

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

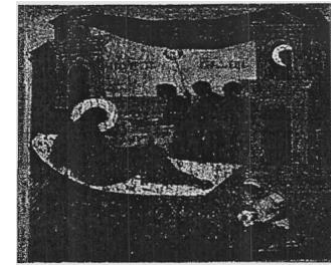
v: We have heard with our ears O God, for our fathers have told us.

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

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. 3rd & 6th 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. 3rd & 6th 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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

1:30 P.M. Blessing of Waters at Wilmore Park Lake #1, St. Louis, MO

Saturday, January 11, 2025

11:00 A.M. Parish Council Meeting

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, December 22, 2024

26th Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday Before the Nativity; Forefeast of the Nativity

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"Have you often called upon Me sincerely in prayer!" says God to the sinner. "Have you often thanked Me with a sincere heart for Mine innumerable benefits, surpassing every imagination? Have you often offered Me the sincere sacrifice of praise in order that I might again and again pour upon you My mercies? But what shall I do with your depravity, with your corruption, with your perverted mind and heart with your will, hourly inclined to evil and vice?" "Whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth (Hebrew 12:6)." "Thus, do not be cast down you who are reprov'd, chastened by Me, but endure." " Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby (Hebrew 12:11)."

My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

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

Those in the life to come

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

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.

Forefeast

TONE 4

Mary was of David's seed, so she went with Joseph to register in Bethlehem. She bore in her womb the Fruit not sown by man. The time for the birth was at hand. Since there was no room at the inn, the cave became a beautiful palace for the Queen. Christ is born, raising up the image that fell of old.

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;

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.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Forefeast

TONE 3

Today the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth to the Eternal Word. Hear the glad tidings and rejoice, O universe! Glorify with the angels and the shepherds the Eternal God, Who is willing to appear as a little child!

Prokeimenon

TONE 4 (Forefathers): 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 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 not afraid of