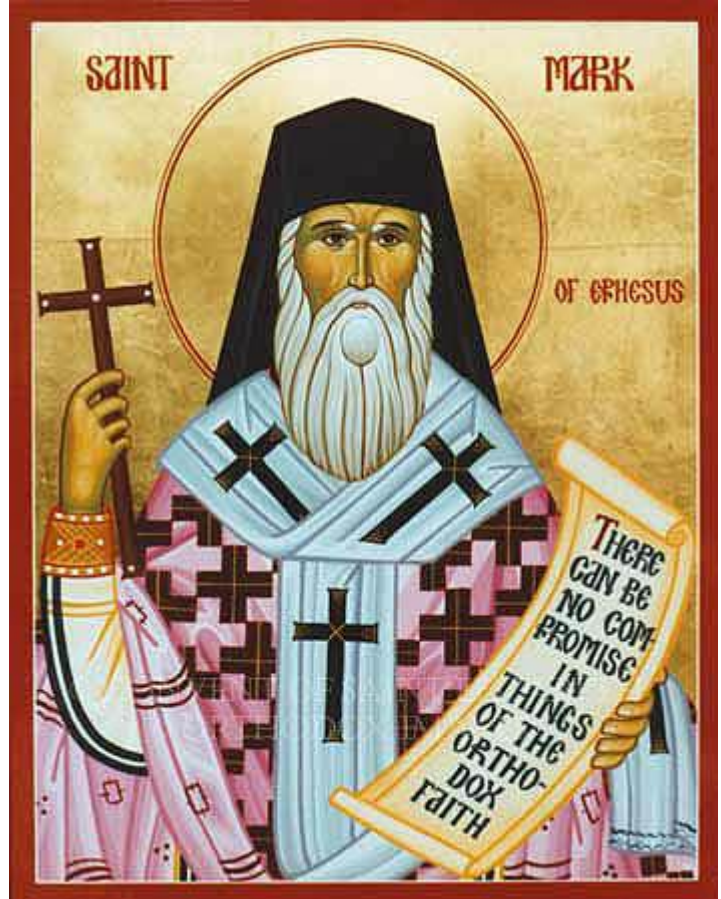
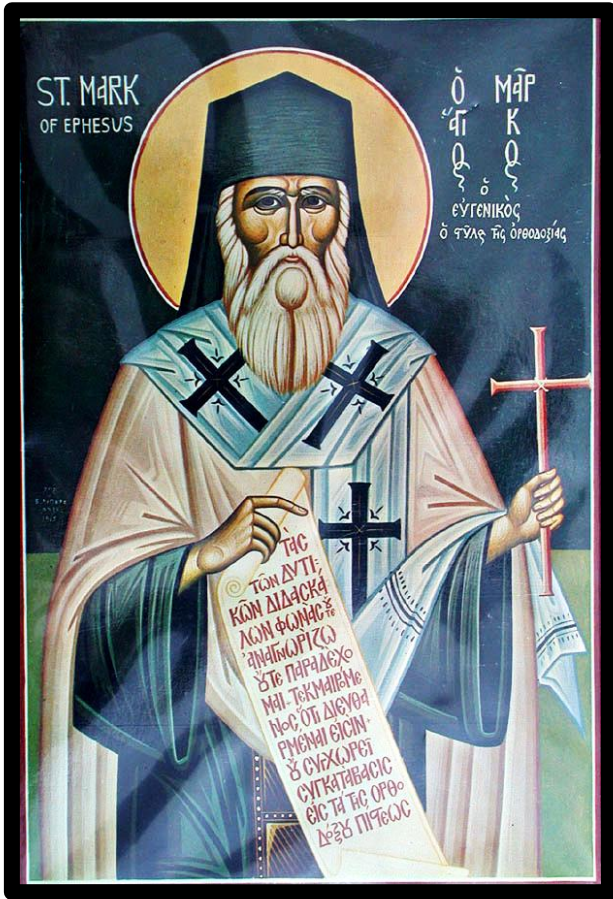


# HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Elmira Heights, NY – 607-732-3980 – [www.holytrinityorthodoxchurch.org](http://www.holytrinityorthodoxchurch.org)



## Sunday, January 19, 2020

St. Macarius the Great of Egypt ◦ St. Mark of Ephesus  
Sanctity of Life Sunday

### HELP NEEDED – SNOW REMOVAL ON THE GROUNDS

We need a crew of parishioners willing to help, on a rotating basis, with snow removal on the church grounds. Please see Subdeacon Shawn Michael to add your name to the list. *Thank you!*

### COMING UP IN THE PARISH AND THE DIOCESE...

- **Home Blessings Continue!** Please contact Fr. David to schedule your home blessing, or be ready to set a date when Father contacts you. For more details, see the back page of the Bulletin.
- **Monday, January 20, 7:00 PM, Prayer Service for the Victims of Abortion**
- **Sunday, January 26, After the Liturgy: Annual Parish Meeting.** Orthodox Christian adult members of Holy Trinity Church who are active in the Sacraments may participate in voting and discussion on matters affecting the life of the parish.
- **Friday, Jan. 31, Altar Servers' Outing.** Father will share the details with altar servers & families directly.
- **Saturday, February 15, 7-9 PM, Family Bowling Night.** Please speak with Steve Cheplick for details.
- **Friday – Sunday, May 15-17, Diocesan Altar Server Retreat,** at St. Basil Academy in Garrison NY. It'll be here before you know it, so families, please mark your calendars!
- **Saturday – Sunday, May 30-31, Archbishop Michael's Archpastoral Visit to Our Parish.** Plan to be here!

## SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

**Today – Welcome Father Nicholas and Matushka Anastasia Molodyko-Harris, Mat. Tamara’s Parents**

8:40 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour

**Monday, January 20**

7:00 PM Service for the Victims of Abortion

**Saturday, January 25**

5:00 PM Great Vespers; Choir Rehearsal Follows. Private Confession Available After Vespers.

**Sunday, January 26**

8:40 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour and Annual Parish Meeting

**Wednesday, January 29**

6:00 PM Great Vespers with Litya – Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs, SS. Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom

**Thursday, January 30**

8:40 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

**TODAY’S EPISTLE 1 Timothy 1:15-17** My son Timothy: This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. **TODAY’S GOSPEL Luke 18:35-43** At that time, it happened, as Jesus was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, “What do you want Me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, that I may receive my sight.” Then Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.



There are 100 people traveling by bus  
from Elmira to the March for Life in Washington, DC!

Here, tomorrow at 7 PM will be the Service for the Victims of Abortion.

This Friday, please especially remember the victims of abortion and all the March-ers  
in your prayers. The EWTN TV network will show the March live,  
scheduled for Friday at 9:00 AM, at [www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live](http://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live)

Visit Chemung Valley 4 Life at [www.cv4life.org](http://www.cv4life.org) for local Pro-Life events!

And, visit [www.marchforlife.org](http://www.marchforlife.org) for much more information on national events.



# RE-CLAIMING OUR HOMES FOR CHRIST: A NOTE ON HOUSE BLESSINGS

When our houses or apartments are blessed, we reclaim our homes, and everyone and everything in them, for Christ: our wives, our husbands, our marriages... our children... our working and studying... our worrying and our struggling... our decisions and our dilemmas... our successes and our rejoicing: we reclaim all of our lives for Christ, by inviting Him into our inner sanctum.



The custom of blessing homes during the Theophany season is of special beauty and significance. We show the Lord – and the devil – that we wish for God to physically expel every trace of sin, anger, bitterness, and worry that has invaded our homes and our families over the past year!

Plan your home blessing at a time when **all family members can be present**, if at all possible.

When Father comes to bless the home, these things should be prepared:

- A lit candle, an icon, and a wide bowl for Holy Water should be on the table.
- All present in the house should participate. If kids are present, an icon for each child to carry (who is big enough to carry one) should also be on the table.
- All radios, televisions, etc. should be turned off.
- Lists of Departed and Living family members and loved ones to be prayed for.

## **PASTORAL CARE – GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Emergency Sick Calls** can be made anytime. Call Fr. David, 732-3980, when a family member is admitted to hospital.

**Anointing In Sickness:** The Sacrament of Unction is available in Church, the hospital, or your home, for anyone who is sick, however severe. If you are preparing for surgery (or recovering from it), please call Father.

**Marriages and Baptisms** require early planning, scheduling, and selection of sponsors (crown bearers or godparents). See Father before booking dates, choosing sponsors, and reserving reception halls.

**Funerals** are celebrated for practicing Orthodox Christians. Please see Father for details.

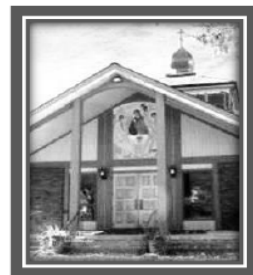
***The Church opposes cremation; we cannot celebrate funerals for cremations.***



## **Holy Trinity Orthodox Church**

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V. Rev. David Cowan, Rector ♦ Telephone: (607) 732-3980  
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[www.facebook.com/HTOCElmiraHeights](https://www.facebook.com/HTOCElmiraHeights)

Diocese of New York and New Jersey ♦ Orthodox Church in America



# BABY BOTTLE DRIVE 2020

Fill a bottle with  
money and return  
back on Sunday  
February 23rd!

Love Them  
**ALL**

SOUTHERN TIER  
PREGNANCY  
RESOURCE CENTER

Through free and confidential pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, options education, post-abortion support, sexual abuse support, pregnancy and parenting education, support just for Dads, Bible studies, and emergency material assistance, the STPRC is able to share the truth and hope of LIFE with every client we see!

We stand for ABUNDANT LIFE and strive to share this hope with those we serve at our Main Office, Life Center, Elmira High School, and Elmira College.

By the grace of God, and with the help of our community friends, like you, we had another great year at the Southern Tier PRC in 2019! The Baby Bottle Drive is a great way to support our Center so that we can continue to show our clients that Love Them All...and so does God!

How does it work? Simply take an empty bottle, fill it with change (cash or checks are great, too!) and bring it back on Sunday February 23rd! That's it! We'll handle the rest!

Would you rather give electronically? You can do that! Head to our website: [www.stprc.org](http://www.stprc.org) and click on the Baby Bottle Drive Tab and donate securely there!

How much does a baby bottle generally hold? Approximately \$25!

Would you like to volunteer? Would you like to become a prayer partner? Please reach out to us!  
One bottle. One Life. Their Lives. You Can Help.

## MAIN OFFICE

375 W. Water St.  
Elmira, NY 14905  
607.732.2111



## LIFE CENTER

601 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Elmira, NY 14904  
607.737.6952

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR FILLED BOTTLE  
BY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23.  
Thank You! – Fr. David**

# TODAY IS *SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY*

throughout the Orthodox Church in America.

Here is an excerpt from Metropolitan Tikhon's  
Archpastoral Message for Sanctity of Life Sunday, 2020.  
The entire message is at [www.facebook.com/HTOCelmiraheights](http://www.facebook.com/HTOCelmiraheights)

In the moment of conception in the mother's womb, a human being comes into existence. Yet even before being conceived and formed, this human being is known by God. God exists outside of time, and already knows and loves each one of us personally, knowing what we will do and who we will become both in this life and in eternity. As Solomon proclaims, "God did not make death, and he does not delight in the death of the living. For he created all things that they might exist" (Wisdom of Solomon 1.13-14). God wants us to be alive, and certainly, this is why we must speak against abortion and its legalization in our country: it is in opposition to God's loving plan to bring a human being into the world to live. ...

Thus, this year, as we mark the sorrowful 47th anniversary of the legalization of abortion, we remember to hate the sin of abortion, and to make every effort we can to stop it from happening, while loving the misguided and confused ones who have been involved in abortions, knowing that God is willing to forgive all transgressions. In this way, we fulfill the purpose that God has given us in this life to become His images and presence in the world, while helping others – unborn and born alike – to have that same opportunity to come to "the knowledge of the truth" and fulfill their own lives' God-intended purposes. For this "truth," as we all should be reminded of again and again, is that: "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him." - John 3:16-17

## **Prayers for the Victims of Abortion**

### **In the Litany of fervent supplication (After the Sermon)**

—Again we pray that You will grant to the people of this nation the will to do good, to flee from evil, and to practice all righteousness, making us respectful of life and sharers of Your blessings, caring for one another in mercy and truth.

—Again we pray that You will banish all evil from our hearts and wickedness from our laws, enabling us to be servants of Your holy will and performers of Your love.

—Again we pray that You will kindle in our hearts the will to care for the needy, to show kindness to the poor, to aid the homeless and help the helpless.

### **At the Conclusion of the Liturgy (After the Singing of "Blessed Be the Name of the Lord", twice)**

Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son, Who are in the bosom of the Father, True God, source of life and immortality, Light of Light, Who came into the world to enlighten it: You were pleased to be conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary for the salvation of our souls by the power of Your All-Holy Spirit. O Master, Who came that we might have life more abundantly, we ask You to enlighten the minds and hearts of those blinded to the truth that life begins at conception and that the unborn in the womb are already adorned with Your image and likeness; enable us to guard, cherish, and protect the lives of all those who are unable to care for themselves. For You are the Giver of Life, bringing each person from non-being into being, sealing each person with divine and infinite love. Be merciful, O Lord, to those who, through ignorance or willfulness, affront Your divine goodness and providence through the evil act of abortion. May they, and all of us, come to the light of Your Truth and glorify You, the Giver of Life, together with Your Father, and Your All-Holy and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

"Blessed be the Name of the Lord" is then sung for the third time, followed by the usual dismissal