

Announcing the opening
of the

LADIES' GUILD
GIFT SHOP

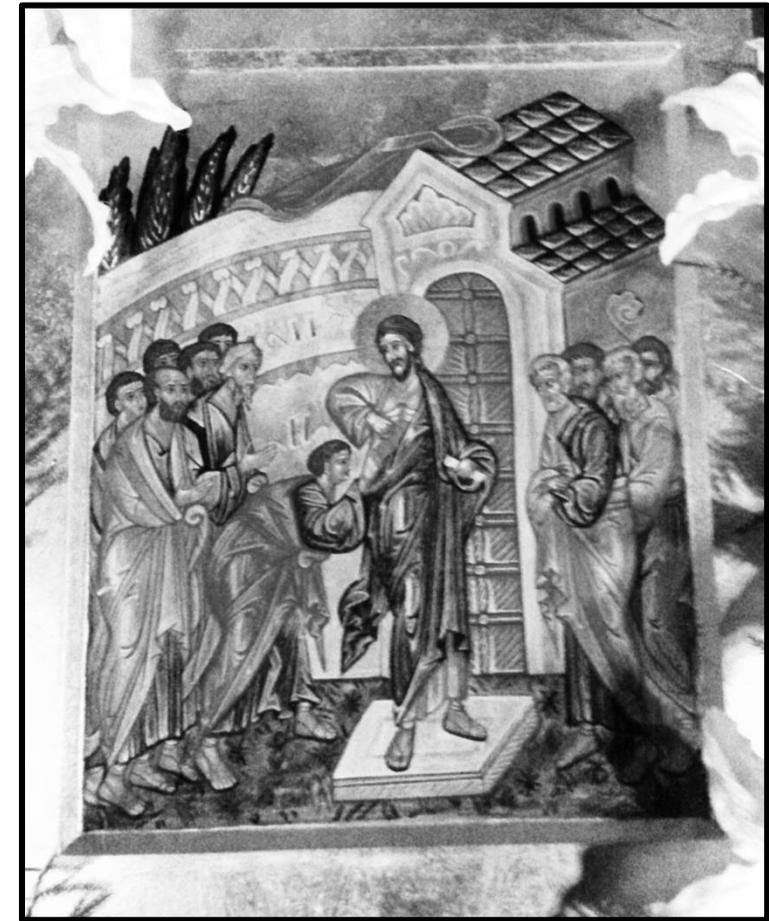
Featuring Icons ... Decorated Eggs ...
Orthodox Greeting Cards
Gifts for Pascha and Mother's Day

Open Today During Coffee Hour

Located in the Education Building,
Ground Floor

Second Room on the Right
from the Courtyard Entrance

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
Yonkers, New York



Sunday, April 19, 2015

Saint Thomas Sunday

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕСЕ!

ВОИСТИНУ ВОСКРЕСЕ!



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

Web: www.holytrinityyonkers.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/holytrinityorthodox

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

April 19, 2015: Saint Thomas Sunday

Epistle: Acts 3:11-16; Gospel: John 3:22-33

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday, April 19 ~ Sunday of St. Thomas, the Believing

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*

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

Saturday, April 25

Fr. Kyle Parrott will substitute for Fr. David on April 25.

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM *Great Vespers*

Sunday, April 26 ~ Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women, St. Joseph of Arimathea and St. Nicodemus; St. Tamara of Georgia

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*

Saturday, May 2 ~ Archpastoral Visitation of His Eminence, Archbishop Michael

9:00 – 4:00 Diocesan Choir Conference, with Archbishop Michael and the Members of the Diocesan Commission on Liturgical Music – Here, in the Church and the Education Building.

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM *Great Vespers*

Sunday, May 3 ~ Sunday of the Paralytic; Visitation of His Eminence, Archbishop Michael

9:00 AM Greeting of Archbishop Michael

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*, Archbishop Michael Celebrating; with the Elevation of Fr. David to the Rank of Archpriest

After Liturgy: Coffee Hour and Fellowship with Archbishop Michael

Wednesday, May 6 ~ Feast of Mid-Pentecost

9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy* – Mid-Pentecost (Halfway Point between Pascha and Pentecost)

Saturday, May 9

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM *Great Vespers*

Sunday, May 10 ~ Sunday of the Samaritan Woman ~ *Happy Mother's Day!*

9:30 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!

The Longest Week

An excerpt from a reflection by Fr. Lawrence Farley,

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church, Langley, British Columbia, Canada

For the Apostle Thomas, what we call “Bright Week” – the seven days between Jesus’ Resurrection and the first time Thomas saw Him after He had risen – was the longest week of his life, and possibly the worst. How many times did Thomas burst into tears that week, or find himself unable to eat or drink or converse? How many times did depression smother him like a black blanket so that he had trouble even getting out of bed? We may never know for sure. But we may be sure that his mind played and re-played the horrible events of Jesus’ arrest, trial, and crucifixion over and over and over, and when he closed his eyes, he could see the cross.

At last, of course, the week was over, and we know how joyfully it ended. The true lesson for us therefore is that if we wait for Jesus, it will all end in joy. Waiting is still hard. Like Thomas during his longest week, we may have to endure pain. We may have to endure bereavement, sickness, and a thousand other tragedies which pierce our hearts and wring tears from our eyes. But at the end of it all, at the end of our earthly existence, Jesus will be there, to make it all right, and to wipe away every tear. Then like Thomas we too can fall down before Him, crying out, “My Lord and my God!” It is okay to wait. It’s hard, but it’s okay. Christ is risen!

Read all of Fr. Lawrence’s reflection at www.oca.org/reflections/fr-lawrence-farley/the-longest-week

INVEST IN OUR 2015 ASP TEEN MISSION TEAM!

Buy ASP stock sales at coffee hour today, next Sunday 4/26, and Sunday 5/3.

Shares \$10 each.

Our 2015 Orthodox Youth Mission Team

consists of 23 teens and 14 adults from 7 parishes in CT, NY and NJ.

Our Yonkers team is Andrew, Peter and Chris Nolan,

Adriana, Emily and Chris Szpynda, and Beth Rzyk.

We will be going to Kentucky in July to make homes warmer, safer and drier!

PUT CONFESSION ON YOUR CALENDAR ...

NOT JUST AN EASTER THING!

Not only is Confession a requirement for voting membership in the parish according to our bylaws ... more importantly, Confession is a staple of the spiritual life! **Orthodox Christians have Confession; Orthodox Christians have Communion. Such has been the Tradition of our Church for 2,000 years.** Along with doctor’s appointments, sports events, SAT prep, and all your other commitments, see the Confession times offered in the Bulletin and **put Confession on the calendar for you and your family!**

ATTENTION CHOIR MEMBERS!



**Diocesan Music Conference
With His Eminence, Archbishop Michael
May 2, 2015**



Date: Saturday, May 2, 2015
Place: Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Plaza, 46 Seymour Street, Yonkers, NY 10701
Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Fee: No fee, optional donation

We hear you! We'd like to see you, too!

This conference is intended as a community - and skills-builder for the musicians of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey. It will seek to address the concerns of Diocesan choir leaders, as expressed to the Diocesan Music Commission. Bishop Michael will offer thoughts, observations, and hopes for the music of the Diocese.

Mark Bailey, a leading expert in Orthodox liturgical music, will conduct an interactive session of learning and singing, in which participants will learn the soundscape of liturgical singing; experience vitality through rhythm, pulse, diction, and phrasing; and practice expressing liturgical music liturgically.

"Ask and ye shall receive..." We've created an interactive session that will be moderated by Fr. David Cowan and Aleksei Shipovalnikov (who was the technical expert behind the Diocese's Hierarchical Liturgy Guidelines posted on the Diocesan website). This session will walk through (literally) the more challenging parts of the Hierarchical Liturgy and allow Abp. Michael to comment on what's going on from his perspective and you to ask the questions you don't have time to ask when the Liturgy is actually going on.

We encourage you to bring your ideas that you have found successful in your work, as well as your toughest questions. We'll have a panel of experts who will try to answer them. *If you are unable attend in person, you may use the enclosed paper to write questions, concerns or comments for use in the conference.*

Please DO bring your children. Mat. Tamara Cowan will be leading a workshop for the youth of our parishes, to be held simultaneously with the adult conference. They'll be introduced to (or brush up) basic music concepts and learn about and singing.

Perhaps most important, we will be together to get to know each other better and share our common love for the Church and its musical tradition. Clergy, Directors, substitute Directors, Singers and parish families and encouraged to attend.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS IMPORTANT

FOR US TO GET A HEAD COUNT AND FOR PLANNING MEALS, ETC.

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 2, Here: Diocesan Music Conference for Choir Directors & Singers; AND Diocesan Youth Music Workshop**, led by our own Matushka Tamara. See Father or Matushka for details. If you can make a dish for our guests that day, or you can come and help with meals and hospitality, please see Mat. Tamara. Thank you!
- **Sat-Sun, May 2-3: Archbishop Michael Visits Us**, Vespers & Liturgy. Details soon.
- **Sunday, June 7, 2:00 PM: Parish Council Conference**, “Sound Financial Practices in the Parish”, Matushka Mary Breton, CPA, Treasurer of the Diocese – at Transfiguration Cathedral, 228 North 12th Street, Brooklyn NY

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED – TOWARD NEW PUMPS FOR OUR HEATING SYSTEM

As you can tell, our heating system has much improved the last couple of months. However, the technicians have notified us that of the two pumps which enable warm air to be sent up into the church, one no longer works, and the other is “on borrowed time.”

The cost to install new pumps is approximately \$6,000.00.

So far, \$2,705 has been raised ... That leaves \$3,295 left to raise.

Anyone wishing to contribute toward this project, please see Fr. David, Council President Vicky Statkevics, or any other Parish Council member. Thank you!

THANK YOU TO ALL who donated for Pasha Decorations...

Many more donations came in during Holy Week and Bright Week and are still being tallied. The full list will appear in next Sunday's Bulletin.

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:

Newly Chrismated Mary Ann Paprocki; Boris Lyzak (Dasha's uncle); Mat. Anastasia Harris; David Barret; Warren; Melissa; Erik; Anthony; Elias Kachur; Mat. Olga Meerson; Michael Mellin; Paula West; Danielle Geeza preparing for surgery; recovering Fr. John Tkachuk, Paul Holowach; Eleanor Wasilko; Carol; Richard; Adriana Szynda; Paul “PJ” Sulich; Stephen Wartella; newborn Elena King; Ludmila Branzow; Natasha Harris; Nathan Orsini; Suzanne Gee; Matthew & Malek; Dorothy Vernak; Nikolette Katechis; John Loving; expecting couples Sherry & Nathaniel, Sara & Eros, and Lauren, and the children to be born to them; Nicholas Washenko; Maryanne Nolan; His Eminence, Archbishop Seraphim; Jason & Kimberly, Paul & Natalia, 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; Deborah Chaiko; Anne Kakos, Kay Baker (Anne's sister); Vitaliy Khutko; Malcolm Kirkpatrick; Inga Serniak; Nikolai & Nadezhda Solidnov; Kathleen Nolan; the priests Frs. Joseph Chupeck, Leonid Kishkovsky, John Pawelchak, Herman Schick, Ken James Stavrevsky, Daniel Degyansky, Michael Koblosh, Stephen Mack; PDns. Peter Skoog & Michael Sochka; Ann Belchyk; Helen Delandri; Helen Dempsey; Olga Jaworski; Olga Juck; Mary Kalakuka; Mary Kantor; Daria Krawchuk; Olga Pavelchak; Stephanie Phillips; Tekla Rzyzyk; 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; 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; Eugene & Tanya Balasenowich (16th Wedding Anniversary 4/16); all those named Thomas. Birthday: Margaret Prusak (4/20).

For blessed repose for the souls of: Newly departed Matushka Dorothy Timko (+4/9); Fr. Thomas Hopko (3/18); the ever-memorable Vladimir & Vira; all those departed named Thomas; 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 Miroshnikov	Matt Skalski
Joe Ciamarra	Kamille Perry	Alexandra Solak
Megan Jones	Schuyler Perry	Nick Thanasias
Kaydee Kowalczyk	Roman Piwinski	Monika Wislocki
Dan Kozak	Amanda Rzyzyk	
Peter KREATSOULAS	Peter Rzyzyk	

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