

**A Heartfelt THANK YOU
To All of Our Bingo Workers ...**

After more than 50 years ...
Friday Night Bingo at Holy Trinity has closed.

We are truly grateful to everyone who has
worked so faithfully – with smiles –
to set up, bring supplies,
cook and serve refreshments,
run the games, manage the money,
welcome our guests, and clean up afterward ...
nearly every single Friday night since
the Education Building was dedicated in 1962!

Through your selfless sacrifice
of time, talent, treasure and good cheer --
and all those Friday nights when
you could have been doing something else,
but came here instead! -- you have helped
ensure the financial stability of our parish,
and provided countless hours of
fun and fellowship for our neighbors
from near and far who have
come here to enjoy themselves for so many years.

**THANK YOU,
And MAY GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!**

**HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
Yonkers, New York**



**Sunday, December 20, 2015
29th Sunday After Pentecost ~ Tone 4
Sunday Before the Nativity of Our Lord
St. Ignatius of Antioch, the God-Bearer**

The Ladies' Guild Gift Shop
has new items in stock for your Christmas Shopping!
Please stop there on your way to Coffee Hour!



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Trinity Plaza ✦ 46 Seymour Street ✦ Yonkers, New York 10701
 Rector: V. Rev. David Cowan ✦ Protodeacon John Eby
 Attached: V. Rev. John Tkachuk ✦ Rev. Vitaly Bahanovich
 Rector Emeritus: V. Rev. Yaroslav Sudick, Ph.D., D.D.
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 Diocese of New York & New Jersey: www.nynjoca.org

Sunday, December 20, 2015 ~ 29th Sunday After Pentecost; Tone 4
 Sunday Before the Nativity of Our Lord
 St. Ignatius the God-Bearer of Antioch
 Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40; Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Today – Sunday Before the Nativity of Our Lord

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy* with *Panikhida* for Loved Ones requested by Vladimir and Vitaliy Khutko, followed by Coffee Hour and Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, Dec. 23

6:00 PM Christmas Caroling – At St. John's Riverside Hospital,
 967 S. Broadway, Yonkers – Meet in the Lobby at 6:00 PM

Thursday, Dec. 24 – Eve of the Nativity

8:00 AM *Royal Hours for the Nativity of Our Lord*
 5:30 PM Holy Supper – Please call Mat. Tamara, 965-6815 if you plan to come!
 8:00 PM *Vigil* for the Nativity of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ ~
 Take Home Your Red Christmas Vigil Candle!

Friday, December 25 – Christmas: The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

10:00 AM *Divine Liturgy* for the Nativity of Christ
 Followed by Agape Meal in the Hall – All Are Welcome!

Saturday, December 26 – The Synaxis of the Mother of God

10:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*
 5:30 PM Private Confession Available
 6:00 PM *Great Vespers*

Sunday, December 27 – Saints Joseph, David, James, and Protomartyr Stephen

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*, Followed by Coffee Hour & Christmas Caroling Visits
 to Homebound Parishioners: All Are Welcome to Come Sing!



The Nativity Season



EVENTS IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY ...

- **Wed 12/23, 6pm in the Hospital Lobby: Caroling at St. John's Riverside Hospital, 967 S. Broadway, Yonkers** – Choir members will lead the singing, and everyone else is welcome to join in! Let's bring the joy of Christmas to the ill and infirm – and to the hospital staff, who are often unable to go to their own services because of their work schedules.
- **Thurs 12/24 5:30 PM: Holy Supper** at the Rectory ... Let Mat. Tamara know you'd like to come! A traditional lenten Christmas Eve meal, it is the last meal of the Advent fast. Fasting foods served can include barley, honey, stewed prunes, pierogi, sauerkraut, potatoes, lima beans, garlic, Lenten bread, or mushroom soup. A lit candle symbolizes the star of Bethlehem. The bread broken and shared symbolizes Christ at the Last Supper. Foods range from bitter to sweet to remind us of the bitterness of life before Christ's birth and its sweetness after He came. After supper, all attend the Christmas Eve vigil. Hay under the tablecloth recalls the manger where Jesus' Mother placed Him. An extra place is always set -- for Jesus, either in Spirit, or in the form of a traveler or stranger, for none are turned away on this day without a warm invitation to partake!
- **Sun 1/10 Christmas Yolka, After the Liturgy:** This year's Yolka features a Parish Talent Spotlight! Everyone – of all ages – is invited to share your talents. Sign up with Matushka Tamara, (914) 965-6815, tamarancowan@hotmail.com

Find Spiritual Nourishment for Your Family and You During the Advent Fast!

- Short Video Talks by Archbp. Michael: www.nynjoca.org/lessons_in_our_faith.html
- Nativity Lessons and Resources for Families: www.antiochian.org/nativity
- Streaming Orthodox Music from Ancient Faith Radio: www.ancientfaith.com/radio#

OUR LOCAL CHARITY FUND NEEDS REPLENISHING ... THANK YOU!

Thanks to your generosity the last time we ran a "Local Charity Fund Appeal," our parish was able to provide Thanksgiving meals for 5 local families.

Now ... your generosity is sought to replenish the Local Charity fund!

Anyone able to donate, please see Fr. David or Financial Secretary Joel Statkevics.

The ANNUAL PARISH MEETING is SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2016.

In order to have a voice and vote at the Annual Meeting, take any needed steps to fulfill all the following requirements. Thank you!

- partake in the Sacraments of private Confession, and Holy Communion at least once a year,
- fulfill all financial obligations, as established by the parish, by the end of the year [currently, this is the \$145/year Diocesan Assessment]

Voting isn't everything ... Communion with Christ is! Still, your voice is valuable.

So please, work on meeting these criteria so that you can participate both spiritually and materially in the care and growth of your family in Christ!

PASTORAL CARE – GENERAL INFORMATION

Emergency Sick Calls can be made at any time. Please call Fr. David at (914) 965-6815, 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.

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 ... and scroll down to VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS. Questions? See Fr. David.



TODAY'S EPISTLE Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 Brethren: By faith

Abraham dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR
A.S.P. TEEN MISSION TEAM!**

Friendship Soup Mix -- \$8/Jar; Makes 3 Qts.
Look for it at coffee hour today!

Customers are Raving: "Dad, Can I Have Some Of Your Soup?" – Gabriel
("Hey, Leave Me Some!" – Fr. David)



TODAY'S GOSPEL Matthew 1:1-25 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:2Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers.3Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram.4Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon.5Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse,6and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah.7Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. 8Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah.9Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah.10Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah.11Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon.12And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel.13Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor.14Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud.15Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob.16And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.17So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.18Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.19Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.20But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.21And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.22So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:23Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, "God with us."24Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife,25and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

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:

Sophie Turko; Daniel Paprocki; Andrew, Julia & Dmitriy Galkin; Nataliya Kaufova; Zoya Levankovskaya; Alexandra, Roman & Valeriy Spechev; the survivors of the terrorist attacks in France and California; Adnan Abbasi; newborn Amelia; newborn Courtney Lyzak; Anatole Honczarenko; Tekla Rzyk; Timothy; Mat. Anastasia Harris; Jennifer Drake; Elias Kachur; Mat. Olga Meerson; Elena Herman; Eleanor Wasilko; Adriana Szynda; baby Alena King; Ludmila Branzow; Suzanne Gee; Evan; Nicholas; Dorothy Vernak; Nikolette Katechis; expecting parents Juliana & Mark Federoff, Mat. Anastasia & Fr. Timothy Hojnicky, Mat. Viktoria & Fr. Adrian Budica and their unborn children; Nicholas Washenko; Maryanne Nolan; Stan & Victoria, and all those preparing for marriage; Kevin Kuzmenko; Shawn Malone; Metropolitan Paul and Bishop Gregorios, Vera Bullock; Julia Wislocki; Schuyler Perry; Doris Morin; Kelly Ray; Justin Solak; Carmen Fesh; Anne Kakos, Kay Baker; Vitaliy Khutko; Malcolm Kirkpatrick; Nikolai & Nadezhda Solidnov; Kathleen Nolan; the priests Frs. Vitaly Bahanovich, John Tkachuk, John Udics; Joseph Chupeck, Jonathan Ivanoff, Leonid Kishkovsky, Joseph Kreshik; John Nehrebecki, Herman Schick, David Shewczyk, Ken James Stavrevsky, Daniel Degyansky, Stephen Mack, PDn. Peter Skoog; Klara Borzova; Helen Delandri; Helen Dempsey; Irene Homa; Olga Juck; Mary Kalakuka; Mary Kantor; Daria Krawchuk; Vincent & Mary Macagnone; Olga Pavelchak; Stephanie Phillips; Mat. Juliana Schmemann; Martha Slivka; Zena Weshta; all those confined to hospitals, nursing homes, and their own homes due to illness; for all soldiers, especially Jorge, Bryan & Mykola; 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 & families, especially John & Brenda Mikitish; all Orthodox monks and nuns, especially Monk Seraphim, and all those considering the monastic life; all Orthodox missionaries and their families.

For blessed repose for the souls of: The victims of the terrorist attacks in France (+11/13) and California (+12/2); Fr. Gabriel Seamore & Mat. Barbara Stashkevetch (+12/2); Betty Israel (+12/1); Nathan Orsini (+11/30); Olya Pyrih (+11/25); Mario Luigi Saraceno (+11/10); Yuri Maslov (+11/01); Maria and Daniel; the ever-memorable Tatiana & Peter Simonov; William Moskwa; all those named Herman; and all those 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.