

Sunday, 20th of October 2024

**VENERABLE GERASIMUS THE NEW ASCETIC
OF CEPHALONIA**

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Troparion – Tone 3

Today the island of Cephalonia / with sacred songs of thanksgiving, / calls upon all the Orthodox to extol the newly appeared boast and glory of Orthodoxy, / the divine Gerasimos, / who is truly her deliverer and champion.

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 Archbishop Melchizedek, Archpriest Samuel, Archimandrite Joseph, Archpriest Paul, Protopresbyter Christos, the priest Gregory, Protodeacon John, Mark, Matushka Ellen, Matushka Svetlana, Matushka Irene, Matushka Katherine, Catherine Xenia, Karen, Nadine Olsen, Michael Olsen, Michelle, Alexander, Anastasia, Sophia Eptamenitis, Edward, Taisa, 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, Zoran Pejovic, Sunny Hunsicker, Ioana, Carmen, Michael, John, Sarah, Linda, Pamela Anne and Kimberly Marie, JoAnne, Beatrice, Christina, Orestes, Julia, Adrian, Sonya, Biljana, Dorothy, Pauline, Brandy, Makenzie, Tyler, Anna, Aleksei, Elena, Denis, Nadezhda, Izabella, Olga, Rita, Olga, Olga, Sofia, Iosif, John, Dawn, Pavel, Elena, Avery, Halyna (Klima), Sergey, John, Francis, Anna and Birgit. Amen!

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

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www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/>

<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/weeklybulletins>

The WEEKLY BULLETIN

HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

October 20th, 2024

VENERABLE GERASIMUS THE NEW ASCETIC OF CEPHALONIA - Saint Gerasimus the New Ascetic of Cephalonia was born in the village of Trikkala in the Peloponessos. As a young adult, he became a monk on the island of Zakynthos. On the Holy Mountain he became a schemamonk and studied with the ascetics of Mt Athos. Receiving a blessing from the Elders, the monk went to Jerusalem to worship at the Life-bearing Tomb of the Savior. After visiting many holy places in Jerusalem, Mount Sinai, Antioch, Damascus, Alexandria and Egypt, he returned to Jerusalem where he became a lamp-lighter at the Sepulchre of the Lord. The monk was ordained a deacon and then a priest by the Patriarch of Jerusalem, Germanus (1534-1579). Saint Gerasimus maintained the discipline of an ascetic. For solitude he withdrew to the Jordan, where he spent forty days without respite. Having received the Patriarch's blessing for a life of silence, Saint Gerasimus withdrew to Zakynthos in solitude, eating only vegetation. After five years he was inspired to go the island of Cephalonia, where he lived in a cave. He restored a church at Omala, and he founded a women's monastery where he lived in constant toil and vigil for thirty years. He prayed on bent knees stretched out on the ground. For his exalted life he was granted a miraculous gift: the ability to heal the sick and cast out unclean spirits. At 71 years of age, the venerable Gerasimus knew that he would soon die. He gave his blessing to the nuns and peacefully fell asleep in the Lord on August 15, 1579. Two years later, his grave was opened and his holy relics were found fragrant and incorrupt with a healing power. Since the Feast of the Dormition falls on August 15, Saint Gerasimus is commemorated on August 16th. Today's Feast celebrates the uncovering of his holy relics in 1581.

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 19th of October

MEMORIAL SATURDAY – Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 20th of October

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Saturday 26th of October

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 27th of October

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Saturday 2nd of November

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 3rd of November

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Visitors Welcome

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Everyone is welcome to visit and worship with us. Following Divine Liturgy, please join us for light refreshment in the church hall.

In Memory – Maria K. Higginbotham, October 12, 2024.

On the morning of Thursday, October 17th, at Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, there was a funeral service for Maria K. Higginbotham. Many thanks to Maria's children for inviting everyone who attended to a family style luncheon at HSOC. In memory of Maria, donations are requested for Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, 102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461. The link for Maria Higginbotham's obituary: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/sparta-nj/maria-higginbotham-12026717>. Memory Eternal!

In Memory – Archpriest Joseph Chupeck, October 2nd, 2024.

Thank you all who attended the funeral for our ever-to-be-remembered Archpriest Joseph Chupeck. Please check the whole article about Joseph Chupeck on the OCPM page following this link: <https://www.oca.org/in-memoriam/archpriest-joseph-chupeck>. In lieu of flowers, donations are requested for Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, 102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461. Memory Eternal.

Warwick Applefest 2024

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Mike and Nadine Olsen and Mark Benda for once again organizing our participation in the Warwick Applefest. We also want to express our gratitude to all the wonderful volunteers who helped to make this fundraiser a success. We raised 3000\$! Thank you all for your continued support.

Clothing Bin

Please continue to use the clothing bin located in the church parking lot. Each donation supports the church financially and your participation is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.

Sussex Help Center Announcement

This past week Dan Taylor had a meeting with the Sussex Help Center Food Pantry. Their requests are for soups or stews and items for school lunches for children. This is an ongoing HSOC outreach program and thank you for your support and contributions.

Have an item for the bulletin?

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