

Sunday 31th of December 2023

**COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY RIGHTEOUS DAVID
THE KING, JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, AND JAMES THE
BROTHER OF THE LORD**

Epistle Reading: Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-23

Troparion – Tone 3

**Today the godly David is filled with gladness / and Joseph offers
praise with James. / Having received the crown of their kinship with
Christ, they rejoice, / praising in song Him Who is inexpressibly born
on earth, / crying out: “O Compassionate One, save those who honor
You!”**

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, Protosynergos Christos, the priest Gregory, Protodeacon John, Mark Benda, Matushka Ellen, Emily Anastasia, Gabriel, Zoe, Matushka Svetlana, Karen, Edward, Nadine, Michelle, Alexander, Luis Ramon, 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, Pamela Anne and Kimberly Marie, JoAnne, Beatrice, Christina, Orestes, Julia, Adrian, Sonya, Biljana, Irene, Dorothy, Pauline and Irene. Amen!!!

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

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www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

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

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THE WEEKLY BULLETIN
**HOLY SPIRIT
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

December 31st, 2023

**COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY RIGHTEOUS DAVID THE
KING, JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, AND JAMES THE BROTHER
OF THE LORD**

The Holy Prophet-King David, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, and Saint James the Brother of the Lord are commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, their commemoration is moved to December 26. At an early date, some churches in the East began to commemorate certain important figures of the New Testament at the time of Theophany, and later during the Nativity season. In Syria, for example, Saint Stephen (December 27), Saints James (April 30) and John (September 26), and Saints Peter and Paul (June 29) were commemorated near the end of December. In Jerusalem, the saints mentioned above were combined with a feast that the Jews of Hebron celebrated on December 25 or 26 in honor of the Old Testament Patriarch Jacob. Later on, the Christians substituted Saint James (October 23) for Jacob, and then the commemoration of the Brother of the Lord became associated with his ancestor King David. In time, Saint Joseph was linked with Saints David and James. Saint Joseph had four sons from his previous marriage: James, Judah, Joses, and Simon (or Symeon), and three daughters: Esther, Martha, and Salome, who was the mother of Saint John the Theologian.

Service Schedule

Great Vespers: 5pm 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 30th of December

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 31st of December

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Great Vespers at 4 pm

Monday 1st of January

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Friday 5th of January

Great Vespers at 6 pm followed by Great Blessing of the Waters and Blessing of the Church

Saturday 6th of January

HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Divine Liturgy at 9 am followed by the Great Blessing of the Waters

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 7th of December

SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS BAPTIST JOHN

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Parish Council alongside Father Michael wishes you the blessed Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as well as most blessed New Year.

Thank you

Sincere thanks to Timothy Kachur and choir members of the HSOC as well as all altar servers for all their work during Nativity Season. May God grant you many blessed years!

New Year's Schedule

Please keep in mind that Vespers on Sunday 31st of December 2023, will be served on 4 pm and that Liturgy on Monday 1st of January 2024, will be served on 10 am.

A message from your Pastor

Due to a family emergency, I will be out of the country for the next couple of weeks. I am leaving on January 2nd and returning on January 21st. During that time, if you require a priest or pastoral care, please contact V.Rev. Samuel Kedala via email at priest004@@gmail.com or call (973)271-0524. During my absence, V.Rev. John Kowalczyk will be serving in my place. During my travels, I will have limited internet access but if you need to contact me, please do so by sending me an email on pejovicveljko@gmail.com.

Thank You for Giving from Father Michael

Once again, the end of the year is fast approaching and on behalf of myself and the parish council, we express our sincere gratitude for the support that we have received throughout the year. Significant improvements have been made in the church and the rectory, thanks to your giving and the efforts of the parishioners and friends of our church and the community. Your generous financial contributions as well as the time and talents donated are appreciated. We give thanks for your continued support and encourage contributors to maintain the generous financial assistance and your time and talents for our Holy Spirit Orthodox Church.

Food Donation Cart

The need to continue to assist those in need continues and we ask that when you are shopping, please remember those who are less fortunate. Dan Taylor informed us that the current needs of the Sussex Help Center are the following: peanut butter, jelly, tuna fish cans, cereal boxes, and baby diapers (size newborn to 6-month-old).

Have an item for the bulletin?

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