

not afraid of the king's command. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Alleluia

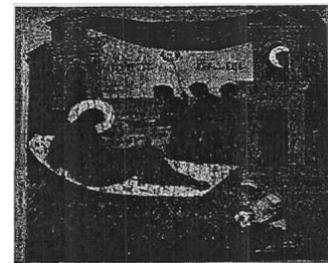
v: We have heard with our ears O God, for our fathers have told us.

v: For Thou hast saved us from them that oppose us, and hast put to shame them that hate us.

Matthew 1:1 - 25

Gospel

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins. So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.



Schedule

Friday, December 24, 2021

10:00 A.M. Royal Hours

1:00 P.M. Vespers Liturgy of

St. Basil the Great

5:00 P.M. Vigil of Christmas

(Compline & Matins)

Saturday, December 25, 2021

The Nativity in the flesh of our

Lord God and Savior Jesus

Christ

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, December 26, 2021

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 1, 2022

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, January 2, 2022

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

Eve of the Feast of Theophany

10:00 A.M. Royal Hours

1:00 P.M. Vespers Liturgy of

St. Basil the Great with Great

Blessing of Waters

5:00 P.M. Vigil of Theophany

(Compline & Matins)

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Theophany

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

1:30 A.M. Blessing of Waters at

Wilmore Park, St. Louis

Saturday, January 8, 2022

3:00 P.M. Parish Council

Meeting

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, December 19, 2021

26th Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday of the Holy

Fathers; Sunday before the Nativity; Martyr

Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"Thank our most speedy Mediatrix, our Lady, the Mother of our Lord, the most pure, most good Virgin Mary, for saving us through our fervent prayers from the harassments and oppression of the Devil. Look up to Her, with the eyes of your heart, in the Holy Ghost, who is everywhere present, fills everything, and who is incomplex. Look up at Her as being close to your very heart, and call upon Her: "Most speedy Lady Mediatrix, Mary, Mother of God, save me from the enemy - the disturber." And immediately, in an instant, She will save you according to the faith of your heart, according to your soul's trust in Her; and the oppression, the fire, and the heavy despondency will fall aside and leave you. It is only necessary to represent to yourself and firmly believe that the Holy Ghost is everywhere, in every place; that He is an incomplex Being, that in Him all heaven is near us, as upon the palm of the hand, with all its angels and saints, so that we have only to call upon the Lord, or upon the Virgin Mother of God, or any saint from the depth of the heart, with clear-sighted faith, with heartfelt repentance for the sins by which we are bound by the enemy or by which we have bound voluntarily ourselves - and our salvation will immediately shine forth. Marvelous is the saving power of our Lady; it flows into the heart like a healing balsam, or like a fragrant,"

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

Magdalene	Rebecca	Michael Aprst Michael (BP)
Lauren	Debbie	Joseph Aprst Gregory (BP)
Sheila	Andrew	Andrew Dcn Paul (BP)
Christopher	Mark	Magdalene Dcn Peter (BP)
Lucy	Kelly	Sbdcn Charles
Victoria	Ava	Deborah M. Virginia (BP)
Austin	Susan	Michael Marie (BP)
Tony	Janice	Laverne Zoe (BP)
Jaylyn	Richard	Victor Paul
Christina	Geraldine	Wilma Mary
John	Jimmie	Michael Nicholas
Marshall	Sandra	April Andrew
Cecilia	Delilah	Joseph Anthony
Michael	Cheryl	Michael Christopher
Margie	Sarah	Barb Jackie
Hope	Joyce	Barbara
Justin	David	Mark
Dymphna	Adina	Angela
Nicholas	Judah	Elijah
Theodora	Karen	Sophia
Presbyter Rene	Helen	Matushka Tanya
Priest Joseph	Reader Nicholas (<i>travel</i>)	Mary
Ioannis	Diane (<i>travel</i>)	Met. HERMAN (BP)
Ioannis	Catechumen Peter	Archpriest Basil (BP)
Robert	Natalia	Archpriest Andrew (BP)
Bette	Theresa	Archpriest Moses (BP)
Conrad Family	Subdeacon Andrew	Archpriest John (BP)
Claudia	Lori Ann	Matushka Margaret (BP)
Karyn	Deborah	Matthew (BP)
Peter	Timothy	Priest Josef (BP)
	Amy	

Those in the life to come

Paul	Archpriest Thomas
Antonio	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS
Michael	Archpriest Vladimir
Joyce	Agnes
Robert	Galina
George	

"life-giving air or like calming water. Only look on Her with the eyes of your heart, trusting in Her mercy and help. But this, too, is difficult - to look on Her with heartfelt, clear-sighted faith - just as it is difficult to look on the Lord Jesus Christ or the saints; for the enemy endeavors by every means to stand like a hard, high, dark, wall between our souls and the Lord, or the Mother of God, the angels and saints. The accursed one does not allow the eye of the heart to see the Lord or His saints; he darkens our heart in every way; he scatters faith, oppressing, burning, and darkening us inwardly. We must look upon all such actions as illusions and falsehood, and break through this wall, you will immediately be saved. "Thy faith hath made thee whole (St. Matthew 9:22).""
My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt

Troparia

Resurrection

TONE 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews; while the soldiers were guarding Thy Most Pure Body; Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy Dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind.

Fathers

TONE 2

Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest; and the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

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

Kontakia

Fathers

TONE 1

Rejoice, O Bethlehem! Prepare thyself, O Ephratha! The Lamb is on her way to give birth to the Chief Shepherd she carries in her womb. The God-bearing Forefathers will rejoice, beholding Him, and with the shepherds, they will glorify the Virgin nursing Him.

Prokeimenon

TONE 4: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers / and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!
v: For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews 11:9 – 10, 17-23, 32-40

Brethren: by faith he (*Abraham*) dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were