

**Russian Orthodox Church of the  
Resurrection of Christ**

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**РОЖДЕСТВО ХРИСТОВО**

**Субб. 6 Янв. 2018 Сочельник**

**Всенощная в 6 ч.в**

**Воскр. 7 Янв. 2018 Литургия в 9:30 ч.у.**

**Schedule for the Week of December 10 - 16, 2017**

<b>Sunday Dec 10</b>	<b>Kursk Icon of the Theotokos Икон Б.М. Курския-Коренная</b>
<b>Saturday Dec 16</b>	<b>5:30 PM Vigil</b>
<b>Sunday Dec 17</b>	<b>St John of Damascus / Преп. Иоанна Дамаскина 8:15 AM Nocturns, Hours, Confessions 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия</b>

её на городские стены. Икону Божией матери, после слёзных молений перед ней вынесли на стену и поставили близ того места, где кипела ожесточённая битва.

Вид иконы Божией матери не смягчил нападавших, и осада продолжалась. И вот одна из пущенных стрел суздальцев попала в святой образ. При этом лик Пресвятой Богородицы обратился к городу и оросил своими слезами фелонь архиепископа.

Осаждённые восприняли случившееся как знамение того, что Царица Небесная молится пред Своим Сыном об избавлении города от неприятеля.

В это же время нападавших объял неизъяснимый ужас, у многих из них помрачилось зрение, и они стали поражать друг друга.

Воодушевлённые защитники Новгорода открыли ворота, устремились на неприятеля и наголову его разбили ...

Особая помощь Божией Матери через эту икону связана с важными событиями в истории России: освободительной войной русского народа во время польско-литовского нашествия 1612 года и Отечественной войной 1812 года.

Чудотворная икона Божией Матери «Знамение» Курская-

Коренная в последний раз пребывала на русской земле 14 сентября 1920 года в Крыму, в войсках, сражавшихся против большевиков. Покинув Россию в 1920 г., святая икона стала «Одигитрией» (Путеводительницей) Русского рассеяния, неотлучно пребывая со всеми первоиерархами Русской Православной Церкви за границей. Ныне она пребывает в одном из храмов Новой Коренной пустыни под Нью-

**Икона Божией Матери «Знамение»**

прославилась в XII веке, во времена, когда русская земля стонала от междоусобиц. Владимиро-Суздальский князь Андрей Боголюбский в союзе с князьями Смоленским, Полоцким, Рязанским, Муромским и другими (всего 72 князя) послал своего сына Мстислава покорять Великий Новгород.

Зимой 1170 года огромное ополчение осадило Новгород, потребовав его сдачи. После бесплодных переговоров новгородцы отказались от сдачи, и началось сражение. Защитники Новгорода, видя страшную силу противника и изменяя в неравной борьбе, всю свою надежду возложили на Господа и Пресвятую Богородицу, так как чувствовали правду на своей стороне.

В храмах круглосуточно молились люди, церковное пение сливалось с плачем молящихся. Архиепископ Новгородский Тихон три дня и три ночи молился перед алтарём соборной церкви. На третьи сутки архиепископ услышал голос, повелевавший ему для спасения города взять из Спасского храма на Ильинской улице икону Пресвятой Богородицы и вознести



Йорком (США). В курском Знаменском соборе хранится список с чудотворного образа.



In the late thirteenth century Russia was devastated by the Tartars. Thus the site of the town of Kursk (300 miles south of Moscow) had become a wilderness. Now it happened one afternoon in September 1295 that a man out hunting there noticed an icon lying face down at the root of a tree. Surprised, the hunter picked it up and saw that it was an image of the Mother of God of the Sign. From the place where the icon had been picked up a clear spring of healing water gushed forth. This happened on the 8th September, the Feast of the Birth of the Mother of God. With the help of friends the hunter built a small chapel and placed the newly-found icon in it. When news of this spread, many came to this chapel to venerate the icon and pray about their sorrows and needs. There the Mother of God healed all who came to Her with faith.

As the years passed, veneration of the Kursk Icon of the Mother of God grew. A pious local priest often used to visit the chapel and hold services there, especially on the Feast of the Birth of the Mother of God, the anniversary of the Icon's discovery. In 1385 Tartars again invaded the area. Finding the chapel in the woods where the priest was praying, they tried to set fire to it. Three attempts to burn it down were made, but to no avail. When the priest explained that the reason for their failure was the miraculous power of the Icon, the Tartars took the Icon from the chapel and chopped it in half. One part they threw into bushes nearby, the other they carried a mile deeper into the forest and threw away. Then they proceeded to burn down the chapel and took the priest prisoner.

While in captivity, the priest did not lose heart. He resisted the efforts of the Tartars to make him renounce his faith, relying on the prayers of the Mother of God: his prayers were not in vain. Once, while the priest was tending sheep and singing hymns to the Mother of God, a group of Orthodox Christians overheard him and, paying his ransom, they took him home.

At the first opportunity the priest began to search for the Icon. To his great joy he found both halves of it close to the site of the burnt chapel. Placing them side by side, he was amazed to see that they immediately grew together, leaving only a fine line where the split had been. He hurried to spread the news and the Icon was triumphantly returned to the church.

Many pages of history are associated with the Kursk Icon. Cossacks were blessed by it in 1676. By special decree copies of the miraculous icon accompanied armies and in 1812 people prayed before such an icon during the invasion of Russia by atheist revolutionaries.

In 1898 others tried to destroy the Kursk Icon by placing a huge bomb in the Cathedral of the Sign. They wanted the bomb to go off during the Vigil Service, thus killing many. However, the bomb went off during the night instead. The gilded canopy above the icon was destroyed and the marble steps leading up to the Icon smashed. A massive cast iron door was torn off its hinges and thrown outside, where it had cracked an outside wall. All the windows were shattered. Yet, despite this, the Icon was untouched, even the glass in the frame was intact. The anarchists' intent had been to ridicule the Icon, but in fact it was glorified all the more for this double miracle: the Icon had been preserved and no one had been hurt.

After the 1917 Revolution the Kursk Icon left Russia, surviving intact, and it accompanied those Orthodox who were fleeing the greatest persecution and martyrdom the world has ever seen, in which millions were slaughtered for their Faith. The Icon was carefully carried from place to place until 1927, when it was placed in Holy Trinity Church in Belgrade in Serbia.

During the Second World War Belgrade was bombed mercilessly. Whole quarters of the city were flattened and many were killed. Yet houses visited by the Icon of the Sign were miraculously spared. Air raids occurred during services, yet the Church of the Holy Trinity containing the miraculous Icon of the Mother of God was safer than any air raid shelter.

After the Second World War the Icon was taken to Germany, where it remained for five years, Then it was taken to America. Initially it was kept at a hermitage, but later it was moved to Orthodox Cathedral of the Mother of God of the Sign in New York City. Many believe that if this Cathedral and the area around it were spared in the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, it was because of the presence of the Icon there.

Today the Icon is taken from Orthodox parish to parish all over the world and its fame is international. It is known for countless miracles, healings and for assistance in misfortunes. It is significant that St John the Wonderworker passed away before this very Icon.

For seven centuries faithful people have prayed before the miraculous Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God and received help according to their faith.