



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

REPORT OF THE RECTOR TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF JANUARY 28, 2024

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

1. METRICS FOR THE YEAR 2023

Baptisms: 1	Marriages: 1	Catechumens: 9
Chrismations: 0	Marriage Blessings: 1	Funerals: 1

Official Census: Submitted to the Diocese on January 28, 2024: 60 members.

2. MAJOR EVENTS OF 2023

January	1	Circumcision / St. Basil / Vasilopita
	7	Blessing of the Atlantic @ St. George's in OC
	8	Rector's Blessing / Open House
	20	March For Life @ Washington DC
	21	10th Anniversary of the Enthronement of Met. Tikhon @ St. Nicholas in DC
	28	2023 Annual Parish Meeting
February	4	2-year Memorial: Protopresbyter Daniel Hubiak
	7	Women's Group Outing to The Irish Pennv in Salisbury, MD
	19	Project Illumination Presentation / Chili Cook-off / Meat-fare Sunday
	21	Installation of Mosaics at Archway
	26	Forgiveness Sunday / Clean Week
March	5	Sunday of Orthodoxy w/ Met. Tikhon / Blessing of Mosaics
	12	Installation of Parish Council
	26	Clergy Wives Birthday Party / Cornhole Tournament
April	2	Landscaping Installation at Archway
	8	Lazarus Saturday / Baptism of Pax Daniel Garcia
	9-16	Palm Sunday / Great & Holy Week / Pascha
	20, 21	Women's Psalter Group Dinner & Paschal Party / Open House @ DeArmitts
	23	Children's Egg Hunt / Basketball with Fr. John
May	6	Visit to the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival
	21	Cross Dive / Pool Opening
	27	Marriage of Steve and Kateri Parrish @ St. Andrew's in Lewes, DE
June	4	Holy Pentecost
	17	Outing to the Lavender and Lambs Festival
July	6	Shorebirds Game at Purdue Stadium in Salisbury, MD
	9	Going Away Party for Matushka Dunia Hubiak
	22	Women's Lunch and Swim

	23	Blessing of Chariots
	25	Men's Group @ Rowe's
August	6,15,16	Transfiguration, Dormition, Patronal Feast
	12	Choir Workshop
	27	Blessing of Teachers and Students
	29	Funeral: Danvella Marv Parsells
September	3	New Class on Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs
	30	Archdiocesan Assembly @ St. Nicholas Cathedral in Washington DC
October	1	New Catechumens: Dana Wvant & Alex Ortiz / Blessing of Choir / Church School
October	29	New Catechumen: Carol Fravel
November	5	Blessing of Those in the Healing Ministries / St. Michael's Party
	12	Leave-taking of Don and Anne Rowe
	19	New Catechumens: The Applegarth Family
	17	Watch Party: A Conversation About God
December	25	Nativity of the Lord

3. A REVIEW OF 2023

Project Illumination Completion

Ten mosaics were fashioned by artisans from the parish: Mirona Bendfelt (project lead), Rachael Howard, and Mat. Emily Parsells. A large mosaic of the Icon Not-Made-By-Hands was made by St. Elizabeth's Convent in Minsk, Belarus. Lighting was installed for the sign and mosaics, and a team of parishioners, headed by Taylor Applegarth, installed new landscaping. Metropolitan Tikhon blessed the installation on 3/5/23. This project is in memory of Fr. Daniel Hubiak, who founded the parish in 2000. May God bless the donors/laborers and may Fr. Daniel's memory be eternal!

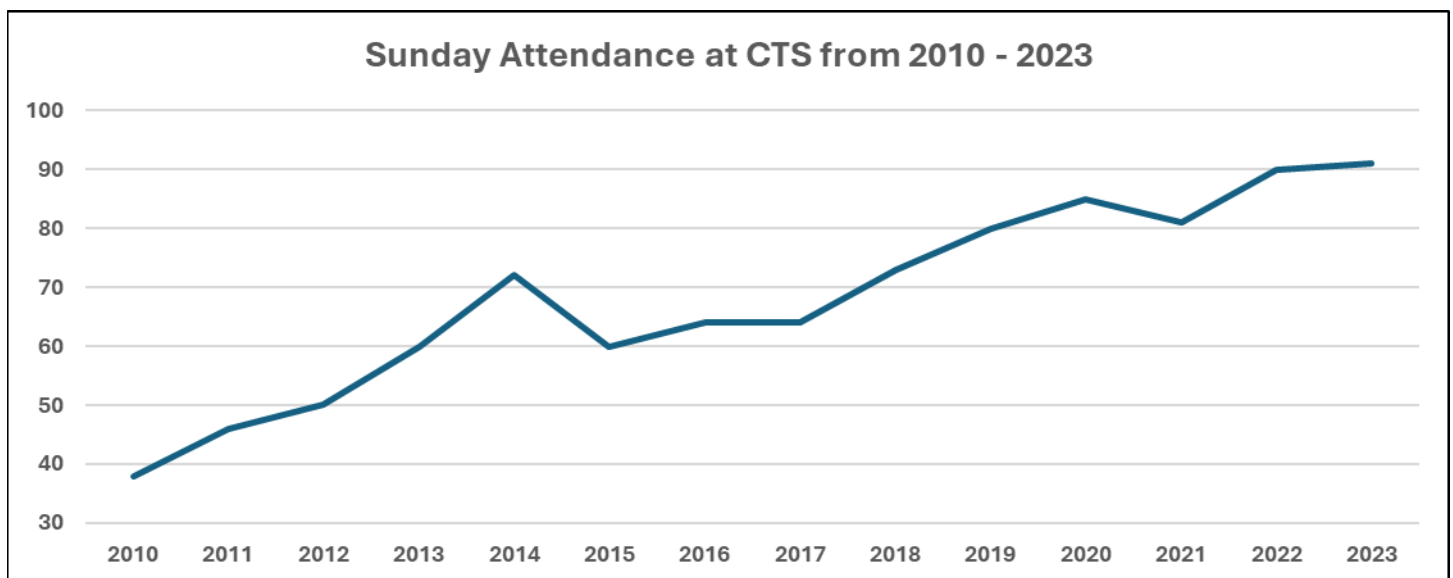
Exit Road Paving and Parking Lot Expansion

Another large-scale project was accomplished in 2023 as the exit road was paved and the parking lot expanded with donations made in memory of Dn. Steven Hall, who reposed 6/15/21. This much needed expansion literally "paves" the way for the future of Christ the Savior as our community continues to grow over the years. May the Lord bless the generous donors, especially Nissa Nancy Hall, and may Dn. Steve's memory be eternal!

Liturgy

Sincere appreciation is offered to our Liturgical Teams: Altar Servers, Choir Members/Director, Readers, Livestreamers, Greeters, Cleaners, and Ushers. May God bless them all!

Sunday Attendance: We averaged 91 people in 2023. Previous years: 90, 81, 85, 80, 73, 64, 64, 60, 72, 60, 50, 46, 38.



Education

- Sermons/Homilies (70+)
- Bible Study (40+)
- Reading Group (2)
- Movie Nights (2)
- Catechesis (30+)
- Church School (27)
- Retreats (1)
- Orthodoxy 101 (7)

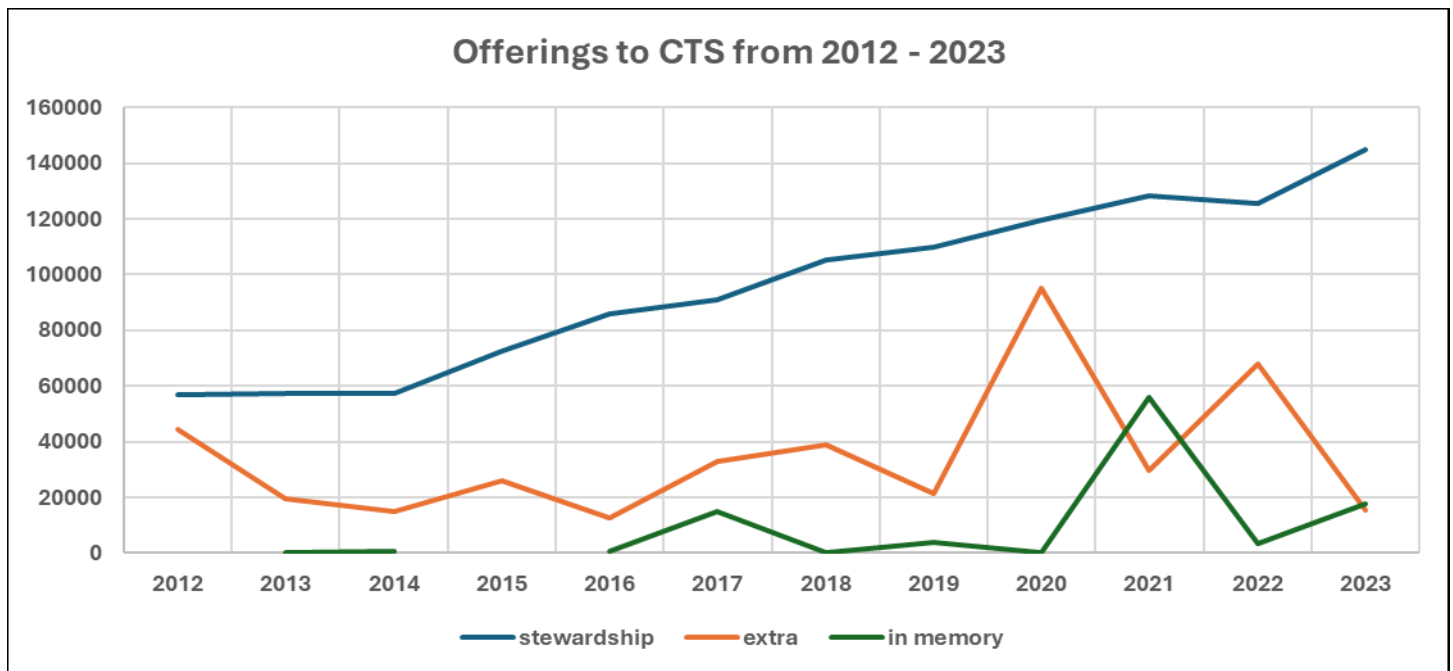
Fellowship / Outreach

- Coffee Hours (50+)
- Open Pool (15+)
- Knit Nights (9)
- Men/Women/Youth/Knit Group Outings (6)
- Parish Beach Days (5)
- Parish Park Days (3)
- Cornhole Tournament
- Chili Cook-off
- Shorebirds Game
- Firepit Nights (4)
- Open Houses (2)
- Women's Psalter Group Dinner
- Egg Hunt
- Basketball with Fr. John
- St. Michael's Day Party
- Parish Thanksgiving
- Parish Feastday Party
- House Blessings (13)

Appreciation is expressed to the organizers, cooks, servers, cleaners, and attendees of the coffee hours, festal meals, men's and women's outings, beach days, festival meals, barbecues, birthday celebrations, and other such events which bind our community together through fellowship. We likewise express our gratitude to the entire Outreach Committee, chaired by Margaret LoGerfo. May the Lord bless you for your efforts!

Stewardship

Thanks to the generous and sacrificial offerings of our donors, our general stewardship totaled some \$144,849 and we were able to complete the year in the black with a surplus of approximately \$3,500. Additionally, approximately \$33,000 was given for various capital improvements, charitable initiatives and other earmarks, bringing total income to \$178,056. Glory to God, and thank you for your strong support!



* Mortgage burning in 2016: \$318K donation

Church School

We offer a church school program in two age groups for children Pre-K to High School. The classes, held each Sunday, cover the Lives of the Saints for the younger group and the older group also attends the Orthodoxy 101 classes with Fr. John and reviews and discusses the presented topics the following week with their teachers. The academic year runs from October through May. Our teachers are Zach Davidson, Chris Morsey, and Cecilia Wyant.

Going Away Party for Matushka Dunia

On Sunday, July 9, we bid farewell to Matushka Dunia, who is relocating to western Pennsylvania. Christ the Savior was founded by Protopresbyter Daniel Hubiak, of blessed repose, with Matushka Dunia by his side. Since that time, she has served and cared for the community, which on this day expressed its love and appreciation for all that she has done and for the remarkable person that she has proven to be. We wish her many more blessed years!

Choir Workshop

On Saturday, August 12, 2023, a Choir Workshop for singers and readers was held at Christ the Savior. The workshop, led by Alexis Oleynik and a team of experienced choir directors/members/readers, was open to everyone who was interested in learning more about liturgical music and chanting no matter their experience, skill level, or age (children included!). The workshop provided an opportunity for the parish to grow together in its knowledge and proficiency in the Orthodox liturgical/musical arts. Appreciation is expressed to everyone who attended as well as Alexis DeArmitt, our choir director, and instructors: Mat. Annice Oleynik, Joanne Patrick, Anya Klimitchev, and Rdr. Nicholas Borodulia.

Transfer of Responsibilities to Choir Director

The choir director will now take over the full management of the digital and physical library of music, both sheet music and marked text, creating new files, and editing existing ones as necessary, putting together all services and associated texts, making copies available not just for the choir but also the people (as discussed with the priest). This work had been done by Fr. John for the last 17 years and he is extremely relieved to be able to pass it along to the contracted choir director as it is labor intensive. As is appropriate a budget neutral transfer of compensation which is commensurate with the workload has been included in the 2024 budget.

Patronal Feast

On Wednesday, August 16, 2023, the faithful and friends from neighboring churches gathered to celebrate the feast of the parish. Fr. John co-served with Archpriest Joseph Oleynik and Priest Christopher Xanthos, from St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Ocean City, who offered a beautiful homily on the Icon Not-Made-By-Hands. We were also pleased to have Protodeacon Paul Sokol, from Ss. Peter & Paul in Manville, NJ, serving with us for the festal services. Following the Divine Liturgy a luncheon was served and a pool party was enjoyed by all. Glory to God!

Funeral Held for Danyella Mary Parsells

On Monday, August 28, 2023, the Funeral Service was offered for the newly-departed handmaiden of God, Danyella Mary Parsells, the wife of Gregory Parsells and the daughter of Lydia Sandul. Our deepest sympathies are with them both as well as the entire family. May the Lord grant them His comforting and consoling grace! May the memory of Danyella Mary be eternal! May her soul dwell among the Righteous!

Orthodoxy 101 Class

In September we started a 1-hour class offered every other week as we read through and discuss together the OCA's newly released catechetical work: "Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs". Attendance ranges from 30-40 people.


Thank You to All: Fellow Clergy / Parish Council / Supporting Committees / "Unknowns"

I would like to sincerely thank my wife, Mat. Emily, and children, Ella, Alex, and Nicholai, together with my brother priest, Archpriest Joseph Oleynick (and Mat. Annice), the parish council, and supporting committees, and all who served the Lord in so many capacities, especially without recognition. Likewise, gratitude is expressed to those coming off the council this year: Joanne Bushman, Ginny Borodulia, and Patricia McAlpin, together with those who fulfilled their offices: Justin DeArmitt (Senior Warden) and Barabara Kaloroumakis (Treasurer). May God bless you all!

4. A VISION FOR 2024

This year the Rector and Parish Council will focus on:

1. Outreach and evangelism to the local community.
2. Development of plans for short and long-term expansion.
3. Securing the Parish's future through good stewardship and maintenance of infrastructure.
4. Learning, living, and loving our Orthodox Christian Faith.



Rector