



ST OLYMPIA ORTHODOX CHURCH
NORWOOD, NEW YORK 13668

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
DIOCESE OF NY AND NJ



*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, December 17, 24
Great Vespers: 5pm

Sunday, December 18, 25
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, NY 13617*

Forefeast of the Nativity of Our Lord
December 20-24

Troparion

Prepare, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened to all!
Adorn yourself, O Ephratha, for the tree of life blossoms
forth from the Virgin in the cave!

Her womb is a spiritual paradise planted with the Divine Fruit:
If we eat of it, we shall live forever and not die like Adam.
Christ comes to restore the image which He made in the
beginning!

Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord
December 24

Troparion

Mary was of David's seed, so she went with Joseph to register in
Bethlehem. She bore in her womb the Fruit not sown by man. The
time for the birth was at hand. Since there was no room at the inn,
the cave became a beautiful palace for the Queen. Christ is born,
raising up the image that fell of old.

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!
December 25

Troparion

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the Light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a Star to adore You,
the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Orient from on High.
O Lord, glory to You!



Kontakion of the Nativity of Christ

*Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One!
Angels with shepherds glorify Him!
The wise men journey with a star!
Since for our sake
the Eternal God was born as a Little Child!*

Commemoration of the Shepherds in Bethlehem

An angel of the Lord (Saint Cyprian says this was Gabriel) came before them and said: "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11). The humble shepherds were the first to offer worship to Him Who condescended to assume the form of a humble servant for the salvation of mankind.



The Adoration of the Magi: Melchior, Caspar, and Balthasar



The Nativity of Christ was revealed to the Magi by a wondrous star. Saint John Chrysostom and Saint Theophylactus, commenting on Saint Matthew's Gospel, say that this was no ordinary star. Rather, it was "a divine and angelic power that appeared in the form of a star." Saint Demetrius of Rostov says it was a "manifestation of divine energy" (Narrative of the Adoration of the Magi). Entering the house where the Infant lay, the Magi "fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented Him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh" (Mt. 2:11).

What then, O brethren, is required of us in order that we might avail ourselves of all the grace brought unto us from on high by the coming to earth of the Son of God?

What is necessary, first of all, is faith in the Son of God, in the Gospel as salvation – bestowing heavenly teaching; a true repentance of sins and the correction of life and of heart; communion in prayer and in the Mysteries; the knowledge and fulfillment of Christ’s commandments.

Let us, then, O brothers and sisters, bring these virtues as a gift to the One Who was born for the sake of our salvation...God and Man, come to die for us. This, from us, shall be the most pleasing form of sacrifice to God and to the infant Jesus Christ.

Saint John of Kronstadt, “Sermon on the Nativity of Christ”

UPCOMING DIOCESAN EVENTS

Presbyters' Council Meeting

Thursday, December 29 at 11:00 AM
Diocesan Chancery, Bronxville NY

THE LATEST ISSUE OF KOINONIA IS NOW AVAILABLE – 12/16/22

Have you heard of CrossRoad?

CrossRoad is a ten-day academic summer institute that prepares rising high school seniors and graduating seniors (current 11th and 12th graders) to make big life decisions and invites them to connect with the Orthodox Christian theological and spiritual tradition in a deep and meaningful way.

Please visit www.CrossRoadInstitute.org to learn about their amazing summer sessions in Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco. The priority deadline for applying is January 18, 2023, so please spend a moment to learn more.

Youth Witness to the Faith Series

(Presented By Assembly Of Canonical Orthodox Bishops Of The USA)

Includes an Introduction and Four Episodes on Pascha.



WEEKDAY VESPERS AT THE HERMITAGE OF ST OLYMPIA

Weekdays at 4 PM

For information please contact Mother Sophronia at mothersophronia@gmail.com
or via Facebook: Nun Sophronia Hofstead