



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

BULLETIN BUILDER

**Saint John The Baptist Orthodox Church**

December 3, 2017

## Church Lectionary & Typicon



**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Forefeast of The Entrance of the Theotokos  
Gregory the Righteous of Decapolis**

**Epistle : Ephesians 5:9-19 Gospel: Luke 12:16-21**

Resurrectional Tone 1



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[www.facebook.com/stjohnsbroadbridge](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsbroadbridge)

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## Church Services and Events

### Monday, December 4

9:00AM Divine Liturgy - Entrance of the Theotokos

### Tuesday, December 5

7:00PM Teen Catechism Class

### Wednesday, December 6

7:00PM Adult Scripture Study

### Thursday, December 7

7:00PM Pan Orthodox Unction Service - St George Church, Trumbull, CT

### Saturday, December 9

9:00AM Pastry Roll Workshop

5:00PM Great Vespers

### Sunday, December 10

9:00AM Divine Liturgy

10:45AM Church School

## St John's Stewards

DATE	COFFEE HOUR HOST	HOURS	EPISTLE
Dec 10	Bilcheck	Holly Bilcheck	Matt
Dec 17	St Nicholas Brunch	Pani Carol	Cantors

**2017 STEWARDSHIP YTD: \$59,298.00 As of 11/26/17 Goal: \$68,000.00**

**A Parish of The American  
Carpatho-Russian Orthodox**



**Diocese**

**Diocesan Website:**

<http://www.acrod.org>

**Camp Nazareth:**

<http://www.campnazareth.org>

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/acroddioocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddioocese)

**Twitter:**

<https://twitter.com/acrodnews>

**You Tube:**

<https://youtube.com/acroddioocese>

# Announcements

## Today's Saint

**PRAYERS FOR PEACE** - Please do not forget that Bishop Gregory has asked all of us to pray a special prayer for peace each night during our evening prayers. It is included in this bulletin for your convenience.

**ADULT EDUCATION** - Our Orthodox Boot Camp begins again this Wednesday at 7:00 pm. We will be turning our attention to Holy Scripture. Our study will be of a practical nature: we will learn about the basics of the Bible, its origin and how to read it and will focus on how the bible offers answers to the struggles we face in everyday life. Those who are interested in taking part in the class either in person or by telephone or video conferencing are kindly asked to contact Fr. Peter.

**GIVING TREE** - Our annual Christmas Outreach Project will involve providing personal care items for the needy of Stratford, donating and preparing food for a Christmas Dinner at the Lord's Kitchen on Wednesday Dec 20th. We will also be assisting a needy Family in the Greater Stratford Community. To participate, please select one or more items you would like to donate from the "Giving Tree" in the Church hall. With the exception of certain items of prepared food we are asking for cash donations of varying amounts to cover the personal care items which the Church has already bought in bulk at an incredible savings. Please be generous. See Fr. Peter with any questions.

**COMMUNITY SUPPER** - Our next meal will be Wed Dec 20 at Christ Church in Stratford. Please See Mary or Eve to help. Help is needed preparing some of the food at home. See The Giving Tree.

**COOKIE BAKING PROJECT** - Many thanks to Pani Carol and the church school students who baked over 20 dozen cookies for the Christmas meal at The Lord's Kitchen.

**CHRISTMAS PASTRY ROLL WORK SESSIONS** - Help is needed making pastry rolls on the following days: Sat Dec 9 and Wed Dec 13th. Please see Pani Carol to offer your help.

**LEAF RAKING SESSION** - We are asking all able body parishioners and especially our youth to assist with clearing the Church property of leaves on Sunday Dec 10th. Following Divine Liturgy. Many hands will make light work. We should complete the entire property in a matter of a couple hours. Please let Fr. Peter know if you can help.

**CHURCH SECURITY** - At the November Parish Council Meeting it was decided that for security reasons the side door to the Church will be locked at all weekday services, and at 9:15 am on Sunday Mornings. No key is needed to exit the Church. The front door will remain unlocked as usual.

**EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGES** – We have instituted a parish email system. For correspondence with Fr. Peter please use the following email address: [priest@sjoc.org](mailto:priest@sjoc.org) For parish bulletin or monthly newsletter submissions or questions please use [news@sjoc.org](mailto:news@sjoc.org)

## St. Gregory the Righteous of Decapolis



**November 20/December 3**

Saint Gregory who was from Irenopolis of the Decapolis of Asia Minor, was the son of Sergius and Mary. He became a monk as a young man, and after struggling for many years in virtue and prayer under obedience to a wise spiritual father, he was informed by revelation that it was the will of God for him to live, like the Patriarch Abraham, with no certain dwelling, moving from place to place. His journeyings took him to Ephesus, Constantinople, Corinth, Rome, Sicily, Thessalonica, and again to Constantinople, where, after many labours in defence of Orthodoxy against Iconoclasm, he reposed in peace in the first half of the ninth century. He had two disciples, one of whom was Saint Joseph the Hymnographer (see Apr. 3), who wrote the Menaion service for Saint Gregory, his father in Christ.

# Announcements

**ST NICHOLAS BRUNCH** - Our Annual St. Nicholas Brunch will take place on Sunday Dec 17, 2017 following Divine Liturgy. A visit from St. Nicholas will be the highlight of the Dinner. Cost is \$10.00 per adult; children 5 up: \$4.00; children under 5: free. Please add your name to the reservation sign-up sheet in the Church Hall. Reservations must be made by Dec 10, 2017. Parents are kindly reminded to bring a wrapped present for each of their children present. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending.

**LOTS O LUCK CALENDARS** - Now on sale in the Church hall. Cost is \$25.00. Proceeds support Diocesan Mission Fund and other charitable works of the ACRY.

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Dec 7	Brendan Bilcheck	Birthday
Dec 9	John Mihaly	Birthday
Nov 22	Florence Gachi	Birthday

## **FINANCIAL STATISTICS 11/26/17**

First Sunday Collection	10.00
7 Day Candles	6.00
Metropolitan Fund Collection	10.00
4 Hour CandlesPew Collection	81.00
<u>Pew Collection</u>	<u>553.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$677.00</b>

## Wisdom From The Fathers

Whenever those who possess in themselves the divine riches of the Spirit take part in spiritual discussions, they draw as it were on their inner treasure-house and share their wealth with their hearers. Those, however, who do not have stored in the sanctuary of their heart the treasure from which springs forth the bounty of divine thoughts, mysteries and inspired words, but who cull what they say from the Scriptures, speak merely from the tip of the tongue; or if they have listened to spiritual men, they preen themselves with what others have said, putting it forward as though it were their own and claiming interest on someone else's capital. Their listeners can enjoy what they say without great effort, but they themselves, when they have finished speaking, prove to be like paupers. For they have simply repeated what they have taken from others, without acquiring treasures of their own from which they could first derive pleasure themselves and which they could then communicate profitably to others.

### ***St. Makarios the Great***

*Homilies, V: Love no. 88, Philokalia Vol. 3 edited by Palmer, Sherrard and Ware; Faber and Faber pgs. 323-324, 4th century*

## Prayer For Peace – Evening Prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, Son and Word of God, You became flesh and dwelt among us. You made the womb of Your most-pure Mother more spacious than the heavens. Yet You, the true light, were born in the darkness of a cave, thereby enlightening the world that was darkened by sin. To redeem us, You shared Your whole life. You submitted to death on the Cross and rose from the dead, bestowing life. We share in Your death and resurrection, that we may indeed be dead to sin and alive in You. As we fast and prepare to celebrate Your life-giving manifestation, we pray especially that our respect for life will prevail in the world. Directed by Your command to care for “the least of these,” may we and all people heed Your call to show care and concern for life in the womb; for the lives of the poor, oppressed, and suffering; and for the lives of the sick, the elderly, and the dying. May Your peace reign in our hearts and throughout world, especially in places of unrest, so that the shedding of blood in warfare, violence, terrorism, tyranny, and all manner of strife may come to an end. May aggression between neighbors and nations fade away. May love reign in the lives of families. O Savior, You have said “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” May we become partakers of Your abundant life, together with all the saints whose lives have pleased You from the beginning. For You are the way, the truth and the life, O Christ our God, and to You we give glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your most-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and forever. AMEN.

