



TEENS AND 20-SOMETHINGS --

Exploring Ministry: A Day in NYC to Discover How You Can Serve the Church

Come and meet with other Orthodox teens and young adults who are interested in serving the Church. Men and women, 20-somethings and teens are invited to Holy Virgin Protection Cathedral in NYC on **Saturday, May 14th at 10 AM** for a day of discovering what opportunities are available in the Church. Those in attendance will hear from men and women who are currently serving the Church in a variety of ways: Hospital and Military Chaplains, Parish Priests, a Full-time Deacon, a Full-time Choir Director, and a Theology Professor. Hear their stories and ask your questions.

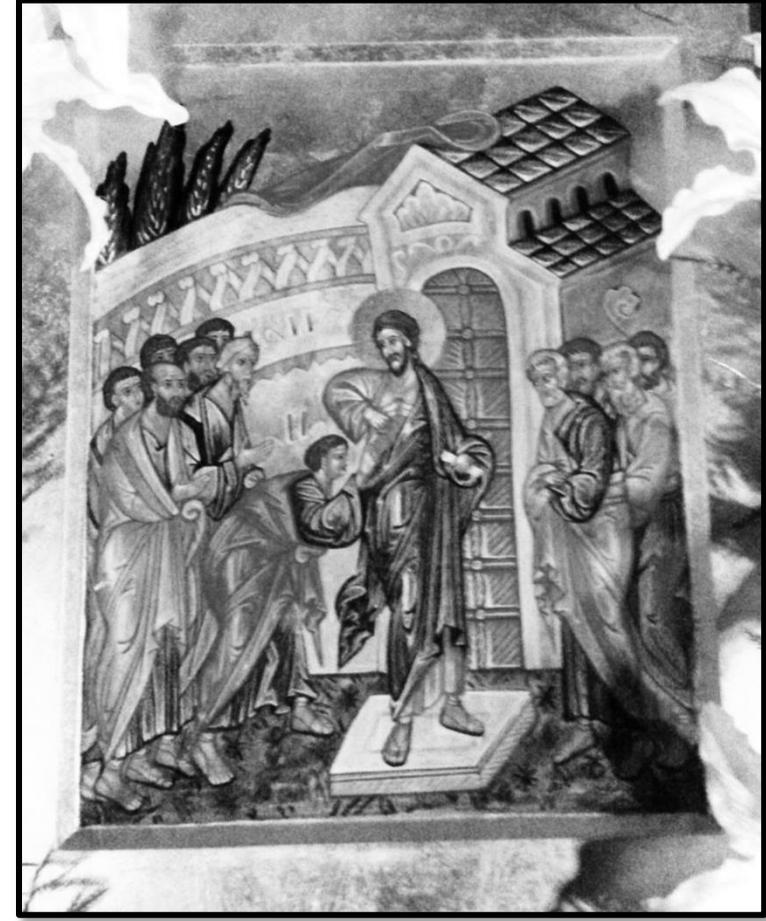
Lunch will be included and a tour will be given of the Cathedral and its urban ministries. All those in attendance will be given a spiritual gifts inventory and a book about vocations and discerning a call to ministry. The day will end with a trip to Saint Vladimir's Seminary for a tour. Transportation will be provided.

Vigil will be held at the Seminary at 6:30 PM and at the Cathedral at 5:30 PM for those who wish.

This event has been organized by the Diocese of New York and New Jersey (OCA) and has been funded by a grant from The Forum for Theological Education. It is open to Orthodox teens and young adults from all jurisdictions.

For questions contact Rev. Matthew Brown at pristmattthewbrown@gmail.com or 201-972-0014

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH Yonkers, New York



**Sunday, May 8, 2016 ~ Saint Thomas Sunday
CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

***ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕСЕ!
ВОИСТИНУ ВОСКРЕСЕ!
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!***



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.
 Rectory Phone 914-965-6815 ✦ Email: frdavidcowan@gmail.com
 Web: www.holytrinityyonkers.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/holytrinityorthodox
 Diocese of New York & New Jersey: www.nynjoca.org

May 8, 2016: Saint Thomas Sunday ~ Saint John, the Theologian, Beloved Disciple

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20; Gospel: John 20:19-31

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday, May 8 ~ Sunday of St. Thomas, the Believing Disciple; and St. John the Theologian

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*, with Prayers for our Mothers, Living and Departed

1:00 PM *Blessing of Graves* at Oakland Cemetery

Monday, May 9

10:00 AM *Divine Liturgy* Celebrating Archbishop Michael's 6th Anniversary of Consecration and Enthronement. Archbishop Michael will be the main celebrant.

Saturday, May 14

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM *Great Vespers*

Sunday, May 15 ~ Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*

Saturday, May 21

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM *Great Vespers*

Sunday, May 22 ~ Sunday of the Paralytic

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*

Wednesday, May 25

6:00 PM Trinity Plaza Community Group Meeting – In Our Fellowship Hall

Saturday, May 28

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM *Great Vespers*

Sunday, May 29 ~ Sunday of the Samaritan Woman – Welcome, Archbishop Michael!

9:00 AM Greeting of Archbishop Michael

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*, Archbishop Michael Celebrating

At Coffee Hour; Luncheon with Archbishop Michael; Sign up with Mat. Tamara to bring a dish!

4:00 PM *Wedding* of Victoria Smolskaya and Stanislav Miroshnikov

Saturday, June 4

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM *Great Vespere*

NEW CHURCH CUSTODIAN NEEDED

If you are interested in assuming the custodial duties for the church building, then please see either Father David or Parish Council President Patricia Bouteneff.

FR. ROMAN BRAGA ON PRAYER “WHEREVER YOU ARE”

You have to talk with God wherever you are—even while walking along the street or driving your car you can say, “Lord, You are in the front seat, and I know that You are here. Tell me, why did You create me?” You have a lot of things, an infinite number of things, about which to converse with God, and God wants you to talk with Him.

Prayer is not about how much you read from the prayer book, or how long you kneel; prayer is your whole life. When you eat, when you drink, when you drive a car, when you discipline your children, you are in a state of prayer. Life is a Liturgy. It is not only in the church that the Liturgy takes place; the Liturgy is outside the church building too. The entirety of life should be a Liturgy—if you feel the existence of God.

But you have to get that feeling of the existence of God. How? I always say, especially to young people, “have a dialogue, a permanent dialogue, with God. Sure you are busy—you eat, you prepare your exam if you are a student, you work and you are very busy, but always say, “Lord I know You are here; I didn’t forget You. Look at me and do not abandon me.”

Many times, this permanent dialogue with God becomes a prayer, because prayer is communication between man and God.



Metropolitan Tikhon offers prayers after fire at NYC's Serbian Cathedral

On Bright Monday, May 2, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon sent a letter to Serbian Orthodox Bishop Mitrophan, offering prayers and concern in the wake of a four-alarm fire that engulfed St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral near West 25th Street and Broadway.



According to media reports, the blaze started at 6:50 p.m. on Pascha—May 1. Heavy flames burst through the roof and shot out of the large rose window on the façade of the cathedral, which was designated as a New York City landmark in 1968. Originally known as Trinity Chapel, the Gothic Revival edifice was designed in 1850 by architect Richard M. Upjohn. The Serbian Church bought the building from the Episcopal Diocese in 1943.

Over 700 parishioners had celebrated Pascha earlier in the day and had enjoyed a luncheon, but the cathedral was empty when the fire started. The cathedral's caretaker attempted to rush inside when he noticed the fire, but was turned back by the flames, fire officials said. He suffered from minor smoke inhalation. Media reports indicate that five others, including four firefighters, had been injured, none seriously.

The cathedral's Rev. Djokan Majstorovic told The Associated Press that he felt like he was "in a nightmare" as he tried to get to the fire scene that was blocked off by firefighters.

"With great sadness we learned of the tragic fire at the historic and beloved Saint Sava's Cathedral in New York City," Metropolitan Tikhon wrote to Bishop Mitrophan. "Please accept my personal expression of sadness and grief over this tremendous loss to the Serbian Orthodox community and to all the Orthodox in New York City.

"In this time of tragedy, I open my arms to Your Grace and your community to offer whatever assistance we can provide," Metropolitan Tikhon wrote. "With the blessing of Archbishop Michael, the Orthodox Church in America's Holy Protection Cathedral in New York City and its priest, Archimandrite Christopher Calin, are prepared to host your community and provide fully for a temporary home for Your Grace and the faithful of Saint Sava's. I pray that Your Grace and the community of Saint Sava's will find a measure of relief in our Lord's Pascha, and I pray that our Lord's Resurrection will give you the strength to lead your community through this difficult moment", the Metropolitan concluded.

TODAY'S EPISTLE Acts 5:12-20 In those days, through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch.¹³ Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.¹⁴ And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,¹⁵ so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.¹⁶ Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.¹⁷ Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation,¹⁸ and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison.¹⁹ But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said,²⁰ Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life.

TODAY'S GOSPEL John 20:19-31 At that time, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.²⁴ Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!"²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

COMING EVENTS, HERE AND ELSEWHERE...

- **Sat., May 14: Youth in your Teens and 20's -- "Exploring Ministry – A Day in NYC to Discover How You Can Serve the Church"**, at Holy Virgin Protection Cathedral, 59 E. 2nd Street, NYC. Visit www.exploringministry.org or see Fr. David.
- **Sat.-Sun., May 28-29: Archbishop Michael will be here for an Archpastoral Visit.**
- **Saturday, June 25, Time TBA (approx. 10AM-4PM), Parish Council Conference**, "Making the Transition to Stewardship As A Diocesan Family", Matushka Mary Breton, CPA, Treasurer of the Diocese – at Holy Virgin Protection Cathedral, 59 E. 2nd Street, NYC. All Parish Council members are requested to attend. Thank you!

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!

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|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Bassim Abbasi | Andrew Nolan | Matt Skalski |
| Michael Bouteneff | Kamille Perry | Alexandra Solak |
| Joe Ciamarra | Schuyler Perry | Justyna Skalski |
| Kaydee Kowalczyk | Roman Piwinski | Monika Wislocki |
| Dan Kozak | Amanda Rzyk | |
| Madeline Miroshnikov | Peter Rzyk | |

"Sending our kids to college without a connection to the Church is like sending children to play in traffic." -- Archbishop Michael
Please tell Fr. David if there are any errors or omissions on this list.

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.



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:

The faithful of St. Sava's Serbian Cathedral, whose church was destroyed by fire; Tanya Balasenowich; Anne Mikitish; Anna Bolinsky; Ghadfa Khoury; Boris Lyzak; Bill Bodack; Michael Speck; Jenifer Calomiris, recovering from surgery; Mat. Joanna Bohush; Elsa, Felicia, Brielis, Karelin & Beatriz; Stephanie Davis; Alexander Kravchenko; Virginia Shanahan; John O'Donnel; Nina Dimas; Richard Dosin; Elena Herman; John Paluch; Danielle Geeza; infant Maria; Courtney Lyzak; Anatole Honczarenko; Mat. Anastasia Harris; Jennifer Drake; Elias Kachur; Mat. Olga Meerson; Lorna Nelson; Eleanor Wasilko; Adriana Szynda; baby Alena King; Ludmila Branzow; Suzanne Gee; Christina and her child Giovanni; Daniel; Fadia; Gail; Nicholas; Nicholas Washenko; Kathleen & Maryanne Nolan; expecting parents Victoria & Joel Statkevics, Nadia & John Constantine, Mat. Anastasia & Fr. Timothy Hojnicky, Mat. Viktoria & Fr. Adrian Budica and their unborn children; Stan & Victoria, Kenneth & Christina and all those preparing for marriage; Kevin Kuzmenko; Shawn Malone; Metropolitan Paul and Bishop Gregorios, Vera Bullock; Schuyler Perry; Doris Morin; Kelly Ray; Carmen Fesh; Vitaliy Khutko; Malcolm Kirkpatrick; Nikolai & Nadezhda Solidnov; the priests Frs. Vitaly Bahanovich, John Tkachuk, Joseph Chupeck, Michael Hatrak, Jonathan Ivanoff, Leonid Kishkovsky, Joseph Kreshik; John Nightengale, Herman Schick, Ken James Stavrevsky, Stephen Mack, PDn. Peter Skoog; Klara Borzova; Helen Delandri; Helen Dempsey; Irene Homa; Olga Juck; Mary Kalakuka; Mary Kantor; Daria Krawchuk; Mary Macagnone; Olga Pavelchak; Stephanie Phillips; Tekla Rzyk; 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 & Marin; 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, and all those considering the monastic life; all Orthodox missionaries and their families; all our mothers, grandmothers, and godmothers on this Mother's Day; all those named Thomas and John. Birthdays: Barbara Knighton (Abp. Michael's sister, today); Alexandra Solak (5/12); Monika Wislocki (5/13). **For blessed repose for the souls of:** Newly departed Augustine Dimech (+5/4); Paul Murphy, Bogdan Saleh; Susan Cohen (+4/8); Daniel Paprocki (+3/31); Anne Speck (+3/30); Joseph John Nolan (Chris's uncle); Ivan, Evgeny, Nina; Antonina; our departed mothers, grandmothers, and godmothers; all the departed named Thomas and John; 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.