

## **Commemorated on January 27**

Saint John Chrysostom This great ecumenical teacher and hierarch died in the city of Comana in the year 407 on his way to a place of exile. He had been condemned by the intrigues of the empress Eudoxia because of his daring denunciation of the vices ruling over Constantinople. The transfer of his venerable relics was made in the year 438, thirty years after the death of the saint during the reign of Eudoxia's son emperor Theodosius II (408-450).

St John Chrysostom had the warm love and deep respect of the people, and grief over his untimely death lived on in the hearts of Christians. St John's disciple, St Proclus, Patriarch of Constantinople (434-447), during services in the Church of Hagia Sophia, preached a sermon praising St John. He said, "O John, your life was filled with sorrow, but your death was glorious. Your grave is blessed and reward is great, by the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ O graced one, having conquered the bounds of time and place! Love has conquered space, unforgetting memory has annihilated the limits, and place does not hinder the miracles of the saint."

Those who were present in church, deeply touched by the words of St Proclus, did not allow him even to finish his sermon. With one accord they began to entreat the Patriarch to intercede with the emperor, so that the relics of St John might be brought back to Constantinople.

The emperor, overwhelmed by St Proclus, gave his consent and gave the order to transfer the relics of St John. But those he sent were unable to lift the holy relics until the emperor realized that he had sent men to take the saint's relics from Comana with an edict, instead of with a prayer. He wrote a letter to St John, humbly asking him to forgive his audacity, and to return to Constantinople. After the message was read at the grave of St John, they easily took up the relics, carried them onto a ship and arrived at Constantinople.

The coffin with the relics was placed in the Church of Holy Peace (Hagia Eirene). When Patriarch Proclus opened the coffin, the body of St John was found to be incorrupt. The emperor approached the coffin with tears, asking forgiveness for his mother, who had banished St John. All day and night people did not leave the coffin.

In the morning the coffin was brought to the Church of the Holy Apostles. The people cried out, "Father, take up your throne." Then Patriarch Proclus and the clergy standing by the relics saw St John open his mouth and say, "Peace be to all." Many of the sick were healed at his tomb.

The celebration of the transfer of the relics of St John Chrysostom was established in the ninth century.

## **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 • Louis Matthews*

*www.holyspiritorthodox.org*

# **HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Wantage, New Jersey**

**January 27, 2008**



**Translation of the relics of St John Chrysostom  
the Archbishop of Constantinople**

# ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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**Sunday January 27, 2008**

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

**Today** ..... **Divine Liturgy and Fellowship**  
**Wed** ..... **Annual Fr. Schmemmann Memorial Lecture-St. Vladimir's Seminary**  
**Fri.** ..... **7:00 p.m. Vespers w/Litya-Meeting of our Lord**  
**Saturday, .....** **8:35 a.m. hours- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy-Meeting of our Lord - Blessing of Candles 6:00 p.m. Vespers / Confessions**  
**Sunday, Feb 2** ..... **9:15 Church School – 9:35 a.m. Hours, 10 AM Divine Liturgy**

**Today's commemorated feasts and saints... 35th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2.**  
New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia. Translation of the Relics of St. John Chrysostom,  
Archbishop of Constantinople (438).

**Colossians 3:12-16 (Epistle) Hebrews 7:26-8:2 (Epistle, St. John)**  
**Matthew 25:14-30 (Gospel) John 10:9-16 (Gospel, St. John)**

### BULLETIN

**Thank you** to the **Benda Family** who signed up to host the social today. **The Chwan Family** is signed up to host next week. **The schedule is posted downstairs and on our website. Please make arrangements for someone to fill in for you or switch with if you cannot make your day.**

**Our new parish website** is up and running. We thank **Louis Matthews** and his teen group for setting it up. See Lou or any of the teens if you would like suggest things that should be included on the site. **The site address is:** [www.holyspiritorthodox.org](http://www.holyspiritorthodox.org)

**Beefsteak Dinner** February 9, sponsored by Holy Assumption Church, Clifton, NJ. See flier on bulletin board.

**There is a sign-up Sheet** downstairs for families who would like their **homes blessed**. It is traditional that each family in the parish have their home blessed each year. When you prepare to have your homes blessed, turn off any radios or tv's in the house. Have a clean cloth on the kitchen or dining room table. On that cloth should be an icon, a candle, a small bowl with holy water (blessed this year) and a list of names of the departed and a list of names of the living that you would like to have remembered at the blessing.

**Calendars for the Year 2008 are available downstairs at the Candle Desk.** Please help yourselves to **ONE Calendar per family.** If there are any extras after a month you may help yourselves to more calendars.

Please place a small donation in the basket at Coffee Social to help pay for the paper products.

**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, Pighi Mardaloescu, Valentina Bobrowsky, Archimandrite Joachim (Parr), Frank Higginbotham, Matushka Marie Kreta, Joanne Patrick, Feodora Apanasow, Archpriest Joseph Chupeck, the infant Logan Eugene, Evanthia, Loren Chwan, Jennifer, Matushka Vera Yuschak, Kat Shannon, Christine Molbury and her children, and Elise Chwan.

### SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES

By the **Chwan family** in Blessed Memory of **+John** (Chwan) 20 years

**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 before you leave.

### Diocese of Washington and New York Pre-Lenten Youth Retreat

PRINCETON, NJ [DWNJ] -- The Diocese of Washington and New York will be holding a Pre-Lenten Youth Retreat Friday, February 8, 2008, to Sunday, February 10, 2008, at St. Joseph's Seminary in Princeton, NJ. The title of this year's retreat is "J.O.Y. (Jesus, others, yourself)". Participants will examine how a relationship with Christ shapes all other relationships in our lives, including how we view ourselves.

The retreat is open to youth from 7th to 12th grades. Both Orthodox and non-Orthodox students are encouraged to attend.

Participants are required to check in at 7:00 PM on Friday, February 8. The pick-up time on Sunday, February 10 is no later than 12:30 PM. Parents are invited to conclude the retreat experience with their child by participating in Sunday's Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM, at Mother of God Orthodox Church which is located at St. Joseph's Seminary.

The cost for the weekend retreat is \$110.00 per student. This amount covers all lodging, activities and food for the entire retreat weekend.

For more information, please contact Fr. John Cassar by phone a (609) 306-4168 or by e-mail at [johncassar@patmedia.net](mailto:johncassar@patmedia.net).