



*Welcome to St. Olympia Orthodox Church,
a young and, God willing, growing community of worshipers.*

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Fr. Alexy Karlgut, Dean/Administrator, 607-759-1833*

Please join us for prayer and fellowship.

Upcoming Services:
Saturday, August 12, 19
Great Vespers: 5pm

Sunday, August 13, 20
Divine Liturgy: 10am
**Coffee and fellowship
will follow the service**

*The above services are
at St. Olympia Church
34 North Main Street
Norwood, NY, 13668*

Mailing Address
**St. Olympia Orthodox
Church PO Box 122
Canton, NY13617**

The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary August 15



In giving birth you preserved your virginity, in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. You were translated to life, O Mother of Life, and by your prayers; you deliver our souls from death.

Troparion

Neither the tomb, nor death could hold the Theotokos, who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. For being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb.

Kontakion

“Lord I Call” Verses from Vespers of Dormition

*Oh, the marvelous wonder!
The source of Life is laid in a grave,
and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven.
Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos!
Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain:
“Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you,
He that grants the world great mercy through you!”*

*Oh, the wonder of your mysteries, pure Lady:
you were made the throne of the Most High,
and today you have passed from earth to heaven.
Your glory is full of splendor, shining with grace in divine brightness.
Virgins, be raised to the heights with the Mother of the King!
Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you,
He that grants the world great mercy through you!*

*The Dominions and Thrones, the Rulers, Principalities and Powers,
the Cherubim and fearsome Seraphim, glorify your falling asleep.
All those born of earth rejoice,
adorned with honor by your divine glory.
Kings fall down and sing with the Archangels and Angels:
“Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you,
He that grants the world great mercy through you!”*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*By the divine command the God-bearing Apostles
were caught up by clouds from every place. [Tone 1]
When they came to your all-pure body, the source of Life,
they kissed it most reverently. [Tone 5]
The highest Powers of heaven were also present with their Master, [Tone 2]
and seized with awe they escorted the inviolate body,
the body that had received God in the flesh.
In a manner beyond this world they went before it and invisibly cried out to the ranks above them:
“Behold, the Queen of all,
the Child of God, has come! [Tone 6]
Lift up your gates, and in a manner beyond this world
receive the Mother of the everlasting Light, [Tone 3]
for through her was accomplished the salvation of all the mortal race!
We cannot gaze upon her,
nor is it possible to render honor worthy of her, [Tone 7]
for her excellence surpasses all understanding.” [Tone 4]
Therefore, O immaculate Theotokos,
who live forever with your Son, the life-bearing King,
pray ceaselessly to Him to preserve the new people of God,
and to save them from every hostile assault,
for we have acquired your intercession, [Tone 8]
and to the ages, in manifest splendor, we call you blessed. [Tone 1]*



Prophet Micah **August 14**

The Prophet Micah, the sixth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, was descended from the Tribe of Judah and was a native of the city of Moresheth, to the south of Jerusalem. His prophetic service began around the year 778 before Christ and continued for almost 50 years under the kings of Judah: Jotham, Ahaz, and Righteous Hezekiah (721-691 B.C., August 28).

He was a contemporary of the Prophet Isaiah. His denunciations and predictions were in regard to the separate kingdoms of Judah and Israel. He foresaw the misfortunes threatening the kingdom of Israel before its destruction, and the sufferings of Judah during the incursions under the Assyrian emperor Sennacherib.

To him belongs a prophecy about the birth of the Savior of the world: “And thou, Bethlehem, house of Ephratha, art too few in number to be reckoned with the thousands of Judah; yet out of thee shall come forth to Me, one who is to be a ruler in Israel, and His goings forth were from the beginning, even from eternity” (Mic. 5: 2). From the words of the Prophet Jeremiah (Jer. 26: 18-19), the Jews evidently were afraid to kill the Prophet Micah. His relics were discovered in the fourth century after the Birth of Christ at Baraphsatia, through a revelation to the Bishop of Eleutheropolis, Zeuinos.

Prophet Samuel **August 20**

The Prophet Samuel was the fifteenth and last of the Judges of Israel, living more than 1146 years before the Birth of Christ. He was descended from the Tribe of Levi, and was the son of Elkanah... He was born, having been besought from the Lord through the prayers of his mother Hannah (therefore he received the name Samuel, which means “besought from God”). Even before birth, he was dedicated to God. Her song, “My heart exults in the Lord,” is the third Old Testament ode of the Canon (1 Sam/1 Kingdoms 2:1-10).

When the boy reached the age of three, his mother went with him to Shiloh and in accord with her vow dedicated him to the worship of God. She gave him into the care of the High Priest Eli, who at this time was a judge over Israel. The prophet grew in the fear of God, and at twelve years of age he had a revelation that God would punish the house of the High Priest Eli, because he did not restrain the impiety of his sons. Eli’s whole family was wiped out in a single day.

The prophecy was fulfilled when the Philistines, having slain in battle 30,000 Israelites (among them Hophni and Phinees, the sons of Eli the High Priest), gained victory and captured the Ark of the Covenant. Hearing this, the High Priest Eli fell backwards from his seat at the gate, and breaking his back, he died. The wife of Phinees, upon hearing what had happened in this very hour, gave birth to a son (Ichabod) and died with the words: “The glory has departed from Israel, for the Ark of God is taken away” (1 Samuel/1 Kingdoms 4: 22).

Upon the death of Eli, Samuel became the judge of the nation of Israel. The Ark of God was returned by the Philistines on their own initiative. After returning to God, the Israelites returned to all the cities that the Philistines had taken. In his old age, the Prophet Samuel made his sons Joel and Abiah judges over Israel, but they did not follow the integrity and righteous judgment of their father, since they were motivated by greed.

Then the elders of Israel, wanting the nation of God to be “like other nations” (1 Samuel/1 Kingdoms 8: 20), demanded of the Prophet Samuel that they have a king. The Prophet Samuel anointed Saul as king, but saw in this a downfall of the people, whom God Himself had governed until this time, announcing His will through “judges,” His chosen saints. Resigning the position of judge, the Prophet Samuel asked the people if they consented to his continued governance, but no one stepped forward for him.

After denouncing the first king, Saul, for his disobedience to God, the Prophet Samuel anointed David as king. He had offered David asylum, saving him from the pursuit of King Saul. The Prophet Samuel died in extreme old age. His life is recorded in the Bible (1 Samuel/1 Kingdoms; Sirach 46:13-20).

In the year 406 A.D. the relics of the Prophet Samuel were transferred from Judea to Constantinople.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN & PARISH EVENTS

Pictures from St Olymphia's Patronal Feast with Archbishop Michael – July 24-25, 2023

Link to photo gallery on Facebook

<https://fb.watch/m4iZQzDjag/?mibextid=cr9u03>

Diocesan Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 22, at 11:00 AM

Diocesan Chancery, Bronxville NY

Presbyter's Council Meeting

Thursday, September 28, at 1:00 PM

Diocesan Chancery, Bronxville NY

St Olymphia Parish Council Meeting

Monday, October 2, 7:30 PM via Google Meet

WEEKDAY VESPERS AT THE HERMITAGE OF ST OLYMPIA

Weekdays at 5 PM

For information please contact Mother Sophronia at mothersophronia@gmail.com

or via Facebook: Nun Sophronia Hofstead.

... love God above everything and your neighbor as yourself.

If you have not sufficient strength to preserve in your heart these inestimable treasures, fall down oftener at the feet of the God of Love.

“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it I shall be opened unto you”—for He Who has promised is true.

Righteous John, Wonderworker of Kronstadt

My Life in Christ, p.47



Our new icon of St Olymphia for the iconostasis by Mother Sophronia, Father Nikolai before Divine Liturgy, and Father's blessing at the end of Vespers