

Sunday, 8th of September 2024

NATIVITY OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS

Epistle: John 3:13-17; Matt. 18:23-35; Luke 10:38-42

Gospel: Gal. 6:11-18; 1 Cor. 9:2-12; Philipp. 2:5-11

Kontakion – Tone 4

**Your Nativity, O Virgin, / has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! /
The Sun of Righteousness,¹ Christ our God, / has shone from you, O
Theotokos! / By annulling the curse, / He bestowed a blessing. / By
destroying death, He has granted us eternal Life.**

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 Joseph, 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 and John Francis. 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

holyspiritwantagej@gmail.com

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

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

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

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN
HOLY SPIRIT
ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

September 8th, 2024

THE NATIVITY OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS - The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary: The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind. The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren. Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Saints Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feast days at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless. Saint Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. Saint Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family. The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World. The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6). The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.

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 7th of September

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 8th of September

NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

Divine Liturgy at 10 am

Wednesday 11th of September

**Panikhida for the victims of 9/11 with His Eminence
Archbishop Michael at 6:30 pm**

Saturday 14th of September

Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 15th of September

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 refreshments in the church hall.

Many Blessed Years!

On Saturday 31st of August, Isla and Christopher Spies, children of Christopher and Alyssa Ross were received to the Holy Orthodox Faith. Many blessed years to the newly illumined children of God Isla and Christopher, their Godparents Julia and Edgar, parents and everyone who witness this joyous occasion. Many Blessed Years!

Memory Eternal +Helen Brincka

It is with sadness but sure hope in the resurrection that I inform you that Helen Brincka fell asleep in The Lord on Monday of this week. Helen Brincka was a former member of Holy Spirit Orthodox Church. Viewing will be held on Sunday 8th of September from 2 pm to 5 pm at Pinkel Funeral Home in Sussex, NJ and funeral will take place on Monday, September 11th, 9 am at Saints Peter and Paul Russian Orthodox Cathedral in Passaic, NJ. You can read more by following the link to her obituary's website:

<https://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Helen-Brincka/#!/TributeWall>

Religious Education

The HSOC Sunday program will begin on Sunday, September 8th, 2024. All youths are welcome and invited to participate. Speak with Beth Lamlay to register your child or for more information.

9/11 Memorial Service

There will be a 9/11 MEMORIAL Service to honor and remember the lives lost on that tragic day at Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 6:30 pm with His Eminence, Archbishop Michael presiding with other clergy. This will provide for fellowship and the community to come together in remembrance. The blessing of local fire equipment and honoring the first responders will follow. Please plan to attend and extend an invitation to family and friends to attend and join in this commemorative event. Potluck dinner and fellowship will follow in the Parish Hall. Please plan to join us and bring your favorite dish.

DDB Appreciation Dinner in the New York City Deanery

You are cordially invited to attend a New York City Deanery Appreciation Dinner for the 2023 Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, hosted with gratitude by His Eminence, Archbishop Michael. The dinner will take place on Sunday, September 22nd, 2024, at 5:00 pm at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 46 Seymour Street, Yonkers, NY 10701. You are encouraged to bring family members and parish guests.

Have an item for the bulletin?

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