

The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



December 29, 2024

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Reflection

Parish Council President

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 Sisterhood of St.
 Anne*

*Athena Gordon
 Church School
 Director*

*Patricia Wolsko
 Ukrainian*

*Saturday School
 Director*

PM Olenka

*Church Choir
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George Cepynsky

*Seraphim Group
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Debbie Pierog

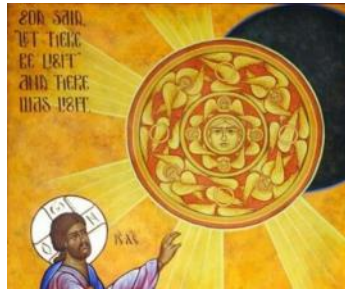
*50/50 Club
 President*

*Ivan Bryndzia
 Vitalii Kulyk*

*Jr. UOL
 President*

David Sendeha

“The Sun of Righteousness”



Each year, as the daylight hours shorten, and the dim sun casts long shadows over a still land covered in leafless trees, Christians await the manifestation of the true and eternal light of the ‘Sun of Righteousness,’ Christ our true God, shining from a child’s face in a cave in Bethlehem.

The Christmas season is marked by a diverse set of venerable and revered symbols and traditions. In America, many traditions are derived from Protestant Germany and Victorian England. Then there are the pageants, the decorated store windows, the office parties and the frenzied rounds of shopping. For Orthodox Christians, fast before Nativity, the anticipation of the Incarnation of Christ, is marked instead by the same pattern as the Great Lent that marks our Lord’s resurrec-

tion. Indeed, it is oftentimes called the ‘Winter Pascha.’

The scriptural account of Christ’s birth is found in the gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke. Traditional Christmas representations in displays and pageants tend to harmonize the two accounts, which are in reality quite different.

It is important that we untangle these accounts if we are to gain insight into the meaning of the Incarnation according to the Scriptures. This is because the evangelists were theologians. They had a great respect for the apostolic teachings about the ministry of Jesus Christ handed down orally from the time of the Resurrection. But they were writing for different communities, with different concerns, and had their own purposes in what they emphasized.

The Gospel of Matthew was authored by a Jewish Christian and served as the Gospel for a major Christian center in Syria, likely Antioch. Matthew tells of happenings not mentioned in Luke: the star, the Magi, the plot against Jesus, the flight into Egypt and the massacre of the innocents.

Luke’s great hero, besides Jesus, was St. Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, and he was keen to explain to the readers of the Greco-Roman world that the Christian message was not a threat, but rather an unfolding of the will of God. His Gospel, together with the Book of Acts, is a history of salvation.

It is in Luke that we hear so much about the Theotokos, the Mother of God, notably the annunciation to her by the angel Gabriel of her conception by the Holy Spirit. There is also the wondrous conception of Jesus’s cousin, St. John the Baptist, and some of the most glorious hymns in all Scriptures, including Mary’s Magnificat.

As we listen to the Evangelists Matthew and Luke each telling us the Nativity story in their own way, we must see both accounts as depicting the origins of Jesus as the fulfillment of the expectations of the Old Testament. May it bless us with a deeper and more meaningful understand of the ‘reason for the season.’



Liturgical Schedule



Sunday
December 29
 8:15am Matins
 9:00am Hours
9:30am Divine
Liturgy

27 Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 2 Sunday after Nativity. Afterfeast of the Nativity of Christ. *Holy Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord.* The 14,000 Infants (Holy Innocents) slain by Herod at Bethlehem (1st c.). Ven. Marcellus, abbot of the monastery of the Unsleeping Ones (485). Ven. Thaddeus, confessor, of the Studion (818). Ven. Mark the Grave-digger, Theophil and Joan of the Kyiv Caves (11th c.).^[1 SEP] Ven. Laurence of Chernihiv (1950). Matins (5): Lk. 24:12-35 Sunday after Nativity: Gal. 1:11-19; Mt. 2:13-23 To Martyrs: 2 Cor. 5:15-21; Mt. 2:13-23

Wednesday
January 1
 9:00am Hours
10:00am Di-
vine Liturgy

CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. St. Basil the Great, archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia (379). Martyr Basil of Ancyra (362). St. Emelia, mother of St. Basil the Great (375). Matins: Jn. 10:9-16 To Circumcision: Col. 2:8-12; Lk. 2:20-21, 40-52 To Saint: Heb. 7:26 - 8:2; Lk. 6:17-23 Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Sunday
January 5
 8:15 Matins
 8:30am First
 Confessions
 9:00am Hours
9:30am Divine
Liturgy
5:00pm Vigil

The Eve of the Theophany. Martyrs Theopemptus, bishop of Nicomedia(303). Ven. Syncletica of Alexandria (350). Prophet Micah (9th c. B.C.). Ven. virgin Apollinaris of Egypt (470). The Royal Hours: 1: Acts 13:25-32; Mt. 3:1-11; 3: Acts 19:1-8; Mk. 1:1-8; 6: Rom. 6:3-11; Mk. 1:9-15; 9: Titus 2:11-14; Mt. 3:13-17; Liturgy: 1 Cor. 9:19-27 ; Lk. 3:1-18 Blessing of Water: 1 Cor. 10:1-4; Mk. 1:9-11

Monday
January 6
9:30am

THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. BAPTISM OF THE LORD. Matins: Mk. 1:9-11 Titus 2:11-14—3:4-7; Mt. 3:13-17 Blessing of Water: 1 Cor. 10:1-4; Mk. 1:9-11; Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Coffee Hour Schedule

Sponsored coffee hours

You can sponsor coffee hour monetarily by donating \$50.00 to cover the cost of one coffee hour. If you would like to volunteer, please let PM Olenka or Fr. Vasyl know:

December 25—Christmas Luncheon by Sr. UOL

December 29 – Nativity Dinner

January 5— UOL Pancake Flip

January 12—open

January 19— Lilian Cepynsky

January 26— open

Sisterhood of St. Anne



God bless our volunteers!

We had a very very successful Christmas Pie-roggi Bake sale. Thank you very much to the morning and evening crew!

We are always looking for more volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, don't be shy. Come for one hour or two, it will make a huge difference.

Schedule:

January 20 at 8:30am -make potato balls

January 21 at 5:30pm-pinch potato

January 22 at 8:30am make potato balls

January 23 5:30pm-pinch potato

January 27 at 8:30am -make kraut balls

January 28 at 5:30pm- pinch kraut

January 29 Days- make cheese balls

January 30 at 8:30am- pinch cheese

February 3 at 8:30am - boil cabbage

February 4 at 5:30pm-make Holubtsi

February 5 at 8:30am - package Hokubtsi

February 6 Thursday sale 11am-2pm

February 8 Saturday sale 10am-2pm

Announcements

Parish Council

Parish Council usually meets once a month on the second Sunday of the month. Next Council meeting will take place on *Sunday January 12, 2025* after the Coffee hour.

Guests are welcome. If you would like to participate at the council meeting, please let any of the officers know.

Jr. & Sr. UOL Українська Православна Ліга

We have a very strong Jr. UOL Chapter. We are working to re-start Sr. UOL Chapter. We are looking for volunteers to join Sr. UOL Chapter. If you are interested in joining, please see PM Olenka or Fr. Vasyl. Meeting on Sunday Jan. 5 after Coffee Hour. Наша парафія гордиться нашими підлітками у відділі Православної ліги. Ми працюємо над відновленням відділу дорослих Православної Ліги. Якщо ви зацікавленні вступити в лігу, просимо звертатися до ПМ Оленки або о. Василя.

Sunday's Second Collection

Sunday's Second Special Collection is dedicated each month to a different cause.

Month of December - St. Sophia Seminary

Month of January - Orland Park Food Pantry

ESL Classes

ESL Announcement:

Unfortunately we have had to cancel a few ESL sessions recently due to the weather. However, after the holidays we will continue on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall on January 2, 2025.

На жаль, нам довелося скасувати кілька Безкоштовних ESL класів через погоду. Щоправда, після Різдвяних свят ми продовжимо 2 Січня 2025 року кожного Четверга о 18:30 вечора у Церковній залі.

Seven Day Vigil Candles



- For the health of Patti Faye by John Batura
- * For the health and well-being of Fr. Vasyl and family.
~Ted & Karen Larson
- *For the health and well-being of Larry Pierog.
~Ted & Karen Larson
- *For the health and well-being of Pat Beck
~Ted & Karen Larson
- For the health of our son Mykola by Kashpar Family
- Fro the health of our daughter Iryna with family by Kashpar Family
- For the health and God's blessings of Tina Palasti by Gbur & Lang Families
- For the health and God's blessings of Mary Wisniowski by Gbur & Lang Families
- For the health and God's blessings of Pat Beck by Gbur & Lang Families
- For the health of Pat Beck by John & Mary Jo Grzymiski
- For the health of Mary Wisniowski by PM Olenka
- For the health of Pat Beck by Fr. Vasyl

In memory of my parents Pavlo & Polina. Memory Eternal.
Heavenly Kingdom by Halyna Kashpar

50/50 Club

The winner for the month of November was *Nataliia Bryndzia*.

Next drawing will take place **Today, December 29, 2024**

We encourage to buy tickets for the whole year for a discounted price of \$65.00. If you would like to buy for one or several months the ticket is \$6.00 for a month. You can win \$250.00. All of the proceeds go to Collage Scholarship Fund of our parish. Support children of our parish family.

For more info please see Ivan Bryndzia & Vitalii Kulyk

Prayer Corner for the Month of December



We ask all of you to remember in your prayers the following individuals, who are in need of God's healing and grace:

Mark, Roman, Judy Broud, Joshua Mark, Mary Wisniowski, Mary Pirtle, Nathan, Gail, Allie Branch, Mike Moran, Christopher Flavin, Even, Edward, Bob Lewandowski, Michael Melnyk, Lilia, Andy, Bohdan, Ralph Palm, David, Irine, Zoriana, Lev, Alla Grzymiski, Kathy Grzymiski, Nicole, John & Patti, Barbara Patronik, Barbara & Katie Bruce, Michael Kimak, Chloe McKinney, Yuriy Zmysly, Dorothy Seliga, Halyna & Wolodymer Kashpar, Mykola, Priest Vasyl Dovhan, Frankie, Alexander, Anatoli & Pamela, Janet, Sam and Natalia.

Pray for soldiers in Ukraine: Maksym, Taras, Yaroslav, Pavlo, Slavko, Mikola, Victor, Taras, Yuriy, Stepan, Volodimer, Mykola, Svitlana, medic Stella, Oleg, Yuriy, Dmitro, Bohdan, Roman, Mykola, Kostia, Vitaliy, missing in action Volodimer, Taras, Mykola, wounded Roman, prisoner Taras.

Pray for Our expecting mother: Daria

If there is anyone who is in need of prayers, and you want to add them to the prayer corner, please notify Fr. Vasyl

If you would like me to visit with the Sacraments of the Holy Confession and Eucharist, please call the rectory.

to set up an appointment. I will gladly visit everyone.



Bible Study

Next Bible Study group meeting is
Wednesday, January 8 2025 at 7:00 pm.
Via Zoom. We are going to work on Psalms.
Resources; Orthodox Study Bible.



Memorial Service



Monthly memorial December 29

In memory of all of those who reposed in the Lord in the month of November.



Nativity Schedule

Tuesday December 24

Eve of the Nativity

Joined potluck supper at 5:30pm

Vigil at 7:00pm

Wednesday December 25 Nativity of Jesus Christ

Divine Liturgy at 9:30am

Thursday December 26 Feast of Theotokos

Divine Liturgy at 9:30am

Sunday December 29

Divine Liturgy at 9:30am followed by

Festal Dinner at Noon

Wednesday, January 1 Feast of Naming of Jesus
and Feast of St. Basil the Great

Divine Liturgy at 10:00am

Sunday, January 5 Sunday before Theophany

Divine Liturgy at 9:30 am

at 5:00pm Eve of the Theophany Vespers and Great
blessing of the water

Monday, January 6 The Holy Theophany. The Bap-
tism of Our Savior Jesus Christ

Divine Liturgy at **9:30 am** Blessing of the water.

Tuesday, January 7 St. John the Baptist

Divine Liturgy at 9:30am

Sunday January 12 Sunday after Theophany

Divine Liturgy at 9:30am