

## RE-CLAIMING OUR HOMES FOR CHRIST: A NOTE ON HOUSE BLESSINGS

When our homes are blessed, we reclaim our homes, and everyone and everything in them, for Christ: our wives, our husbands, our marriages... our children... our working and studying... our worrying and our struggling... our decisions and our dilemmas... our successes and our rejoicing: we reclaim all of our lives for Christ, by inviting Him into our inner sanctum.

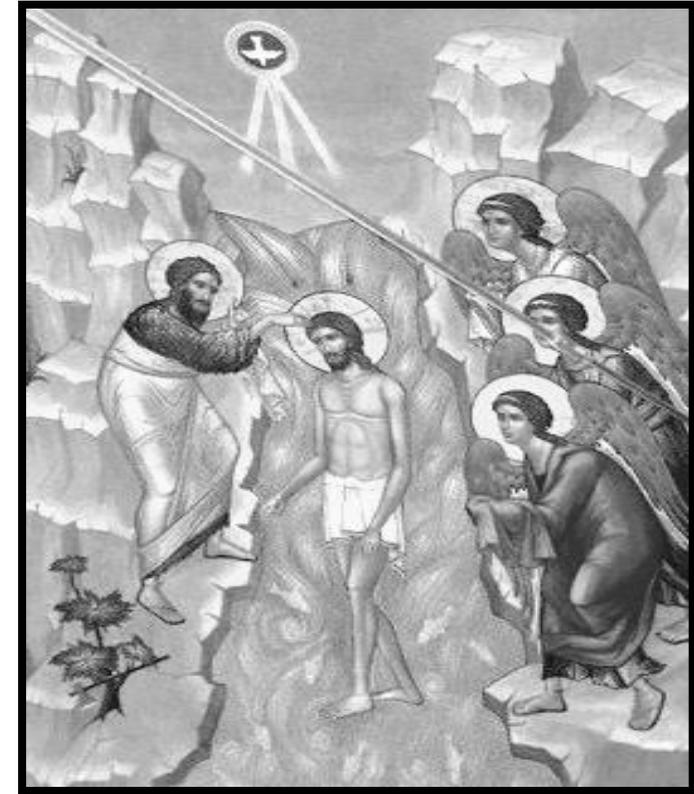


The custom of blessing homes during the Theophany season is of special beauty and significance. We show the Lord – and the devil – that we wish for God to physically expel every trace of sin, anger, bitterness, and worry that has invaded our homes and our families over the past year!

When Father comes to bless the family and house, these things should be prepared:

- A lit candle, an icon, and a wide bowl for Holy Water should be on the table.
- All radios, televisions, etc. should be turned off.
- All present in the house should come together and stand at the table.
- Lists of Departed and Living family members and loved ones to be prayed for.

## HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH Yonkers, New York



**Sunday, January 11, 2015**  
**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**  
**The Sunday After Theophany**

Because of ongoing and necessary repairs to our church furnace and chimney, there is no heat in the church. So, we have services in the Hall today. **The Yolka & Luncheon will immediately follow the Liturgy.** We ask everyone to pitch in with the transition from Liturgy to the Yolka and the clean-up afterward. ***Thank you very much*** to all who “dropped everything” and set up the hall for today – and to all who have worked to prepare for the Yolka!



## HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Trinity Plaza ♦ 46 Seymour Street ♦ Yonkers, New York 10701

Rector: Rev. David Cowan ♦ Protodeacon John Eby

Attached: V. Rev. John Tkachuk ♦ Rev. Vitaly Bahanovich

Rector Emeritus: V. Rev. Yaroslav Sudick, Ph.D., D.D.

Rectory Phone 914-965-6815 ♦ Email: frdavidcowan@gmail.com

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/holytrinityorthodox

Diocese of New York & New Jersey: www.nynjoca.org

**Sunday, Jan. 11, 2015 ~ 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Pentecost ~ Sunday After Theophany**

Epistles: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15, Ephesians 4:7-13; Gospels: Matthew 11:27-30, Matthew 4:12-17

### SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Today – Sunday After Theophany

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: Followed by the Christmas Yolka and Luncheon –  
Suggested Donation \$20 for Adults

#### Saturday, January 17

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM Great Vespers

#### Sunday, January 18

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy with Panikhida for Wladimir Kowalczyk, requested by his wife, Maria Kowalczyk; for Joanna Kurylo (10th Anniversary of her repose), Stefan Kurylo, Semeon Kowalczyk, Maria & Osif Durkot, and Julia & Teodor Kowalczyk, by the families of John Kowalczyk & Maria Rysz; and for John Kowalczyk, by Roman Gebuza.

3:00 PM Wedding of George Miroshnikov and Madeline Loving

#### Saturday, January 24

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM Great Vespers

#### Sunday, January 25 – Zacchaeus Sunday

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Following the Liturgy: Annual Parish Meeting. Amendments to our Bylaws will be proposed and voted on, provided we have a quorum. The proposed amended Bylaws are available now for review by any parishioner. See Fr. David. ALSO: Last year's Annual Meeting Minutes are available for review; see Jim Perry.

#### Thursday, January 29

7:00 PM Great Vespers & Litya – The Three Holy Hierarchs

#### Friday, January 30 – Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs: Saints Gregory the Theologian, Basil the Great, and John Chrysostom

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

**WELCOME NEWCOMERS & VISITORS:** It is our joy to have you here today!  
Please introduce yourself to Fr. David when everyone comes up to venerate the Cross at the end of Liturgy. Then, join us for Coffee Hour next door!



*“How can we thank God enough for you  
in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?”  
(1 Thessalonians 3:9)*

*You are cordially invited to attend  
the New York City Deanery Appreciation Dinner  
for the 2014 Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors  
of the Diocese of New York & New Jersey*

*hosted with gratitude by  
His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL*

*Sunday, February 15, 2015  
at five o'clock in the evening*

*Holy Trinity Orthodox Church  
46 Seymour Street  
Yonkers, NY 10701*

*~You are encouraged to bring family members and parish guests~*

*RSVP by Sunday, February 8 with the number attending  
to Fr. David Cowan 914.965.6815 or email: frdavidcowan@gmail.com*

**WANT TO HELP A STRUGGLING PARISH, MISSION, OR SEMINARIAN WITHIN OUR DIOCESAN FAMILY?  
Become a DISTINGUISHED DIOCESAN BENEFACTOR!**

To see a video “slice of life” of our Diocesan churches, visit [www.nynjoca.org/vision\\_for\\_future\\_2012.html](http://www.nynjoca.org/vision_for_future_2012.html) ... and scroll down to VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS. Questions? See Fr. David.





Thursday, January 22, 2015 marks the 42nd Anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion in the United States. Orthodox Christians from across the country will travel to the US Capital for the annual March for Life or participate in similar regional events.

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, and His Grace, Bishop Michael of New York, will be among the Orthodox Christian hierarchs, clergy, seminarians and faithful participating in the annual March for Life in the US Capital on January 22. The rally on the DC Mall will begin at noon. Orthodox Christian marchers are asked to gather to the right of the stage under the iconic “Orthodox Christians for Life” banner and signs. At the conclusion of the pre-March program, participants will make their way to the US Supreme Court, where prayers for the victims of abortion will be offered.

The Saint Ambrose Society at Saint Vladimir’s Seminary will be sponsoring a bus for those faithful in the New York City area who wish to participate. The bus will depart the seminary campus at 5:00 a.m. and return at approximately midnight. Cost is \$20.00 per individual, and \$30.00 for married couples and families.

#### ***PASTORAL CARE – GENERAL INFORMATION***

***Emergency Sick Calls*** can be made at any time. Please call Fr. David’s cell phone, 1-(570) 878-5074, when a family member is admitted to the hospital.

***Anointing In Sickness:*** The Sacrament of Unction is available in Church, the hospital, or your home, for anyone who is sick, however severe. It doesn’t mean “Last Rites!”

***Marriages and Baptisms*** require early planning, scheduling, and selection of sponsors (crown bearers or godparents). See Father before booking dates and reception halls!

***Funerals*** are celebrated for practicing Orthodox Christians. Please see Father for details.

***The Church opposes cremation; we cannot celebrate funerals for cremations.***

**TODAY’S EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 4:6-15** Brethren: it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.<sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.<sup>8</sup>We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;<sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed –<sup>10</sup>always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.<sup>11</sup>For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.<sup>12</sup>So then death is working in us, but life in you.<sup>13</sup>And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak,<sup>14</sup>knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.<sup>15</sup>For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

**TODAY’S GOSPEL Matthew 11:27-30** The Lord said to His disciples: “All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.<sup>28</sup>Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.<sup>29</sup>Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.<sup>30</sup>For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

**CHURCH WALL CALENDARS FOR 2015**  
will be here in the next several days.

**ALTAR SERVERS ~YOUNG and YOUNG-AT-HEART!**

The 2015 Diocesan **ALTAR SERVER RETREAT** is coming up –  
**Friday-Sunday, Feb. 6-8, at St. Basil's Academy, Garrison, NY.**  
Some of our boys are signed up ... join us! Please see Fr. David for details.

**SCHOLARSHIPS SOUGHT FOR ST. ANDREW'S CAMP:**

His Grace, Bishop Michael, is appealing to individuals  
across our Diocese, who realize that they have been blessed by God and  
are in a position to share in those blessings, to provide a  
Christmas “gift of Camp for a week”  
for our young people to attend St. Andrew's Camp, in Jewell, NY, this coming summer.

Your gift would bless a camper who otherwise could not attend St. Andrew's  
because of financial constraints. The cost of Camp is \$300 per week  
per individual – that includes room and board, meals, and all activities, including  
at least one special excursion each week.

Checks may be made payable to St. Andrew's Camp Scholarship,  
and mailed to: Diocesan Chancery, 33 Hewitt Ave., Bronxville, NY 10708.  
Visit [www.saintandrewscamp.org](http://www.saintandrewscamp.org) for more information on the Camp.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

- Sun., Feb. 15, 5:00 PM: Bishop Michael Hosts the Annual Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors Appreciation Dinner, Here!** All parishioners are invited ... and anyone who could help serve this dinner (which will be catered) would be greatly appreciated! See Matushka Tamara to offer your assistance.
- Sat., March 21: Lenten Retreat with Abbot Sergius of St. Tikhon's Monastery.** Details coming soon!

**PRAYER LIST**

**Above all, we are a praying community. Keep this list in your prayer corner, and in your daily prayers, remember our Brothers & Sisters in Christ:**

Anatole Honczarenko; Matushka Patricia Mason; the newly baptized Anastasia VanLare; Catechumen Mary Ann Paprocki; Adriana Szpynda; Paul “PJ” Sulich; Christina McDonald; Mary Smith; Fr. John Tkachuk; the child David; newborn Micah Needham, Elena King; Ludmila Branzow; Katherine & newborn Gabriel Brasowski; Natasha Harris; Nathan Orsini; Olga Ptach; Suzanne Gee; Peter Tymus, Jr.; Matthew & Malek, traveling in the Middle East; Dorothy Vernak; Nikolette Katechis; John Loving; Mat. Leanne Parrott and the child to be born to her; Nicholas Washenko; Maryanne Nolan; His Eminence, Archbishop Seraphim; George & Madeline, Jason & Kimberly Ovsag, Paul & Natalia, Joshua & Jacqueline, Norm & Elena, Stan & Victoria, and all those preparing for marriage; Kevin Kuzmenko; Shawn Malone; Metropolitan Paul and Bishop Gregorios, Vera Bullock; John & Julia Wislocki; Schuyler Perry; Doris Morin; Kelly Ray; Justin Solak; Carmen Fesh; Deborah Chaiko; Anne Kakos, Kay Baker (Anne's sister); Vitaliy Khutko; Malcolm Kirkpatrick; Inga Serniak; Nikolai & Nadezhda Solidnov; Kathleen Nolan; the priests Frs. Leonid Kishkovsky, John Pawelchak, Herman Schick, Ken James Stavrevsky, Daniel Degyansky, Michael Koblosh, Stephen Mack; PDns. Peter Skoog & Michael Sochka; Alvin; Ann Belchyk; Aleksandra Borzova; Helen Delandri; Helen Dempsey; Olga Jaworski; Olga Juck; Mary Kalakuka; Mary Kantor; Daria Krawchuk; Olga Pavelchak; Stephanie Phillips; Tekla Rzyzyk; Mat. Juliana Schmemann; Zena Weshta; all those confined to hospitals, nursing homes, and their own homes due to illness; for all soldiers, especially Jorge; widows, orphans, prisoners, victims of violence, and refugees, especially in Iraq, Syria, Egypt, and the Ukraine; all those suffering chronic illness, financial hardship, loneliness, addiction, abuse, abandonment and despair; all Orthodox seminarians and their families; all Orthodox monks, nuns and all those considering the monastic life; all Orthodox missionaries and their families. Birthdays: Julia Wislocki (1/10), Nicholas Juliano (1/12), Kristina Ferguson (1/17).

**For blessed repose for the souls of:** Newly departed Helen Waryha (+12/14); Charles Brown (+12/6); Melinda Butler; the ever-memorable Vladimir & Vira; and all departed this life in hope of the Resurrection.

**Please give prayer requests to Fr. David, to Protodeacon John, or to an Altar Server. Typically, names remain on this list for 40 days, unless requested otherwise. Those confined to hospitals or homes, or suffering chronic illnesses, remain on the list.**

**PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS – our parish sons & daughters, OCF chapter members, AND those at nearby colleges who make HTO their spiritual home away from home!**

Michael Bouteneff	Madeline Loving	Peter Rzyzyk
Joe Giamarra	George Miroshnikov	Matt Skalski
Megan Jones	Kamille Perry	Alexandra Solak
Kaydee Kowalczyk	Schuyler Perry	Nick Thanasias
Dan Kozak	Roman Piwinski	Monika Wislocki
Peter Kreatsoulas	Amanda Rzyzyk	

**Please tell Fr. David if there are any errors or omissions on this list.**