



CHRISTMAS CONCERT **BY OUR CHOIR!**



You'll get posters today—hand them out!
Thursday Evening, December 22, 7:00 PM

Concert in the Church; Reception Follows in the Fellowship Hall

We are very excited to be offering this showcase of our choir's gifts ...
the richness of Orthodox music for the Advent and Nativity season ...
and the unmatched beauty of our church

when it is lavishly decorated in joyous preparation for Our Lord's Nativity!

LAST CONCERT REHEARSAL: Monday, December 19, 7:30 PM.

A special *Thank You* to all who came and decorated, and
continue to beautify, the church this Advent season!
Your labor of love is noticed – and deeply appreciated!

The ANNUAL PARISH MEETING is SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2017.

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, and for the final year, this is the \$145/year Diocesan Assessment ... please bring yours by Dec. 11]

Voting isn't everything ... Communion with Christ is! Still,
your voice is valuable. So please, take action to meet these
requirements so that you can participate both spiritually
and materially in the care and growth of your family in Christ!

**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.*



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Yonkers, New York



Sunday, December 18, 2016 ~ 26th Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday Before the Nativity of Our Lord ~ The Holy Fathers
Martyrdom of St. Thaddeus of Tver (+1937)
Martyr St. Sebastian of Rome (4th century)

MEMORY ETERNAL: HELEN DEMPSEY

Helen fell asleep in the Lord last Sunday, December 11. Her services were
celebrated this past Tuesday and Wednesday;
she is laid to rest in Oakland Cemetery next to her beloved husband, James (+2014).

May Helen's memory be eternal!



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

Sunday, December 18, 2016 ~ 26th Sunday After Pentecost

**Sunday Before the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ ~ Sunday of the Fathers of Our Lord
Martyrdom of St. Thaddeus of Tver (+1937); Martyr St. Sebastian of Rome (+4th c.)**

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11; Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Today

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy* with *Panikhida* for Helen Dempsey, requested by Maria Kowalczyk; for Maria Stanczak, requested by the Prusak Family; for John Kowalczyk, by John & Cindy Kowalczyk & Family; and John & Julia Wislocki, by Anna & Lydia Jacewicz. After Liturgy: Coffee Hour & Church School.

Monday, December 19

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal – in the Church

Thursday, December 22

7:00 PM *Christmas Choir Concert & Reception* – Free and Open to the Public

Saturday, December 24 – The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord

8:00 AM *Royal Hours*

5:00 PM Holy Supper, at the Rectory – All Are Welcome, Please RSVP with Matushka Tamara, (914) 965-6815

8:00 PM *Vigil Service* for the Nativity of Christ ~ Take Home Your Red Christmas Candle!

Sunday, December 25 – The Nativity of Our Lord / Christmas ~ CHRIST IS BORN!

10:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*, Followed by Agape Meal

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

10:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*, Followed by Caroling Visits to the Homebound
All are welcome; especially children!

***Thank you to the 24 households who have
turned in their Pledge Forms for 2017!***

**That's 20 percent of the forms that were sent out. Let's grow this number
together and make a commitment to *Sacrificial Stewardship* of our
time, talents, and finances to our Holy Trinity Parish for this coming year!**

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:**

Madeline Miroshnikov; newborn Chloe Sannella (Olga Ptach's granddaughter); newborn Lukas Freeman (to Mat. Robin & Dn. Evan); Walter Donski; William & Virginia Fann; John Felenczak; Anna; Hari; Vincent Knarr; Mary Smith; Adnan Abbasi; Nicholas Macagnone; Tanya Balasenowich; Svetlana Wineski and the child to be born to her; the child Nadia Wineski; Ann Dahulich; Boris Lyzak; Stephanie Davis, Susan Hansen, Alexander Kravchenko, Virginia & Arthur Shanahan, John O'Donnel; Bill Bodack; Nina Dimas; Richard Dosin; catechumen Norman & Elena Herman; Courtney Lyzak; Anatole Honczarenko; Eleanor Wasilko; child Alena King; Ludmila Branzow; Suzanne Gee; Kathleen & Maryanne Nolan; Kevin Kuzmenko; Shawn Malone; Metropolitan Paul and Bishop Gregorios, Vera Bullock; Schuyler Perry; Vitaliy Khutko; Malcolm Kirkpatrick; Nikolai & Nadezhda Solidnov; the priests Frs. Ken James Stavrevsky, John Reeves, Vitaly Bahanovich, John Tkachuk; Matushki Katherine White, Anastasia Harris, Juliana Schmemann, and Masha Tkachuk; Klara Borzova; Helen Delandri; Irene Homa; Olga Juck; Mary Kalakuka; Mary Kantor; Daria Krawchuk; Mary Macagnone; Stephanie Phillips; Tekla Ryzyk; Martha Slivka; Nicholas Washenko; Zena Weshta; all those confined to hospitals, nursing homes, and their own homes due to illness; for all soldiers, especially Bryan, Mykola & Marin; widows, orphans, prisoners, victims of violence, and refugees, especially in the Middle East and in Ukraine; all those suffering chronic illness, financial hardship, loneliness, addiction, abuse, abandonment and despair; all Orthodox seminarians & families; all Orthodox monks and nuns, and all those considering monastic life; all Orthodox missionaries and their families. All those named Sebastian and Thaddeus.

For blessed repose for the souls of: Newly departed Arisleida Perez Losano (+12/15); Helen Dempsey (+12/11); the victims of the bombing of St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Cairo (+12/11); Darlene Larney; Donald Thetford (+12/1); Nina Kirsanoff (+11/14); Clara & Nikolai Patutin (+11/11, +11/12); the ever-memorable Lillian, Paul, Shawn, and Kitanna; Doris Morin; all the departed named Sebastian and Thaddeus; 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.**

CANDLE SPONSORSHIPS FOR DECEMBER:

Vigil Candle, Icon of Christ, Departed Members, Wirchansky Family. Living: Shanny Paul, Rafael, Jessica Catherine, Isabelle & Lucia Moreno; Wirchansky, Seckerson, and Carlucci Families. **Vigil Candle, Icon of the Theotokos,** Shanny Paul, Rafael, Jessica Catherine, Isabelle & Lucia Moreno.

**Saturday, Dec. 24, 5:00 PM:
Holy Supper at the Rectory**

***Let Mat. Tamara know
you would 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 tonight without a warm invitation to partake!

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!

Bassim Abbasi	Andrew Nolan	Joshua Rzyk
Elizabeth Bouteneff	August Perry	Peter Rzyk
Michael Bouteneff	Kamille Perry	Stephanie Rzyk
Joe Ciamarra	Schuyler Perry	Justyna Skalski
Jaroslav Kopcza	Christianna Piwinski	Monika Wislocki
Kaydee Kowalczyk	Roman Piwinski	
Dan Kozak	Amanda 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.

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.

SUPPORT YOUR ORTHODOX YOUTH MISSION TEAM!

Today, the Orthodox Youth Mission Team will be selling decorative jars of soup mix and cookie mix that make great Christmas gifts. The jars cost \$8 and the proceeds will go toward their trip to Alaska with the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC).

Your support is greatly appreciated!

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.

HERE WE GO, A-CAROLING!

Visits to Homebound Parishioners,
Monday, December 26, After 10AM Divine Liturgy



Our Brothers and Sisters Confined to Their Homes Need to know
Our Joy of the Feast!

*You'll Open Your Gifts Christmas Day;
The Day After Christmas, Give Back!*

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS YOUR HELP ...

... filling two positions, starting at the Annual Meeting on 1/29/2017:

Recording Secretary, currently held by Olga Ptach; and

Financial Secretary, currently held by Jessica Moreno.

If you are interested in serving in either of these roles, please see Fr. David.

THANK YOU to our Church School students, teachers, and families
for a wonderful St. Nicholas Play last Sunday!