

Sunday 29th of October 2023

MONASTIC MARTYR ANASTASIA OF ROME

Epistle Reading: Galatians 2:16-20

Gospel Reading: Luke 8:26-39

Troparion – Tone 4

Your lamb Anastasia calls out to You, O Jesus, in loud voice: / “I love You, my Bridegroom, and in seeking You I endure suffering. / In baptism I was crucified so that I might rein in You, /and I died so that I might live with You. / Accept me as a pure sacrifice, / for I have offered myself in love.” / Through her prayers save our souls since You are merciful.

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, Protopresbyter 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*****

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

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

holyspiritwantage@gmail.com
www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org
<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/>
<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/weeklybulletins>

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN
HOLY SPIRIT
ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

October 29th, 2023

MONASTIC MARTYR ANASTASIA OF ROME - The Monastic Martyr Anastasia the Roman lost her parents when she was three years old, and was taken to be raised by the Igomeness of a women’s monastery, whose name was Sophia, a nun who had attained a high degree of spiritual perfection. She raised Anastasia in fervent faith, in the fear of God, and obedience. After seventeen years, Anastasia became known as a great ascetic, and she was very beautiful. The Emperor Decius (249-251) began his persecution of Christians at that time. The city administrator, Probus, following the Emperor’s orders, commanded that Anastasia be brought to him. Blessed by her Igomeness to suffer for Christ, the young martyr Anastasia went out to meet the armed soldiers. Seeing her youth and beauty, Probus first tried flattery to make her deny Christ. “Why do you waste your youth deprived of pleasure?” he asked. “What is to be gained by enduring tortures and death for the Crucified? Worship our gods, marry a handsome husband, and live with glory and honor.” While Saint Anastasia stood before the ruler, her mind stood before Christ, and with her spiritual eyes, she beheld the comeliness of her Bridegroom. The Saint replied, “My spouse, my riches, my life and my happiness are my Lord Jesus Christ, and you cannot turn me away from Him by your deceit!” Probus had her stripped of her clothing, in order to humiliate her. She told him, “You can have me whipped, beaten, and cut to pieces, and then my nakedness will be hidden by my wounds, and my blood will cover my shame.” Probus subjected Anastasia to horrible tortures. The holy martyr bravely endured all of them, glorifying and praising God. When she became thirsty she asked for some water, and a Christian named Cyril gave her a drink. She thanked him, but Probus had him beheaded. Then her tormentors cut off her breasts and ripped out her tongue, while an Angel held her upright. When the people witnessed the inhuman and disgusting treatment the Saint received, they became indignant, and Probus was forced to end the tortures by having her beheaded. In this manner, Saint Anastasia received the unfading crown of martyrdom. Saint Anastasia’s body was thrown outside the city limits to be eaten by wild animals, but the Lord did not permit her holy relics to be dishonored. By the instructions of a holy Angel, Igomeness Sophia found Saint Anastasia’s mutilated body. With the help of two Christians, she buried it in the earth. Her right tibia with the skin is at Grigoriou Monastery on Mount Athos, and pieces of her relics are at the Saint Alexander Nevsky Lavra in St. Petersburg. Saint Anastasia the Roman should not be confused with Saint Anastasia Pharmakolytria, who is commemorated on December 22.

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 4th of November

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 5th of November

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Tuesday 7th of November

Great Vespers at 6 pm

Wednesday 8th of November

Synaxis of Archangels Michael and All Heavenly Host

Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Slava Service – After Divine Liturgy

Slava Dinner at Rectory at 5 pm

Saturday 11th of November

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 12th of November

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.

A Heartfelt Thank you

On Sunday, October 22nd, at Holy Spirit Orthodox Church following Divine Liturgy, Father Michael presented Mark Benda, Michael, and Nadine Olsen with icons as recognition for their constant and continuing fundraising efforts for our church.

Sincere Appreciation

We wish to thank everyone who donated funds toward Diocesan initiative: Project Alaska. Holy Spirit Orthodox Church sent 1311\$ for this meaningful cause. God Bless you!

Church School Harvest Festival

On Saturday 28th of October after Vespers, our Church will organize Church School Harvest Festival. This event is aimed toward the children; however, you are more than welcome to attend.

Fall Back: Daylight Saving Time Ends on Nov. 5, 2023!

Remember to turn your clocks back Saturday night and enjoy that extra hour of sleep!

Synaxis of the Archangel Michael

At Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, you are welcome to worship with us for the Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and all the Heavenly Powers at Vespers on Tuesday, November 7th, at 6 pm and Divine Liturgy on Wednesday, November 8th, at 9 am. At 5 pm on November 8th, Father Michael and Matushka Mihaela Pejovic will open the doors of Rectory for anyone who wants to join them in the celebration of their Slava (family Patron Saint) and Matushka Mihaela's birthday. Although food is planned to be served around 5 pm, you are welcome to join us in the rectory whenever you please.

Religious Education

Following Sunday Divine Liturgy and the coffee social, Father Michael meets with the catechumens to discuss religion and the church. You are welcome to join us. Hope to see you there.

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 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