

## VENERABLE GREGORY THE DECAPOLITE

SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> of NOVEMBER

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel Reading: Luke 12:16-21

Troparion — Tone 1

**The Church known you to be a radiant sun / enlightening all with the rays of healing and the beauty of virtue. / Therefore, as we celebrate your honored memory, / we glorify your struggles, ever-blessed and most wise Father Gregory.**

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, Betty James Elizabeth and David. 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)

November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**VENERABLE GREGORY THE DECAPOLITE** - Saint Gregory was born in the Isaurian city of Decapolis (ten cities) in the VIII century. From his childhood he loved the house of God and the Church Services. He read the Holy Scripture constantly and with reverence. In order to avoid the marriage which his parents had intended for him, he left home and spent his entire life wandering. He travelled to Constantinople, Rome, Corinth, and he lived as an ascetic on Olympus for a while. Saint Gregory preached the Word of God everywhere, denouncing the Iconoclast heresy, and strengthening the faith and courage of the Orthodox, who were persecuted, tortured, and imprisoned by the Iconoclasts. Through his ascetical struggles and prayers, Saint Gregory attained the gifts of prophecy and working miracles. After overcoming the passions and attaining the height of virtue, he was permitted to hear the angelic singing in praise of the Holy Trinity. Saint Gregory left the monastery of Saint Menas near Thessaloniki, where he had labored for a long time, and he went to Constantinople again in order to combat the Iconoclast heresy. At the capital, a grievous illness undermined his strength, and he went to the Lord in the year 816. Saint Gregory was buried at a monastery in Constantinople, and many miracles took place at his tomb. As a result, the monks recovered Saint Gregory's holy relics and enshrined them in the church where people could venerate them. When Constantinople fell to the Turks in 1453, the relics of Saint Gregory were carried to the region of the Danube by a Turkish official. In 1498 Barbu Craiovescu, the Ban of Wallachia heard of the miracles performed by the holy relics, and he bought them for a considerable sum of money. Barbu Craiovescu placed the relics in the main church of Bistrița's Dormition Monastery which he founded at Rimnicu Vilcea,<sup>1</sup> where they remain to the present day. A small booklet describing the miracles and healings performed by Saint Gregory the Decapolite in Romania was written by Igoumeness Olga Gologan, who reposed in 1972.

## 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

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> of November**

**Great Vespers at 5 pm**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> of November**

**Divine Liturgy at 10 am**

**Great Vespers at 6 pm**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> of November**

**THE ENTRY OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE**

**Divine Liturgy at 9 am**

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

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> of November**

**Happy Thanksgiving Day**

**“Let us give thanks to the Lord for all things!”**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> of November**

**Great Vespers at 5 pm**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> of November**

**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.

### Nativity Fast

This year, the Nativity Fast began Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> and is in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ on December 25<sup>th</sup>. As the fast continues, 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.

### Nativity Fast Confessions

During the Nativity Fast, we are called to the sacrament of confession. 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](mailto:pejovicveljko@gmail.com) or call him (848)228-1563.

### Welcome back Mary Hardcastle (Kedala)

After 40 days, Mary Hardcastle (Kedala) is coming back to the Holy Spirit Orthodox Church with her beautiful baby girl Vada. The prayer of acceptance will take place on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> of November just before Divine Liturgy. If you can please be in Church on time to welcome our dear Mary back to our Church.

### Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>

This is a time of year to remember and give thanks for our many blessings. Sincere best wishes to our parishioners and friends of our parish for a happy, healthy, and blessed Thanksgiving! Let us remember to give thanks to the Lord for the wonderful life He has given to us.

### Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meeting will take place on November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm via ZOOM.

### 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)