

**FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup> of 2023**

**SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT**

**Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2**

**Gospel Reading: Luke 25:31-46**

**Kontakion – Tone 1**

**When You, O God, shall come to earth with glory, / all things shall tremble / and the river of fire shall flow before your judgment seat; / the books shall be opened and the hidden things disclosed! / Then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, / and make me worthy to stand at Your right hand, Most Righteous Judge!**

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, Pamela Anne and Kimberly Marie and JoAnne. Amen!!!

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

Follow us on



And remember to use:



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**The Weekly Bulletin**

**HOLY SPIRIT  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

[www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org](http://www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org)

**February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**SUNDAY OF MEATFARE OF THE LAST JUDGMENT** - Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice). The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, "Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed. As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45). Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.

**Epistle Reading:** 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 25:31-46

## 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](mailto:holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com)**

Monthly calendar at [www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org](http://www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org)

## Dates to Remember

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> of February**

**Great Vespers at 6 pm**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> of February – Memorial Saturday**

**Divine Liturgy at 9 am**

**Great Vespers at 5 pm**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> of February – Meatfare Sunday**

**Divine Liturgy at 10 am**

**Rectory Open House after Divine Liturgy**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> of February**

**Parish Council Meeting at 7 pm via ZOOM**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> of February**

**Great Vespers at 5 pm**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> of February – Forgiveness Sunday**

**Divine Liturgy at 10 am**

**Forgiveness Vespers – after Divine Liturgy**

**Blini Breakfast**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS!

### Congratulations to

Archpriest Joseph Chupeck, celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of his Ordination to the Holy Priesthood, February 10, 1973. Grant, O Lord a prosperous and peaceful life, health, salvation, visitation and good hastening in all things, unto Thy servant, the Archpriest Joseph celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination to the Holy Priesthood; and to Matushka Ellen and their family; and protect and preserve them, O Lord, for many blessed years! Mnogaya Lyeta!

[ARCHPRIEST JOSEPH CHUPECK CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION TO THE HOLY PRIESTHOOD | Diocese of New York and New Jersey - OCA \(nynjoca.org\)](#)

### Farewell to meat products

Starting on Monday February 20<sup>th</sup> we are called to start preparation for the Great Lent by abstaining from the meat products.

### Agape/Blini breakfast

On Forgiveness Sunday (February 26<sup>th</sup>), right after morning services we will have agape breakfast in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. We are planning to serve traditional blini breakfast. For more information's, please talk with Nadine Olsen or Mark Benda. This will also be the last day when we use milk and dairy products before Pascha.

### Support Earthquake Relief Efforts

In the wake of last week's earthquake which struck Turkey and Syria, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has called on the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America to support the efforts of IOCC and the Antiochian Archdiocese. For more information please follow the link: [His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon calls on the Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America to Support Earthquake Relief Efforts - Orthodox Church in America \(oca.org\)](#). In our Church special collection box will be placed in the back of the Church and we will be gathering donation until February 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you and God bless you!

### Lenten retreat in Wappingers Falls

Saint Gregory the Theologian Orthodox Church in Wappinger Falls will host Lenten For more information, please follow the link: [Home | St. Gregory the Theologian Orthodox Church \(stgregoryny.org\)](#).

### Food Donation Cart

Whenever you are shopping remember those who are hungry and purchase one or more items for our donation cart. If you would like to know what current needs of Sussex Help Center are please talk with Dan Taylor. Thank you and God bless you!

### Have an item for the bulletin?

Please email Father Michael at [holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com) or Mary Osinski at [mary.osinski@gmail.com](mailto:mary.osinski@gmail.com)