

Sunday 1st of October 2023

**THE PROTECTION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE
MOTHER OF GOD AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY**

Epistle Reading: Heb. 9:1-7; 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

Gospel Reading: Luke 10:38-42; 6:31-36

Troparion – Tone 3

**On this day we, the Orthodox people, joyously keep festival, /
illuminated by your coming, O Mother of God; / and, beholding
your most pure image, we cry out with compunction: / “Cover
us with your Protecting Veil and deliver us from all evil, /
entreating your Son, Christ our God, to save our souls.” /**

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, 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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The WEEKLY BULLETIN
HOLY SPIRIT
ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

October 1st, 2023

**THE PROTECTION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE MOTHER
OF GOD AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY**

– This miraculous appearance of the Mother of God occurred in the mid-tenth century in Constantinople, in the Blachernae church where her robe, veil, and part of her belt were preserved after being transferred from Palestine in the fifth century. On Sunday, October 1, during the All Night Vigil, when the church was overflowing with those at prayer, the Fool-for-Christ Saint Andrew (October 2), at the fourth hour, lifted up his eyes towards the heavens and beheld our most Holy Lady Theotokos coming through the air, resplendent with heavenly light and surrounded by an assembly of the Saints. Saint John the Baptist and the holy Apostle John the Theologian accompanied the Queen of Heaven. On bended knees the Most Holy Virgin tearfully prayed for Christians for a long time. Then, coming near the Bishop’s Throne, she continued her prayer. After completing her prayer she took her veil and spread it over the people praying in church, protecting them from enemies both visible and invisible. The Most Holy Lady Theotokos was resplendent with heavenly glory, and the protecting veil in her hands gleamed “more than the rays of the sun.” Saint Andrew gazed trembling at the miraculous vision and he asked his disciple, the blessed Epiphanius standing beside him, “Do you see, brother, the Holy Theotokos, praying for all the world?” Epiphanius answered, “I do see, holy Father, and I am in awe.” The Ever-Blessed Mother of God implored the Lord Jesus Christ to accept the prayers of all the people calling on His Most Holy Name, and to respond speedily to her intercession, “O Heavenly King, accept all those who pray to You and call on my name for help. Do not let them go away from my icon unheard.” Saints Andrew and Epiphanius were worthy to see the Mother of God at prayer, and “for a long time observed the Protecting Veil spread over the people and shining with flashes of glory. As long as the Most Holy Theotokos was there, the Protecting Veil was also visible, but with her departure it also became invisible. After taking it with her, she left behind the grace of her visitation.” At the Blachernae church, the memory of the miraculous appearance of the Mother of God was remembered. In the fourteenth century, the Russian pilgrim and clerk Alexander, saw in the church an icon of the Most Holy Theotokos praying for the world, depicting Saint Andrew in contemplation of her.

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 September

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 1st of October

PROTECTION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Applefest from 9 am – 5 pm

Saturday 7th of October

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 8th of October

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Saturday 14th of October

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 15th of October

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Visitors Welcome

After Sunday's Divine Liturgy, you are invited to join us for light refreshment in the parish hall. You'll find a friendly welcome, good conversation and ask any questions you may have.

Memory Eternal

The memorial service for Mr. Ronald Skurla was held on Monday 25th of September in Pinkel Funeral Home. After memorial service, funeral service took place at Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Cemetery in Saddle Brook NJ. May his memory be eternal!

NJ State Fair

I am happy to announce that this year HSOC raised \$18,303.15. Sincere thanks to our managers and all the people who worked at the NJ State Fair to make this year's event our most successful fundraiser ever.

Applefest, Sunday, October 1st

Today's the day – Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am. Following will be the Applefest in beautiful Warwick, NY. It's still not too late to volunteer at this one-day fundraising event. Invite your family and friends for this wonderful opportunity for fellowship and to support our church and enjoy the beauty of the beginning of fall! For more information, speak with Nadine Olsen and/or Mark Benda.

Annual "Church Musician Sunday"

The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America has designated the Sunday on or following the commemoration of Saint Romanus the Melodist as "Church musician Sunday." This yearly designation will take place this year on Sunday, October 1, 2023. **We are grateful for Timothy Kachur and the rest of the choir for their continues service.**

Christian Education Workshop

Attached is an updated poster for the Christian Education Workshop, taking place in all three Deaneries on Saturday, October 21st from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

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 current needs of 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