

# 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 the city and the surrounding area. A bolt of lightning struck the chapel in which the icon was housed. The bolt was so powerful*

## Intercessory Prayers

We pray for all our fellow parishioners, and we pray especially for those who are incapable of being with us in church. Please keep in your prayers our Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Genevieve Bobenko, Mary Fechisin, Andrew Fabian, Edward Fedush, Mary Hadginske, Helen Kurnewitz, Margaret Lawler, Kathleen Lazorzcyk, Marian Nagel, MaryAnn Rabakozi, Helen Rahnefeld, Anna Rozanovich, Nadia Sojka, Maryann Stagen, Eva Stashitsky, Ann Velebir.

*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 this Tuesday, and **John Kary**, this Friday. May God grant both of you good health and happiness for Many Years! Mnohaja Lita!



## Announcements

◆ **Church Musician Appreciation Sunday** will be celebrated next Sunday October 30, 2016. Additional prayers will be added during the Divine Liturgy for all choir members of our wonderful choir. We will also pray for the deceased choir members of our parish who used to glorify God with their beautiful voices. The Choir Appreciation Dinner will be held at 2:00pm at **Buco Ristorante** in Clifton. For more information please see Maryann Stagen.

◆ Saint Tikhon's Seminary will host a **Fall Vocations Retreat** on Friday and Saturday, November 11-12, 2016. The theme will be "St. John Chrysostom: Champion of the Priesthood." During the retreat, participants will have the opportunity to join with the seminary community and monastery brotherhood in prayer, tour the monastery and seminary grounds, hear talks and join in discussions about ministry and St. John Chrysostom, and meet the seminary's Dean, faculty, and students. Both women and men are encourage to attend. There is no cost to participate in the retreat, which begins at 6:00 PM on Friday, November 11 and ends at 4:00 PM on Saturday, November 12. Food and accommodations are available at the Seminary, and participants are welcome to extend their stay through the weekend to attend Saturday evening's Vigil and Sunday's Divine Liturgy if their schedule allows. To register or to obtain more information, please contact the seminary at 570-561-1818, ext 101 or [info@stots.edu](mailto:info@stots.edu).

October 23, 2016

18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Holy Apostle James, the Brother of the Lord

- 8:50am – Hours
- 9:00am – Divine Liturgy  
Epistles: 2 Cor. 9:6-11  
Gal. 1:11-19 (St. James)  
Gospels: Lk. 16:19-31  
Mt. 13:54-58 (St. James)
- **Coffee Hour** – everyone is invited for a fellowship following the service.

## Schedule of Services

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29**

10:30am - Baptism of Samuel Smith Czech  
6:00pm - Great Vespers

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30**

9:00am - Divine Liturgy