

GREATMARTYR BARBARA AND MARTYR JULIANA

SUNDAY 4th of DECEMBER

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6
Gospel Reading: Luke 12:32-40; 17:12-19

Troparion — Tone 4

By devoutly following Him Who is praised in Trinity, O reverend Passion-Bearer, you forsook the shrines of the idols, and contested in the midst of the arena, O Barbara, not covering before the tyrants' threats, you cried out in a loud voice: "I worship the Trinity in one Godhead."

We pray for our entire church family and those who do not have a family or church family, and our special prayers are for the sick and suffering and for the health and salvation of others:

The Archpriests Samuel and Joseph, Archimandrite Joseph, Protospesbyter Christos, the priest Gregory, Mark Benda, Matushka Ellen, Emily Anastasia, Gabriel, Zoe, Nadine, Michelle, Anastasia, Sophia Eptamenitis, Edward, Taisa, Konstance Engelsman, Maria Higginbotham, Valentina Bobrowski, Anna Konoleva, Erika Dobrzynski, Douglas Dobrzynski, Andrew John Lihou, Marie Biancarelli, Joshua and Daniel Buccieri, Emma Matthews, Stephanie, Kristy, Victor Szemetylo, Helen, Bonnie Shaffner, Helen Schweizer, Zoran Pejovic, Sunny Hunsicker, Ioana, Carmen, Michael, John, Sarah, Linda, PamelaAnne, and David.
Amen!!!

*** To amend the prayer list, speak with Mary Osinski***

Follow us on



And remember to use:



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www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org
<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/>

The WEEKLY BULLETIN HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

December 4th, 2022

GREATMARTYR BARBARA AND MARTYR JULIANA, AT HELIOPOLIS IN SYRIA - The Holy Great Martyr Barbara lived and suffered during the reign of the emperor Maximian (305-311). Although her father Dioscorus wanted her married, the desire to know the true God consumed Saint Barbara who decided to devote all her life to God and to spend her life in virginity. Soon his daughter told him about how she had come to know the Triune God, about the saving power of the Son of God, and about the futility of worshiping idols. Dioscorus went into a rage, grabbed a sword and was on the point of striking her with it. The holy virgin fled from her father, and he rushed after her in pursuit. His way became blocked by a hill, which opened up and concealed the saint in a crevice. On the other side of the crevice was an entrance leading upwards. Saint Barbara managed then to conceal herself in a cave on the opposite slope of the hill. After a long and fruitless search for his daughter, Dioscorus saw two shepherds on the hill. One of them showed him the cave where the saint had hidden. Dioscorus beat his daughter terribly, and then placed her under guard and tried to wear her down with hunger. Finally, he handed her over to the prefect of the city, named Martianus. They beat Saint Barbara fiercely: they struck her with rawhide and rubbed her wounds with a hair cloth to increase her pain. By night Saint Barbara prayed fervently to her Heavenly Bridegroom, and the Savior Himself appeared and healed her wounds. Then they subjected the saint to new, and even more frightful torments. In the crowd where the martyr was tortured was the virtuous Christian woman Juliana, an inhabitant of Heliopolis. Her heart was filled with sympathy for the voluntary martyrdom of the beautiful and illustrious maiden. Juliana also wanted to suffer for Christ. She began to denounce the torturers in a loud voice, and they seized her. Both martyrs were tortured for a long time. Their bodies were raked and wounded with hooks, and then they were led naked through the city amidst derision and jeers. Through the prayers of Saint Barbara, the Lord sent an angel who covered the nakedness of the holy martyrs with a splendid robe. Then the steadfast confessors of Christ, Saints Barbara and Juliana, were beheaded. Dioscorus himself executed Saint Barbara. The wrath of God was not slow to punish both torturers, Martianus and Dioscorus. They were killed after being struck by lightning. In the sixth century the relics of the holy Great Martyr Barbara were transferred to Constantinople. Six hundred years later, they were transferred to Kiev (July 11) by Barbara, the daughter of the Byzantine Emperor Alexius Comnenos, wife of the Russian prince Michael Izyaslavich. They rest even now at Kiev's Saint Vladimir cathedral, where an Akathist to the saint is served each Tuesday.

Service Schedule

Great Vespers: 5 pm Saturdays

Hours: 9:45am Sundays

Divine Liturgy: 10:00am Sundays

Confessions: Will be heard every Saturday evening after Vespers or by appointment.

Call, text or email Father Michael at (848)228-1563 or holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com

Monthly calendar at www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

Dates to Remember

Saturday 3rd of December

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 4th of December

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Monday 5th of December

Great Vespers at 6 pm

Tuesday 6th of December

SAINT NICHOLAS DAY

Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Saturday 10th of December

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 11th of December

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Welcome

If you are a guest at today's Divine Liturgy, we invite you to join us following Divine Liturgy for light refreshments and fellowship so we can get to know each other. You are always welcome to share in worship and fellowship at Holy Spirit Orthodox Church. Please sign the Guest Book in the Narthex and include your email address.

Many thanks for supporting HSOC!

The end of the year is fast approaching and there have been major improvements and accomplishments to our church and rectory which we can be proud of, thanks to our council members, parishioners, and friends of the parish. Many thanks for your generous contributions, whether it be time, talent, or financial. We pray you and your families are well and appreciate your support of HSOC and ask that you continue to contribute to our church, keeping your financial support current. Your support is appreciated, and we are thankful.

Saint Nicholas Day

At Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, you are welcome to worship with us for Saint Nicholas Day at Vespers on Monday, December 5th, at 6 pm and Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, December 6th at 9 am.

Nativity Fast

As the fast continues the Nativity Fast, we are called to abstain from meat, eggs, and dairy products. There's fasting from foods, and also called to fast from sin, from gossip, from jealousy, from anger, and from these other things which, while well within our control, we all too often allow to control us. Confessions will be heard every Saturday evening before or after Vespers or by appointment. If you wish to make an appointment for confession, please contact Father Michael via email pejovicveljko@gmail.com or call him (848)228-1563.

Christmas Cookies

Orthodox Church of the Annunciation in Brick NJ is again fundraising through their annual Cookie Walk on December 9th, 2022. If you would like to support this fundraiser you can purchase Christmas cookies through Matushka Mihaela or Father Michael. The price is \$16/lb and nut rolls are \$15 per roll.

Magnify! O my Soul – and evening of lessons and carols

Saint Nicholas, Constantine, and Helen Greek Orthodox Church are proudly hosting "Magnify! O, My Soul." An evening of lessons and carols. For more information, please see the attached flyer.

Have an item for the bulletin?

Please email Father Michael at holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com or Mary Osinski at mary.osinski@gmail.com