

Saturday, December 12, 2020
St. Spyridon the Wonderworker

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
The Epistle **Ephesians 5:8-19 (p. 1606)** The Gospel **John 10:9-16 (p. 1444)**
6:30 pm Great Vespers 7:30 Confession



Sunday, December 13, 2020
Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ

Today we remember the ancestors of Christ, all the great Fathers, Mothers, Saints, Priests, Kings, Judges, and Prophets of the Old Testament. Among these are Adam, Eve, Abel, Melchizedek, Enoch, Noah, Job, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebecca, Jacob, Rachel, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Caleb, Deborah, Ruth, Hannah, Samuel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Job, David, Nathan, Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Micah, Daniel, Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, Zechariah, Joachim and Anna. All of these are in fact our ancestors, our spiritual family members. They prepared the way for the Lord to come to us. **Holy Forefathers and Foremothers of Christ, pray to God for us!**

9:00 am Orthros Doxology 1 Troparion 1

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

All: Entrance Hymn

Chanter: Resurrectional Troparion in Tone 2

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

Chanter: Troparion for the Forefathers

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

Chanter: Troparion for St. Herman of Alaska

Blessed ascetic of the northern wilds and gracious intercessor for the whole world, teacher of the Orthodox Faith, good instructor of piety, adornment of Alaska and joy of all America, holy Father Herman, pray to Christ God that He save our souls.

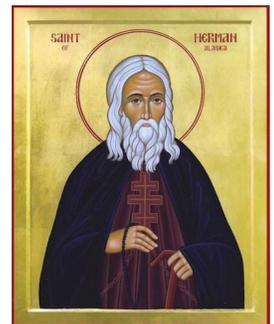
All: Troparion of the Holy Transfiguration

All: Kontakion of the Preparation of Christ's Nativity

The Epistle **Colossians 3:4-11 (p. 1621)** The Gospel **Luke 14:16-24 (p. 1395)**

11:40 am Coffee Hour *Refreshments will be served in the Great Room. Please bring fruit or cookies to share.*

12:00-1:00 pm Nativity Pageant Rehearsal in the Nave



PROVIDING THE HOLY BREAD

Today: Jordan Finzel

Next Sunday: Rebecca DeRenzo

As a parish, we are grateful to all of those who make the Holy Bread (Prospora) each week. May the Lord reward you with every heavenly blessing.

THIS WEEK

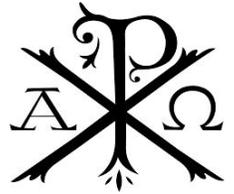
In our society the "Christmas Season" is often a time of stress and exhaustion rather than reflection and spiritual enrichment. During the month of December we are purposely keeping mid-week activities to a minimum with the hope that we can take care of our family and social responsibilities during the week and then be ready to participate in the services on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Remember that the services the Church offers us are **food for the soul** and **rest for the spirit**.

Wednesday 6:30 pm Mid-Week Vespers Confession 7:30 pm

Thursday 10:30-12:30 am Work Morning and brown bag lunch

Saturday 10:00-11:30 am Divine Liturgy with Additional Precautions
(face masks are required and social distancing is carefully maintained)

Saturday 6:30 pm Great Vespers Confession 7:30 pm



This week we celebrate this special day in our parish:

Nehemiah Mains

Name Day on Tuesday

GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!



NATIVITY FAST AND ALMSGIVING

To encourage us in almsgiving during the Nativity Fast our Archdiocese asks each parish to collect food throughout the weeks of the Nativity Fast. Again this year our food will be given to LIFESPRINGS, a shelter for women and children that is under the direction of Wayside Cross Ministries of Aurora. The shelter is always in need of food staples of all kinds (canned goods, flour, oil, etc.) and paper goods (paper towels, tissues, etc.)

Please place your donations in the marked containers in the great room.

Another Opportunity to Share Our Blessings

This year has been a dark and difficult time for those living in Chicago. We are happy to report that our parish has been invited to assist the poor and the homeless in Chicago!

CATHEDRAL'S KITCHEN is a program that works with local restaurants and businesses to provide free warm meals every Saturday to those in the Wicker Park area. The lunch is served at Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral, and serves 20-30 guests. A variety of resources are made available, such as emergency housing, employment assistance, and medical care.

We have been invited to provide 30 gift bags for the adults who come to the meal on Saturday, December 26. The items in the bag need to be gender-neutral and useful: warm socks, mittens, gloves and scarves, toothbrushes and toothpaste, hand cream, lip balm, tissues, crackers, nuts, chocolate, protein bars, etc.

Please talk about this with your family and decide what you might be able to donate. You can bring your donations to the bins in the great room. We will be looking for volunteers to help fill bags on **Sunday, December 20** after the Great Room lunch. Michael DeRenzo will be transporting our gifts to Holy Trinity Cathedral

"Blessed is the one who has understanding for the poor and the needy; the Lord will deliver him in an evil day." Psalm 40:1

Again this year every family is invited to bring a poinsettia to add to the beauty of our iconostasis on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as a symbol of our joy and gratitude for Christ's coming to us in human form. Please bring your poinsettia **NEXT SATURDAY EVENING OR SUNDAY MORNING** and place it on the table near the piano in the great room. Following next Sunday's coffee hour our Flower/Décor committee will be arranging the poinsettia plants and decorating our nave for Christmas.

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 20	End of Liturgy	Nativity Pageant Presentation
Thursday, December 24	6:30-7:45 pm	Christmas Eve Service
Friday, December 25	10:00-11:30 am	Divine Liturgy for the Nativity
Friday, January 1		Feast of Saint Basil and of the Circumcision of Christ



At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, there will be a Scripture Memory Project Presentation by the children in our Beginner and Primary Church School classes. A New Year's Day lunch and celebration will follow in the Great Room.

Saturday-Sunday, May 1-2

HOLY PASCHA

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

For our loved ones who are struggling: TJ Farrell's brother Bruce, Joanne Vlachos's daughter Ashley and mother Zulma, Dn. Jeremy's mother Donna, Ellena Vranas's brother Michael, and Rose Karantzis's friend Cheryl

For Mariana and Mary Cuceu as they begin their work in Romania

For God's forgiveness for our many sins as individuals and as a nation and for His healing from the sickness and violence that has overtaken us

For those suffering from the Coronavirus and those caring for them, and for those grieving the loss of loved ones during this plague

For those who are attempting to govern us at local, state and national levels

For believers all around the world who are being persecuted for their Faith in Christ

For the Hoppe family ministering in Albania, and for Peter and Sharon Georges ministering to orphans in Uganda

For our college students, Katherine Hoppe, Melanie Nassif and Ben Bollinger

For our loved ones who have departed this life: Gus Karantzis, Bonnie Parisek, Beverly Meyers, Dr. Michael and Eva Kontos, Andrew and Mary Rousonelos, Gus Koutselas, Spiridon Vlachos, Tony Nassif, Mary Gibson, +Metropolitan PHILIP, Faye McDonald, Philip Stevens, +Fr. Peter Gilquist, John and Gertrude Foust, Dorothy Parsons, Helen Koutselas