

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

Synaxis of All Saints

June 14th, 2020

“The spirit of the saints burned with a bright flame, which the wind of temptation failed to extinguish but set burning stronger still.”

St. Silouan the Athonite

VENERABLE JULITTA OF TABENNISI. Julitta and her mentor and closest friend Euphrasia lived in a fifth-century convent of 130 nuns in Tabennisi, Egypt. One day the abbess had a vision that Euphrasia would be leaving them in ten days. Upon hearing about the vision, one of the nuns told Euphrasia. Julitta speculated that perhaps Euphrasia’s former fiancé had persuaded the emperor to remove her from the monastery, but she firmly replied that she would never abandon her Lord Christ. Julitta went to the abbess’ cell and overheard her, saying that she saw in the vision two men in monastic habits coming to take Euphrasia, and the monks took her to Heaven. The abbess saw 10,000 angels and a numberless multitude of saints looking on, and the Mother of God escorted Euphrasia. Julitta told Euphrasia what she had heard, and that tomorrow she would die. The two nuns spent the night in the church alone, in silent vigil. Julitta told her friend to remember how close they had been on the earth and that she did not want to be separated from her. She asked Euphrasia to pray that the Lord will find her worthy to be together with her in the next life. The next day Euphrasia died. For three days, Julitta wept at her grave. On the fourth day, Julitta told the abbess that through Euphrasia’s intercession, Christ was calling her, and the next day she died. St. Julitta was buried in the same tomb with St. Euphrasia. Thirty days after this, by the prayers of St. Euphrasia, Christ also called the abbess.

Announcements

Glory to Jesus Christ!



Services Have Resumed -- with limitations

Liturgical services resumed at Holy Spirit on June 6th, 2020.

As of June 14th, our parish is now permitted up to 20 people in attendance.

Procedures You Need to Know

In order to attend services, you must let us know by either text or email that you plan to attend:

Send text to 570 216-1945 or email: sinney41@gmail.com

We must also follow the Diocesan guidelines listed in the document entitled: "Diocese of New York and New Jersey INSTRUCTIONS ON ENTERING CHURCH." (see next page or www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org.)

If you prefer not to attend the Divine Liturgy or we have met our quota, His Eminence has given permission to offer the Eucharist after services, around 11:15 AM, to those who desire to receive and have prepared themselves by prayer and fasting.



Greetings from Father Alexander Smida

"I pray that...everyone at Holy Spirit Church [is] well, and, by God's Mercy, getting through these troubling times."

"These beautiful summer-like days call to mind my visits to Wantage last summer; please give my love to everyone and assure them of my prayers!"

In Christ, Father Alexander Smida

Diocese of New York and New Jersey
INSTRUCTIONS ON ENTERING CHURCH

STOP – if you feel sick, have a fever, cough or shortness of breath – return home and contact your health care provider.

WEAR a mask or cloth face covering at all times, except for children under age 2.

KEEP 6 feet away from others at all times, including while outdoors.

SIT at least 6 feet away from others, either individuals or family groups.

BOW ONLY to venerate Icons. Do not venerate by kissing or touching any icons, iconography, Crosses, or sacred articles.

DO NOT shake hands, hug or kiss anyone, including the priest.

WASH hands with your own or the provided alcohol-based sanitizer.

COVER your mouth and nose with tissue when coughing or sneezing or use the inside of your elbow.

AGE 65+ and persons at high risk are encouraged to stay home and view services online.

FOLLOW the instructions of those people in the church appointed to ensure the safety and cleanliness of the property.

By voluntarily entering the premises of this church and participating in its religious or other activities, the visitor assumes any and all risks related to his or her presence in the church and participation in any of its activities and further waives any and all claims against the church in this connection. In no event shall the church be liable for damages of any kind to any visitor arising from his or her presence or activity on church property.

Where We Are Right Now

Limited Liturgical Services

This past Saturday, June 6th, Father George Hasenecz, choir director Tim Kachur, and a limited cohort of the faithful celebrated Great Vespers together for the first time since March 21st (Ven. Precious Cross).

On Sunday, June 7th, Holy Pentecost, Holy Spirit Orthodox Church celebrated the Divine Liturgy with people for the first time since March 15th.

What to Expect: Some Adjustments and Accommodations

- All people are currently being directed to enter through the rear door -- via the ramp.
- The candle table and offering basket are located outside the rear door. There will be a greeter there to help navigate the various temporary changes and adjustments.
- Masks and hand sanitizer are available at the rear entrance.
- There is currently no coffee hour following Divine Liturgy.
- All the guidelines on preceding page must be followed.

Pandemic Timeline -- Our Parish

March 21st, 2020 - Last public service at Holy Spirit before closures (Great Vespers -- Ven. Precious Cross.)

March 22nd, 2020 - Services closed to public. Fr. George Hasenecz, choir director Tim Kachur, and altar server (and Sr. Warden) Adrian Pawelko celebrate liturgy.

March 29th, 2020 - Services cancelled.

April 5th, 2020 - All liturgical services suspended.

June 6th, 2020 - Services resume with 10 person limit plus other accommodations.

June 14th, 2020 -- Permitted capacity increased to 20 persons.

DIOCESAN RESOURCES

Please visit the diocesan web site:

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

On the home page you will find:

- Updates on the quarantine/situation
- Statements from His Eminence, Archbishop Michael
- Resources for home prayer (Reader's Vespers, Typika Service, and Home Prayer rule information, etc.)
- Links to online streamed services

Keeping Your Offerings Current?

Remember to keep your offerings current by sending your check to:

Holy Spirit Orthodox Church
102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461
(make check payable to "Holy Spirit Orthodox Church".)

Sincere thanks for continuing to support your church during these difficult times.

Troparion — Tone 4

As with fine porphyry and royal purple, / Your church has been adorned with Your martyrs' blood shed throughout all the world. / She cries to You, O Christ God: / Send down Your bounties on Your people, / Grant peace to Your habitation, and great mercy to our souls!



Synaxis of All Saints

We pray for our entire church family and for those who do not have a family or church family, and our special prayers are for the sick and suffering:

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

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

On Synaxis of All Saints

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost. (source: www.OCA.org)

Holy Spirit Orthodox Church

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Father George Hasenecz

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