

House Blessings 2022

Father Michael, Matushka Mihaela, and the parish council members send best wishes for a most blessed and happy, healthy, safe and peaceful New Year to our parishioners, their families, and friends of our parish. Many blessings to all for a prayerful 2022!

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, Nadine Olsen, Mariella, Frank, Anastasia, Sophia Eptamenitis, Edward, Taisa, Konstance & Elaine Engelsman, Maria Higginbotham, Valentina Bobrowski, Anna Konoleva, Erika Dobrzynski, Andrew John Lihou, Marie Biancarelli, Joshua and Daniel Buccieri, Emma Matthews, Stephanie, Kristy, Victor Szemetylo, Helen, Bonnie Shaffner, Helen Schweizer, Zoran Pejovic and Sunny Hunsicker. Amen!!!

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

Follow us on



And remember to use:



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www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

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The Weekly Bulletin HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH

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January 9th, 2022

MARTYR POLYEUKTOS OF MELITENE IN ARMENIA - Saint Polyeuktos was the first to be martyred for Christ in the Armenian city of Melitēnē. He was a soldier during the reign of Emperor Decius (249-251), and he later suffered martyrdom in the reign of Valerian (253-259). He was a friend of Néarkhos, a fellow-soldier and a firm Christian. Polyeuktos, however, although he led a virtuous life, remained a pagan. When the persecution against Christians began, Néarkhos said to Polyeuktos, "Friend, soon we shall be separated, for they will take me to torture, and you, alas, will renounce your friendship with me." Polyeuktos told him that he had seen Christ in a dream. The Savior took his soiled military cloak from him and dressed him in a radiant garment. "Now," he said, "I am prepared to serve the Lord Jesus Christ." Enflamed with zeal, Saint Polyeuktos went to the city square and tore up the edict of Decius which required everyone to worship the idols. A few moments later, he met a procession carrying twelve idols through the streets of the city. Dashing the idols to the ground, he trampled them underfoot. His father-in-law, the magistrate Felix, who was responsible for enforcing the imperial edict, was horrified at what Saint Polyeuktos had done and advised him to obey the imperial edict. Polyeuktos told him that we must obey God rather than men. Felix declared that Polyeuktos must die for this. "Go then, bid farewell to your wife and children," he said. Paulina wept and urged her husband to renounce Christ. Felix also wept, but Saint Polyeuktos remained steadfast in his resolve to suffer for Christ. Bowing his head beneath the executioner's sword, he was baptized in his own blood. In the reign of Saint Constantine, the Great, when the Church of Christ had triumphed throughout the Roman Empire, a church was built at Melitēnē in honor of Saint Polyeuktos. Many miracles were worked through his intercession. In that same church, the parents of Saint Euthymios the Great (January 20) prayed fervently for a son. The birth of this great luminary of Orthodoxy occurred in the year 376, through the prayers of the Holy Martyr Polyeuktos. Saint Polyeuktos was also venerated by Saint Akakios, the Bishop of Melitēnē (March 31), who participated in the Third Ecumenical Council and was a great proponent of Orthodoxy. In the East, as well as in the West, the Holy Martyr Polyeuktos is venerated as the patron Saint of vows and treaties. The Polyeucte Overture of French composer Paul Dukas is only one of many pieces of classical music inspired by the Saints.

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 8th of January
Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 9th of January
Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Saturday 15th of January
Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 16th of January
Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Announcements

Blessed Theophany of our Lord

Joyous Feast

Blessed Theophany of our Lord. Please take some newly blessed water from the Church to your homes.

Blessing of the homes

After a year of restriction due to the COVID-19 pandemic we are again blessed with opportunity to bless the homes of all our parishioners. If you would like your home to be blessed, please contact Father Michael on pejovicveljko@gmail.com or via cell phone: 848-228-1563. Blessing of the homes is a wonderful opportunity to bring joy of the Holy Theophany into your home.

Please keep us informed

If a person is sick, homebound or in the hospital, please let us know. Contact Fr. Michael Pejovic via email: pejovicveljko@gmail.com or call him to let him know if you would like a priest to visit and/or bring communion.

2022 Church Calendars

Church calendars have arrived and are in the narthex. You are welcome to take one for yourself and take another and give it to another family member or a friend. On behalf of the HSOC, thanks to Pinkel Funeral Home for again providing the calendars for our church.

Parish Council Meeting

Due to some COVID-19 cases, the Parish Council Meeting was canceled. We are hopeful that we will have the next Parish Council Meeting soon.

Rectory renovation

We have started many renovations in the Parish Rectory. If you would like to help, please talk with Adrian Pawelko or Father Michael.

Food Donations

A food donation bin is located in the parish hall. The Sussex Help Center is always in need of breakfast cereal, peanut butter, canned fruit and vegetables, fruit juice and other non-perishable food items. Please see Seth Fleishman if you have questions or need more information's. Thank you for your generosity.

Have an item for the bulletin?

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