

Sunday, December 25 2016

Gospel: St. Matthew 2:1-12

Tone 2

Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7

27th Sunday After Pentecost

**THE NATIVITY ACCORDING TO THE FLESH OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST / The Adoration of the Magi: Melchior, Caspar, and Balthasar
Commemoration of the Shepherds in Bethlehem who were watching their flocks
and went to see the Lord**

DECEMBER Bulletin Sponsor

By Andrei & Linda Davik, in Memory of & for Health of their Families

**CHRIST IS BORN!
GLORIFY HIM!**

FELIZ NAVIDAD!

**CHRISTOS RAZDAJETSJA!
SLAVITE JEHO!**



Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, December 25

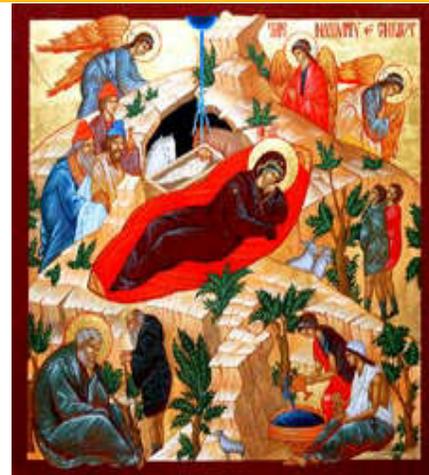
9:40 am: Hours
10:00 am: Liturgy of St Basil
11:45 am: Social
12:30 pm: Christmas Dinner for Summit
Community

Saturday, December 31

5:00 pm: Great Vespers w/ Litya

Sunday, January 1, 2017

9:40 am: Hours
10:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St Basil
NOON: Open House @ Rectory



SPECIAL DATES IN JANUARY

Thursday, January 5:

6:30 pm: Holy Night Supper (RSVP)
7:30 pm: Great Blessing of Water

Friday, January 6

9:30 am: Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 8

Noon: Annual Yolka Dinner (RSVP)

Saturday, January 14

5:00 pm: Great Vespers w/ Bishop Paul
(followed by dinner @ Venetian Gardens-
Sign-up sheet in back of Church. RSVP)

Sunday, January 15

9:00 am: Greeting of Bishop in Church
9:30 am: Divine Liturgy w/ Bishop Paul
(we must leave by 12:45 to go to the March
for Life in Chicago)
2:00-4:00 pm March For Life Chicago

Sunday, January 22

6:00 pm: Sanctity of Life Service @ Burr
Ridge

Sunday, January 29

Noon: Annual Dinner w/ sister churches
(RSVP)

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Invite your friends to LIKE the page!



The Nativity of Our Lord 2016

Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon

To the Honorable Clergy, Venerable Monastics, and Pious Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,

My Beloved Brethren and Blessed Children in the Lord, Christ is born! Glorify Him! In recent years, we have been increasingly invited to immerse ourselves in a multitude of “universes” as an alternative to our everyday lives. Most recently, yet another installment of the “Star Wars” universe was released, and surely there will be more to come, along with an endless array of similar cinematic worlds and virtual realities in the realms of sports, entertainment, the internet and in the media. While promising an escape from the mundane, such things often leave us still trapped in our own world of earthly passions and desires.

Today, as we celebrate the Great Feast of the Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, we are invited to immerse ourselves, not into the world of escape, but into that “strange and glorious mystery” by which we are transfigured and transformed, embracing the Kingdom of heaven while allowing the Lord to embrace us. We are offered the possibility of encountering, not dazzling “heroes” of the three-dimensional, high definition sort, but rather the simple beauty of the birth of the child Jesus.

In appearance, aside from its extreme austerity, there is nothing externally noteworthy to behold: a woman gives birth in a cave and lays her child in a manger. But it is precisely through these simple realities that a great mystery—the pre-eternal God embracing our human nature in its fullness—is revealed to the universe. “He Who adorned the heavens with stars has been well-pleased to be born as a babe, and He Who holds all the ends of the earth in the hollow of His hands is laid in a manger of dumb beasts.”

This mystery becomes meaningful to us through the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church and through our small efforts to live with Christian kindness. This is far more than being virtuous. As Father Alexander Schmemmann wrote, “A kind person is kind because he or she accepts people as they are, covers them with kindness. Kindness is beautiful, the most beautiful thing on this earth. Virtuous people are activists, obsessed with the desire to impose their principles and goodness and easily condemning, destroying, hating.... In this world there is a lot of virtue, and so little kindness.”

Virtue is not the goal, but rather a life of humility and a struggle to discern the Lord’s very image in everyone whom we encounter. He “Whom in essence none can touch” is wrapped as a mortal in swaddling clothes that we might become “partakers of His divine nature.” If there is any element of escape

here, it is rooted in the turning away from sin and the all-too-deceptive seductiveness of this world.

The grace of the Holy Spirit is not given to us for virtue or heroic asceticism; rather, it is rooted in the humility that transforms us as surely as the Incarnation transforms the universe. “Let the creation now cast off all things old, beholding Thee, the Creator, made a child, for through Thy birth Thou dost shape all things afresh, making them new once more and leading them back again to their first beauty.”

May the joy of this great feast transfigure us now, in the New Year to come, and every day of our lives as we await the fullness of the Kingdom of heaven, yet to be fully revealed, but already fully present in the life of the Body of Christ, the Church.

With love in the New-Born Christ,
+ Tikhon
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

A Merry “Hipster” Christmas! By Fr Lawrence Farley

If you haven’t yet purchased a “Hipster Nativity Set,” you might be too late — despite the \$129.99 price tag, they are flying off the shelves, even at a limit of three to a customer. The set includes the traditional figures, but all in a distinctly contemporary form. Joseph has a man-bun and is taking a selfie. Mary is holding a Starbucks latte in one hand and displaying a peace sign with the other. The Magi are arriving on Segways with Amazon gift boxes under their arms. The shepherd is working his iPad. Even the cow and sheep (edged out of tiny the manger-stall) are doing their bit: the sheep is wearing a hand-knitted sweater and the cow, eating gluten-free feed, bears a “100% organic” seal. The figures are, appropriately, plastic (sorry: make that “handpainted polyresin”). A merry Hipster Christmas to you!

All this provokes the question, “What exactly is a hipster anyway?” Help from the oracles at Google reveals that “hipsters are a subculture of men and women typically in their 20s and 30s that value independent thinking, counter-culture, progressive politics, an appreciation of art and indie-rock, creativity, intelligence, and witty banter.... ‘hipsterism’ is really a state of mind, also often intertwined with distinct fashion sensibilities.” Note please the last bit—“fashion sensibilities.” That about says it all. I would suggest that hipsterism is all about self-absorption and a desperate desire to appear cooler-than-thou. Like all fashions, it is fleeting and quickly dated. History **Con’t Page 10**

2016 NATIVITY MESSAGE OF HIS GRACE, BISHOP PAUL

In this night of reconciliation let no man be wroth or gloomy; in this night that stills all, none that threatens or disturbs! This night belongs to the sweet One; bitter or harsh be in it none! In this night that is the meek One's, high or haughty be in it none! In this day of pardoning let us not exact trespasses! In this day of gladnesses let us not spread sadnesses! In this day so sweet, let us not be harsh! In this day of peaceful rest, let us not be wrathful in it! In this day when God came to sinners, let not the righteous be in his mind uplifted over sinner! In this day in which there came the Lord of all unto the servants, let masters too condescend to their servants lovingly! In this day in which the Rich became poor for our sakes, let the rich man make the poor man share with him at his table. On this day to us came forth the Gift, although we asked it not! Let us therefore bestow alms on them that cry and beg of us. This is the day that opened for us a gate on high to our prayers. Let us open also gates to supplicants that have transgressed, and of us have asked forgiveness. Today the Lord of nature was against His nature changed; let it not to us be irksome to turn our evil wills. This is the day that gladdened them, the Prophets, Kings, and Priests, for in it were their words fulfilled, and thus were the whole of them indeed performed! Today Godhead sealed itself upon Manhood, that so with the Godhead's stamp, Manhood might be adorned. The voice that of old Isaiah spoke, today became reality. For the Virgin this day brought forth Immanuel in Bethlehem. (Excerpt from [100 Stanzas on the Nativity by St. Ephrem the Syrian](#))

Beloved Clergy, Monastics and Laity of the Diocese of the Midwest,

Christ is Born — Glorify Him!

As I ponder the above words from Saint Ephrem, it causes me to think that for many people the holiday season is not a happy time. Some people get depressed at this time of the year, and may even resent the “happy façade” in their mind that is presented by others. For some, there may be strife and conflict in family life, abuses of various kinds, marital divorce, or loss of loved ones around this time.

What I love in these words from Saint Ephrem is that he is saying much more than “gray skies are going to clear up, put on a happy face!” The Nativity of our Lord offers us the opportunity not of just being happy, but more so to be transformed. We can come to Our Lord Jesus Christ whether happy, sad, angry, depressed, full of strife of various types, or powerless over some addiction that plagues us and begin this process of transformation one day at a time. Saint Ephrem says, “Today the Lord of nature was against His nature changed, let it not to us be irksome to turn our evil wills.” So this feast day offers us the opportunity to not just hide from what is wrong in our lives and act as if we are happy, but to

face what is not right in our lives, with the hope that what is impossible with man is possible with God.

Saint Ephrem's words also show that when our Lord meets us where we are, it will change the way we interact with those around us. Many of us might be unhappy about our circumstances, wishing that someone else or something else (apart from us) needs to change. The words above tell us we have a greater chance of changing others or our circumstances by first changing ourselves.

Bethlehem has opened Eden: come let us see! We have found joy in a secret place: come let us seize Paradise hidden in the cave! (Ikos from Nativity Canon)

Let us embark on this journey of seizing Paradise in this cave of joy where we find God become man. How can we ever become truly human in our life without knowing the Word that became flesh and dwelt among us?

So if anyone is depressed or in turmoil of some kind, enter into the cave where the Word has become flesh and surrender your will to His will; embrace Him as Lord and Savior; allow Him to lead you to His Holy Church where the process of healing can begin and continue. Through the prayers of our Holy Father Ephrem the Syrian, O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us!

With Love in Christ, the unworthy
+Paul
Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest



Christmas Message

I want to wish each and everyone of the parishioners, friends of this parish, everyone who helps this parish in any way and my family & friends a Peaceful and Blessed Nativity of our Lord & God Jesus Christ!

Let today be a joyous celebration and let us count all of our blessings. Life is short and we never know when we will be called home. Make peace with everyone. Pray for each other. Pray for me!

Your unworthy spiritual father

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

Metropolitan Tikhon addresses recent bombing of Cairo Coptic church

In a letter addressed to His Holiness, Tawadros II, Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of All Africa of the Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria, dated Thursday, December 15, 2016, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon expressed “the deep sorrow and shared grief of the Bishops, the clergy, the monastics and the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America” in response to the deadly bomb blast at Cairo’s Saint Peter Church, adjacent to the city’s Coptic Cathedral of Saint Mark, on Sunday, December 11.

As of Monday, at least 25 persons had been reported to have been killed in the blast, with at least 49 others known to have been injured. Media reports indicate that most of the victims were women and children.

“Christ is in our midst! It is with sorrow and yet with hope that I extend to Your Holiness the above traditional words of greeting in which Christians express their faith in the risen and ascended Lord who nevertheless remains among us, even in our darkest moments,” Metropolitan Tikhon began. “The world has once more witnessed such a dark moment in the brutal and senseless murder of the faithful of Saint Peter’s Coptic Orthodox Church in Cairo this week. These cruel and inhuman acts, which have been perpetrated by militant extremists upon the Coptic Orthodox Church, are an affront against all of humanity.

“I would like to express the deep sorrow and shared grief of the Bishops, the clergy, the monastics and the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America to the families and friends of those whose lives were brutally cut down in this most recent attack,” Metropolitan Tikhon wrote. “This sorrow and grief is felt in the hearts of all Christians, and indeed, should resonate with all who would consider themselves human beings.

“This act is made more tragic in that it has taken place during this season in which the Christian world prepares for the Nativity in the flesh of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, who became incarnate to heal this broken world and to raise up fallen humanity,” Metropolitan Tikhon continued. “Even the natural world proclaims this great mystery: “Make ready, O cave, for the Ewe Lamb comes, bearing Christ in her womb. And do thou, O manger, accept Him who by His word has loosed us dwellers on earth from acts that are against reason.

“Our prayer is that all dwellers on earth would indeed receive the life-giving Word and become reason-endowed creatures who stand fast in their faith in God and refrain from acts against reason and against their fellow human beings,” Metropolitan Tikhon concluded. “May we enter a new time of tolerance and religious peace in Egypt and in the entire region of the Middle East through Christ who has mercy on us and on His whole world.”

Galatians 4:4-7 (Epistle, Nativity)

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Matthew 2:1-12 (Gospel, Nativity)

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.” “Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.” When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

40 DAYS MEMORIAL

December 25: Dianne / Jovan

January 1: Officer killed in TX. / Children killed in school bus crash in TN

January 8: Turkish girls who died to school fire / Those who died in TN fires & tornadoes / The entire Brazilian National soccer team who died in plane crash / John Hartel

January 22: Diane Northrup / Roger Seglem

January 29: Terrorist attack in Germany & Turkey

Prayer List

Prigists: His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius, His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman, His Eminence Archbishop Iagovos His Grace Bishop Matthias, Anthony Spenglar, John Kuchta, James Gleason (*Fr. 's spiritual father*), John Duranko, ***Ted Bobosh**, Archimandrite Vladimir, ***Joseph Kopka**, ***Joseph Gibson**, * **Philip Lashbrook**, ***John Reeves**, **Fr. Emilian Hutnyan**, **Andrew Yarvonitsky**, **Andrew Clements**

Matushkii: ***Carol Janacek**, **Mary Perez**, **Snezana Ruzic**, **Laryssa Hutnyan**, Pani Patricia Duranko

Parishioners: Karen Muzyka, Ronald Stachowiak, Rebecca Eggers, Sonja Harris, Pauline Michals, Marilyn, Michals, Jason Kirnbauer, Andrei Davik,

Parishioner's Family: Donna Parhas (*Nick's Cousin*), Stephen Holly & Walter Litzie (*Fr. 's cousin*), George Cavaligos (*Nick's brother*), Christos Parhas (*Nick's cousin*), Constantine Cavaligos (*Nick's dad*), Sandra (*Karen's sister*), Erika Northrup, Mark Svara, Mary Northrup, Dianne Northrup, Raymond Northrup, Joey Krush, Jan Kost (*Linda's sister*), Bruce (*Fr. Kurt's brother*), June, James (*Hruban Family*), Tommy, Jimmy, Linda Davik , (*Spengler Family*), Jacob, Emilian, Joyce, John, Robert, William & Dana, Mark, Eve, Lauren, Tanya Wolfe.

Other Requests: Lucille (*Duke*), Elizabeth Lilos, Jemsey Pradun, Hermenegil (*Neighbor*), Lidiya (*Neighbor*), Cathleen Rebolgar, Gloria Salgado (*Lynn's Friend*), Eva Quagon (*Andy friend*), Mary Ann Magerko, John Magerko, Carol Bregin (*Friend of Lynn*), Ann Lazo (*Friend of Lynn*), George Lazo (*Friend of Lynn*), Vivian (*friend of Beccy Eggers*), Carol Marino (*Fr cousin's friend*), Deputy Chief Frank Batura, Royal (*Mark's friend*), ***John Sedor**, * **Daria Petrykowski**, ***Cynthia Koranda**, Michelle & her unborn baby,

Military: Fr. Herman, Fr. Gregory, Amber, Caleb, Nicholas, David, Timothy, Robert, Kristen, Matthew, Brian, Daniel, Joseph

Captives: Metropolitan Paul (*Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo*), Archbishop John (*Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo*), for the UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria / Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world / Those held captive throughout the world.

Additions or removals from the list? Please notify Fr. Andrew.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AS OF 12-25

MUZYKA FAMILY: (4 Flowers)

- *In Memory of deceased members of the Muzyka family
- *In Memory of deceased members of the Leonchik Family
- *For the Health of Sister, Sandra Alex
- *For the Health of the Muzyka & Leonchik Families

HRUBAN FAMILY: (1 Flower)

- *For the Health of the Hruban Family

EGGERS FAMILY: (1 Flower)

- *For the Health of the Eggers & Northrup Families

NEMIC & BOSWELL FAMILIES: (2 Flowers)

- *In Memory of deceased family members
- *For the Health of their families

SVARA FAMILY: (2 Flowers)

- *In memory of Lillian & Frank Novak
- *For the Health of the Svara Family

JOVANOVIICH FAMILY: (2 FLOWERS)

- *For the Health of the Jovanovich Family
- *In Memory of the Jovanovich & Cerra Families

JOHN GRABAVOY FAMILY: (2 Flowers)

- *For the Health & Memory of the Grabavoy Family
- *In Memory of Thelma & Merele Gazelle & Dana Gazelle & Dave Carlson

FR. ANDREW BARTEK: (5 Flowers)

- *For the Health of the parishioners & their Families
- *For the Health & safety of the Fire & Police of Summit
- *For the Health of his entire Family
- *For the less fortunate & lonely
- *In Memory of deceased family especially George & Dorothy & for His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

STEVE GRABAVOY FAMILY: (2 Flowers)

- *In memory of Grandma, Nancy McGurk
- *For the Health of the Grabavoy Family

CAVALIGOS FAMILY: 1 Flower

- *In Loving memory of John, Diane, & Kary

D E C E M B E R

BIRTHDAY	NAMES DAY	ANNIVERSARY
***No date (Mark Ho) 1-Ileana Bruner 3- Mary Ann Seglem 4- Steven Calzone 6- Matushka Susan Northrup 8- Nicholas Cavaligos 8- Carol Jovanovich 9- Anastasia Ho 9- Irina Cline 9-Pauline Meath 9-Angie Dardovsky 15-Catherine Boswell 15- Gregory Boswell 22- Shaun Grabavoy 27- Gabriel Eggers	6- Nick Cavaligos 6-Edward Northrup 6- Nicholas Northrup 19-Duke Jovanovich (“Slava”) 19-Carol Jovanovich (“Slava”) 25- Brianna Christine 27- Steve Grabavoy Sunday After Nativity- Protodeacon Robert	12-5-04 Archbishop Mark of Eastern Pa 12-27-14 His Grace Bishop Paul 12-31-08- Scott & Becky Eggers

If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.

D E C E M B E R - R E P O S E D

2- Danica Grabavoy (12) 3- Thomas Batura (02) 10- Julius J. Polchowski (83) 13- Sophia Rittenberry (90) 18- Archbishop Job (09) 21- Adam Samuta (94) 23- Richard Struckman (61) 26- Peter Yarmoluk (90) 27- Michael Zamkovitz (96)	28- John Batura (14) 30- Bishop Boris (00) 1960: Efimia (Anna) Munday Thomas Kondorf Avksentiy Kozril (Kozien) Zachariy Dreychan Pavel Swiston	1960: Joseph Dieneika Platon Novosad Jacob Saoulchik Peter Homko Maria Rozenbergas Gregory Primachuk
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Remember those who have gone before us in prayer. If there is a name missing from the above list, please speak to Fr. Andrew to have them added.

Bishop Paul to speak at Chicago’s annual March for Life January 15

His Grace, Bishop Paul of Chicago and the Midwest will be among the speakers at the annual March for Life Chicago. The March, the theme of which is “Life Wins” — will be held at Federal Plaza, 50 West Adams St., Chicago, IL from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 15, 2017.

Other speakers include Cardinal Blase Cupich of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago; Gianna Jessen, an abortion survivor and well known pro-life advocate and speaker; Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; Congressman Dan Lipinski, US Representative, Third Congressional District of Illinois; Pat McCaskey, Co-Owner, Chicago Bears; Randy Dziak of Students for Life of Illinois; Lake County Sheriff Mark Curran, who will emcee the event; and others.

The March is sponsored by a coalition of pro-life, pro-family groups, including the Orthodox Church in America’s Diocese of the Midwest, the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, Aid for Women, the Catholic Conference of Illinois, Students for Life of Illinois, the Thomas More Society, and several other organizations and agencies.

A number of related events also will be held in conjunction with the March. The [Lovin’ Life Conference](#) will be sponsored by the Students for Life of Illinois at DePaul University’s downtown Chicago campus from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 14. The same evening, the annual [Rose Dinner](#), sponsored by SpeakOut Illinois, will be held at Petherino’s in downtown Chicago at 7:00 p.m.

As you know Fr. Andrew is on the Board of directors for this event!