



## St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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### **FACEBOOK PAGE:**

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Vladimir-Orthodox-Church-Trenton-NJ-454092552035666>

## New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia January 26, 2020

### **Troparion – Tone 7**

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen,// granting the world great mercy.

### **Troparion – Tone 4**

Today the Church of Russia forms a chorus in joy, praising her new martyrs and confessors; hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses, venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians. Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution, they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.// By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, preserve our land in Orthodoxy till the end of the age.

### **Kontakion – Tone 7**

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

### **Kontakion – Tone 3**

Today the new martyrs of Rus’ stand in white robes before the Lamb of God, and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory: “Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor, and power, and strength be to our God unto the ages of ages. Amen.”

### **Prokeimenon – Tone 7**

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

*v: Offer to the Lord, O ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!*

### **Prokeimenon – Tone 7**

God is our refuge and strength, a help in afflictions that severely befall us.

### **New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia**

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history.

It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only "crime" was their unshakable faith in God.

In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

### **Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:15-17**

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.

### **Epistle: Romans 8:28-39**

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28**

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

### **Gospel: Luke 21:8-19**

And He said: "Take heed that you not be deceived. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time has drawn near.' Therefore do not go after them. But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately." Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven. But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake. But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But not a hair of your head shall be lost. By your patience possess your souls.

## **Service Schedule for the week of January 26**

**Today** – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by the Annual Parish Meeting

**Saturday, February 1** – 5:00 PM Vespers with Litya followed by Confession MEETING OF THE LORD

**Sunday, February 2** – 9:00 Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy MEETING OF THE LORD  
followed by Coffee Hour

## **Weekly Giving**

January 19 – 42 adults, 10 youth, \$1,313

## **Parish Announcements**

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held today. All are welcome to attend. A sign-in sheet for Voting Parishioners will be provided. If you feel you are a Voting Parishioner and your name is not on the list, please immediately see Father Volodymyr or Herman Meyer. The Senior R Club will be selling soup and hot dogs.

The Ladies Assumption Altar Society is looking for members! If you are interested in joining, please contact President Nadja Nowicki or Secretary Melody Stavisky. Our ministry is charitable work and we meet two or three times a year. Thank you!

Please remember to turn in your blue Stewardship pledge cards as soon as possible to either Nina Laushell or Herman Meyer. These cards simply allow the Parish Council to better budget expenditures for the year.

Please remember to remove all Christmas decorations from the Parish Cemetery. Per the Cemetery By-Laws, all decorations are to be removed and taken home (we do not have trash removal available) within three weeks after the holiday.

A sign-up sheet for house blessings is on the table at the back of the church. Please sign-up and request your date – Father Volodymyr will confirm the date with you. All house blessings must be complete before the beginning of Great Lent on March 1.

Bible Study classes are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 PM. The next classes will be held on January 29 and February 12. All are welcome.

The metal chairs from Daria Hall are for sale for \$2.00 each. If you are interested please see Father Volodymyr or Herman Meyer.

## **Upcoming events:**

- \* Colonial District Bowling Tournament – Saturday February 22 followed by awards dinner in Daria Hall
- \* Spaghetti and Meatball dinner (Meatfare Sunday) – parish fundraiser