

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

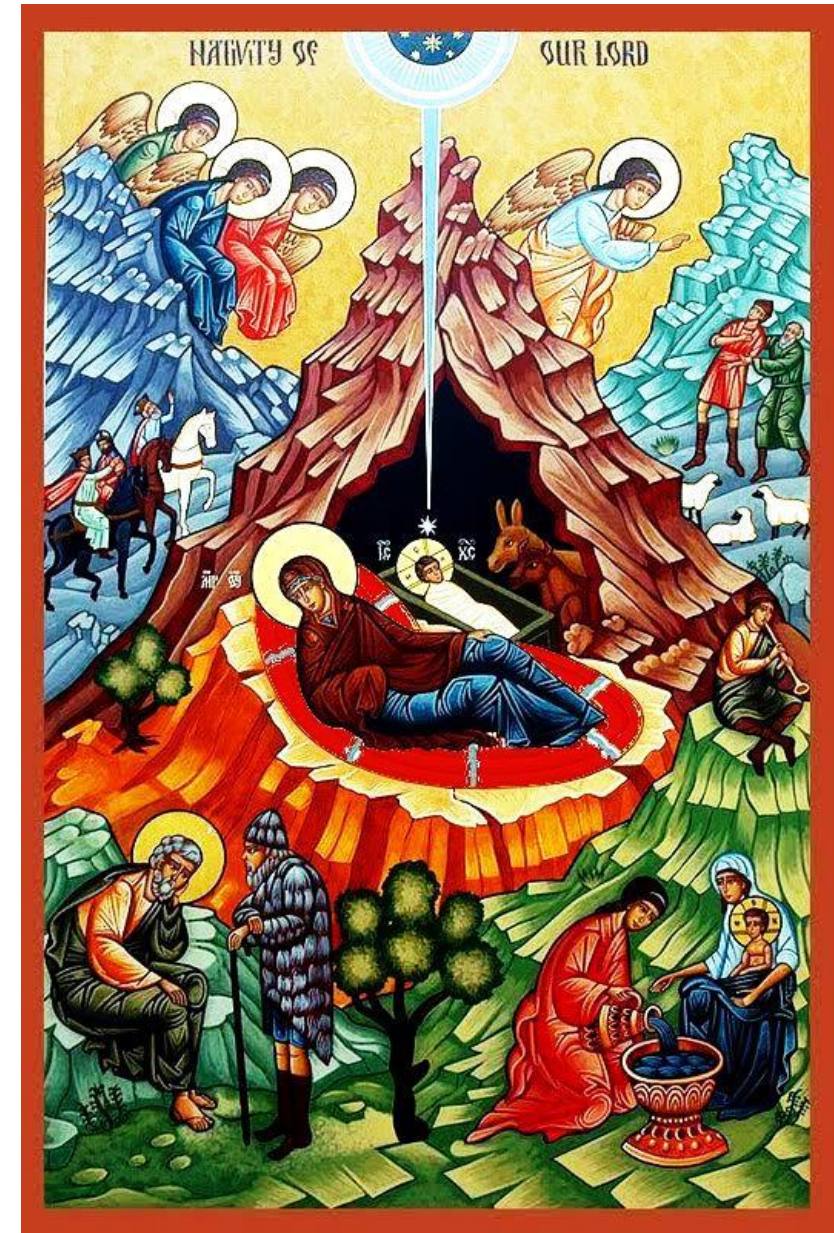
Yonkers, New York

THE KONTAKION FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Today the Virgin gives birth
to the Transcendent One,
And the earth offers a cave
to the Unapproachable One!

Angels with shepherds
glorify Him!
The wise men journey with a star!

Since for our sake,
the Eternal God
was born as a Little Child!



Sunday, December 25, 2016
The Nativity of Our Lord ~ Christmas



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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Sunday, December 25, 2016 ~ The Nativity of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ **CHRIST IS BORN! – GLORIFY HIM!**

Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7; Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

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

Saturday, December 31 – Circumcision of Our Lord; St. Basil the Great

- 5:30 PM Private Confession Available
- 6:00 PM *Great Vespers*

Sunday, January 1 – Circumcision of Our Lord; St. Basil the Great

- 9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*

Thursday, January 5 – Eve of Theophany (Strict Fast Until Sunset)

- 7:00 PM *Vigil Service* for Theophany, with *Blessing of Water*

Friday, January 6 – Theophany (Epiphany): The Baptism of Christ

- 9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy* with *Blessing of Water*

Blessing of Homes Begins Jan. 6 – Contact Fr. David

if you'd like him to visit and bless your home, (914) 965-6815 / frdavidcowan@gmail.com

Saturday, Jan. 7 – Synaxis of John the Baptist (Nativity of Our Lord on the Julian Calendar)

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

Sunday, January 8 – Sunday After Theophany

- 9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*, with *Panikhida* for Maria Stanczak, requested by the Labuda Family; for Helen Dempsey, requested by Melanie Kowalczyk; for John Kowalczyk, by Peter & Anna Warycha; and for John & Julia Wislocki, by Maria Kaczor

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; Barbara Evanina; 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; Dora Alexandris; Dorothy Stratton; Mark Sovyrda; David Dutko; and Archpriest Nicholas Harris; 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, Nicholas Harris, Gabriel Nicholas, 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 Rzyzyk; 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.

For blessed repose for the souls of: Newly departed Mary Smith (+12/19); Anthony, Vangelica & Mary; 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); ever-memorable Doris Morin; 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.

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!

TWO PARISH COUNCIL POSITIONS NEED FILLING ...

...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.

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!”**

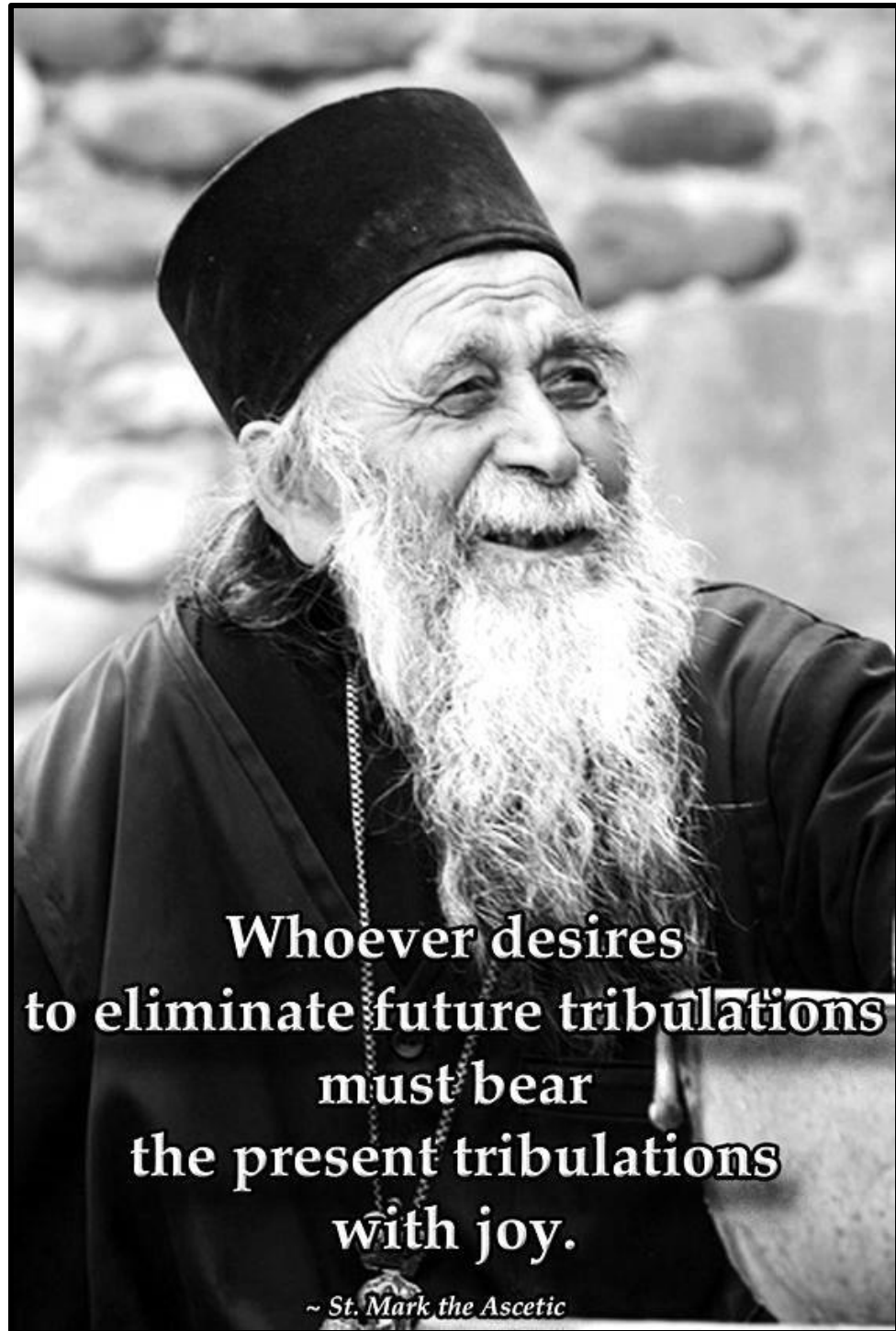
Marriages and Baptisms require early planning, scheduling, and selection of sponsors (crown bearers or godparents). **See Father before booking dates and reception halls!**

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 Galatians 4:4-7 Brethren: When the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,⁵to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.⁶And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!”⁷Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

TODAY'S GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12 At that time, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,²saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.⁴And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.⁵So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:⁶But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.”⁷Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”⁹When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.¹¹And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.¹²Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.



**Whoever desires
to eliminate future tribulations
must bear
the present tribulations
with joy.**

~ St. Mark the Ascetic

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!*