

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

*Fr. Nikolay Khalimonov, Priest-in-Charge, 323-851-7898
 Fr. Alexy Karlgut, Dean/Administrator, 607-759-1833*

Please join us for prayer and fellowship.

Upcoming Services:
Saturday, October 1, 8
Great Vespers: 5pm

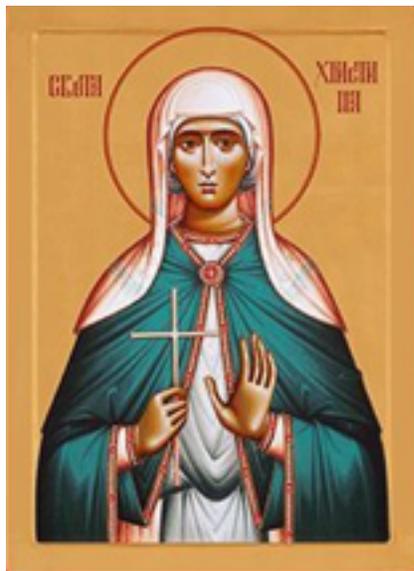
Sunday, October 2, 9
Divine Liturgy: 10am

**Lunch and fellowship will
 follow the service**

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

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

Martyr Charitínē of Amisós
October 5



Venerable Pelagia the Penitent
October 8

Strengthened by Divine grace you put to shame the power of ungodliness, and contended beyond the limits of nature; now you pour forth an unending stream of grace upon those who cry to you, O glorious Charitínē.
 Troparion for Martyr Charitínē of Amisós

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Mother, for you took up the Cross and followed Christ. By so doing you taught us to disregard the flesh for it passes away, but to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal. Therefore your spirit, venerable Pelagia rejoices with the angels.

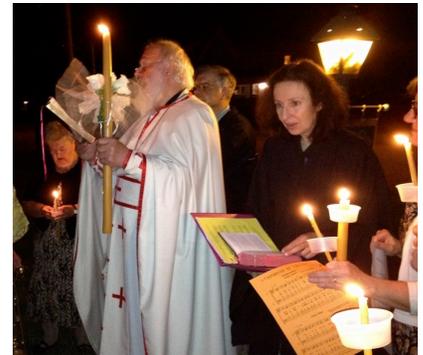
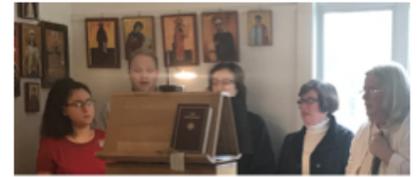
Troparion for Venerable Pelagia the Penitent



First Liturgy's Choir, 2012



So many college students have contributed to our worship services over the years



PASCHA!

- 1) Zach's Chrismation. His sponsor, Father Pierre, also chanted with us for Holy Week.
- 2) The "quartet" rehearses for Vladyka Michael's visit. (our tenor was taking the picture).
- 3) Great Vespers with Vladyka in our church in Norwood.



Mother Sophronia and Father Peter at the Hermitage of St. Olypia

Relaxing after the Liturgy of the Nativity. No, they were not "decorated" during the service 😊



With grateful hearts, and with the love of Christ, we give thanks for our church musicians.

Women Saints in the OCA Calendar, October 1 to October 10

October 1	Saint Sidonia; Equal of the Apostles, Empress Nana of Georgia
October 2	Virgin Martyr Justina; Repose of the Holy Right-believing Princess Anna of Kashin
October 3	Saint Damaris of Athens
October 4	Martyr Domnina with her daughters of Syria; Martyr Callisthene; Saint Elena of Serbia
October 5	Martyr Charitínē of Amisós ; Saint Charitina, Princess of Lithuani; Martyr Memelchtha of Persia Righteous Methodia of Kimolos Venerable Mothers of the Klarjeti Wilderness: Saint Febronia, Saint Anatole, Saint Anastasia
October 7	Martyr Pelagia of Tarsus
October 8	Venerable Pelagia the Penitent ; Venerable Thais of Egypt; Virgin Martyr Pelagia of Antioch
October 9	Venerable Athanasia of Egypt
October 10	Martyr Eulampia

Martyr Charitínē of Amisós

Saint Charitínē was from Amisós in Pontus and lived during the reign of Emperor Diocletian (284-305). Orphaned at a young age, she became the servant of a noble Roman Christian named ... Claudius, who brought her up as his own daughter. The young girl was very pretty, sensible, and kind. She imparted her love for Christ to others, and brought many to the path of salvation. Saint Charitínē was meek, humble, obedient and silent. Although she was not yet baptized, she was a Christian at heart. She studied the Law of God day and night, and vowed to preserve her virginity as a true bride of Christ

Because Saint Charitínē brought many others to the Christian Faith, Dometius, one of Emperor Diocletian's governors, came to hear of her and sent a letter to Claudius, ordering him to send Charitínē to him so that he might question her. Claudius had no doubts about the result of this interrogation. Grieved at the prospect of losing her, he put on sackcloth and wept bitter tears. Charitínē comforted him, saying: "Do not grieve, my Master, but rejoice, for I am to become an acceptable sacrifice to God, for my sins and for yours." Claudius replied: "O Servant of God, remember me when you stand before the heavenly King in the ranks of the Holy Martyrs."

The Saint was brought before a judge at the tribunal. He asked her: "Is it true that you are a Christian, and that you delude others by bringing them to your impious faith?" Charitínē replied: "It is true that I am a Christian, but it is a lie that I delude others. On the contrary, I lead them from deception to the path of truth, bringing them to my Christ."

Then the judge ordered her hair to be cut off, but by the power of God, her hair grew back even longer than before. ... Finally, they tied a stone around her neck and threw her into the sea. She cried out: "This is my Baptism." Suddenly, the stone was loosened and sank, and God delivered her from the sea unharmed. When the judge saw her on the shore, he ordered his men to ... tie her to a wheel which turned over burning coals, but an Angel of God stopped the wheel and once again Saint Charitínē remained unharmed. ... Fearing this dishonor, Saint Charitínē prayed that God would receive her soul before these vile men could defile her virginal body; and so, as she prayed, she surrendered her pure soul to God.

When the judge saw that she was dead, he had her body placed in a sack weighted with stones, and tossed it into the sea. By Divine Providence, her body was brought to the shore three days later. Her master Claudius found her body and buried her with appropriate honor and reverence.

Venerable Pelagia the Penitent

Saint Pelagia the Penitent was converted to Christianity by Saint Nonnus, Bishop of Edessa (Saturday of Cheesefare Week). Before her acceptance of Christianity through Baptism, Pelagia was head of a dance troupe in Palestinian Antioch, living a life of frivolity. ... One day Pelagia, elegantly dressed, was making her way past a church where Saint Nonnus was preaching a sermon. Believers turned their faces away from the sinner, but the bishop glanced after her. Struck by the outer beauty of Pelagia and having foreseen the spiritual greatness within her, the saint prayed in his cell for a long time to the Lord for the sinner. He told his fellow bishops that the prostitute put them all to shame. He explained that she took great care to adorn her body in order to appear beautiful in the eyes of men. "We... take no thought for the adornment of our wretched souls," he said.

On the following day, when Saint Nonnus was teaching in the church about the dread Last Judgment and its consequences, Pelagia came. The teaching made a tremendous impression upon her. With the fear of God and weeping tears of repentance, she asked the saint for Baptism. Seeing her sincere and full repentance, Bishop Nonnus baptized her. By night the devil appeared to Pelagia, urging her to return to her former life. The saint prayed, signed herself with the Sign of the Cross, and the devil vanished. Three days after her baptism, Saint Pelagia gathered up her valuables and took them to Bishop Nonnus. The bishop ordered that they be distributed among the poor saying, "Let this be wisely dispersed, so that these riches gained by sin may become a wealth of righteousness." After this Saint Pelagia journeyed to Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives. She lived there in a cell, disguised as the monk Pelagius, living in ascetic seclusion, and attaining great spiritual gifts. When she died, she was buried in her cell.