

January 5, 2020

Hebrews 11: 9-10, 17-23, 32-40

Matthew 1: 1-25

Upcoming Services:

- Sun. Jan. 5, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Mon. Jan. 6, 6:30 pm. - Nativity Eve dinner, Caroling & Compline Service
- Tues. Jan. 7, 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy for Nativity of Christ
- Sat. Jan. 11, 5:00 pm. - Great Vespers
- Sun. Jan. 12, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Sat. Jan. 18, 5:00 pm. - Great Vespers
- Sun. Jan. 19, 9:00 am. - Liturgy and Blessing of the Waters for Theophany

January Vespers: Vespers will be starting at 5pm in January

Reader Schedule:
 Sun. Jan. 5 - Wesley Hatch
 Sun. Jan. 12 - Greg Kuzmenchuk
 Sun. Jan. 19 - Cynthia Neff
 Sun. Jan. 26 - Kurtis Lauser

Nativity of Our Lord

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:

January 5 - Nicholas Sparano

Upcoming Events:

- Mon. Jan. 6 - Nativity Eve dinner & Service
- Fri. Jan. 10 - 8:00am Potato prep. for Pierogies
- Sat. Jan. 11 - 8:30am Pierogie making
- Sat. Jan. 11 - Game night, following Vespers
- Sun. Jan. 19 - Sisterhood mtg. after coffee hour
- Tue. Jan. 21 - 7:00 pm Executive Board Mtg
- Sun. Jan. 26 - Annual Parish meeting

Mon, Jan.6 -6:30 pm. Nativity Eve Dinner in the church hall . Please sign up in advance to bring a fasting dish, and indicate the number of family & friends attending. Caroling in the church at 7:30 pm, Compline Service at 8 pm.

Sun, Jan. 26 -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 by January 19.

Notices:

Notice of Passing

With great sadness we mourn the death of Joseph Domsohn Sr.. Asleep in the Lord Saturday, Jan. 4. Arrangements pending.

Christmas at St. Sophia Seminary

St. Anastasia Sisterhood would like to thank all the parish members who so generously supported the Seminarian's Christmas wish list this year. We donated 78 items, and the seminarians were very appreciative for our gifts.

For bulletin additions contact Wesley Hatch by Friday 6 pm

Anniversaries:

None this month.

Notices:

Metropolitan Antony

The Metropolitan has postponed his visit to Holy Ghost until his back surgery is healed.

Christmas Flowers

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

2020 Orthodox Calendars

The 2020 Orthodox calendars are available for church members at the book store, courtesy of the Wentz Funeral Home.

Coffee Hour Hosts

We need families to host our Coffee Hour

January Charity

Good Works

A Christian nonprofit organization dedicated to repairing homes and restoring hope for low-income homeowners in Chester County

Nativity Tropar in Spanish

Tropario de la Navidad: Tono 4
 Tu Nacimiento, oh Cristo nuestro Dios, iluminó al mundo con la luz de la sabiduría, pues los que adoraban a los astros, por la estrella aprendieron a adorarte, oh Sol de Justicia, y a conocerte, Oriente de lo alto. ¡Oh Señor, gloria a Ti!

Prayer Corner:

For the Health of: Carol Bentley, Joe Domsohn Sr., Olga Ward, Linda Gindin, Toby Seip, Erin Bove, Richard Ziegler, Sandy Knisley, & Karen