) No fast	30 (17) St Antony the Great Moleben 6:30 pm Fast day	31 (18) No fast	1 Feb (19 Jan) Fast day	2 (20) Vigil 5 pm

Note: Dates in parentheses are Old Style (Julian Calendar).

Please mark these events of the coming months in your calendar:

Sunday 3 February – General Parish Meeting

Thursday 15 February – Presentation of our Lord

Sunday 10 March – *Bliny* Dinner

Sunday 17 March – Forgiveness Sunday

Monday 18 March – Lent begins

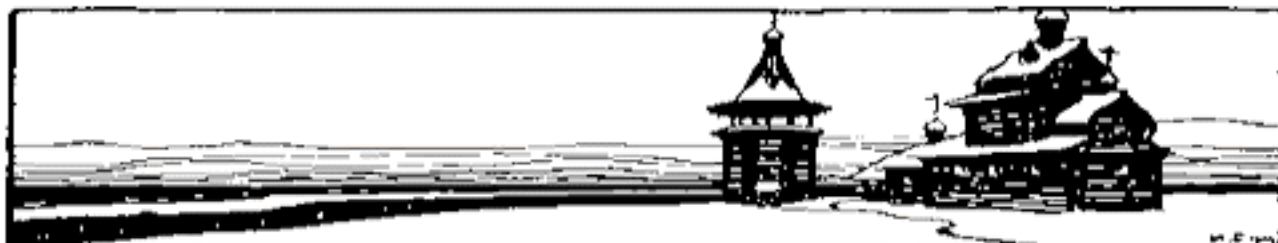
Sunday 7 April – Annunciation Day

Saturday 20 April – Children's Lenten Retreat

Sunday 21 April – Children's Communion Breakfast

Sunday 5 May – Pascha

Monday 6 May – Children's Paschal Liturgy



Свято-Николаевская Русская Православная Церковь

Календарь – Январь 2013 г.

О. Георгий Лардас, Настоятель – Телефон 203 / 386-9516 Церковный Дом; Сетовой: 203 / 209-9374

Воскресенье	Понедельник	Вторник	Среда	Четверг	Пятница	Суббота
30 Дек 2012 г. (17 Дек 2012 г.) Неделя Свв Праотцев, 30 ^{ая} по ятисдесятнице Глас 5 Литургия 10 ч День постный	31 (18) <i>Навечерие Гражданского Новолетия</i> День постный	1 Янв 2013 г. (19 Дек 2012 г.) <i>Гражданское Новолетие 2013</i> День постный	2 (20) День постный	3 (21) День постный	4 (22) Царские Часы 9:30 ч утра День постный	5(23) Всенощная 5 ч веч День постный
6 (24) Нед пред Рожд, 31 ^{ая} по П, Г 6, Навечерие Рожд, Литургия 10 ч, Святой Вечер 5 ч веч Всенощная с Литией 6:30 ч в Строгий пост	7 (25) РОЖДЕСТВО ХРИСТОВО Литургия 10ч ут Праздничный стол 12 ч дня	8 (26) Собор Пресв Богородицы Литургии нет	9 (27) Поста нет	10 (28) Поста нет	11 (29) Свв Младенцев Молебен 6:30 ч веч Поста нет	12 (30) Всенощная 5 ч веч
13 (31) Нед по Рожд, 32 ^{ая} по Пят, Г 7 Литургия 10 ч Вечерня с литией и Молебен за Новый Год 6:30 ч веч	14 (1 Янв 2013) Обрезание Господне, Свят Василия Великаго Новый Год 2013 Старого Стиля Литургии нет	15 (2) Преп Серафима Саровскаго Молебен 5 ч веч	16 (3) Поста нет	17 (4) Поста нет	18 (5) Навечерие Богоявления Царские Часы 9:30 ч утра Всенощ и Вел Водоосвящение 6:30 ч веч Строгий пост	19 (6) БОГОЯВЛЕНИЕ Литургия, 9:30 ч Вел Водоосвящение 12 ч дня Начинается освящ домов Всенощная 5 ч веч
20 (7) Нед по Богоявление, 33 ^{ая} по Пят, Глас 8 Собор Иоанна Крестителя Литургия 10 ч Детская Ёлка и Пельмени 12 ч	21 (8) <i>Гражданский праздник Martin Luther King Day</i>	22 (9) Поста нет	23 (10) День постный	24 (11) Поста нет	25 (12) День постный	26 (13) Всенощная 5 ч веч
27 (14) 34 ^{ая} Неделя по Пятидесятнице Глас 1 Св Равноап Нины Литургия 10 ч	28 (5) Поста нет	29 (16) Поста нет	30 (17) Преп Антония Великаго Молебен 6:30 ч веч День постный	31 (18) Поста нет	1 Фев (19 Янв) Поста нет	2(20) Всенощная 5 ч веч

Замечание: Все даты в скобках по старому стилю (по юлианскому календарю).

Отметьте эти наступающие события в вашем календаре:

Воскресенье 3 Февраля – Годовое Общее Приходское Собрание

Четверг 15 Февраля – Сретение Господне

Воскресенье 10 Марта – Блины от Сестричества

Воскресенье 17 Марта – Прощенное Воскресенье

Понедельник 18 Марта – Начало Великого Поста

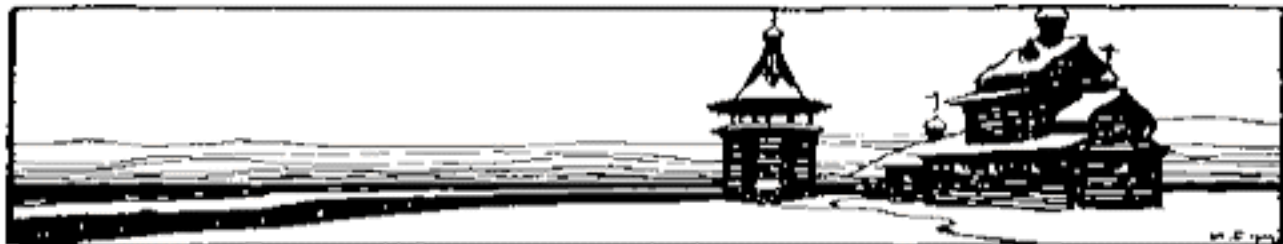
Воскресенье 7 Апреля – Благовещение

Суббота 20 Апреля – Детское Великопостное Говение

Воскресенье 21 Апреля – Детское Причащение

Воскресенье 5 Мая – Пасха Господня

Понедельник 6 Мая – Детская Пасхальная Литургия



Holiday Schedule - Christmas and Theophany – January 2013

<i>Day</i>	<i>New Style</i>	<i>Old Style</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>
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Christmas Eve

Fri	4 Jan	22 Dec	9:30 am	Royal Hours
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Sunday before Christmas, 31st after Pentecost, Ancestors of Christ, Tone 6

Sat	5 Jan	23 Dec	5:00 pm	Vigil
Sun	6 Jan	24 Dec	9:30 am	Hours and Confession
			10:00 am	Divine Liturgy



CHRISTMAS – The Nativity of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Sun	6 Jan	24 Dec	5:00 pm	Holy Supper in the Church Hall (lenten)
			6:30 pm	Vigil with Great Compline and Litya
Mon	7 Jan	25 Dec	9:30 am	Hours and Confession
			10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
			12:00 noon	Festive Trapeza,

Nativity Season – The Twelve Days of Christmas: From Christmas Day to the Eve of Theophany we do not fast on Wednesday and Friday. However, the Eve of Theophany, 18 January (5 January), is a strict fast, like Great Lent.

Holy Innocents Killed by Herod

Fri	11 Jan	29 Dec	6:30 pm	Moleben and collection for the children killed in Newtown
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Sunday after Christmas, 32nd after Pentecost, Tone 7

Sat	12 Jan	30 Dec	5:00 pm	Vigil
Sun	13 Jan	31 Dec	9:30 am	Hours and Confession
			10:00 am	Divine Liturgy



Circumcision of our Lord, St Basil the Great and Old Calendar New Year 2013

Sun	13 Jan	31 Dec	6:30 pm	Vespers with Litya and Moleben for the New Year
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St Seraphim of Sarov

Tue	15 Jan	2 Jan	6:30 pm	Moleben
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THEOPHANY – The Baptism of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Fri	18 Jan	5 Jan	9:30 am	Royal Hours, <i>Theophany Eve – Strict fast</i>
			6:30 pm	Vigil with Litya and Blessing of Waters
Sat	19 Jan	6 Jan	9:00 am	Hours
			9:30 am	Divine Liturgy
			11:30 am	Great Blessing of Waters
			2:00 pm	Blessing of homes begins (see attached schedule)

Sunday after Theophany, 33rd after Pentecost, Synaxis of St John the Baptist, Tone 8

Sat	19 Jan	6 Jan	5:00 pm	Vigil
Sun	20 Jan	7 Jan	9:30 am	Hours and Confession
			10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
			12:00 pm	Children's Christmas Party (Yolka), visit from <i>Djed Moroz</i>

34th Sunday after Pentecost, St Nina, Tone 1

Sat	26 Jan	13 Jan	5:00 pm	Vigil
Sun	27 Jan	14 Jan	9:30 am	Hours and Confession
			10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
			12:00 pm	Sisterhood <i>Pelmeni</i>



St Antony the Great

Wed	30 Jan	17 Jan	6:30 pm	Moleben
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Note: Weekday services, apart from major Holy Days, subject to change depending on Fr George's work schedule.

Расписание Богослужений – Рождество и Богоявление – Январь 2013 г.

День Новый Старый Время Служба
Стиль Стиль

Навечерие Рождества

Пят 4 Янв 22 Дек 9:30 ч утра Царские Часы

Неделя пред Рождеством, 31^{ая} по Пятидесятнице, Свв Богоотец, Глас 6

Суб 5 Дек 23 Дек 5:00 ч веч Всенощная
Вос 6 Янв 24 Дек 9:30 ч утра Часы и исповедь
10:00 ч утра Божественная Литургия



РОЖДЕСТВО Господа Бога и Спаса нашего Иисуса Христа

Вос 6 Янв 24 Дек 5:00 ч веч Святый Вечер, постный ужин в церковном зале
6:30 ч веч Всенощная с Великом Повечерием и литией
Пон 7 Янв 25 Дек 9:30 ч утра Часы и исповедь
10:00 ч утра Божественная Литургия
12:00 ч дня Праздничный стол, колядки

Рождественские Святки: От Рождества до Навечерие Богоявления поста по средам и пятницам нет. Но Навечерие Богоявления, 18 Января (5 Января), строгий пост, как Великий Пост.

Свв Младенцев от Ирода в Вифлееме избивенных

Пят 11 Янв 29 Дек 6:30 ч веч Молебен, и тарелочный сбор для младенцев избивенных в Ньютауне

Неделя по Рождеству, 32^{ая} по Пятидесятнице, Глас 7

Суб 12 Янв 30 Дек 5:00 ч веч Всенощная
Вос 13 Янв 31 Дек 9:30 ч утра Часы и исповедь
10:00 ч утра Божественная Литургия

Обрезание Господне, Свят Василия Великого, Новый Год 2013 Старого Стиля

Вос 13 Янв 31 Дек 6:30 ч веч Вечерня с литией и Молебен на Новый Год

Преп Серафима Саровского

Вто 15 Янв 2 Янв 6:30 ч веч Молебен



БОГОЯВЛЕНИЕ – Крещение Господа нашего Иисуса Христа

Пят 18 Янв 5 Янв 9:30 ч утра Царские Часы, *Навечерие Богоявления – строгий пост*
6:30 ч веч Всенощ с литией и Освящ воды
Суб 19 Янв 6 Янв 9:00 ч утра Часы
9:30 ч утра Божественная Литургия
11:30 ч утра Великое Водоосвящение
2:00 ч дня Начинается освящение домов (см приложение для расписания)

Неделя по Богоявлением, 33^{ая} по Пятидесятнице, Глас 8

Суб 19 Янв 6 Янв 5:00 ч веч Всенощная
Вос 20 Янв 7 Янв 9:30 ч утра Часы и исповедь
10:00 ч утра Божественная Литургия
12:00 ч дня Детская Ёлка, колядки, и визит от Деда Мороза

34^{ая} Неделя по Пятидесятнице, Св Равноап Нины, Глас 1

Суб 26 Янв 13 Янв 5:00 ч веч Всенощная
Вос 27 Янв 14 Янв 9:30 ч утра Часы и исповедь
10:00 ч утра Божественная Литургия
12:00 ч дня Пельмени от Сестричества

Преп Антония Великого

Сре 30 Янв 17 Янв 6:30 ч веч Молебен



Замечание: Богослужения будных дней могут перемениться зависая от расписания работы о. Георгия.

St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church – Blessing of Homes, Theophany 2013

*This is a **tentative** schedule. Contact Fr George at 203 / 209-9374 if any changes need to be made.
The following list is in order of visitation with **approximate** times. If there are any last-minute changes,
call Fr George on his cell phone (203 / 209-9374).*

Saturday 19 January

Theophany
Stratford (South)

2:00 pm Brockert
2:30 pm Niejelow
3:00 pm Skorik
3:30 pm Trostonoff
4:00 pm N. Bludevich
4:30 pm Lardas

Sunday 20 January

Stratford (North)

2:00 pm Peebles
2:30 pm Pcolka
3:00 pm Blude
3:30 pm Harko
4:00 pm M. Bludevich
4:30 pm Sonya DeBiase
5:00 pm Rudins
5:30 pm Papov

Saturday 26 January

Milford and Woodmont

10:00 am Von Voight
10:30 am Cole
11:00 am Jurgot
11:30 pm Penchuk
12:00 pm Schneider
1:00 pm Stettinin
1:30 pm Zimbalkin
2:00 pm Sharog
3:30 pm Pallares

Sunday 27 January

West Haven, Orange and Hamden

2:00 pm Sergievsky
3:00 pm V. Shurba
3:30 pm P. Shurba
4:30 pm Hramov
5:30 pm Bruder
6:30 pm Wolog
7:00 pm Kheilik

Saturday 2 February

Ansonia, Shelton and Trumbull

10:00 am Callaghan
11:00 am Smykowski
12:00 pm Curran
1:00 pm Hudobenko
2:00 am Paschalidis
3:00 pm Dutkanicz

Sunday 3 February

General Parish Meeting – No visits

Saturday 9 February

**Fairfield, Westport, Norwalk
and Stamford**

10:00 am Milligan
11:00 am Tilley
12:00 pm Viner
1:00 pm Coroneos
2:00 pm D. Shurba

By Appointment

Please contact Fr George

Abud
Ambrose
Colello
Denisevich
Hildreth
Kallaur
Kalinichenko
Licamele
Mace
Mardovina
Ostrinski
Peavy
Podoltsev/Sakharova
Poznansky
Rakov
Reilly
Solovyev
Tumenuk
Wologodzew
Zavoico

*If your house is missed on your
scheduled day, the visit can be
rescheduled for a weeknight following
the appointed day.*

*Appointments are available on
certain weeknights after 6 pm, and on
weekends after the last day listed in
this schedule*

*If your name has been overlooked,
please contact Fr George to be added
to the schedule.*

House Blessings end with Forgiveness Sunday, 17 March this year.

Note: ***If your name does not appear on this list*** and you wish to have your house blessed, or if you are on this list and are not able to receive the blessing at the scheduled time, please call Fr George (203 209-9374) as soon as possible so that other arrangements can be made.

The times shown are **approximate**. The actual times of visitation may vary by up to two hours depending on last minute additions or cancellations, and on weather conditions.