

St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre Orthodox Christian Church

108 East Main Street

PO Box 134

Clinton, CT 06413

Scripture Readings

1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Matthew 21:33-42

Commemorations

Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and those with him: Martyrs Theophilus—Deacon; Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Peter, Indes, Gorgonius, Zeno; the Virgin Domna, and Euthymius (302). Ven. Theoctistus, fellow ascetic with Ven. Euthymius the Great (467). Blessed John “the Hairy”, Fool-for-Christ at Rostov (1580). St. Phœbe, Deaconess at Cenchreæ near Corinth (1st c.). Martyr Basilissa of Nicomedia (309). Martyr Aristion, Bishop of Alexandria (2nd c.). St. Joannicius, Archbishop of Serbia (1349).

Information

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Welcome to our Guests

We welcome all visitors to our Divine Liturgy and services. While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to participate in our prayers and hymns and to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Liturgy. Please sign our guest card and join us for refreshments and fellowship after the services.

Feel free to ask questions before or after the services. Any member of our Council or Congregation are glad to assist you. Literature about the Orthodox faith and this parish can be found in the narthex (back of the Church).

Our Parish Council Representatives are:

President - Susan Hayes
 Vice President - Deborah Bray
 Secretary - SubDeacon Joseph Brubaker
 Treasurer - Susan Egan
 Member at Large - James Pepitone
 Member at Large - Demetra Tolis



HURRICANE HARVEY SURVIVORS NEED YOUR URGENT HELP

IOCC continues praying for the safety and well being of those affected by Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath. IOCC's Frontliners, highly trained clergy and laity, have deployed and are providing emotional and spiritual care to people affected by the storm. After the waters recede, IOCC will begin supporting people with clean-up activities and, eventually, home builds. A financial gift to IOCC's Hurricane Harvey Response Fund will enable us to react quickly and effectively to the many needs in the region. Together we can provide immediate relief, as well as long-term support through emergency aid, recovery assistance, and other essentials for those in need. Please help in any way you can.

iocc.org/harvey | iocc.org/kits | 877.803.4622





Please continue to pray for...

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Subdeacon Joseph, Sophia, Deborah, Robert, Ann, Daria, Dori, John, Evelyn, June, Nina, Joan, John, Alex, Alan, Luke, Kathryn, Anastasia, Glenn, Veronica, Darlyne, Irene, Nancy, Dionysian, Elena, Jevon, Ivan and Joscean. And for...John, Jennifer, Nicholas, Isabel, Elizabeth, John, Jordan, Michael, Lee, Eva, Neil, Gina, Joey, Michael, Madelyn, Sofie, Katrina, Olena, Valeriy, Olga, Tatiana, Dimitri, Alexander and Maxim.

This week we celebrate:

Sarah and Justin Gaulin on the occasion of their anniversary and to Ann Pavlick and Max Freeman on the occasion of their birthdays.

This week's services and events

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

8:30a - Daily Matins

7:00p - Deanery Meeting

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

12:00p - Valley Shore Clergy Mtg

4:30p - Open Doors

Soup Kitchen

Thursday, September 7, 2017

8:30a - Daily Matins

6:30p - Great Vespers with Litya
Nativity of the Theotokos

Friday, September 8, 2017

8:30a - Akathist to the Theotokos

Saturday, September 9, 2017

1:00p - Parish Picnic at the Large
Pavilion, Clinton Town Beach

3:00p - Great Vespers

Sunday, September 10, 2017

9:30a - Divine Liturgy

Fellowship and Stewardship Ministry

Announcements

For the month of September, we will be sponsoring a school supplies collection. Please see the electronic-bulletin for more details.

Hieromartyr Anthimus the Bishop of Nicomedia

The Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and those with him suffered during the persecution against Christians under the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). The persecution became particularly intense after a fire at the imperial court at Nicomedia. The pagans accused the Christians of setting the fire and reacted against them with terrible ferocity.

In Nicomedia alone, on the day of the Nativity of Christ, as many as twenty thousand Christians were burned inside a church. However, this monstrous inhumanity did not frighten the Christians, who firmly confessed their faith and endured martyrdom for Christ.

Sts Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Peter, Indes and Gorgonius died during this period. One of them was beheaded by the sword, others perished by burning, or being buried alive, or by drowning in the sea. The soldier Zeno boldly denounced the emperor Maximian, for which he was stoned, and then beheaded.

Then the holy Virgin Martyr Domna, a former pagan priestess, perished at the hands of the pagans, and also Saint Euthymius, because of their concern that the bodies of the holy martyrs should be buried. Bishop Anthimus, who headed the Church of Nicomedia, hid himself in a village not far from Nicomedia at the request of his flock. From there he sent letters to the Christians, urging them to cleave firmly to the holy Faith and not to fear tortures.

One of his letters, sent with Deacon Theophilus, was intercepted and given to the emperor Maximian. Theophilus was interrogated and died under torture, without revealing to his torturers the whereabouts of Bishop Anthimus. After a while Maximian managed to learn where Saint Anthimus was, and sent a detachment of soldiers after him. The bishop met them along the way, but the soldiers did not recognize the saint. He invited them to join him and provided a meal, after which he revealed that he was the one they sought. The soldiers did not know what to do. They wanted to leave him and tell the emperor that they had not found him. Bishop Anthimus was not one to tolerate a lie, and so he would not consent to this.

The soldiers came to believe in Christ and received holy Baptism. The saint ordered them to carry out the emperor's instructions. When Bishop Anthimus was brought before the emperor, the emperor ordered that the instruments of execution be brought out and placed before him. "Do you think, emperor, to frighten me with these tools of execution?" asked the saint. "No indeed, you cannot frighten one who wishes to die for Christ! Execution is frightening only for the cowardly, for whom the present life is most precious." The emperor then directed that the saint be fiercely tortured and beheaded by the sword.

Bishop Anthimus joyfully glorified God with his last breath, and received the crown of martyrdom. (See December 28 for another account of the Nicomedian martyrs.)