

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Sunday, March 19, 2023

Third Sunday of Great Lent – Tone 7

The Veneration of the Cross

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Most Services May Be Joined by Live Stream at Web Address www.facebook.com/htocelmiraheights or go to www.YouTube.com and search for "Holy Trinity Church Elmira Heights NY"

Today – Third Sunday of Lent: Veneration of the Cross

8:40 AM Third and Sixth Hour

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Lenten Fellowship Hour with Special Presentation:

"Alaska: The Holy Land of the Orthodox Church in America"; and Choir Rehearsal

*** All Are Welcome to Attend *Pan-Orthodox Sunday Vespers* in Painted Post. See below. ***

4:00 PM Southern Tier Lenten Mission Vespers – at St. Mary Church, 61 Canada Rd., Painted Post

Tuesday, March 21

7:00 PM "Orthodoxy 101" Class, in Church and By Zoom

Wednesday, March 22

5:30 PM Private Confession Available

6:30 PM Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts followed by Lenten Pot Luck Supper Fellowship

Friday, March 24

6:30 PM Vigil (Compline, Litya & Matins) for the Annunciation of the Most-Holy Theotokos

Saturday, March 25

9:40 AM Third and Sixth Hour

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy for the Annunciation of the Most-Holy Theotokos

5:00 PM Great Vespers; Private Confession Available Afterward

Sunday, March 26

8:40 AM Third and Sixth Hour

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Lenten Fellowship Hour, Church School, Teen Group & Choir Rehearsal

UPCOMING CHOIR REHEARSALS:

After Liturgy ♦ Sundays: March 19, 26; April 2; Lazarus Saturday, April 8

UPCOMING YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSALS:

At 3:30 PM ♦ Saturday, April 1

The Great Fast of Lent continues

until Holy PASCHA (Easter), Sunday, April 16, with the Paschal Divine Liturgy.

During Lent we are called to abstain from meat and dairy products and from spiritually unproductive entertainment... so that we control our appetites, and our appetites do not control us!

GREAT LENT IS A SEASON FOR CONFESSING OUR SINS:

"There is no sin which cannot be pardoned except that one which lacks repentance. ...

This life has been given to you for repentance; do not waste it in vain pursuits."

- Saint Isaac the Syrian

SCRIPTURE READINGS

EPISTLE Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Brethren: Having a great High Priest Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast to the confession. For we do not have a High Priest Who cannot have compassion on our infirmities, but one tempted in all things like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins; who can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also beset by weakness. Because of this he is required, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. And no man takes this honor unto himself, but he that is called by God, as was Aaron. So Christ also did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but He that said unto Him: "Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee." As He said also in another place: "Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

GOSPEL Mark 8:34-9:1 At that time, when Jesus had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

Join the Beauty Team!



We are called to sanctify time by participating in the Feasts of the Church.
An especially meaningful way to participate in the Feasts is to adorn the Festal Icon or the Cross
with the God-created beauty of flowers.

If this interests you, consider signing up to offer flowers and/or learn to decorate the icons
for one or more of these feast days below:

Flower Ministry Schedule 2023

March 18/19	3 rd Sunday of Lent, Veneration of the Cross	Julie Speen
March 24/25	Annunciation to the Theotokos	_____
April 8/9	Entry into Jerusalem, Palm Sunday	Parish Youth
April 14	Holy Friday, Tomb of our Lord	Parish Youth
April 16	Pascha	_____
June 3/4	Pentecost	_____
August 14/15	Dormition of the Theotokos	_____
September 7/8	Nativity of the Theotokos	_____
September 13/14	Exaltation of the Life Creating Cross	_____
November 20/21	Presentation of the Theotokos into the Temple	Karney Family
December 24/25	Nativity of Our Lord	_____

For more information, please see Matushka Tamara.

Prayer List

Memory Eternal: Andrej, Pier; Linda; Gurami; Giorgi, Karen, Charles; Olga; Anna; Lois; Rose; Olga, Vasileios, infant Francis; William, Larry; Nicholas; Infant Isaiah Luke; Archpriest Daniel; Bob; Edward. Ever-memorable Ann Mustico (Amy Rinchack's mother, Chrismated 3/17/22). All those taken from us by sickness, violence, injury and disaster.

For Health: Newly Baptized Aaliyah King-Styles and her family; Newborn Elizabeth Adkins and her family; Matushka Kathryn Karney; Mat. Anastasia Molodyko-Harris; Fr. Jason Kappanadze, Fr. Daniel & Mat. Myra Kovalak, Fr. Herman & Mat. Cynthia Schick, Fr. Moses Berry; Fr. Joseph & Matushka Ellen Chupeck; Fr. Gregory White; Pani Joan Mahler; Matushka Patricia Mason; Rdr. Thomas & Mildred; Elizabeth Holobinko; Eric; David & Christopher; Christine; Jeanine; James; Julie; Kathleen; Antonina; Nancy Elizabeth; Brooke; Catechumens Sarah & Rachel, child Ray; Elena; Tyler; James; Dmitri; expecting mothers Matushka Alexandra Karlgut, Jessica, and the children to be born to them; Deborah; Julie; Many; John; Nancy; Christa; Ilsa; Scott & Casey, Steven; Ryan; Child Hannah, Joshua, Helen, Erica, Ruth, Harriet, Katherine, Kristin, Sierra, Kate, David, Nicholas, Natalya; Sergei; Anna; Kyriakos; Catechumens Amy, Stephen, Sarah, Verity, Raychel, Jason & Oliver.

Diocesan Prayer Requests: Archbishop BENJAMIN; Bishop ALEXEI; Bishop MATTHIAS; Fr. Kyril Riggs; Fr. George & Matushka Paula Treff; Fr. Christos Talleos; Fr. Ambrose, Matushka Juliana, and children Katherine, Emelia, Blaise & Thaddeus Inlow; Matushka Natalie Stavrevsky; Matushka Rebekah Markewich; Matushka Juliana Speck; Protodeacon Peter Skoog. Protodeacon Andrew Boisvert; Rdr. Fredric; Jacqueline, Joseph, Panagiota, Joseph, Maria, Tina, Anna, Alex; Jane; child Edmund, Daniel, Laura; Zinaida, Stephen, Anna, Joseph, Feodora; Alex, Matt, Cameron, Cezar & Nicholas; Nicholas; Damian; Alex; child Josephine, child Faith; Matthew, Ann Marie, Paul; Daria, Valerie, Pamela; Deryl, Matthias. All the clergy, faithful and their families of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey. All those afflicted by sickness, violence, injury, and disaster. **Birthdays:** Fr. Nicholas Molodyko-Harris (Matushka Tamara's father, 3/19); Mildred Cheplick (3/23).

Parish Children:

Lucia	Hannah	Jeremiah	Andrew	Myra	Ezekiel	Aalyiah
Lydia	Natalie	Emilia	Patrick	Sophia	Dmitri	Jonah
Gabriel	Angelina	John	Thomas	Nikolai	Melania	Alexei
Julianna	Nadia	Gabriel	Justus	Samuel	Gabriel	Michael
Hannah	Raphael	Verity	Anna	Julie	Michelle	Aiden
Shea	Jack	Oliver				

College Students: Anna McKane – Duke University •

Katherine McKane – Sarah Lawrence College Year Abroad at Oxford University, England •

Nathan Devens – SUNY Cobleskill • Larissa Cheplick – Daemen College • Magdalena Botrous – LECOM Elmira

Please give prayer requests to Fr. David, Dn. Michael, Subdcn. Walter, or a Reader.

Typically, parish prayer requests remain on this list for 40 days.

READERS' SCHEDULE

Mar 18-25: Mary Carol Haluszczak (Week 4 of Lent & Annunciation 3/24-25) ♦

Mar 25 – Apr 1: Rdr Samuel (Week 5 of Lent) ♦ Apr 1-8: Mat. Tamara (Week 6 of Lent & Lazarus Saturday 4/8) ♦

Apr 8-9: Rdr Alexander (Saturday Vespers; Palm Sunday Hours & Epistle)

Holy Week 2023: Sunday Evening, Apr 9: Rdr Gabriel – Bridegroom Matins;

Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday, Apr 10, 11, 12: Rdr Samuel

Holy Thursday, Apr 13: Mat. Tamara – Vesperal Liturgy;

Holy Friday, Apr 14: All Readers – Royal Hours, Rdr Alexander – 3pm Vespers,

Rdr William – 7pm Matins with Lamentations;

Holy Saturday, Apr 15: Parish Children and Readers – Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil with 15 Old Testament Readings;

PASCHA, Apr 16: Reader William – Compline, Epistle at the Pascha Liturgy

Unless otherwise noted: Each week, the readers' schedule begins with Great Vespers on Saturday evening and continues through, and including, the following Saturday morning,

unless otherwise noted. If you cannot read for all services your assigned week,

arrange a substitute yourself, and inform Father David or Deacon Michael of who will substitute for you.

WINTER 2022-23 FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE

Contact Matushka Tamara or Matushka Katie if you need a different date.

March 19 Hults, Rinchack & Loveland Families ♦

March 26 Cheplick Families ♦ April 2 Haluczzak & Holobinko Families ♦ April 9 Charlanow Family ♦

April 16 Pascha Agape ♦ April 23 Cowan & Davis Families ♦ April 30 Angelo, Gomez & O'Brien Families ♦ May

7 Weeks & Turic Families ♦ May 14 Karney Family ♦ May 21 Payzant & Dudek Families ♦

May 28 King Families

FELLOWSHIP HOUR NEEDS: Cold Drink Cups; Small Paper Plates; Paper Bowls; Juices



ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
DIOCESE OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

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February 21, 2023

Dear Father:

Christ is in our midst! – He is and ever shall be!

At our 2022 Diocesan Assembly, held November 2-3 in Endicott, New York, the unanimous decision was taken to adopt the **Diocese of Sitka and Alaska** as our **2023 Diocesan Charitable Initiative**. His Grace, Bishop ALEXEI of Sitka and Alaska visited our Assembly in person as our invited guest speaker. Vladyka Alexei's presentation on the history and current conditions in the Diocese of Alaska was soul-stirring:

His Grace shared with our delegates the story, familiar to many, of the founding and flourishing of Orthodox Christianity in Alaska at the hands of St. Herman, St. Innocent, and those who ministered with them. Bishop Alexei went on to describe the profound trials faced by the faithful of our Mother Diocese since the acquisition of Alaska by the United States.

Over the past two centuries, the evil one has arrayed strong forces against the Orthodox Faith in Alaska attempting to stamp it out. Today, encroaching secularism and societal challenges continue to pose a potent threat to the health and stability of the hundreds of thousands of Alaskans residing in small towns and villages. At our Assembly, Bishop Alexei appealed to all the clergy and lay stewards of our Diocese to offer whatever funds we can, to strengthen the Holy Church in Alaska – in particular, through his newly-established **Diocese of Alaska Clergy Stipend Fund**.

Not long before, at the 2022 OCA All-American Council in Baltimore, Bishop Alexei had offered a similar presentation regarding the plight of Alaska's Orthodox clergy and faithful. You can view the video of his presentation here: www.nynjoca.org/Alaska; you may also use the QR code at the bottom of this letter to access His Grace's presentation directly from your smart-phone.

Of particular importance and urgency are the following statistics shared by His Grace:

The median family income for the state of Alaska is \$77,790 per year. But the median stipend for native priests is \$7,200 per year, a salary that is \$26,000 below the poverty line for a family of four. Almost all the clergy and their wives worry about a future that is so financially fragile. Some priests have been forced to leave priestly ministry to provide for their families. And, pious young men considering the priesthood have hesitated to answer the call, with abject poverty looming in their future. Vocations have been *lost!*

I am sure you are as shocked as I was upon learning these dire statistics. This is heartbreaking!

Therefore, I am asking that your parish, its organizations, and individuals in the parish who have been blessed by God, please offer your assistance in one of the following ways:

- 1) Each parish priest can take up a general collection in the parish for three weekends in a row. It can be repeated three or four times throughout the year 2023, to give as many individuals as possible opportunities to support the effort. This collection can be either from the parish collectively; from organizations in the parish such as Altar Societies, FOCA Chapters, or Ladies' Guilds; or from persons in the parish who might want to offer sizeable donations separately. At the end of each

three-week campaign, please consolidate the combined funds from the parish-wide collection into one check, or consolidate the funds raised by each parish organization into one check per organization. Individuals may write separate checks if desired. Checks should be made payable to the **Diocese of New York and New Jersey** with **“2023 Alaska Initiative”** in the Memo section (see diagram below), and mailed to **Diocese of NY/NJ, 33 Hewitt Avenue, Bronxville, NY 10708**.

- 2) A monthly pledge amount can be established by the parish (or by parish organizations or individuals), as a part of its operating budget. Checks toward these pledges may be mailed monthly – as above, payable to the **Diocese of New York and New Jersey** with **“2023 Alaska Initiative”** in the Memo section (see diagram below), and mailed to **Diocese of NY/NJ, 33 Hewitt Avenue, Bronxville, NY 10708**.

On a quarterly basis, all funds sent to the Diocesan Chancery of New York and New Jersey will be forwarded to the Diocesan Chancery of His Grace, Bishop Alexei, for the Alaskan Clergy Stipend Fund.

Priests and Parish Councils: I ask that you show the video of Bishop Alexei’s presentation on the Alaskan Diocese in your churches, at Coffee Hour and other occasions where parishioners are gathered. Additionally, please copy and share the enclosed brochure. You can digitally download the brochure at the Diocese of Alaska website, <https://odoso.org/current-fund-raisers>.

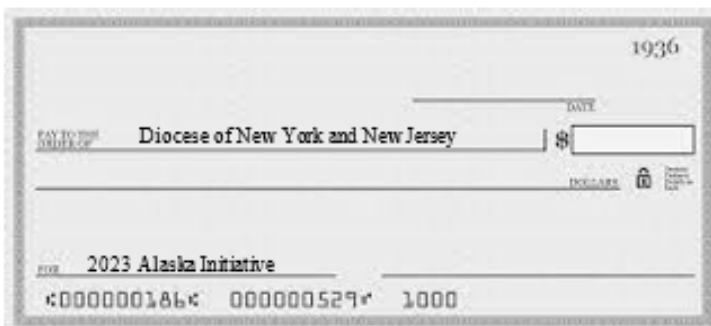
My beloved, let us respond with joy to the command of our Lord Himself, echoing across the centuries: “... the laborer is worthy of his wages.” The message is loud and clear: **Our priests in Alaska need more!**

I look forward to your timely and generous response to this urgent appeal.

With my humble prayers, my ~~prayers~~ blessings, and my sincere love,

+ Michael

Archbishop of New York and the
Diocese of New York and New Jersey



QR Code to View Bishop Alexei’s
Presentation on the Diocese of Alaska

We will take a Special Collection the next three Sundays for the Alaskan Clergy Fund. Please be as generous as you can.

Consider offering the funds you save by eating out less for Lent. Thank you!