

## RE-CLAIMING OUR HOMES FOR CHRIST: A NOTE ON HOUSE BLESSINGS

When our homes are blessed, we reclaim our homes, and everyone and everything in them, for Christ: our wives, our husbands, our marriages... our children... our working and studying... our worrying and our struggling... our decisions and our dilemmas... our successes and our rejoicing: we reclaim all of our lives for Christ, by inviting Him into our inner sanctum.



The custom of blessing homes during the Theophany season is of special beauty and significance. We show the Lord – and the devil – that we wish for God to physically expel every trace of sin, anger, bitterness, and worry that has invaded our homes and our families over the past year!

Plan your home blessing at a time when **all family members can be present**, if at all possible.

When Father comes to bless the family and house, these things should be prepared:

- A lit candle, an icon, and a wide bowl for Holy Water should be on the table.
- All present in the house should come together and stand at the table. If kids are present, an icon for each child to carry (who is big enough to carry one) should also be on the table.
- All radios, televisions, etc. should be turned off.
- Lists of Departed and Living family members and loved ones to be prayed for.

## HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH Yonkers, New York



**Sunday, January 8, 2017 ~ 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
Sunday After the Theophany of Our Lord**



## 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  
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**Sun., Jan. 8, 2017 ~ 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost ~ Sunday After the Theophany of Our Lord**  
**Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13; Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17**

### SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Today

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*, with *Panikhida* for Helen Dempsey, requested by Melanie Kowalczyk; for Maria Stanczak, requested by the Labuda Family; for Walter Kowalczyk, requested by his wife Maria and Family; for John Kowalczyk, by Peter & Anna Warycha; and for John & Julia Wislocki, by their family on the first anniversary of Julia's repose. Coffee Hour and Church School follow.

#### Wednesday, January 11

7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting – in the Education Building

#### Thursday, January 12

7:00 PM Spanish / English Bible Study at Kristensen Apartments Across the Street  
 (Contact Fr. David if you'd like to attend so you can be admitted to the building.)

#### Saturday, January 14

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

#### Sunday, January 15

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*, with *Panikhida* for Helen Dempsey, requested by Peggy Ann Lang; for Maria Stanczak, requested by John Felenczak; for John Kowalczyk, requested by Mr. & Mrs. Emil Tutko; and John & Julia Wislocki, by Basil & Anna Kocur.  
 Coffee Hour and Church School follow.

#### Saturday, January 21

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

#### Sunday, January 22

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*; followed by Fr. David's Monthly Meeting with the Teens;  
 Coffee Hour and Church School

#### Saturday, January 28

5:30 PM Private Confession Available  
 6:00 PM *Great Vespers & Litya* – Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs

#### Sunday, January 29 – Feast of the 3 Holy Hierarchs, St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian, St. Basil the Great, and St. John Chrysostom

9:30 AM *Divine Liturgy*, followed by Annual Parish Meeting

### 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); Walter Donski; William & Virginia Fann; John Felenczak; Anna; Hari; Vincent Knarr; Adnan Abbasi; Paul Flurschutz; Ludmilla Krylova; Nicholas Macagnone; Dragan Saric; Tanya Balasenowich; Natasha Work; Svetlana Wineski and the child to be born to her; the child Nadia Wineski; child Michael; Ann Dahulich; Barbara Evanina; Boris Lyzak; Stephanie Davis, Susan Hansen, Alexander Kravchenko, Virginia & Arthur Shanahan, John O'Donnel; Christopher Olsen; Bill Bodack; Nina Dimas; Richard Dosin; catechumen Norman & Elena Herman; Courtney Lyzak; Anatole Honczarenko; Eleanor Wasilko; Dora Alexandris; Dorothy Stratton; Mark Sovyrda; David Dutko; 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, John Malcom, Gabriel Nicholas, Vitaly Bahanovich, John Tkachuk; Matushki Katherine White, Anastasia Harris, Kathryn Malcom; Juliana Schmemann, and Masha Tkachuk; Klara Borzova; Helen Delandri; Irene Homa; Olga Juck; Mary Kalakuka; Mary Kantor; Ann Karell; Daria Krawchuk; Mary Macagnone; Stephanie Phillips; Tekla Rzyk; Martha Slivka; Nicholas Washenko; 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; nun Theodula and all Orthodox monks and nuns, and all those considering monastic life; all Orthodox missionaries and their families; all those named for St. Basil the Great.

**For blessed repose for the souls of:** Newly departed Paul Chernay; Marina Copp; Vasili Work; Zena Weshta (+12/26); Mary Smith (+12/19); George Coverdale (+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); 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 JANUARY:

**Vigil Candle, Icon of Christ**, Departed Members, Wirchansky Family. Living: Wirchansky, Seckerson, and Carlucci Families. **Vigil Candle, Icon of the Theotokos**, Living: Paul and Boris; **Vigil Candle, Icon of St. Nicholas**, Departed: Nicolas and Alexandra; requested by Marina Mikhaylova.

**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** [for the final year, 2016, this is the \$145/year Diocesan Assessment ... please bring yours as soon as possible.]

**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 Ephesians 4:7-13** Brethren: to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.<sup>8</sup>Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.”<sup>9</sup>(Now this, “He ascended” – what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?<sup>10</sup>He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)<sup>11</sup>And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,<sup>12</sup>for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,<sup>13</sup>till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

**TODAY'S GOSPEL Matthew 4:12-17** At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee.<sup>13</sup>And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali,<sup>14</sup>that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:<sup>15</sup>The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles:<sup>16</sup>The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned.”<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

**TEENS AND TEENS' PARENTS:**

The next meeting of Fr. David with our teens will be **Sunday, January 22.**

**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](http://www.nynjoca.org/vision_for_future_2012.html) ... and scroll down to VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS. ***Questions? See Fr. David.***



## ALTAR SERVERS:

Please see Fr. David to reserve your spot at the  
2017 Diocesan Altar Server Retreat with Archbishop Michael!



### 2017 ANNUAL DIOCESAN ALTAR SERVER RETREAT

February 10, 2017

WHEN: Friday, February 10th - Sunday, February 12th

WHERE: St. Basil Academy – Garrison, NY

THEME: The Mystery of the Diaconate: Service in the Church and Beyond!

**\*\*ALL SERVERS ARE TO BRING THEIR GOLD ROBE FOR SERVICES\*\***

Any questions about online registration, please contact [nynjocayouth@gmail.com](mailto:nynjocayouth@gmail.com)

Any questions about the retreat, please contact [jvansuch@hotmail.com](mailto:jvansuch@hotmail.com)

We need to register by **FEBRUARY 6**  
so that rooms and meals can be arranged.

# MARCH FOR LIFE | 2017



Our vision is a world where every human life  
is valued and protected.

Tragically 57 million babies have been lost  
to abortion since 1973.

JOIN PRO-LIFE AMERICANS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL  
TO BE A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS!

**JANUARY 27, 2017 | WASHINGTON, D.C.**

VISIT [MARCHFORLIFE.ORG/MFL-2017](http://MARCHFORLIFE.ORG/MFL-2017) FOR MORE INFO.

## **CAN YOU GO? GREAT!**

See Fr. David, and watch the next three Bulletins for details.

If you can't go to D.C. for the March – then watch the next two Bulletins  
for things you CAN do, to say "NO MORE" to the  
legalized and profit-ized murder of over *one baby for every five born alive\**.

\*[www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/data\\_stats](http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/data_stats) - see "Abortion", item 1