

## Bright Week

The entire week is considered to be one continuous day. During all of Bright Week the Holy Doors on the Iconostasis are kept open—the only time of the year when this occurs. The open doors represent the stone rolled away from the Tomb of Christ, and the Epitaphios (Slavonic: Plashchanitza), representing the burial clothes, is visible through them on the Holy Table (altar). The doors are closed before the Ninth Hour on the eve of Thomas Sunday. Everything in the services is sung joyfully rather than read. Bright Week begins the liturgical season known as the Pentecostarion, the period of fifty days which begins on Pascha and continues to Pentecost and its Afterfeast.[5] The date of Pascha determines liturgical cycles as well as the Epistle and Gospel readings for the subsequent year.

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:

The Archpriests Samuel and Joseph, the priest Gregory, Matushka Ellen, Emily Anastasia, Nadine Olsen, Marianna, Sophia Eptamenitis, Edward, Taisa, Konstance & Elaine Engelsman, Maria Higginbotham, Valentina Bobrowski, Anna Konoleva, Erika Dobrzynski, Marie Biancarelli, Joshua and Daniel Buccieri, Emma Matthews, Stephanie, Kristy, Victor Szemetylo, Helen, Bonnie Shaffner and Helen Schweizer. Amen!!!

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



[Holy Pascha: The Resurrection of Our Lord](#)

Follow us on



And remember to use:



### Holy Spirit Orthodox Church

102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461

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

[holyspiritwantage@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritwantage@gmail.com)

[www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org](http://www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org)

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

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

# THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

## HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH

[www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org](http://www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org)

May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!**

**HOLY PASCHA: The Resurrection of Our Lord:** The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the center of the Christian faith. Saint Paul says that if Christ is not raised from the dead, then our preaching and faith are in vain (I Cor. 15:14). Indeed, without the resurrection there would be no Christian preaching or faith. The disciples of Christ would have remained the broken and hopeless band which the Gospel of John describes as being in hiding behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. They went nowhere and preached nothing until they met the risen Christ, the doors being shut (John 20: 19). Then they touched the wounds of the nails and the spear; they ate and drank with Him. The resurrection became the basis of everything they said and did (Acts 2-4): “. . . for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have” (Luke 24:39). The resurrection reveals Jesus of Nazareth as not only the expected Messiah of Israel, but as the King and Lord of a new Jerusalem: a new heaven and a new earth. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. . . the holy city, new Jerusalem. And I heard a great voice from the throne saying “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people. . . He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away (Rev. 21:1-4). In His death and resurrection, Christ defeats the last enemy, death, and thereby fulfills the mandate of His Father to subject all things under His feet (I Cor. 15:24-26). Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing (Rev. 5: 12)

In order to attend services, you must let us know. Call, text or email  
Father Michael at (848)228-1563 or  
[holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com)

### Service Schedule

**Great Vespers:** 5 pm Saturdays  
**Hours:** 9:40am 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

**Bright Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2021**  
**Divine Liturgy at 9 am**

**Bright Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2021**  
**Great Vespers at 5 pm**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2021**  
**Saint Thomas Sunday and Mother's Day**  
**Divine Liturgy at 10 am**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2021**  
**Parish Informational Meeting – Re: Church Furnace/Water Heater**  
**Church Hall – Following Divine Liturgy**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of May – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> of May**  
**Holy Spirit Yard Sale**

### Announcements

#### **Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!**

May we celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection in joy and love. From this day forward, may we never cease exulting in the Lord – *His Beatitude Tikhon, Metropolitan of all America and Canada.*

#### **Sincere Thanks:**

Thanks for worshipping with us on Lazarus Saturday and all who, following the Divine Liturgy participated in putting together the palms/pussy willows, thorough cleaning of the church, lower level of the church, as well as the professional landscaping of the exterior of our church. You are terrific and very much appreciated.

#### **Rectory Deck**

Sincere thanks to Adrian Pawelko and Mark Benda for working extensively at the Rectory Deck during the Holy Week. God Grant you Many Years!

#### **HSOC – Furnace/water heater fund**

We'd like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and thanks to Despina and Sophia Eptamenitis for their generous gifts to our church to assist with the installation, in the very near future, of a new and more efficient furnace/water heater. God Grant you Many Years!

#### **Online Donations at [holyspiritorthodox.org](http://holyspiritorthodox.org)**

We now have an active "Donate" button at our website. If you would like to make a donation online, rather than by cash or check, you may now do so by going to [www.holyspiritorthodox.org/donate](http://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/donate) or go to our website and click the "Donate" link.

#### **Worship with us on Mother's day...**

Please email or provide, in writing, to Father Michael the name(s) of your loving, hard working Mothers, Grandmothers, God Mothers, Aunts and Friends, and indicate living or deceased, to be commemorated and celebrated next Sunday, May 9th.

#### **Good News**

The last and final rectory mortgage payment has been submitted. The mortgage was paid off in less time than anticipated and the bank will now process and advise us of any funds due to us! God Bless all parishioners and friends of the parish to make this happen!

#### **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)