



St. Xenia Parish News

170 North Lowell Street, Methuen, MA 01844

September – October 2024

This Church New Year

The Church New Year is celebrated on September 1/14 each year. This year will be particularly auspicious and ever remembered by our parish.

We begin as always with the Great Feasts of September, the Nativity of the Theotokos and the Exaltation of the Cross, punctuated by the Glorification of St. Xenia of Petersburg, our Altar Feast. Last year at this time we were just finishing up the major expansion and renovation of our temple and were rushing around cleaning and preparing for the annual Primate's Visit of our ruling bishop, Metropolitan NICHOLAS.

Now a year later, we have settled in to our new space and made great strides in adorning our temple. We of course still require preparations for Vladyka's visit, but we are not so pressed to turn the raw elements into beauty.

These together make September a very special month for us, a "second Pascha." We are always filled with joy by the numerous Divine Services and the gathering of not only our parish but also the many visitors who come to celebrate with us.

As we progress through the Nativity Fast and Feasts, and then through the Great Lent and Paschal Season we will no doubt continue to grow and deepen in our love for God and our fellow man through humility and self-sacrifice.

After the joys of Pascha we will indeed enter into a new era for our parish, the Great Consecration of our Temple. This once in a lifetime event is scheduled for Memorial Day, Monday, May 26.

There is much to do in preparation for this sacred event. Already, Fr. Alexei has secured the document outlining all of the actions and prayers for the service. The Parish Council approved monies in the Spring and we have already ordered and received a new Altar Table, Proskomedia Table and Pannyhida Table from a church artisan in Poland, all in beautifully carved wood. They are still boxed in pieces. As soon as we get past

our Altar Feast this month we will open them and begin assembly and finishing. This will be a true "labor of love." There are also plans for some new icon stands and other adornments, and surely some surprises to come.

Already this month the Sisterhood is dedicating their first bake sale fundraiser to the Great Consecration project. When the Parish Council reviews the budget for the new year it will allocate funds and review any further needs. No doubt, many parish members will give generously so that this absolute milestone for the community will be a glorious event.

To be clear, it is by your prayers and faithful participation in the life of Christ, the life of the parish, that all of this is coming to pass. We have grown in numbers, amazingly in recent years, with many converts to the Faith, even whole families, and with the continual stream of new births to believing parents. But numbers are only significant when they represent actual Orthodox believers, those who are willing to join together with us in the struggle for salvation—and for the life of the world.

Our witness, by the Grace of God, is strong and many more will come. Our expanded facilities are already being tested. We are pushing hard to bring about the construction of a Parish Hall. But even this will not be enough. Our long term plan is to step by step organize and plant a new mission in the State of New Hampshire. It is one of only a few states in our Eastern American Diocese where there is no ROCOR presence. We have already begun with a Reader's Vigil on most Saturday evenings attended by a growing group who live an hour or more away from Methuen. *May God bless!*

Let us be prayerful, patient and peaceful over this coming year and look in amazement at what God will create in our midst, always remembering "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (John 13:35)

St. Xenia of St. Petersburg Orthodox Church is a parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, under the omophorion of Met. NICHOLAS of Eastern America & New York. The parish newsletter is published bi-monthly under the direction of the Rev. Michael Crowley. In order to ensure timely delivery to our far-flung parish, please submit all notices by the 15th of the month prior to publication to Father Michael at fmichael@stxenia.org. Thank you.

Rector:

V. Rev. Michael Crowley
34 Elm Street
North Andover, MA 01845
(978) 204-0428

Confessions on Saturday during Vigil, on Sunday during the Hours, and by appointment.

Parish Council

President: Archpriest Michael Crowley (978) 204-0428
Warden: Andrei Doohovskoy (339) 223-4168
Secretary: Subdeacon David Nettleton (203) 895-7636
Treasurer: Isaac (Shedly) Justinien (646) 639-9273
Sisterhood: Meghan Nettleton (617) 309-6473
Cemetery: Natalie Pishenin (978) 761-3449
Anthony Sarantakis
Dmitri Nikshych
Nicholas (Charles) Kronauer
Choir Director: Laryssa Doohovskoy (978) 841-5960
Church School Director: Alexei Doohovskoy



Trapeza Schedule

* = strict fast

The coffee hour will be outside, so each week will be **weather dependent**.

Coffee will be made each Sunday morning.

Please remember that while hospitality is a beautiful tradition at St. Xenia's we can only do as much as we can with given capacities so if some weeks we simply have a light snack following liturgy that is still above and beyond what many churches are able to provide.

Important - whoever is on for coffee hour is in charge of cleanup as well.

Please refer to list on refrigerator for all that should be checked.

SEPTEMBER

- 9/1 Matushka Patricia Klar, Alexandra Gonzalez, Celesta Liceaga, Vira Ajaonkar, Barbara Semyanko
- 9/8 **BAKE SALE** Meghan Nettleton, Kristina Head, Juliana Rost, Seraphima Ann Dolan, Elizabeth Victoria Jackson
- 9/15 Judy Engalichev, Sasha Oxnard, Lisa Anderson Anna Kekis, Damascene Cummings
- 9/22 Pam Reed, Carolyn Savage, Diane Mendez, Johanna Victoria Tkaczewski, Olga McLellan, Claire Murphy
- 9/29 Mat. Masha Doohovskoy, Mat. Helen Doohovskoy, Marianne DiMatteo, Sasha Frost Jessica Coronel, Sasha Prokopienko

OCTOBER

- 10/6 Mat. Kaleria Sarantakis, Juliana Capitanio, Misha Medzhidov, Vera Sarantakis, Jane Rockwell, Caroline Maria Fox
- 10/13 Ksenia Guryeva, Olena Fedina, Tanya Nikshych, Liliya Afanasyeva, Mary Doohovskoy, Olga Rapp
- 10/20 Nataliya Orbite,, Alevtina Khusanova, Liudmilla Diakonova, Raisa & Natalia Avram, Tanya Burke, Yeva Klein
- 10/27 Matushka Patricia Klar, Alexandra Gonzalez, Celesta Liceaga, Vira Ajaonkar, Barbara Semyanko

PARISH NEWS

~ Upcoming Feast Days

Nativity of the Theotokos, Saturday, Sept. 21
Glorification of St. Xenia, Tuesday, Sept. 24
Exaltation of the Cross, Friday, Sept. 27

~ A Church cleaning day is scheduled for **Saturday, September 21**, following an early Liturgy for the "Nativity of the Theotokos" in preparation for our Parish Feast on September 24th.

~ Parish Feast sign-up

Our St. Xenia Feast Day is on **TUESDAY, September 24th, with Vigil on Monday the 23rd.**

We are reaching out for your help in order to make our Feast Day a wonderful event. Please see the list of volunteer opportunities below. Sunday, September 15th I will provide aluminum pans to prepare food in as well recipes scaled to fill the pan.

You can send your receipts to Treasurer Shedley Justinian for reimbursement (stxeniatreasurer@gmail.com).

Please reach out to Meghan Nettleton (StXeniaSisterhood100@gmail.com) with any questions or sign-up issues.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054-BA5A623A7FC1-50912615-stxenias>

~ Congratulations

To the Caico family on the birth of their son Dario Anatoly Caico, July 14th, and Baptism on Saturday, August 31;

To Anthony (Aaron) Kane on his Baptism on August 31;

To Sonia and Walter Carrascal and family on the birth of their son, Ivan Daniel;

To Seraphim (Blake) Silva on his Baptism, August 1;

To the Hartzler family on the birth of their son, Daniel Russell Hartzler, on July 20

Many years to all!

~ Condolences

Our Servant of God Stephen reposed in the Lord in August. Stephen was a parishioner and generous supporter of St. Xenia's for a number of years. He was attending St. John the Russian in Ipswich in recent years since it was just down the road from his home. He was predeceased by his wife Penny Ann. They had no children.

Archpriest George Larin of Nyack, NY, reposed in the Lord on July 5 at age 89 after a period declining health.

Memory Eternal!

~ Thank you

To all the youth who participated in creating this beautiful mosaic under the direction of Tatiana N. We look forward to using it at our parish feast when the Metropolitan visits.



SISTERHOOD NEWS

~ *BAKE SALE* ~ **September 8**~ This year's Bake Sale will benefit the "Great Consecration of St. Xenia Church" (Memorial Day, 2025)

~ Thank you to all who supported the Backpack Drive for local school children. The backpacks were delivered to the Methuen school system to help children in need.

~ The Sisterhood is always eager to have more volunteers. If you would like to be of service, there are

many opportunities to help. Please reach out to Meghan Nettleton with any questions stxeniasisterhood100@gmail.com

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Fr. Constantine, Nicholas, Jane, Peter, Dimitri, Laryssa, Suzie, and Celesta.

Also, please be sure to inform the Sisterhood if someone is in the hospital or shut in at home.

CHOIR NEWS

~ Children's Choir Rehearsals take place on Sunday mornings starting at 9:00am. All children ages 8 and older are welcome to attend. The Children's Choir prepares music and readings for upcoming services.

~If you have a private service - wedding, baptism, funeral, etc. – and would like to have choir singers, please contact Laryssa at stxeniachoir@gmail.com.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Please be sure to register your children for Church School at the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe4a7OABq1FVbm0zdxs0QOt2-pAKjwReT4vvOM0oQwKAQpodHw/viewform>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration for St. Herman Conference opens September 1.

St. Herman Conference

Dec. 23-27, 2024

Toronto, Ontario

Holy Trinity

Russian Orthodox Church

For Orthodox young adults, ages 16-27

\$400/person quad occupancy

\$350 before Nov. 15

<https://sainthermanconference.org/index.html>

Women's Ensemble PRESENTS A Fundraiser Concert



FRIDAY, September 13, 2024 AT 7 PM

Holy Epiphany Russian Orthodox Church
963 South St, Roslindale, MA 02131

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF
ORTHODOX AND TRADITIONAL CHORAL
SINGING.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE
RUSSIAN ECCLESIASTICAL MISSION IN
JERUSALEM AND THE ORTHODOX SCHOOL
OF BETHANY

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW PERFORMANCE.

PLEASE CONTACT FRVICTOR@COMCAST.NET
OR KATHERINESEMYANKO@GMAIL.COM
WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

DIOCESE NEWS

https://www.synod.com/synod/eng2024/20240821_enmnappealsynodrestoration.html

NEW YORK: 21 August 2024

Appeal by Metropolitan Nicholas of Eastern America and New York to Archpastors, Clergy and Flock of the Russian Church Abroad

Most Reverend Brother-Archpastors, Reverend Fathers,

Dear in the Lord Brothers and Sisters!

I cordially greet you all with the ongoing Dormition Fast, when we are once again called to temperance and the active doing of good deeds, that we might worthily prepare ourselves for the upcoming Pascha of the Theotokos!

Attached to this appeal by my unworthiness to the Fullness of the Russian Church Abroad is a video

about the history and significance of the Synodal Residence in New York City, which is the House of the Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God “of the Sign,” the Protectress of the Russian Diaspora. Please familiarize yourselves with this short film, prepared by the Diocese of Germany, about the building that houses our spiritual and administrative center, and provide us with all possible assistance in the major renovation of the Synodal Residence.

Since the arrival in the United States of Metropolitan Anastassy (Gribanovsky) - second First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad - in 1950, and then of the wonderworking Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God, Russian Orthodox émigrés took care to acquire a more spacious church and worthy premises for the Metropolitan’s residence and the chancery of the Synod of Bishops. This search was resolved many years ago in 1957, when the Synod of Bishops received a very generous gift in the form of a large house on the corner of 93rd Street and Park Avenue in New York City. The house was purchased with a donation from Serge Yakovlevich Semenenko, first vice-chairman and director of First National Bank in Boston, as well as a director at many other corporations. Serge Semenenko hailed from a pious Russian family that lived in Odessa before the revolution. His parents, Iakov and Maria, were well known to Metropolitan Anastassy, who visited them many times both in Odessa and Constantinople. They were generous donors toward the needs of the Church. It was in their memory that Serge Semenenko, whom Metropolitan Anastassy had known since he was 11 years old, made his donation.

The mansion acquired for the Synod of Bishops, distinguished by its wonderful, austere architecture and exceptionally solid construction, had a large hall, which, together with the adjoining rooms, was converted into the Cathedral of the Sign, where our principal holy icon - the wonderworking Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God, abides. In addition to the residence of the First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad and his vicar, the chancery of the Synod of Bishops and living quarters for its employees, the building was outfitted to include a church for daily services - dedicated to Venerable Sergius of Radonezh - offices, meeting rooms, dining halls, a bookstore, and separate facilities for a school.

This mansion was built by the family of George F. Baker, Jr., a well-known American banker and philanthropist. His widow, who sold the house to the Synod

of Bishops of the Russian Church Abroad on most favorable terms, showed special goodwill and attention in this whole matter to the needs of the Russian Church Abroad, which now owns very valuable property in the best part of New York City. The Russian people, who had been in exile since 1920 and who moved to the United States after World War II, saw in this event the manifestation of God’s extraordinary mercy, admiring the beauty of the building and its convenience for the needs of the Holy Church.

Now this building, in which our wonderworking icon has been kept for many years, in which the glorifications of many saints - including the New Martyrs and Confessors of our Church - and the enthronements of our metropolitans took place, in which the Councils of Bishops were held with the active participation of such ascetic saints as the Holy Hierarch John, Archbishop of Shanghai and Wonderworker of San Francisco - this building, as the center of both the joys of our Church and the resolution of its ills, whose walls have absorbed our entire history, has fallen into extreme disrepair and is in need of major repairs. In order to carry out this important work and preserve this House of the Mother of God, the spiritual and administrative center of the Russian Church Abroad, we must raise \$15 million dollars. Thank God, a special commission has made inquiries and prepared plans for a phased repair, which have been approved by the Synod of Bishops.

In connection with all of this, as President of the Synod of Bishops, I appeal to the faithful children of our Church, her friends, public organizations, and benefactors with a heartfelt request and appeal - open your hearts and contribute what you are able to the repair and to the strengthening of our Holy Church! Do not forget that the House of the Mother of God, the headquarters of the Synod of Bishops, is also your home; it is the center of our Holy Church, leading each of us to eternal salvation.

I believe that the Most Blessed Theotokos and the Holy Hierarch John, the great archpastor of the Russian Diaspora, will not forsake us!

+ NICHOLAS

Metropolitan of Eastern America and New York

First-Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia

LIVES OF SAINTS

The Martyress Bassa with her sons Theognios, Agapios and Pistos, (+ C. 305-311) (*Commemorated Aug 21/Sept 3*) lived in the city of Macedonian Edessa and she was married to a pagan-priest. From childhood she had been raised in the Christian faith, which she passed on to her sons. During the time of the emperor Maximian Galerius (305-311), the husband reported to the governor on his wife and children. All of them, in spite of threats, refused to offer sacrifice to idols. They took the eldest son, Theognios, and tore at him with iron claws. They flayed the skin of the lad Agapios from head to chest, but the martyr did not utter a sound. Finally, they began to torture also the youngest son Pistos. The mother did not hesitate to encourage them to endure the suffering for Christ. Then they beheaded the lads. (By one account, the three martyred brothers suffered at Edessa in Macedonia; by another account -- at Larissa in Thessaly their homeland). They locked up Saint Bassa in prison and exhausted her with hunger, but an Angel strengthened her with heavenly food. Under successive tortures she remained unharmed from fire, water and beasts. When they brought her to a pagan temple, she shattered the statue of Zeus. Then they threw the martyress into a whirlpool in the sea. But to everyone's surprise a ship sailed up, and three radiant men pulled her up (the Monk Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain suggested, that these were her children, martyred earlier). After 8 days Saint Bassa came by ship to the governor of the island of Alona, not far from Kyzika, in the Prepontid or Marmora Sea. After a beating with canes they beheaded her.

It is known, that around the year 450 there already existed at Chalcedon a church in honour of the holy Martyress Bassa.

Saint Jesus Son of Navin (Joshua) (XVI CENTURY B.C.) (*Commemorated Sept. 1/Sept. 14*) after the death of the Prophet Moses was leader of the Israelite People. He conquered the Promised Land and brought upon it the Hebrew nation. The Lord worked a great miracle through Jesus Navinus. The Jews went across the River Jordan as though on dry land, the Archistratigos [Leader of the Heavenly Hosts] Michael appeared to Jesus Navinus, and the walls of the city Jericho -- besieged by the Israelites -- fell down by themselves after the Ark of the Covenant was carried around the city during the course of seven days. Finally at the time of the battle with the enemy, Jesus Navinus, by the will of God, halted the motion of the sun and prolonged the day until that moment when victory was won. After the end of the war, Jesus

Navinus divided the Promised Land among the 12 Tribes of Israel. He died at 110 years of age (XVI Century B.C.), in his last will commanding the nation to preserve the Law of Moses. All these events are recounted in the Book of Jesus Navinus (Joshua) (Chapters 3, 5, 6, 10), which is included within the Holy Bible.

Blessed John the Merciful of Rostov (also known as "Vlasaty" -- "the Hairy") (+ 1580) (*Commemorated Sept. 3/Sept16*) asceticised at Rostov in the exploit of holy folly (iurodstvo), in it enduring deprivation and sorrow. He did not have a permanent shelter and at times took his rest at the house of his spiritual father -- a priest at the church of the All-Holy ("Veskhsvyatsk"), or with one of the aged widows. Living in humility, patience and unceasing prayer, he spiritually nourished many a person, in which number was also the Monk Irinarkh, Hermit of Rostov (Comm. 13 January). After his lengthy life of pursuing asceticism he died on 3 September 1580 and was buried, according to his final wishes, alongside the church of Saint Blaise beyond the altar.

He had "hair upon his head abundantly", wherefore he was called "Vlasaty" or "Hairy". The title "Merciful" was bestowed upon Blessed John for the many healings that occurred at his grave, and also in connection with the memory of the holy Patriarch John the Merciful (VII Century, Comm. 12 November), whose name he had in common.

The Martyrs Bidjen (Cholokashvili), Shalva and Elizbar of Xana (+ 1660, GRUZIA) (*Commemorated Sept 18 /Oct 1*) -- were Gruzian princes who liberated Kakhetia (Eastern Gruzia/Georgia) from the Persians. At the demand of shah Abbas II all three were handed over to him, with the connivance of the Gruzian emperor Vakhtang V (1658-1675), who had accepted Islam and became known under the name Shah-Navaza.

When they brought the holy captives before the shah, then at the typical interrogation they answered, that they were Christians. No one was able to force the conviction of the martyrs to change, standing firm as they did in their confession of faith in Christ. Shah Abbas, trying every which way, including promises, threats and tortures, sent Bidjen, Elizbar and Shalva to the former ruler of Kakhetia, the sultan of Aldaran, who lived then at Ispagana. The sultan, seeing their steadfastness, gave orders that after fierce tortures the heads of Elizbar and Shalva be cut off, and that this be done before the eyes of Bidjen. Bidjen he ordered as a sign of shame to be dressed in

prostitute's attire and led through the city on a donkey. When even after this Bidjen wavered not in the faith, they subjected him to new lacerations and torments: his body was broken at the joints, and finally, his venerable head was cut off.

This event happened on 18 September 1660 (by other accounts, the martyrs suffered under shah Sefi, son of Abbas II, in the year 1664). The bodies of the holy martyrs were thrown out in burial pits outside the city. By night a light shone over them, streaming down from the heavens. Seeing this, local Armenians removed and secreted the holy relics in their church. After a certain while the relics were transferred to Kartalin and with reverence buried in the Ikhort monastery near the city of Hora.

The Sobor (Assemblage) of Monastic Fathers, venerated in the Nearer Caves (of the Monk Antonii), (*Commemorated Sept 28 / Oct 11*) is celebrated now on 28 September. This general commemoration previously was on the first Saturday after the Leave-taking of the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, i.e. after 21 September. The establishing of the celebration of the general commemoration of the Monastics, venerated in the Antoniev Cave, -- on the Saturday after the Leave-taking of the feast of the Exaltation of the Venerable Cross, -- dates to the year 1670. During the restoration of the Caves, damaged by an earthquake, some of the relics of the ancient ascetics were uncovered and a temple built in honour of the Exaltation of the Venerable Cross.

In 1760 a stone church in honour of the Exaltation of the Venerable Cross was built over the Caves. In 1886 under the Kiev metropolitan Platon, the celebration of the memory of the Sobor (Assemblage) of the Nearer Caves was moved to 28 September, in conjunction with the celebrating on 28 August of the memory of the Assemblage (Sobor) of the Saints of the Farther Caves. Two canons to the Monastic Fathers, venerated in the Nearer Caves, are known: the first, compiled by the priest-monk Meletii the Orphan (inscribed in the Kiev Akathistnik of 1764). The second, found in the services to the Pechersk monastics, was compiled by Sainted Dimitrii of Rostov.

The Sobor (Assemblage) of the Monastic Fathers of the Nearer Caves includes (in parenthesis is given the day of individual memory, wherein also is located an account about the life of the saint):

The Monk Antonii (Anthony) the First-Founder (Comm. 10 July); the Monk Prokhor the Wonderworker, named the Weed-eater (Comm. 10 February); the Monk John the Faster (Comm. 7 De-

ember); the Monastic Juliania the Maiden, Princess of Ol'shansk (Comm. 6 July); the MonkMartyrs Vasiliu (Basil) and Feodor (Theodore) (Comm. 11 August); the Monk Polykarp, Archmandrite of Pechersk (Comm. 24 July); the Monk Varlaam, Hegumen of Perchersk (Comm. 19 November); the Monk Damian the Presbyter and Healer (Comm. 5 October); the Monk Nikodom the Prospora-maker (Comm. 31 October); the Monk Lavrentii (Lawrence) the Hermit, Bishop of Turov (Comm. 29 January); the Monk Afanasii (Athanasii) the Hermit (Comm. 2 December); the Monk Erasm the Black-Garbed (Comm. 24 February); the Monk Luke, Steward of Pechersk (Comm. 6 November); the Monk Agapit, Gratuitous Physician (Comm. 1 June); Monks Theophil the Exact-Sighted and John the God-pleasing, within a single Coffin (Comm. 29 December); the Monk Nektarii the Obedient (Comm. 29 November); the Monk Grigorii (Gregory) the Iconographer (Comm. 8 August); the PriestMartyr Kuksha, Enlightener of the Vyati (Comm. 27 August); Monk Aleksii (Alexei) the Hermit (Comm. 24 April); Monk Savva the God-pleasing (Comm. 24 April); Monk Sergei the Obedient (Comm. 7 October); the Monk Mekurii, Bishop of Smolensk (Comm. 7 August); the Monk Pimen the MuchSick (Comm. 7 August); the Monk Nestor the Chronicler (Comm. 27 October); the MonkMartyr Evstratii (Comm. 28 March); Monk Elladii the Hermit (Comm. 4 October); Monk Jeremiah the Perspicacious (Comm. 5 October); MonkMartyr Moisei (Moses) the Ugrian (Hungarian) (Comm. 26 July); Monk John the MuchSuffering (Comm. 18 July); Monk Mark the Grave-digger (Comm. 29 December); the Monk Nikola Svyatosha, Prince of Chernigov (Comm. 14 October); Martyr Grigorii (Gregory) the Wonderworker (Comm. 8 January); Monk Onysim the Hermit (Comm. 4 October and 21 July); Monk Matfei (Matthew) the Perspicacious (Comm. 5 October); Monk Isaiah the Wonderworker (Comm. 15 May); Monk Avramii (Abraham) the WorkLover (Comm. 21 August); Monk Nyphont, Bishop of Novgorod (Comm. 8 April); Monk Syl'vester the Wonderworker (Comm. 2 January); Monk Pimen the Faster (Comm. 27 August); the Monk Onuphrii the Silent (Comm. 21 July); Monk Anatolii the Hermit (Comm. 3 July); the Monk Alypii the Iconographer (Comm. 17 August); Monk Sisoii the Hermit (Comm. 24 October); Monk Theophil the Hermit (Comm. 24 October); Monk Aretha the Hermit (Comm. 24 October); Monk Spiridon the Prospora-maker (Comm. 31 October); the Monk Onysiphor the Confessor (Comm. 9 November); Monk Simon, Bishop of Suzdal' (Comm. 10 May);

the Monk Nikon, Hegumen of Pechersk (Comm. 23 March); Monk Theophan the Faster (Comm. 11 October); the Monk Makarii (Comm. 19 January); Monk Martyr Anastasii the Deacon (Comm. 22 January); Twelve Greek Master Architects of the Kievo-Pechersk Great Church in honour of the Uspenie (Dormition) of the Most Holy Mother of God (Comm. 14 February); Monk Avramii (Abraham) the Hermit (Comm. 29 October); Monk Isaakii (Isaac) the Hermit (Comm. 14 February); Martyr John the Infant (Comm. in common with the 14,000 Infants killed at Bethlehem by Herod -- 29 December); Monk Ilya of Murom (Comm. 19 December); Monk Nikon the Lean (Comm. 11 December); Monk Ephrem, Bishop of Pereyaslav' (Comm. 28 January); Monk Tito the Priest Monk (Comm. 27 February).

Besides these enumerated Saints, amidst the Pechersk Monastics are known 30 Saints of God, of whom were preserved myrh-bearing heads. In the Service to the Monastic Fathers of the Nearer Caves on 28 September are mentioned also: the Monk Ephrem the Priest (ode 9), -- about whom the priest-monk Afanasii Kal'pophyisky wrote in 1638, that his undecayed body, dressing in priestly vestments, lay opposite the relics of the Monk Ilya of Murom; and about the Monk Evstathii, formerly in the world a goldsmith (ode 8).

In the Canon of Meletii the Orphan also is mentioned: Sainted Dionisii, Archbishop of Suzdal' (Comm. 26 June and also 15 October). The sainted-hierarch was detained by the Lithuanian prince at Kiev upon his elevation by Constantinople to the dignity of Metropolitan of Moscow. He died on 15 October 1384 and was placed in the Antoniev Cave.

Besides the Monks mentioned in the Services, the priest-monk Afanasii Kal'pophyisky in his Manuscript of 1638 indicated yet more Saints, whose uncovered relics they venerated: the Monk Ieronym, Hermit and Wonderworker; the Monk Meladii, holy Elder and Wonderworker; the Monk Pergii, holy Elder; the Monk Pavel (Paul), -- a monk of Wondrous Obedience.

In the old hand-written Kalendars are preserved the names of priests: the Monk Meletii, the Monk Serapion, the Monk Philaret, the Monk Peter.

In one of the branches of the Nearer Caves was discovered on 24 May 1853 an inscription on the crypts from the XI Century: "Lord, preserve as Thy servants Theodosii and Theophil, many years"; "Grave of the Cave-Dweller Ivan -- here lived and is now Ivan the sinner"; on an oak-board: "Ivan the Cave-Dweller". Thus were revealed names of the new Pechersk Fathers: Theophil, Theodosii and John.

There is also a commemoration in common of the Monastics of the Nearer Caves together with the Monastics of the Farther Caves -- on the 2nd Sunday of Great Lent, when there is celebrated the Sobor (Assemblage) of all the Monastic Fathers of Kievo-Pechersk. The Canon of the Priest-monk Meletii the Orphan enters into the Service of that feastday (the Service to the Pechersk Monastic Fathers and to all the Saints, illumined in Little Russia, inscribed from Akathists with a Canon. Kiev, in the typography of the Kievo-Pechersk Uspenie Lavra, 1866).

Without doubt, far from all the names of the Kievo-Pechersk Monastic Fathers are known. In the in-common Commemoration of the Sobor (Assemblage) are glorified all the Fathers, illumined by ascetic deeds in the Caves. In the ikos of the Service of 28 September it speaks thus about this: "The praises to all those, whomever do be Thy Saints, O Blessed One, do reckon them multiplied more than the very sands. But Thyself, O Master Christ, having counted out the stars and named all named, grant them our prayers..."



ST. XENIA ORTHODOX CHURCH
P.O. Box 147 - Methuen, MA 01844
(phone) (978) 204-0428



SEPTEMBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 (Aug 19) 10 th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 1 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	2 (Aug 20)	3 (Aug 21)	4 (Aug 22) 7:30 PM Akathist & Sisterhood Meeting Fast	5 (Aug 23)	6 (Aug 24) Fast: wine & oil	7 (Aug 25) 5:30 All-Night Vigil
8 (Aug 26) 11 th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 2 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	9 (Aug 27)	10 (Aug 28) 5:30 PM Vigil	11 (Aug 29) Beheading of the Baptist 8:00 AM Hours & Divine Liturgy Fast: wine & oil	12 (Aug 30)	13 (Aug 31) Fast: wine & oil	14 (Sep 1) The Church New Year 5:30 All-Night Vigil
15 (Sep 2) 12 th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 3 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	16 (Sep 3)	17 (Sep 4)	18 (Sep 5) Fast	19 (Sep 6)	20 (Sep 7) 5:30 PM Vigil Fast: wine & oil	21 (Sep 8) NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS 8:00 AM Hours & Divine Liturgy 5:30 All-Night Vigil
22 (Sep 9) 13 th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 4 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	23 (Sep 10) 5:30 PM, Vigil	24 (Sep 11) Glorification of St. Xenia 9:00 AM Meeting of the Bishop, Hours & Hierarchial Divine Liturgy 12:00 Noon Festive Banquet	25 (Sep 12) Fast: wine & oil	26 (Sep 13) 5:30 PM Vigil	27 (Sep 14) ELEVATION OF THE CROSS 8:00 AM Hours & Divine Liturgy Fast: wine & oil	28 (Sep 15) 5:30 All-Night Vigil
29 (Sep 16) 14 th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 5 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	30 (Sep 17)	Oct 1 (Sep 18)	Oct 2 (Sep 19) 7:30 PM Akathist & Sisterhood Meeting Fast: wine & oil	Oct 3 (Sep 20)	Oct 4 (Sep 21) Fast: wine & oil	Oct 5 (Sep 22) 5:30 All-Night Vigil



ST. XENIA ORTHODOX CHURCH
P.O. Box 147 - Methuen, MA 01844
(phone) (978) 204-0428



OCTOBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 29 (Sep 16) 14th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 5 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	Sep 30 (Sep 17)	1 (Sep 18)	2 (Sep 19) 7:30 PM Akathist & Sisterhood Meeting Fast: wine & oil	3 (Sep 20)	4 (Sep 21) Fast: wine & oil	5 (Sep 22) 5:30 All-Night Vigil
6 (Sep 23) 15th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 6 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	7 (Sep 24)	8 (Sep 25)	9 (Sep 26) Fast: fish, wine & oil	10 (Sep 27)	11 (Sep 28) Fast: wine & oil	12 (Sep 29) 5:30 All-Night Vigil
13 (Sep 30) 16th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 7 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy 12:30 Great Vespers	14 (Oct 1) Protection of the Theotokos 8:00 AM Hours & Divine Liturgy	15 (Oct 2)	16 (Oct 3) Fast	17 (Oct 4)	18 (Oct 5) Fast: wine & oil	19 (Oct 6) 5:30 All-Night Vigil
20 (Oct 7) 17th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 8 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	21 (Oct 8)	22 (Oct 9)	23 (Oct 10) Fast: wine & oil	24 (Oct 11)	25 (Oct 12) Fast: wine & oil	26 (Oct 13) 5:30 All-Night Vigil
27 (Oct 14) 18th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 1 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	28 (Oct 15)	29 (Oct 16)	30 (Oct 17) Fast	31 (Oct 18)	Nov 1 (Oct 19) Fast	Nov 2 (Oct 20) 5:30 All-Night Vigil