

*Forefathers*

**ZONE 2**

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. These saints exult in glory, for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: She who bore Thee without seed. So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*Forefathers*

**ZONE 6**

You did not worship the graven image, O thrice-blessed ones, but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, you were glorified in a trial by fire. From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying: Hasten, O compassionate One! Speedily come to our aid, for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou doest will.

*Prokeimenon*

**ZONE 4 (*The Song of the Fathers*):** Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers / and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!

Vs. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

**The Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians 3:4 – 11**

*Epistle*

*Brethren:* When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where the is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

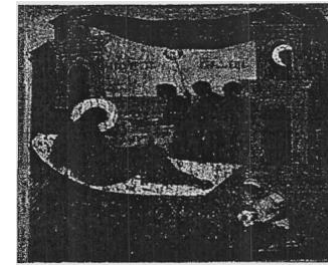
*Alleluia*

*Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. v: They called to the Lord and He answered them.*

**The Gospel according to Apostle and Evangelist Luke 14:16 – 24**

*Gospel*

*At that time Jesus said:* “A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’ But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’ Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.’ And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’ Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.’ ”



*Schedule*

**Saturday, December 21, 2024**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, December 22, 2024**

*Sunday Before Nativity*

9:15 A.M. Church School

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024**

10:00 A.M. Royal Hours

1:00 P.M. Vespers of St. Basil the Great

5:00 P.M. Vigil (*Compline & Matins*)

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024**

*Nativity in the flesh of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ*

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, December 28, 2024**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, December 29, 2024**

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Friday, January 3, 2025**

10:00 A.M. Royal Hours

**Saturday, January 4, 2025**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, January 5, 2025**

*Eve of Feast of Theophany*

**STRICT FAST DAY**

9:15 A.M. Church School

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

1:00 P.M. Vespers with Great Blessing of Waters

5:00 P.M. Vigil (*Compline & Matins*)

**Monday, January 6, 2025**

*Theophany*

**Nativity of the Virgin Mary**

**Orthodox Church**

**416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060**

**Sunday, December 15, 2024**

*25<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday of the Holy Forefathers; Hieromartyr Eleutherius, Bishop of Illyria, his mother Martyr Evanthia, & Caribus the Eparch*

[www.nativityofthevirgin.com](http://www.nativityofthevirgin.com)

*“The very name of God, terrible to every creature, is only pronounced there (in theatres) heedlessly, with derision and scoffingly; the sacred calling - for instance, the monastic calling, the angelic calling - is turned into ridicule; the respect for authorities, for parents, and the clergy is prejudiced when any reprehensible actions of such persons are publicly turned into ridicule, and this before the whole of society, before thoughtless young people, even before children, to whom the names of their parents and superiors ought to be sacred. One disrespectful or unbecoming word concerning their elders is sometimes sufficient to prejudice the respect due to them. Have Christians become so thoughtless that they can find no better means of spending their precious time than in the theatres, for which they leave even God's temple, the Divine Service? And the precious festival time, given by God for their instruction in the Holy Scriptures, in salutary reflections, and in virtuous actions, they fritter away in laughter and stupid applause in the theatres. No; say what you like, theatres are an ungodly institution. Only penetrate into their spirit and you will agree that they are schools of incredulity, mockery, of the insolent ridicule of”*

**Prayer Requests**

**Those in this earthly life**

Jake	David <i>Butchko</i>	Elaine
Cecelia	Reader George	Victor
Andrea	Marie	Wilma
Subdeacon Paul	Reader Simeon	Michael
Judith	Anna	April
Peter	Elizabeth	Joseph
Rebecca	Edmund	Michael
Gabriella & CTBB	Catechumen Athanasius	Barb
Shawn	Alex	Barbara
Teo	Julia	Mark
Tomas	Martha	Angela
Fracisco	Kendra	Elijah
Seyun	David	Sophia
Layla	Adina	Kathy
Mary Magdalen	Reader Stephen	Matushka Tanya
Subdeacon Jason	Priest Andrew	Mary
Katie	Popadija Joan	Archpriest John
Mary Ellen	Eva	Matushka Margaret
Christopher	Catechumen Mary	Matthew
Daniel	Alexandra	Priest Josef
Tanya	Mary Magdalene	Archpriest Michael
Trayvon	Diana	Reader Peter
Michaela	Barbara	Patricia
Joseph		Matushka Virginia

*"everything, and that they are depravity. Woe unto that society in which there are many theatres, and which loves to frequent them! Occasionally, it is true, the theatre is lesser evil for those who love evil. Lend an ear to popular opinion, to the opinion of those who have visited the theater many times, they do not hesitate to say that theatres lead to depravity. Only the blind, "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the mind of them which believe not (2 Corinthians 4:4)," say that a theatre is moral. No; Christians ought to perseveringly study their religion; they ought to read the Gospel more frequently, to study the divine Service, to fulfil the commandments and the rules of the Church; to read the writings of the Holy Fathers, religious publications, in order to become imbued with the spirit of Christianity, and to live in a Christian manner. Such should be your occupations and recreations. O how bitter were my sins to Thee, Christ, my God and my Savior, when Thou wast buffeted, scourged, spit upon; when Thy head was pierced with thorns and Thou wast nailed to the cross for my sake; when Thou hungest on the cross, in unspeakable torments, to save me from the most bitter, unspeakable torments of hell! But I ought to call to mind more frequently this Thy self-exhaustion, these Thy sufferings, in order not to commit sin, and to zealously fulfil all virtue in order to love Thee with all my heart, to fulfil Thy saving commandments. Meanwhile, I often forget this awful sacrifice, offered for me by the Only Begotten, unoriginate, co-eternal Son of the heavenly Father. Grant unto me then, Lord a pure heart and unchangeable repentance, leading to salvation; grant that I may find favor in Thy sight during the remainder of my life!" My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt*

**Troparia**

*Resurrection*

**tone 8**

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

**Those in the life to come**

Randy	Archpriest Vladimir	Magdalene
Gebru	Archbishop PAUL	John
Christine	Archimandrite Innocent	
Archbishop PETER	Edward	
<u>Agnes</u>	Francis	
Matushka Olga	Jean	
Archpriest Thomas	Olga	
Metropolitan THEODOSIUS	Cheryl	
	<b>Nancy</b>	