

December 24, 2017

SUNDAY BEFORE NATIVITY OF CHRIST (SUNDAY OF THE GENEALOGY), WHICH FALLS ON PARAMON (EVE) OF NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord

In Slavic practice, on the eve of the Nativity of the Lord, the liturgical services consist of the Royal Hours with the Typika, Vespers, and the Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great. At Vigil in the evening, Great Compline is followed by Matins.

If the Nativity falls on Sunday, however, the Royal Hours with the Typika are read on the preceding Friday. On Friday evening, the office of the Forefeast, December 24. The Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom is served on Saturday morning. At Vigil in the evening, Great Compline is followed by Matins. On Sunday morning, the Liturgy of Saint Basil is celebrated.



If the Nativity falls on a Monday, Royal Hours with the Typika are read on Friday December 22. On Saturday evening and Sunday morning we follow the order for the Sunday before the Nativity with the office of the Forefeast for December 24. On Sunday morning the Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom is served. Vigil on Sunday evening consists of Great Compline is followed by Matins. On Monday morning the Liturgy of Saint Basil is celebrated.

On the eve of the Nativity, instead of three readings from the Old Testament at Vespers, there are eight readings (from Genesis, Numbers, Micah, Isaiah, Baruch, Daniel, and two more readings from Isaiah). The entrance is made with the Gospel.

At the end of Liturgy the priest places a lighted candle in a candlestick in the center of the church. Then the troparion and kontakion of the Feast are sung. At Vigil on the evening of the twenty-fourth, Great Compline is followed by Matins.

Text and Image from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2017/12/24/103630-eve-of-the-nativity-of-our-lord>



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Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 4:00
Friday 10:00 - 3:00

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COMMEMORATIONS:

VENERABLE MARTYR EUGENIA OF ROME AND THOSE WITH HER (262)

MARTYR ACHAIKOS

ST. APHRODISIUS, MONK OF PALESTINE (6TH C.)

VENERABLE ANTIOCHUS OF MAR SABBAS MONASTERY (635)

ST. NICHOLAS THE MONK OF BULGARIA (9TH C.)

NEW-MARTYR AHMED OF CONSTANTINOPLE (1682)

Tone 4

Eothinon 7

Matins Gospel: St. John 20:1-10

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 1:1-25

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 4 - Having learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the disciples saying, Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!

TODAY: Orthros, 8:45 am, & Divine Liturgy, 10 am
Coffee Hour, 11:45 am
Vespers & Artoklasia, 6 pm, Festal Orthros, 7 pm

SAINT PHILIP'S is a place of prayer and repentance and a "Pan-Orthodox" parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese, serving Orthodox Christians of all backgrounds in the English language. If you are a newcomer to our community, please sign our guest book, and stay with us for the Coffee Hour today. AND, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU AGAIN!

PLEASE NOTE: Holy Communion is only for practicing Orthodox Christians who are following the commandments and have prepared themselves through fasting, prayer, and recent confession, and who are dressed modestly and arrived on time for the Liturgy. All are welcome to kiss the Cross and receive Blessed Bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Everyday Evangelist

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

Make time to sit and talk with your neighbors.

THE ALTAR CANDLES are lighted today by Katina Psomiadis, in thanksgiving for blessings received (birthday - MANY YEARS!).

MANY THANKS to the Hyatts for sponsoring today's coffee hour. EVERYONE is invited to stay for refreshments after the Divine Liturgy. Your assistance in cleanup is appreciated.

THIS WEEK'S GREETERS: The Gohls

THIS WEEK'S CLEANING TEAM: Olena, Mary, & Tadesse

THANK YOU to all who fulfill these ministries!

Be sure to check out all the last minute Christmas gift items and stocking stuffers in the Great Room.

HOUSE BLESSINGS - Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex!

YOUR FLOWER OFFERINGS support the beautification of our church during this holy season. Thank you!

Mark Your Calendar:

Theophany

Friday, January 5 - Royal Hours, 10 am
Vespers Liturgy, 6 pm & Great Blessing of Water, 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 6 - Orthros 9 am, Liturgy 10 am
Great Blessing of Water, 11:30 am

Sunday, January 7 - Outdoor Blessing of Water @ Lenape Park, 1 pm

Men's Fellowship - "Becoming Men of Prayer"

Saturday, January 13 - 8-10 am

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Thursday, February 1 - Vespers & Artoklasia, 7 pm
Friday, February 2 - Matins & Liturgy w/ Candle blessing, 9 am

Great Lent Begins

Monday, February 19 - Clean Monday

The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch (Acts 11:26)

YOUR CHRISTMAS CARD OFFERINGS benefit Ministries, Monasteries, & Mission Situations.

This Week:

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

Monday, Dec 25: Festal LITURGY 9 a.m.; Vespers for Synaxis 6 pm

Tuesday, Dec 26: Synaxis of the Theotokos
MATINS 9 a.m., Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec 27: 6th HOUR, 12 p.m.
Compline & Nativity Akathist, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec 28: 6th HOUR, 12 p.m.

Friday, Dec 29: 6th HOUR, 12 p.m.

Saturday, Dec 30: Sacrament of BAPTISM (Giordano), 12 p.m.
VESPERS 6 p.m., Presentation by Missionary Bill Black, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec 31: MATINS 9 a.m., Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

Circumcision & St. Basil - New Year's Services
Vespers & Artoklasia 6 p.m., Orthros, 7 p.m.
Talent Show, 8 pm, New Year's Prayers, 10 p.m.

Monday, Jan 1: Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.,
New Year's Prayers 11:30 a.m.

OUTREACH COLLECTION: Turkeys.

WISDOM FROM FATHER B.: Grow Up!

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Dec 16: 76 Divine Services on Dec 17: 203
OFFERINGS: Candles, \$310.25. Collections, \$800. Flowers, \$45.
Youth, \$8. Book Shelf, \$41. Christmas Card Fund, \$665. IOCC, \$762.
Teen Fund, \$140. Stewardship, \$7,998. Total received: \$10,769.25.
GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!

FR NOAH & FR JAMES are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please call the church office.