

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds glorify Him; The wise men journey with the star, since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child.

*Prokeimenon*

**TONE 4:** O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all!

*v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!*

**Another (Righteous Ones) TONE 4:** God is wondrous in His saints, the God of Israel.

**Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians 1:11 – 19**

But I make known to you, *Brethren*: that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord’s brother.

*Alleluia*

*v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of truth, meekness and righteousness.*

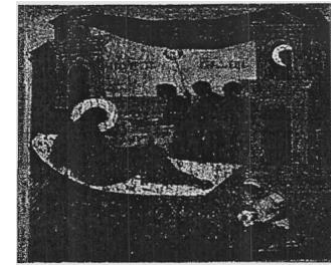
*v: For Thou lovest righteousness and doth hate iniquity.*

*v: Remember David, O Lord, and all his meekness.*

**Matthew 2:13 - 23**

*Gospel*

Now when the wise men had departed, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.” When he arose, he took the Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “*Out of Egypt I called My Son.*” Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: “*A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.*” Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child’s life are dead.” Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”



*Schedule*

**Thursday, December 31, 2020**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Friday, January 1, 2021**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

7:00 P.M. Vespers

**Saturday, January 2, 2021**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, January 3, 2021**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

10:00 A.M. Royal Hours

1:00 P.M. Vespers

Liturgy of St. Basil the Great; Great

Blessing of Waters

5:00 P.M. Vigil (Great

Compline with Matins)

**Wednesday, January 6, 2021**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

1:15 P.M. Blessing of Waters

at Wilmore Park, St. Louis

**Friday, January 8, 2021**

7:00 P.M. Vespers

**Saturday, January 9, 2021**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

3:00 P.M. Parish Council Mtg.

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, January 10, 2021**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Friday, January 15, 2021**

7:00 P.M. Vespers

**Saturday, January 16, 2021**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, January 17, 2021**

**Nativity of the Virgin Mary**

**Orthodox Church**

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

**Sunday, December 27, 2020**

*29<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday After the Nativity of Christ; THIRD DAY OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY; Holy Righteous Ones:*

*Joseph the Betrothed, David the King and James the Brother of the Lord; Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen*

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

“When a man is about to pray, he must humble his proud heart, must cast away earthly vanity from it, and must bring into it living and undoubting faith. If the carnal man is at ease and happy, the spiritual one feels oppressed; if the outward man flourishes, the inward one perishes. So opposite in us are the old, sinful, carnal man and the man renewed by Christ’s grace; this is why the Apostle said, “Though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day (2 Corinthians 4:16).” And we often experience this ourselves. Therefore the true Christian ought to long for outward, carnal, worldly sufferings, for they strengthen his spirit. He must not even think of murmuring. How can he murmur at that which is profitable to his immortal soul, although the means by which this is attained are very repugnant to his carnal man? Illnesses, fires, robbery, poverty, misfortunes, wars, famine, often act beneficially upon the soul. As God is Life, and diseases and maladies are a deviation from life, therefore the touch alone of the first Source of Life cures us of them. This is why the Savior, Who is the Life of all, cured and still cures men by His touch alone.”

## Prayer Requests

### Those in this earthly life

Subdeacon Andrew (Don)	John	Angela
Nadine	Courtney	Elijah
Priest Patrick	Magdalene	Sophia
Bruce	David	Matushka Tanya
Heather	Adina	Mary
Joe	David	Protopresbyter Michael
Roger	Reader George	Protopresbyter Radomir
John	Marie	Met. HERMAN (BP)
Karen	Michael	Arprt Joseph (BP)
Dennis	Dymphna & CTBB	Archpriest Moses (BP)
Sandie	Justin	Arprst John Zabinko (BP)
Dan	Hope	Mtk Mrgaret Zabinko (BP)
Marie	Nicholas	Matthew Zabinko
Paul	Subdeacon Charles	Priest Josef (BP)
Vicky	Deborah	Archpriest Vladimir (BP)
Michelle	Michael	Matushka Virginia (BP)
Mikhail	Laverne	Archpst Christopher (BP)
Amy	Priest Matthew	Archpriest Gregory (BP)
Michael	Matushka Christine	Archpriest Myron (BP)
Joseph	Abigail	Deacon Paul (BP)
Andrew	Aidan	Deacon Paul (BP)
Peter	Eve	Matushka Snezana (BP)
Rebecca	Cynthia	Helen (BP)
Subdeacon Paul	Victor	Theodore (BP)
Judith	Wilma	Melinda <i>Kuzara</i> (BP)
Carter	Michael	Paul
Jonah	April	Mary
Nancy Ann	Joseph	Nicholas
Debbie	Michael	Andrew
Constance	Barb	Anthony
David	Barbara	Christopher
	Mark	Jackie

### Those in the life to come

Odesa	Patriarch IRINEJ	James
Dorina	Svetlana	<u>Helen</u>
Richard	Ernest	Archpriest Thomas
Kim	Louise	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS
Archbishop DAVID	Michael	Steve Huniak
Ann Crowell	Bill	Victor                      Nicholas

"The same may be said of the change in any contagious objects - at a single sign or single word of the Creator and Founder of everything, they become harmless. (air, water, plants and animals). Fresh temptation sometimes arises with affliction and oppression - a hardness, numbness, and insensibility of the heart to everything true, good, and holy; we feel like a stone or a block, without faith, without the capability of praying, without hope in God's mercy, without love. How sad it is to feel like a stone or a log, without faith and love, when we were created to believe, feel, hope, and love! And we must bear this patiently, and pray to God to roll away the stone of insensibility from the doors of the tomb of our heart, that He may take away from us a heart of stone and give us one of flesh. But what does this hardness or numbness in us signify? This shows the presence in our heart of the Devil, who, having forcibly taken possession of our heart through our incredulity, thrusts out from it every good thought, not allowing it to rest there, and destroys all faith and every good feeling, making the man a burden even to himself. This really does happen to men. Let them learn what it signifies." *My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt*

#### Troparia

##### *Resurrection*

#### **TONE 4**

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection; they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: death is overthrown! Christ God is Risen, granting the world great mercy.

##### *Nativity of Christ*

#### **TONE 4**

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to Thee!

##### *Righteous Ones*

#### **TONE 2**

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph, to David, the ancestor of God; you saw a Virgin great with child; you gave glory with the shepherds; you worshipped with the Magi; you received the news from the Angel. Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

##### *Righteous Ones*

#### **TONE 3**

Today godly David is filled with joy; Joseph and James offer praise. The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy. They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth, and they cry out: "O Compassionate One, save those who honor Thee!"

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