

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

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Department of  
**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

## Joy of All Who Sorrow



**October 24 is the day of commemoration of an icon given the name "Joy of All Who Sorrow." The center of the icon shows the Mother of God with her arms outstretched to the people who surround her. They are those who suffer with various illnesses, worries, and pain of the heart or the body. They reach toward her, asking her prayers and intercession.**

This is one of the icons in which the Theotokos is shown full length and standing, rather than holding her Son. He appears above her head, enthroned as the King of heaven and earth. In His left hand He holds the Book of the Gospels, and with His right He blesses the people – young, old, poor, rich – who are reaching out to His Mother. Flowers of Paradise, and angels on either side of the Theotokos, remind us that both the heavenly and earthly realms are part of the scene.

Many stories of miracles and healings are associated with the icon. One of the best-known events took place in Saint Petersburg, Russia in 1888. Severe thunderstorms had struck

## Intercessory Prayers

We pray for all our fellow parishioners, but we pray especially for those who are incapable of being with us in church. Among them are:

Genevieve Bobenko, Nancy Filak, Mary Hadginske, Helen Kurnewitz, Margaret Lawler, Kathleen Lazorczyk, MaryAnn Rabakozi, Anatoly & Anna Rozanovich, Nadia Sojka, Maryann Stagen, Eva Stashitsky, Ann Velebir.

the city and the surrounding area. A bolt of lightning struck the chapel in which the icon was housed. The bolt was so powerful that it set the interior walls on fire, burned most of the icons, and shattered the collection box. Only the icon of the Mother of God, the Joy of All Who Sorrow, was not ruined or even affected. An ear-shattering clap of thunder knocked the icon to the floor, and some copper coins which had been in the collection box became permanently fused to it. But the image on the icon was intact.

The news that this single icon had been spared the destruction of the chapel and its contents spread through Saint Petersburg, and by evening crowds of people had gathered to venerate it. It was not long before people began coming from all over Russia, and as they prayed before it, many were healed of diseases and injuries.

It is easy to "put ourselves into" this icon, in which the Theotokos inclines her head slightly to one side, so as to listen attentively to us as we ask her to pray for us. One of the hymns expresses our request to her in this way: "Enlighten our hearts with devout purpose and raise your prayer to your Son for the salvation of our souls." She is the Mother who sees us, listens to us, understands, has compassion, and willingly asks her Son Jesus Christ to have mercy.

## Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to **Lauren Silvestre**, who celebrates her birthday today, **John Kary**, this Wednesday, and **Betty Hatsko**, this Friday. May God grant all of you good health and happiness for Many Years! Mnohaja Lita!



## Announcements

◆ Please don't forget that the **Daylight Saving Time** ends this coming **Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>** by turning clock **backward 1 hour**. And please remember, even though there is one extra hour that day to do whatever we need to do, try not to be late for the service.

◆ The Assumption of the Holy Virgin Church in Clifton will be celebrating its **80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** on the weekend of **November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>**. For more details please see the flyer at the bulletin board.

◆ On **November 12<sup>th</sup>**, the very first public concert of the **Chamber Choir of St. Tikhon's Monastery** will take place in New York City. The event will be held at the Church of St. John Nepomucene, 411 East 66<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door or may be ordered online at the choir's website, [www.MonasteryChamberChoir.com](http://www.MonasteryChamberChoir.com). Please see the poster at the bulletin board and visit the website for more information.

## Welcome Visitors

We welcome all visitors to our Divine Liturgy. It is our joy to have you with us today. If this is your first visit to our parish, we welcome you and invite you to return as often as you are able. While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the Cross, receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, and for fellowship in our Church Hall after the service.



October 25, 2015

**21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke**

- **9:00am** – Divine Liturgy  
Epistle: Gal. 2:16-20  
Gospel: Lk. 16:19-31
- **Coffee Hour** – everyone is invited for a fellowship following the service.
- **6:00pm** – Great Vespers & Litya

## Schedule of Services

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 26 - ST. DEMETRIUS**

9:00am - Divine Liturgy

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 31**

6:00pm - Great Vespers

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 (END OF DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME)**

9:00am - Divine Liturgy