



# ST OLYMPIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

POTSDAM, NEW YORK 13676



ORTHODOX CHURCH OF AMERICA  
DIOCESE OF NY AND NJ

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

*Our priest is Fr. Peter Irfan, Acting Rector.  
You may reach him at 716-342-8520 (cell) or at fatherpeter777@yahoo.com.*

*Please join us for prayer and fellowship.  
Divine Liturgies are held every Sunday at 10 am.  
Great Vespers are held every Saturday evening at 5 pm.*

## Services this week:

**Saturday, November 30th**  
Great Vespers - 5:00 pm

**Sunday, December 1st**

Matins - 8:45 am  
Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am

Lunch and fellowship will  
follow the service

The above services are at

St. Olympia Chapel  
123 Main Street  
Potsdam, NY, 13676

## **Important Notice:**

Daily Reader's Vespers at St. Olympia Hermitage in Edwards, NY, are temporarily suspended. Mother Sophronia is experiencing health issues and appreciates your prayers.

## **Introduction to Byzantine Chant**

Due to end-of-semester scheduling conflicts, classes will resume next semester.

## **A Special Story...**

Tabitha Brown is featured in SUNY-Potsdam's newspaper, the Reporter. It is a beautiful article about Tabitha's return to college after having a family and home-schooling her (now grown) children. Tabitha is a catechumen and is the mother of Silouan (Wayne ) Brown who joined the Orthodox faith and our parish before heading off to college a few years back.

You can read more about Tabitha at <https://www.potsdam.edu/academics/AAS/depts/history/Brown>



Fr. Peter gave the sacrament of Chrismation to John Otis. We welcome him to our parish family and wish him Many Years! Sponsors are James Radcliffe and Mother Sophronia.

## **Excerpts from**

### ***A Diary of a Russian Priest***

It is absolutely impossible to convince anyone of the existence of God, for all that can be said in words concerning faith can in no way convey the essential point about it, which is something altogether inexpressible. The arguments in favor of belief are not against reason, but beyond it. It is only in the light of love that reason accepts the apparent absurdities of faith.

\* \* \*

Why is faith difficult? Before the fall man *knew*. Sin has hidden God from him, and faith is the piercing through this veil of sin which separates us from God.

Purification from sin leads from faith to knowledge.