

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

**HOLY SPIRIT  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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

**May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Christ submitted to the confines of the grave so that men, His children, should know the spaciousness of the limitless palace of Paradise.

*St. Nikolai Velimirovich*

**MARTYR CHRISTOPHER OF LYCIA, AND, WITH HIM, THE MARTYRS CALINIKA AND AQUILINA:** The Holy Martyr Christopher lived during the third century and suffered about the year 250, during the reign of the emperor Decius (249-251). Saint Christopher was a man of great stature and unusual strength. According to tradition, Saint Christopher was very handsome, but wishing to avoid temptation for himself and others, he asked the Lord to give him an unattractive face, which was done. Before Baptism he was named Reprebus [Reprobate] because his disfigured appearance. Even before Baptism, Reprebus confessed his faith in Christ and denounced those who persecuted Christians. Consequently, a certain Bacchus gave him a beating, which he endured with humility. Saint Christopher did many miracles and because of that he was persecuted by the Roman emperor. Saint Christopher was brought before the emperor, who tried to make him renounce Christ, not by force but by cunning. He summoned two profligate women, Callinika and Aquilina, and commanded them to persuade Christopher to deny Christ, and to offer sacrifice to idols. Instead, the women were converted to Christ by Saint Christopher. When they returned to the emperor, they declared themselves to be Christians. Therefore, they were subjected to fierce beatings, and so they received the crown of martyrdom. After many fierce torments they finally beheaded the martyr with a sword. This occurred in the year 250 in Lycia. By his miracles the holy Martyr Christopher converted as many as 50,000 pagans to Christ. The name Christopher means "Christ-bearer." This can refer to the saint carrying the Savior across the river, and it may also refer to Saint Christopher bearing Christ within himself (Galatians 2:20).

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

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2021**

**Great Vespers at 5 pm**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2021**

**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**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2021**

**Parish Council Meeting at 6 pm via Zoom**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of May – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> of May**

**Holy Spirit Yard Sale**

## Announcements

### **CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

#### **Welcome!**

Everyone is welcome and invited to visit and worship with us and experience the beauty of Vespers each Saturday at 5:00 pm or Divine Liturgy each Sunday at 10:00 am. We try our best to provide safe environment for worship by fully following CDC Covid-19 safety regulations.

#### **Church Attendance:**

If you have not attended church since the reopening, you must notify Fr. Michael before attending. Please email, text or call Father Michael at (848)228-1563 or [holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com)

#### **Thanks To All:**

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who participated and contributed to the beauty of our Holy Spirit Orthodox Church during the Lenten season, Holy Week and Pascha! We are most grateful for our choir, director, and singers, readers, altar servers, cleaners, food and preparers of food, grave watchers, Pascha flower donations, and to all who attended services and worshipped with us. Bless you and God Grant You Many Years!

#### **Happy Mother's Day:**

Happy Mother's day to all Mothers, Grandmothers, God Mothers, Aunts and to all special woman in our lives. God grant you many years!

#### **Remember to keep your offerings current!**

Offerings can be made at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The collection basket is located on the table by the exit. You are also welcome to send your donation via mail to Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, 102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461. Your continued support of the church during these difficult times is very much appreciated and we are thankful.

#### **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.

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

We are still collecting money for our new church furnace and water heater. A small presentation about plans for the installation of the furnace and water heater will take place on May 16th right before the coffee hour. Please plan to attend.

## 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! Although this is a great achievement we still have to be diligent in our stewardship. Saint Paul reminds us that: "The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should do as he has decided in his heart - not reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:6-7)

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\*\*\***



[Martyr Christopher of Lycia](#)

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

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