

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> of December 2024**

**NEW MARTYRS AND CONFESSORS OF RUSSIA**

**Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:4-11**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:35-46**

**Troparion – Tone 4**

**Today the New Martyrs of Russia stand in white robes before the Lamb of God, / and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory: / “Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor, / and power, and strength be to our God / unto the ages of ages. Amen.”**

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, 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\*\*\***

**Holy Spirit Orthodox Church**  
102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461

Father Michael - Priest-in-charge  
(848)228-1563

[holyspiritwantagej@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritwantagej@gmail.com)  
[www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org](http://www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org)  
<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/>  
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**The WEEKLY BULLETIN**

**HOLY SPIRIT  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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

**January 28th, 2024**

**NEW MARTYRS AND CONFESSORS OF RUSSIA** - On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history. It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only “crime” was their unshakable faith in God. In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

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

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

### Dates to Remember

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> of January**

**Great Vespers at 5 pm**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> of January**

**Divine Liturgy at 10 am**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of February**

**Great Vespers at 6 pm**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of February**

**MEETING OF THE CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE**

**Divine Liturgy at 9 am**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> of February**

**Great Vespers at 5 pm**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> of February**

**Divine Liturgy at 10 am**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS!

#### A message from your Pastor

By the Grace of God I am back safely to Wantage. I thank you all for the love that you have shown to Father John during my absence. I am looking forward to seeing you and worshiping with you this weekend.

#### Meeting of the Christ in the Temple

You are welcomed to worship with us for the Feast of Meeting of the Christ in the Temple. The Great Vespers will be served on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of February at 6 pm and the Divine Liturgy will be served on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of February at 9 am.

#### Blessing of Homes and Blessed Water

If you would like your home to be blessed, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Father Michael at [pejovicveljko@gmail.com](mailto:pejovicveljko@gmail.com). Blessing of the homes is a wonderful opportunity to bring the joy of the Holy Theophany into your home.

#### Contribution Letters

Yearly contribution letters are now available in the Narthex. Please take yours and thank you for your support.

#### The Spirit of Saint Tikhon's

St. Tikhon's now has a podcast available. It is called The Spirit of Saint Tikhon's. The latest episode is an interview with Father Kowalczyk and his thoughts on the March of Life. To view this podcast please follow the link: [The Spirit of Saint Tikhon's | Ancient Faith Ministries](#).

#### HSOC Yearly Meeting

Although we are still working on exact day, please plan to attend the HSOC Yearly Meeting that will take place on the second part of February, 2024.

#### 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](mailto:holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com) or Mary Osinski at [mary.osinski@gmail.com](mailto:mary.osinski@gmail.com)