

**The Psalms** are the divinely-inspired songs of the People of Israel. They are traditionally called the "psalms of David," although many of them most certainly come from other authors of much later times. The enumeration and the wording of the psalms differ in various scriptural traditions. The Orthodox Church follows the Septuagint version of the psalter and for this reason the numbers and not seldom the texts of certain psalms are different in Orthodox service books from what they are in the Bibles which are translated from the Hebrew.

In the Orthodox Church, the entire psalter is divided into twenty sections and is chanted each week in those monasteries and churches which perform the entire liturgical office. Various psalms and verses of psalms are used in all liturgical services of the Orthodox Church (see Worship). Virtually all states of man's soul before God are found expressed in the psalms: praising, thanking, blessing, rejoicing, petitioning, repenting, lamenting, questioning and even complaining. Many of the psalms are centered in the cultic rituals of the Jerusalem temple and the Davidic kingship. Others recount God's saving actions in Israelite history. Still others carry prophetic utterances about events yet to come, particularly those of the messianic age. Thus, for example, we find Christ quoting Psalm 8 in reference to His triumphal entry into Jerusalem; Psalm 110 in reference to his own mysterious divinity; and Psalm 22, when, hanging upon the cross, He cries out with the words of the psalm in which is described His crucifixion and his ultimate salvation of the world (See Mt 21:16, 22:44, 27:46).

In the Orthodox Church all of the psalms are understood as having their deepest and most genuine spiritual meaning in terms of Christ and His mission of eternal salvation. Thus, for example, the psalms which refer to the king are sung in the Church in reference to Christ's exaltation and glorification at the right hand of God. The psalms which refer to Israel's deliverance are sung in reference to Christ's redemption of the whole world. The psalms calling for victory over the enemies in battle refer to the only real Enemy, the devil, and all of his wicked works which Christ has come to destroy. Babylon thus signifies the realm of Satan, and Jerusalem, the eternal Kingdom of God. The psalms which lament the innocent suffering of the righteous are sung as the plea of the Lord Himself and all those with Him who are the "poor and needy" who will rise up to rule the earth on the day of God's terrible judgment. Thus, the psalter remains forever as the divinely-inspired song book of prayer and worship for all of God's People, and most especially for those who belong to the Messiah whose words the psalms are in their deepest and most divine significance.

## **Holy Spirit Orthodox Church - Wantage, NJ**

**Archpriest Samuel Kedala, Rector**

**Joanne Patrick, Choir Director**

### **Parish Council**

**Tim Kachur, Starosta (Sr. Warden)**

**Mark Benda, Jr. Warden**

**Michael Olsen, Treasurer**

**Co-Secretaries Doris Livanos/Susan Matthews**

### **Council members**

**Ed Engelsman • Michael Chwan • Anna Seniw • Louis Matthews**

**www.holyspiritorthodox.org**

# **Holy Spirit Orthodox Church**

102 Route 284

Wantage, New Jersey

January 14, 2007



**Leavetaking of the Baptism of our Lord**

# Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit

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**Sunday, January 7, 2007**

**Saturday ..... 6:00 pm Vespers - Confessions**

**Sunday ..... Church School 9:15 AM**

**Hours 9:40 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am**

**Refreshments/Fellowship**

**“Maslanitsa” pre-Lenten Dinner and Dance at Holy Assumption Church in Clifton.**

**See flier downstairs**

**Today's commemorated feasts and saints... 31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST -**

**Tone 6. Leavetaking of the Theophany.** The Holy Fathers slain at Sinai and Raithu: Isaiah, Sabbas, Moses and his disciple Moses, Jeremiah, Paul, Adam, Sergius, Domnus, Proclus, Hypatius, Isaac, Macarius, Mark, Benjamin, Eusebius, Elias, and others (4th -5th c.). St. Nina (Nino), Equal-to-the-Apostles and Enlightener of the Georgians (355). St. Joseph Analytinus of Raithu (4th c.). Ven. Theodulus, son of Ven. Nilus of Sinai (5th c.). Ven. Stephen, Abbot of Chenolaklos Monastery near Chalcedon (8th c.).

**1 Timothy 1:15-17 (Epistle) - Luke 18:35-43 (Gospel)**

## **BULLETIN**

### **WASHINGTON, DC BUS TRIP 1/22/07**

Sussex County Right to Life buses will be leaving from Our Lady of the Lake Church in Sparta at 6 AM. They will leave Washington, DC for home at approximately 4:30 PM.

Tickets are \$35.00 per person. See Father Samuel to reserve tickets for the Bus

We welcome **Mr. Robert Decker and his Church School Class from Sussex Christian Reformed Church in Sussex.** They are doing a comparative religions class and are visiting with Orthodox Christians this week. May they have a fruitful visit. God Grant them Many Years!

Last week's Coffee Social was hosted by **Sonia Blazo.** Today's social will be hosted by **Bob & Christine DiMauro and Phillip.** No one is signed up for next week. Please **sign-up downstairs** if you can help with hosting one.

There is a sign-up Sheet on the candle desk if you would like your home blessed with the newly sanctified waters of the Theophany.

**Sunday School Teachers** are desperately needed. Please see Matushka JoAnne. Please Help.

Our Food Certificate (card) chairperson **Loren Chwan** will be offering the Food Cards at this mornings Coffee Social. Buy your cards for the Holidays. **Great for Gifts.**

**A Basket in the Vestibule** downstairs is for collecting foodstuffs for the needy of the Sussex Borough and the surrounding areas. The sign attached to the basket describes the items needed. Please buy an extra can, box or food item listed so that the needy can be fed.

**Sunday School begins at 9:15 AM** every Sunday morning.

There is a **Car Removal Program** that has been offered to our parish. If anyone knows of someone who has an old car or junker that is sitting around and they would like to get rid of it, let us know. It will be towed away at no expense, our Church will receive \$100.00 and the owner will receive an tax deduction for the value of the vehicle (more money will be given to the Church if it has more value).

**Please Help and remember** to send in your **weekly donation or pledge** even when you have **not attended Church** on a Sunday. Our Church depends on your weekly contributions to pay our obligations. Thank you.

**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, Frank Higginbotham, Matushka Evelyn Kreta, Pat Nauditt, Chaplain Fr. Peter Daratsos, Stefan Szemetylo, Christopher Mitsos, Swetlana Satch, Gregory Taylor, Larry Quirk, Mary Itsla, mother Sarah and newborn Ella Jane, Richard Kruzelnick, Corinne Matthews and Dan Taylor.

## **SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES**

By **Dena Caracostas and Goodwin family** in Blessed Memory of **+John** (Caracostas)

By **Dena Caracostas and Goodwin family** in Blessed Memory of **+Thomas** (Raftis)

By **the Goodwin family** in Blessed Memory of **+Ismene** (Caracostas)

By **Doris Livanos** in Blessed Memory of **+Despena** (Costopoulos)

By **Dena Caracostas** for Health and Salvation of **Vi Meadows**

**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 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.

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