



# 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](mailto: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, September 28th**  
Great Vespers - 5:00 pm

**Sunday, September 29th**

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**

### **Also:**

**Daily Reader's Vespers  
at 5 pm  
St. Olympia Hermitage  
Edwards, NY**

*Visitors are welcome to attend. E-mail  
[mothersophronia@gmail.com](mailto:mothersophronia@gmail.com)  
to confirm and for directions.*

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

Our whole interior life is set in motion by the love of God. But whence can we acquire this love? All our loves are fed by concrete impressions of the beloved object (the world, our friends and loved ones). How shall our love and faith be kept alive and not wither, if they are not nourished by outward evidence? Yet what concrete impression can we receive of God, whom "no man hath seen at any time" (John 1:18)? We have Christ, Meditation in him, prayer, the reading of the Gospels—such is the food by which the love of Christ is nourished. But it may be (and such is often the case) that our hearts are too coarse, too unreceptive. In that case, we must turn to the Lives of the Saints, to the writings of the Fathers. They hold the same light of Christ, but with a softer quality, subdued by passing through the prism of a saintly, but purely human, soul.

## **Save the date:**

Archbishop Michael will be visiting our parish on the weekend of October 5-6. We will also welcome Dr. Mary Ford, Associate Professor of New Testament at St. Tikhon's Orthodox Seminary. She will speak Saturday evening after Great Vespers.

## **Special Meeting of the Parish**

There will be a Special Meeting of the Parish on **Sunday, October 5th following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy** to discuss the potential acquisition of the Congregational Church property in Norwood, NY, just seven miles from Potsdam. Archbishop Michael will be in attendance.

## **Introduction to Byzantine Chant**

Dr. Jessica Suchy-Pilalis will be giving a concise introduction to the Byzantine modes on Saturday, September 28, Saturday, October 20th and Saturday, November 2nd. All sessions are at 4:00 pm and will be held at the church. No previous chanting experience is necessary. All materials will be provided at the sessions.



*Fr. Peter blessed Zach's new car after Liturgy earlier today with the congregation also present.*