

Commemorated on July 8

The Sitka Icon of the Mother of God Located at the Cathedral of St Michael the Archangel in Sitka, Alaska is one of the most revered Icons in North America: the Sitka Mother of God.— This Icon has been attributed to a famous Iconographer, Vladimir Lukich Borovikovsky (1758-1826), a protégé of the Empress Catherine II who was instructed at the Academy of Arts in St Petersburg, Russia. In addition to being a great portrait painter, Borovikovsky also painted many of the Icons for the Cathedral of the Kazan Icon in St Petersburg.— Painted in the style of the Kazan Mother of God Icon, on canvas, the Sitka Mother of God Icon is 36 x 17½ inches in size. An exceptionally beautiful and detailed riza of silver covers the Icon of the Theotokos and Christ child, and the Image of God the Father blessing from above.— The Cathedral received the Icon as a gift from the laborers of the Russian American Company in 1850, two years after the Cathedral was completed. Even with their meager wages, these men generously made their contribution to the Church.— Miracles have been attributed to the Sitka Mother of God Icon over the years. It is believed that the gaze of the eyes of the Theotokos have led to the restored health of those who prayed before the Icon.— Because of the peaceful gaze of the Theotokos, the Icon has been described as a "pearl of Russian ecclesiastical art of ineffable gentleness, purity and harmony...." And "...the most beautiful face of the Mother of God with the Divine Child in her arms is so delicately and artistically done that the more one looks at it the more difficult it is to tear one's gaze away."— Originally part of the main Iconostasis at the Cathedral of St Michael the Archangel in Sitka, Alaska, the Icon is now permanently located on the far left side of the Iconostasis in a special place of honor.

Upcoming Events at Holy Spirit Church

County Fair Food Booth

September 2, Church Picnic at the Olsen Residence-Franklin

Applefest -Beefsteak Dinner

Holy Spirit Orthodox Church - Wantage, NJ

Archpriest Samuel Kedala, Rector

Joanne Patrick, Choir Director

Parish Council

Timothy Kachur, Sr. Warden

Mark Benda, Jr. Warden

Michael Olsen, Treasurer

Doris Livanos/Susan Matthews, Co/Recording Secretary

Council members

Edward Engelsman • Michael Chwan

Anna Seniw • Ken Kwak • Louis Matthews

www.holyspiritorthodox.org

Holy Spirit Orthodox Church

Wantage, New Jersey

July 8, 2007



Icon of The Mother of God "Our Lady of Sitka"

Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit

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Sunday, July 8, 2007

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

Tuesday 7:30 pm Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 6 PM Readers Vespers
Sunday 9:40 AM Hours, 10 AM Divine Liturgy

Today's commemorated feasts and saints... 6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 5. The SITKA Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos. Holy Great Martyr Procopius of Caesarea in Palestine (303). Righteous Prokopy, Fool-for-Christ, Wonderworker of Ustiug (Vologd 1303). Righteous Prokopy of Usya (Vologd), Fool-for-Christ (17th c.). Appearance of the KAZAN Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos (1579). The weeping Novgorod Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos, "OF TENDER FEELING."

Epistle - Romans 12:6-14, **Gospel** - Matthew 9:1-8

BULLETIN

Thank you to **Elena Pavel** for hosting the **Coffee Social** last week. **Matushka JoAnne** is signed up to host the social this week. No one is signed up for next week. Please sign-up to host a social. Please place a small donation in the basket at Coffee Social to help pay for the paper products.

Thank you to **Michael Chwan** for mowing and manicuring the Church grounds. May God repay!

Church Picnic - The Olsen Family is again offering their home for a **Church Picnic**. The whole parish and their families are invited. Please mark you calendars for Sunday **September 2**, and keep the date open for the picnic.

Father Samuel will be away will be returning on July 21. If there is an emergency and a priest is needed you may contact **Father George Hasenecz at 973-366-9110**, or **Fr. Chris Talleos at 845-695-1976**. Please contact our **Sr. Warden Tim Kachur at 973-875-4379** or **Jr. Warden Mark Benda at 973-764-6196** if there is anything needed concerning the Church.

Fr. Daniel Geeza will be serving Divine Liturgy here next Sunday morning at the usual time.

Offerings/Donations: Please keep in mind that during the summer, while many of our parishioners are away on vacation, the expense of maintaining our Parish continues. The cost of air conditioning the church and parish hall for the comfort of our parishioners is also an added expense. We need the continued financial support of all parishioners throughout the year to meet our financial obligations. Thank you for your consideration.

Vacations: While many of us may have travel plans for the summer to enjoy vacation

remember that our Orthodox Christian obligation to worship, especially on Sundays and feast days, does not take a break. If you need information on local parishes for where you will be visiting be please see Father Samuel. Also, many Parish Priests require a letter of introduction from your Rector if you intend to receive Holy Communion and may require Confession the preceding evening or morning of the Divine Liturgy. Be sure to contact the Priest before arriving at the Parish or at least arrive early enough before Divine Liturgy to attend to this. Remember, we are all ambassadors of our Holy Parish.

Sheets for Lawn mowing and Church cleaning are downstairs on the candle desk. Please sign-up to help.

A reminder to all who are worshipping at Holy Spirit Church, please turn off your cell phones or leave it in your cars until after Divine Liturgy

PLEASE PURCHASE gift cards for shopping at ShopRite and A & P stores. They are working out wonderfully. Very convenient for shopping. No cash, no checks, just a little card. They are great, and our church benefits by your using them.

WE HAVE SHOP RITE AND A&P GIFT CARDS-STOCK UP ON GIFT CARDS FOR YOUR REGULAR SHOPPING & AS GIFTS TO OTHERS

Please keep the following people in your prayers: Catherine Schwed, Thelma Macheska, Alyssa Karakos, Mary Kwak, Matushka Evelyn Kreta, Christopher, the infant Ella Jane, Corinne Matthews, infant Nicholai, Dan Taylor, Stephen Kachur, Lynne Goodwin, Loren Chwan, Sonia Blazo, Pighi Mardaloescu, Valentina Bobrowsky, Archimandrite Joachim (Parr), Audrey Kate and her parents Bill and Robin, Frank Higginbotham, and Joanne Patrick

SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES

By **Monica Brenner** for Health, Salvation and Help for **Christopher-Anthony**

By **Monica Brenner** for Health, Salvation and Help for **Mina-Maria**

By **Monica** for Health, Salvation and Help for **Michael-James & Michelle-Gabriella**

By **The Kedala Family** for Health, Salvation and

Happy Birthday of **Catherine Xenia Kedala**

Seven day vigil candles are available for the faithful to sponsor in memory of their departed, the sick, or for the general intentions (anniversaries, birthdays, weddings, baptisms, etc.). They will remain lit on the altar and table of oblation. The suggested donation is \$10.00 each and will burn for seven days. The intentions and those who offered them will be announced in the weekly bulletins. You may purchase your offering at the Parish Council office.

If you are not on our monthly mailing list and would like to be included (or if you know of someone who would like to be included) leave the names addresses and e-mail address at the parish office.

If you would like to have something published in the weekly bulletin, e-mail or bring typed copy to Father Samuel by Wednesday of the week prior to the Sunday you would like it published. If you would like something in the monthly bulletin have it e-mailed or brought to Fr. Samuel two weeks prior to the first of the month it is to be published in.

We welcome our guests who are worshipping with us today. Please join us downstairs for refreshments and fellowship. Please sign our guest book before you leave.