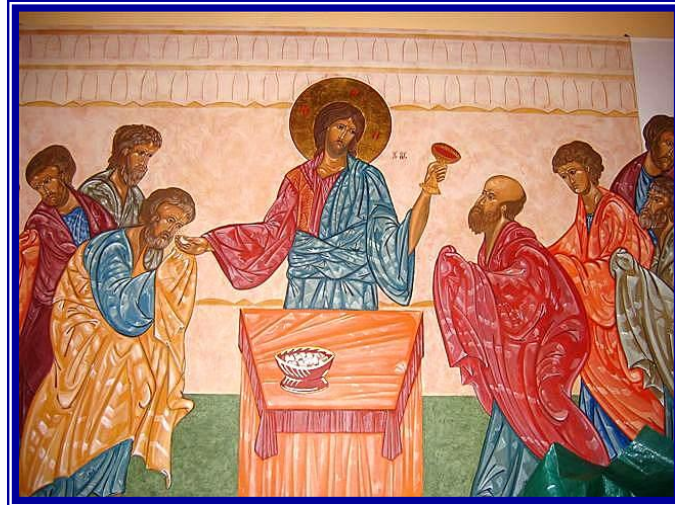


# Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Diocese of New York and New Jersey  
Orthodox Church in America

855 Goodman Street South Rochester NY 14620



## 2011 ANNUAL GENERAL PARISH MEETING November 13, 2011

Orthodox Church in America

Diocesan Authority

**His Grace, Michael**

Bishop of New York and the Diocese of New York and New Jersey  
-- Hierarch/Archpastor --

Diocesan Chancellor

**Very Reverend Joseph Lickwar**

Dean, Upstate New York Deanery

**Very Reverend Alexey Karlgut**

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Parish Rector

**Very Reverend Ken James Stavrevsky**

Attached Clergy

**Reverend Proto-Deacon Stephen Sweet**

2011 Parish Council

**Sean McNulty (Warden)      Thomas Gervais (Assistant Warden)**

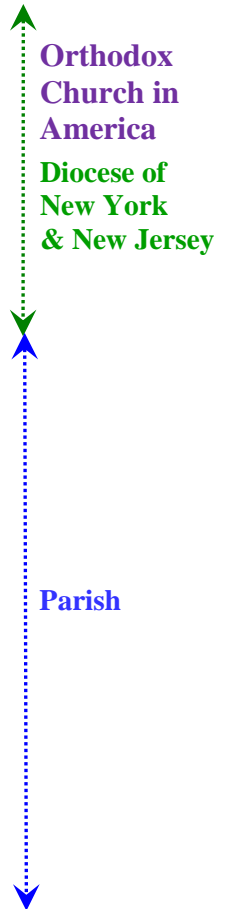
**Janet VanDuyn (Treasurer)      Amy LaMay (Secretary)**

Director, Liturgical Music Ministry

**Bonnie Ann Maye-Schwarz**

Tonsured Readers

**Douglas Schwarz, Robert Mitchell VanDuyn, Sean McNulty, Mark Bailey**



SAINT

~~ from the Parish By-laws ~~

JOHN  
THE  
FORERUNNER

## I. Preamble

The name of this parish is *Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church*. The parish was founded on May 17, 1964 as a community of Orthodox faithful committed to: the use of the English language for all liturgical services, ethnic diversity, and welcoming all who seek Christ and His Holy Church. The parish was incorporated by registration with the County Clerks Office (pursuant to Article 5-C of the Religious Corporations Law), Monroe County, State of New York, on December 30, 1966 under the corporate name of *Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church*. The parish is under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Diocese of Washington and New York (the Diocesan Authority) of the Orthodox Church in America. These by-laws shall be in conformity and compliance with the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America adopted by the Second All-American Council of October 1971 as amended by subsequent and future All-American Councils. A copy of the current Statute of the Orthodox Church in America is attached as Appendix I. All provisions contained therein are hereby affirmed and integrated into these by-laws; in the event of incongruity, the provisions of the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America shall take precedence over that which is contained herein. Reference in these by-laws to “the Statute” shall refer to the currently adopted and governing Statute of the Orthodox Church in America. Subsequent reference in these by-laws to “the parish” shall refer to the body incorporated as Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church in Monroe County, State of New York on December 30, 1966 and henceforth known as *Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church*.

## II. Vision, Mission and Objectives

**Our vision:** to be a living manifestation of the Body of Christ filled with grace, truth and love. **Our mission:** to be a community of Orthodox Christians faithful to the doctrines, teachings, and traditions of the Holy Orthodox Church under the ecclesiastical authority and guidance of the Diocese of Washington and New York, Orthodox Church in America. **Our objectives:** (1) to celebrate, witness and proclaim the fullness of our Orthodox faith to all who seek Christ and His Holy Church; (2) to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength; (3) to love one another; (4) to conduct the services, sacraments and rites of our faith in the English language; (5) to welcome visitors; (6) to show hospitality to strangers; (7) to comfort the afflicted; (8) to assist those in need; (9) to grow in our faith as individuals, as families, and as a parish; (10) to lead all to the knowledge of the truth and the way of salvation; (11) to defend, support and strengthen the one, holy, catholic and Apostolic Church; (12) to look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

# Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

## **ANNUAL GENERAL PARISH MEETING**

November 13, 2011

### **AGENDA**

- ▶ **Opening Prayer: “O Heavenly King”**
  
- ▶ **Call to Order and Assignment of Officers** (Fr. Stavrevsky)
  - **Recorder:** Amy LaMay
  - **Parliamentarian:** Lawrence Dunn / John Dyranka
  - **Laity Chair:** Reader Sean McNulty
  
- ▶ **Rector’s Report** (Fr. Stavrevsky, *text provided*)
  
- ▶ **Report of the Parish Warden** (*Reader Sean McNulty*)
  
- ▶ **Financial Auditors’ Report** (George Kuyon, *statement provided*)
  
- ▶ **Treasurer’s Report: current/2011 fiscal year budget** (Janet VanDuyn)
  
- ▶ **Election of 2012 Parish Council members: Assistant Warden and Secretary**  
(ATTACHED)
  
- ▶ **Election of Laity Delegate and Alternate Delegates:**  
**Diocesan Assembly (November 12, 2012) ~ Clifton NJ**  
Janet VanDuyn, *Delegate*    Thomas Gervais, *Alternate*    Gus Platas, *Alternate*

▶ **Election of Auditors for 2012**

- Margaret Cavalcanti and George Kuyon

▶ **Treasurer's Report: *proposed 2012 fiscal year budget*** (Janet VanDuyn)

▶ **Amendment to Parish By-laws:** (Fr. Stavrevsky)

**PARAGRAPH III, Parish Leadership and Administration**

**General Parish Meeting.** The parish shall convene an annual meeting of all voting members each year during the month of ~~September~~ **November**. Additional general parish meetings may be convened, if necessary, as determined by the parish council.

▶ **Liturgical Music Ministry Report** (Bonnie Ann Maye-Schwarz)

▶ **Maintenance and Capital Improvement Report** (Fr. Stavrevsky)

▶ **Bookstore Report** (Charlie Cowling)

▶ **Closing Remarks** (Fr. Stavrevsky)

▶ **Adjournment**

▶ **Prayer: "Many Years!"**

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# Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Rochester NY

## Nominees to the 2012 Parish Council

### Parish Council, Assistant Warden

(for a term of one year, followed by a one year term as Warden)



**Blake Keller**

### Parish Council, Secretary

(for a term of two years)



**Ryan Platte**

## Continuing for a one-year term on the 2012 Parish Council

**Thomas Gervais**  
Parish Council Warden



**Janet VanDuyn**  
Parish Council Treasurer



### **III. Membership**

1. **“Voting Members”** must fulfill the requirements contained in the Statute (Article X, Section 5) and:
  - a. be eighteen years of age or older;
  - b. be sacramentally active through participation in the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confession;
  - c. have a current parish membership information form completed and filed;
  - d. financially support the work of the parish;
  - e. be involved in the life of the parish for a period of at least six months; and
  - f. not claim voting membership in another parish of the Orthodox Church in America or a parish under the ecclesiastical authority of another canonical Orthodox jurisdiction established in the United States of America.
2. **“Non-voting Members”** are
  - a. Orthodox Christians who attend the worship services of the parish on a frequent and regular basis; or
  - b. individuals who have been formally entered into the catechumenate.
3. **“Friends of the Parish”** are those who attend and/or support the parish while not fulfilling the requirements of voting or non-voting membership.
4. **Revocation of Voting Member Status.** The parish council may initiate action to remove the status of voting member from a person who:
  - a. knowingly defies the teachings or canons of the Orthodox Church; or
  - b. obstructs the decisions duly rendered by a general parish meeting, the parish council, the Rector, or the Diocesan Authority; or
  - c. causes turmoil, conflict or disruption so as to adversely affect the spiritual life of the parish.Any action to remove an individual from the status of voting member will, upon approval of the parish council, be referred to the appropriate Diocesan Authority for adjudication and resolution.

# Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

855 Goodman Street South † Rochester NY 14620

Diocese of New York and New Jersey

Orthodox Church in America

V. Rev. Ken James Stavrevsky, Rector

Info: 585-442-6860

www.SaintJohnOrthodox.org

Rector: 585-770-3496

frski@rochester.rr.com



**Annual General Parish Meeting**

**November 13, 2011**

## RECTOR'S REPORT

Dearly beloved faithful and friends of the most-blessed parish of Saint John the Baptist,

*Christ is in our midst! He is, and ever shall be!*

We meet today as the blessed and privileged inheritors of the labors of those who have gone before us in the divine planting, establishment, building up, and loving sacrificial support that allow us to gather as a parish family. Our experience and life in the “one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church” ~ to actually be “the Body of Christ” ~ is a gift given us by the grace of God and the cooperation of faithful men and women who have labored faithfully in this local Church; in our beloved parish. Let us pray that our merciful Lord will grant the eternal peace and joy of His heavenly kingdom to our parish founders, faithful, and benefactors who have fallen-asleep and entered into their repose: “*May their memory be eternal!*” Today, we are the ones called to be fellow-laborers in faith and love to the glory of God and the good-estate of this Holy House. Like those who labored here before us, our calling comes to us not of human origin or of the will of man, but from God. The words of Saint Paul remind us of our calling, the unity of our faith, and the bond of love that must be evident among us: “... *you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit*” (Ephesians 2:19-22). We are not foreigners; we are fellow citizens of the Kingdom of God. We are not strangers; we are brothers and sisters in Christ. We are members of the household of Christ who have been brought together to become “a holy temple” where “God lives by his Spirit.” Today, and every day, we must ... all of us, *in unity together* ... offer ourselves and one another to Christ, to each another, and toward the good-estate of His Holy Church. This is the holy work given for us to accomplish. In this work, we find forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life; in this work, we encounter peace, thanksgiving, and abundant joy. With God as our helper, let us seek to accomplish this holy work, and be faithful co-laborers with the Holy Spirit unto the fullness of Christ in the glory of our Father in heaven.

Over the past twelve months, we have celebrated **4 Baptisms and 6 Chrismations; 1 Marriage;** and sadly, **2 Funerals.** As of today, our parish is comprised of **89 “voting members.”** Note that this number ***does not include*** our precious children and the many “*friends of the parish*” who are a cherished part of our spiritual family. The terms “voting members,” “members” and “friends of the parish” are clearly defined in our parish by-laws. The complete parish by-laws are available on our parish website. A hardcopy of the by-laws will be provided to anyone by request.

We continue to witness a “rebirth” of life and enthusiasm within our diocese under the hierarchical leadership of our spiritual shepherd: His Grace, Bishop Michael. It is hard to believe that he has been our bishop for only 554 days! In that time, three new mission parishes have been established with support continuing as they grow; students from our diocese attending Saint Vladimir’s and Saint Tikhon’s Seminaries are receiving scholarships and support so they will remain in our diocese following graduation and ordination; 12 students are enrolled in our two-year Diaconal Formation Program (including our very own, *Reader Sean McNulty*); OPERATION BUFFALO was launched and completed to revitalize the 114 year-old Saints Peter and Paul Church in Buffalo NY; a voluntary appeal for financial support of diocesan ministries (the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors) began in January of this year and, with an initial grant of \$30,000 from Bishop Michael himself, an additional \$90,000 has been contributed from throughout New York and New Jersey designated to supporting new mission parishes, supporting struggling established parishes, and supporting our seminarians. To learn more about these exciting initiatives and inspiring work of our diocese, and perhaps to consider offering your support, see the “Vision for Our Future” section of the diocesan website at [nynjoca.org](http://nynjoca.org) or contact me. And, with all of this activity, we have certainly not been neglected by our bishop! Bishop Michael visited us three times in the last year. He celebrated his first Pre-Sanctified Liturgy as a bishop with us during the first week of Great Lent; he was with us 15-16 June for an evening Akathist Service and fellowship followed by the blessing of Saint Lucy’s Farm the next day; and he was with us 6-7 August for the weekend services which included the ordination of Leonid (Derek) Schmidt as a Deacon and the tonsuring of Sean McNulty as a Reader, followed by the blessing of Deer Run Winery. I praise God with a thankful heart for the steadfast faith, humility, service, witness, endurance, courage, vision, and guidance of Bishop Michael. May our Lord grant peace, health, salvation, and furtherance in all good things to His Grace; a blessed shepherd of the holy Orthodox sheep-fold abiding in New York and New Jersey; a good and faithful servant of the one Good Shepherd. *“Eis polla eti Despota!”* I will do my best to keep you informed as the good things yet to come become reality, and I urge you to visit our diocesan website often ([nynjoca.org](http://nynjoca.org)) to keep informed and inspired.

Our Diocesan Chancellor, Father Joseph Lickwar, and our New York State Dean, Father Alexey Karlgut, work diligently and tirelessly with Bishop Michael in leading and nourishing the life of our Church. The Diocesan Council -- comprised of the Chancellor, the 3 Deans (New York State, New Jersey and New York City), along with a priest and laity member from each of the deaneries -- meets monthly to guide and direct our diocese. All of these priests and laity, directly and dynamically involved in the life of our diocese, do so *in addition* to their other responsibilities without receiving any compensation or monetary remuneration. In short, they “go the extra mile” for Christ and His Holy Church. We owe them our thanks! They do much for which they are never recognized, or appropriately thanked. And, their parishes also deserve our gratitude for supporting them as they work “above and beyond” their call to service in the local parish. In like manner, I serve in the diocese beyond the scope of our parish. I am the Director of Communications for the diocese, and a member of the bishop’s senior advisory body -- the “Council of Presbyters.” In addition, since our Diocesan Assembly on 9 November 2011 in New York City, I have been elected and appointed to the Diocesan Council as the clergy representative of our New York State Deanery. All of these opportunities to work in our diocese involve the investment of time, energy, and a considerable amount of travel. Your understanding and cooperation are essential as we “join hands” with everyone in our diocese to sustain and build-up the Body of Christ. And, we have already seen some of the fruits of our working together with Bishop Michael. In addition, it is my joy to inform you that our parish is also contributing significantly in the life of the Orthodox Church

in America. Recently, Bishop Michael appointed Jan VanDuyn to serve on the Metropolitan Council of the OCA. As such, she will attend regular meetings of the Metropolitan Council -- the senior body of the Orthodox Church in America (the “national” level) which works in collaboration with our Holy Synod of Bishops in leading the Church -- and also be present for all meetings of the Diocesan Council. We congratulate Jan on her appointment and pray that our Lord will bless her and guide her in this vitally important position.

As you prayerfully consider your ability to offer regular financial support to our parish, please remember that our annual assessment to the Diocese and the Orthodox Church in America next year will be **\$145.<sup>00</sup> for each voting member of our parish.** In setting a course for the future, it is now more important than ever that we support our Church at the diocesan and national levels. To help us do so, we request that you remain aware of our parish’s financial obligation of \$145.<sup>00</sup> per year for each adult member (18 years of age and above). Please also remember that we support our parish through free-will offerings ~ stewardship ~ of our time, talents, and treasure. We do not have dues ... we are not a “club” ... membership in the Body of Christ is a matter of Christian living and sacramental participation. As such, we anticipate everyone will offer their financial support generously according to the blessings they have received from God.

I rejoice, for Bonnie and our spectacular choir! I rejoice, for the ever-faithful Proto-deacon Stephen! I rejoice, for Sean, Tom, Jan, and Amy on our parish council; for our auditors, Marge and George; for our building and maintenance guru and reigning bocce-ball champion, Bill; for Mitch, Jan and the gang at CatPrint who print all of our bulletins and materials at no cost to us; for Donna “the greeting card wizard”; for altar servers, for church cleaners, for coffee hour hosts, for crying infants who offer us “holy noise” that older parishes yearn to hear, for special event sponsors, for each one of you ... and every uniquely precious and special person God chooses to bring into our spiritual family. In the words of Saint Seraphim of Sarov, **“You are my joy!”** Of course, I cannot even begin to express my love and gratitude for Natalie, my soul-mate and “Matushka” of this parish.

My dear friends in Christ, let us give thanks for the blessings God has richly poured out upon us. Let us look to the days ahead with renewed faith and a revitalized commitment to fulfilling the work God has called us to accomplish. May our departed brethren – the founders and benefactors of this Holy House – intercede for us before our loving Lord, and may their memory be eternal! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, Saint John the Baptist, and all the saints, let us come together always as faithful laborers in the vineyard of God and bring forth a bountiful harvest -- the salvation of souls unto eternal life in Jesus Christ – from the vine He has planted here and given to our care.

With my love and affection, in our Lord Jesus Christ,



**KEN JAMES STAVREVSKY**  
Archpriest, Orthodox Church in America  
Chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF (Retired)  
Rector

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Annual General Parish Meeting  
13 November 2011

## Auditors Report

An audit of the 2010 Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church financial records was conducted in preparation for the November 2011 annual parish meeting.

No inconsistencies were found.

George Kuyon  
Marge Cavalcanti  
-- Auditors --

# **Physical Audit of Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church November 2011**

A physical inspection of the interior church proper, the common areas of the church including the basement and the exterior of the church, as well the parish house, has yielded some areas of concern that need attention on a timely basis and some areas that fall into the area of differed maintenance based on the availability of necessary funds to accomplish the tasks at hand.

## **EXTERIOR:**

- Immediate attention would involve gutters at locations that are producing interior water damage, namely the rear stairway of the church. The gutters are not large enough to handle the runoff and as a result water is not being caught and diverted away from the church foundation. Companies are being contacted to submit prices for this corrective action.
- Parking lot sealing and striping should be done in the spring of 2012 to protect the surface from deteriorating. Companies have been contacted already this year for next year. We are awaiting submission of prices.
- Landscaping needs still exist as shrubs in front of church are overgrown and dying. A new plan will be presented in the spring.
- Post and chains for parking lot need to be reinstalled.
- Install new window well over window to kitchen.
- Replace wooden fence separating Church from parish house.
- Remove non-usable debris from Church property.

## **CHURCH INTERIOR:**

- The men's room drain and tile is an area that is also a concern and corrective action is needed. Contractors need to be contacted.
- The area under the stairs is generating mold and mildew and needs professional attention to eliminate the problem.
- The drip from the ceiling circulating pump seems to be an ongoing problem that will be investigated.
- The boiler room and storage room are areas that be cleaned in-house by volunteers from our parish. Sign-up schedule will be forth-coming.

- Hardwood floors in front of the iconostas should be refinished as the area has received abuse over the years.
- Painting of back of the iconostas wall
- General cleaning of loft

**PARISH HOUSE & RESOURCE CENTER:**

- The parish house needs to be cleaned and a consolidated effort to remove items that are no longer used or functional. A window must be installed on the third floor and needs to be completed by spring.
- The back door of the parish house needs a new lock.

Volunteer help is needed on an ongoing basis to help maintain our Church property.

Please contact me or see me at any time with your concerns or suggestions that will help our parish continue to prosper.

Hopefully, the renovation of our kitchen has met everyone's expectations. Thanks to everyone for their generous contributions which allowed the work to be accomplished faster than anticipated.

To be certain, some items have been omitted. However, area items that need immediate attention have been identified.

Respectfully submitted,

William Cavalcanti  
Building, Grounds, and Maintenance Coordinator