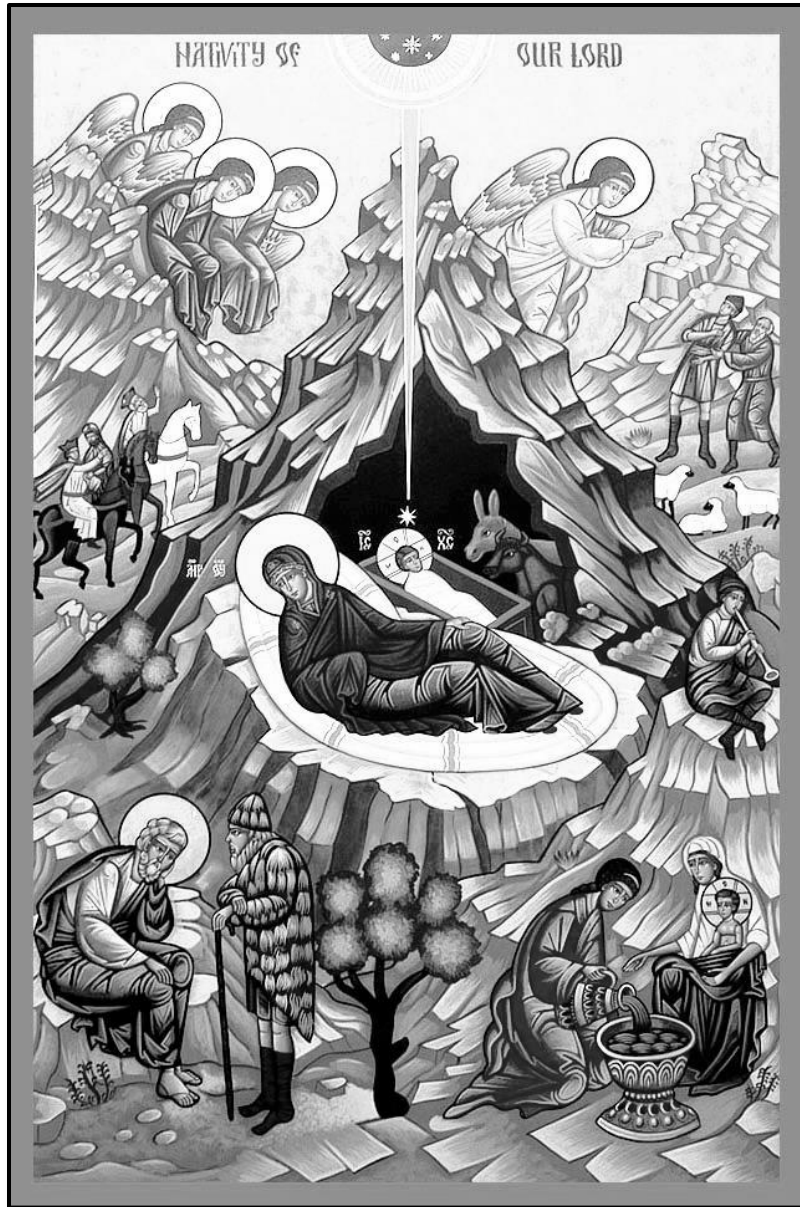


HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Yonkers, New York



29th Sunday After Pentecost — Tone 4

Eve of the Nativity of Christ ~ Sunday before the Nativity

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40; Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY: We will collect for the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactor Fund, which funds Seminary Scholarships, New Mission Parishes, Struggling Parishes, and other ministries of our Diocesan family.

THANK YOU to All our Choir Members, Children, and Everyone who participated in our very successful Neighborhood Christmas Concert & Reception on Friday! What warmth, beauty and joy you shared with the 100+ people who came! God bless you!

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

~ The Nativity Fast, or Advent, continues. It ends tomorrow, with the Divine Liturgy of Christmas Day.

Today, we strive to abstain from meat, to abstain from or

limit our use of dairy products, and avoid spiritually unproductive entertainment and Internet activity.~

Today

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

5:00 PM Holy Supper in the Fellowship Hall! Please make sure Matushka Tamara knows if you are coming.

8:00 PM Vigil ~ With Anointing of All the Faithful by Blessed Oil from the Birthplace of Jesus in Bethlehem; And, Take Home Your Red Christmas Candle!

Monday, December 25 – Christmas – CHRIST IS BORN!

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy, Followed by Agape Meal

Tuesday, December 26 – Synaxis of the Theotokos

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy, followed by Christmas Caroling Visits To Our Homebound Parishioners

Saturday, December 30

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, December 31 – New Year's Eve

9:25 AM Reception as a Catechumen of Judith Mastronardi

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy with Coffee Hour

7:00 PM Great Vespers – Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord; Feast of St. Basil the Great

Monday, January 1 – Circumcision of Our Lord; St. Basil the Great ~ HAPPY NEW YEAR!

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

LOCAL CHARITY FUND NEEDS REPLENISHING... CAN YOU HELP?

Our parish helped 3 neighborhood families in need this Christmas.

Please see Father David if you would like

to offer something toward this Christmas charity. Thank you!!

The ANNUAL PARISH MEETING is SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018.

**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:

“The financial obligation [for voting membership in our parish] is the following: To submit a financial pledge for 2017, by means of the Stewardship Commitment Form; and to prayerfully attempt to fulfill that pledge by remitting to the parish the pledged financial contribution no later than December 31, 2017.”

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

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH ✦ 46 Seymour Street ✦ Yonkers, New York 10701

Rector: V. Rev. David Cowan; Protodeacon John Eby; Attached: V. Rev. John Tkachuk; V. Rev. Vitaly Bahanovich

Rector Emeritus: V. Rev. Yaroslav Sudick, Ph.D., D.D.

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityOrthodox

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

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.

TODAY'S GOSPEL Matthew 1:1-25 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. So 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. Now 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. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But 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. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins. So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, "God with us." Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR 2018 PARISH PLEDGE FORM YET?

Please do, as soon as possible. Put it in the box by the
Candle Desk; hand it to Father David; or mail it to the rectory address. *Thank you!*

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:

Newborn Gracelyn Skye Rippi (granddaughter of Mike & Pam Adamovich); recovering Dan Saraceno (Cris' brother), Nancy Prusak, Lina Eckoff, Paulette Drake (Beth Rzyk's mother), Fr. David Garretson, Fr. John Zabinko; Matushka Mary Tkachuk, Susanna Talley & Anthony Ciavaglia; Zoe Chupeck; Honorina Rodriguez; Michael Durkot (Helen Lesko's brother); Angela Fragetti; Matushka Rebekah Markewich; Bill Bolinsky; Michael & Alexey; Mary Braig; Peter Buletza; Thomas Anderson; Judith Mastronardi; Matushka Tamara; Darina Markyanova and the child to be born to her; Vera Bouteneff; Fr. Nicholas Harris; Roman Vinogradov; Marian Harris; Vincent Knarr; Daria Krawchuk; Elena Herman; Nicholas Macagnone; Tanya Balasenowich; the child Alena; Andrew Czuchta; Boris Lyzak; Douglas & Susan Hansen; Christopher Olsen; Bill Bodack; Nina Dimas; Courtney Lyzak; Ludmila Branzow; Suzanne Gee; Kathleen & Maryanne Nolan; Kevin Kuzmenko; Shawn Malone; Metropolitan Paul and Bishop Gregorios, Vera Bullock; Schuyler Perry; Vitaliy Khutko; Nikolai & Nadezhda Solidnov; the priests Frs. Vitaly Bahanovich, Stephen Hoskins, Leonid Kishkovsky, Joseph Kreshik, John Malcom, Josef Petranin, John Reeves, John Tkachuk; Matushka Anastasia Harris; all those confined to hospitals, nursing homes, and their own homes due to illness, including Maria Chouplat; Helen Delandri; Olga Donski; Irene Homa; Anatole Honczarenko; Olga Juck; Ann Karell; Mary Macagnone; Stephanie Phillips; Tekla Rzyk; for all soldiers, especially Mykola; widows, orphans, prisoners, victims of violence and natural disasters, and refugees, especially in the Middle East and 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. Birthdays: MaryAnn Paprocki (12/23).

For blessed repose for the souls of: Newly departed Julie Voytovich (mother of St. Tikhon's Seminary Dean, Fr. Steven; + 12/16); Fr. Alvian & Matushka Helen Smirensky (+12/10); Ann Dahulich (Abp. Michael's mother, +12/6); Eleanor Wasilko (+11/15); Subdeacon George Gordaoff; 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.

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!

Elizabeth Bouteneff
Michael Bouteneff
Joe Ciamarra
Brandon Ferguson
Kaydee Kowalczyk
Daniel Kozak
Andrew Nolan

Peter Nolan
August Perry
Kamille Perry
Christianna Piwinski
Roman Piwinski
Amanda Rzyk
Joshua Rzyk

Stephanie Rzyk
Matthew Skalski
Justyna Skalski
Adriana Szpynda
Emily Szpynda
Catherine Wislocki

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

CANDLE SPONSORSHIPS FOR DECEMBER:

Vigil Candle, Icon of Christ, Departed Members, Wirchansky Family: Janet, Peter, Christina, Anne, Helen & Anastasia). **Living:** Wirchansky, Seckerson & Carlucci Families.

**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/2016_diocesan_assembly.html ... scroll down to: VIDEO: 2016 – THE YEAR IN REVIEW . *Any questions? See Fr. David.*

