

January 6, 2019

Upcoming Services:

- Sun. Jan. 6, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45,
- Sun. Jan. 6, 8:00 pm. - Compline Service, Nativity Eve dinner 6:30
- Mon. Jan. 7, 9:30 am. - Divine Liturgy for Nativity of Christ
- Sat. Jan. 12, 5:00 pm. - Great Vespers
- Sun. Jan. 13, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Sat. Jan. 19, 9:30 am. - Liturgy and Blessing of the Waters for Theophany

Hebrews 1: 1-12

Luke 2: 1-20

Reader Schedule:

- Sun, Jan. 6 - Cynthia Neff
- Sun, Jan. 13 - Kurtis Lauser
- Sun, Jan. 20 - Greg Kuzmenchuk

**Nativity**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the savior of the world, was born of the holy virgin Mary in the city of Bethlehem during the reign of the Emperor Augustus. Caesar Augustus decreed that a universal census be made throughout his empire, which then included Palestinian Israel. The Jews were accustomed to carry out the nation's census taking in their city of ancestral origin. The virgin Mary and righteous Joseph, descended from the family line of King David, had to go to the city of David (Bethlehem) to register their names on the census list of Caesar's subjects.

At Bethlehem they did not find a single vacancy at any of the city's inns, and far from home, friends, and family, had to find shelter for the night in a cave, used as a stable, amidst hay and straw strewn about as food and bedding for the cattle. And so, in a setting deprived not only of worldly grandeur but even basic amenities, was born the god-man, savior of the world. "And the holy virgin, alone and without help, gave birth to the infant, then wrapped him in cloths, and placed him in the manger." [Lk. 2]

But amidst the midnight stillness, with everyone shroud in deepest slumber, the proclaiming of the birth of the savior of the world was heard by shepherds, watching their flocks by night. And the angel of the Lord came before them and said, "Fear not, for lo I proclaim to you tidings of great joy. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." [Lk. 2:11]

The humble shepherds were the first deemed worthy to offer worship for the salvation of mankind, but by means of a wondrous star, the nativity of Christ was also made known to the magi, wise in astronomy, who also entered wherein the infant lay. "Falling down they worshipped him, and opening their treasure, they presented him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh." [Mt. 2:11]

Birthdays:

None this week

Upcoming Events:

Sun, Jan.6 - 6:30 pm. Nativity Eve Dinner  
A sign-up sheet is posted in the church hall to bring a fasting dish, and indicate the number of family and friends attending. Caroling in the church is at 7:30 pm, followed by Compline Service at 8:00 pm.

Tue, Jan. 15 - 7:00 pm Executive Board Mtg.  
Any agenda items you would like to have discussed at the annual parish meeting on January 27, and the names of nominees for the 2019 executive board positions need to be submitted in writing to the executive board prior to this meeting. Please consider running for the Executive Board.

Sun, Jan. 20 - Sisterhood Meeting -  
following coffee hour.

Sun, Jan. 27 -Annual Parish Mtg. following coffee hour. The names of nominees for board positions and agenda items to be discussed must be submitted, in writing, to the executive board prior to their Tuesday, Jan. 15 evening meeting.

**Prayer Corner:**

For the Health of: Jeff Gindin, Lillian Maskula, Sandy Knisley, Erin Bove, Rose Dymtryk, Florine, Charline, Mark Danczak, Zenon Forosty, Linda, Minerva, Salwa & Wesley Hatch

Anniversaries:

None this week

Notices:

Christmas Flowers

St. Anastasia Sisterhood is collecting funds for poinsettias. Envelopes are included in your stewardship packet.

Coffee Hour

Don't forget to return your Coffee Hour Sign-up form either in the collection basket or to Tabitha Bentley

Sisterhood of Anastasia 2019 Board Elect

- President: Illaria Steele
- Vice President: Cynthia Neff
- Treasurer: Rose Dymtryk
- Secretary: Linda Kozlowski

January Charity - Good Samaritan

I would like to wish you a Blessed and Merry Christmas and extend my sincere thanks to everyone for the cards, calls, visits, food, gifts and flowers since moving to Exton Senior Living. - Katie Peck

Minerva and Salwa want to express their appreciation to Fr. Michael, The Sisterhood and everyone who has offered their support through visits, notes, calls and prayers for healing and comfort.

Bulletin Additions

Provide bulletin additions to Wesley Hatch by Friday at 6 pm