

December 26th, 2021

Synaxis of the Holy Theotokos - Sunday after the Nativity of the Christ

*As we enter the Church let us pray.....
I will come into Thy House In the multitude of Thy mercy;
And in Thy fear I will worship toward Thy Holy Temple.*

Resurrectional Apolytikion – 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.

Apolytikion of the Nativity of Christ – Tone 4

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn there from to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of the Sunday after the Nativity – Tone 2

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

Apolytikion of St. John Chrysostom - Tone 8

Grace shining forth from your lips like a beacon has enlightened the universe. It has shown to the world the riches of poverty. It has revealed to us the heights of humility. Teaching us by your words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls!

Kontakion of Preparation for Christ's Nativity - Tone 3

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; * to the Unapproachable, * the earth doth offer a small cave; * Angels join in choir with shepherds * in giving glory; * with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; * for our sakes is born a young Child, * He Who existed * before the ages as God.

SYNAXARION

On December 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church, the first day of the After-feast of the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate Euthymios the Confessor, bishop of Sardis; and Hieromartyr Constantios the Russian of the Great Lavra on Athos.

On this day, we celebrate the Synaxis of our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos. On December 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church, the first day of the After-feast of the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate Euthymios the Confessor, bishop of Sardis; and Hieromartyr Constantios the Russian of the Great Lavra on Athos. On this day, we celebrate the Synaxis of our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos.

God saw the wicked King Herod's plan to slaughter all the children in Bethlehem, and sent His angel to Joseph. The angel commanded him to take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt. Joseph did this. They first travelled to Nazareth (Lk. 2:39), where Joseph set his household affairs in order and then, taking his son James with them, went off to Egypt (Matt. 2:14). And so the words of the prophet: "The Lord, riding upon a swift cloud, shall come into Egypt" (Is. 19:1), were fulfilled. The family lived in Egypt for several years, and then returned to Palestine in response to a command by an angel of God. And so a second prophecy was fulfilled: "Out of Egypt have I called My Son" (Hosea 11:1). On the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate the holy and just Ancestors of God: Joseph the Betrothed of the Holy Virgin, our Lady the Theotokos; James the Brother of God and the first bishop of Jerusalem; and David the Prophet and King.

David committed adultery and murder, yet God forgave him and glorified him above all the kings of Israel. He gave him the great grace to compose the most beautiful penitential prayers (the Psalms) and to prophesy the coming of Christ. Thus, God was not ashamed to take upon Himself flesh from David's seed. God designated Joseph to protect the Most-holy Virgin, and imparted to him great honor in the plan of the salvation of mankind. Although Joseph was of the royal lineage of David, he was a humble carpenter in Nazareth. At the age of 80, Joseph took the Most-holy Virgin from the Temple in Jerusalem and into his home. He entered into rest at the age of 110. The Apostle James is called the "Brother of the Lord"

because he was the son of the righteous Joseph the Betrothed. James greatly loved Jesus and, according to tradition, he traveled to Egypt with the Most-holy Virgin and Joseph, when Herod sought to slay the newborn King. By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen

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St John Chrysostom Antiochian Orthodox Church is a parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of North America, Primate

His Grace Bishop Thomas, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, Oakland and the Mid-Atlantic

The V. Rev. Peter Pier, Pastor

The Rev. David Hyatt, Assistant Pastor

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Come Visit St. John Chrysostom's Web Sites: www.orthodoxyork.org

The Inquirer's Class – will meet next Sunday, January 2nd following the Divine Liturgy. These classes are for those studying the Orthodox Christian Faith, and those wishing to deepen their understanding of the Faith. All are welcome.

Weis and Giant Grocery Gift Cards – are available for purchase. You pay the face amount of the card and the church receives 5% of the value of the card. Please see Marjorie Barrett after any Divine Liturgy to purchase a card. Purchases benefit the general fund of St. John Chrysostom Church.

Attendance Last Week: 77

Operating Fund Offering Received: \$3,500.00

Amount Needed Each Week To Meet Operating Fund Budget: **\$7,539.00**

Church Calendar

December 26 8:50 am Orthros. 10:00 am Divine Liturgy. Inquirer's Class.

December 30 6:00 pm AOW Ladies Night Out @ John Wright Restaurant.

December 31 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy.

January 1 NO Vespers.

January 2 8:50 am Orthros. 10:00 am Divine Liturgy. Christmas Pageant. Inquirer's Class.

Remember In Your Prayers

Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear" (Is. 65:24)

The Living – for their health and healing

Metropolitan Joseph

Bishop Thomas

Olena Bassarab

Jamey Miller

Matthew Miller

Officer Jamie Miller

Joyce "Kassiane" Williams

Michael Acierno

Ian Snyder

Francis "Patrick" Barrett

Marjorie "Marion" Barrett

Jerry "David" Desautels

Nancy Usner

The Departed – Memory Eternal!

Metropolitan PHILIP

Bishop Antoun

Priest Boniface Black

Wayne "Stephen" Coleson

Leavitt "George" Keener

Mary Jane Glagola

Norm "Nourhan" and Eva "Marie" Kailian

Nicholas Raptapoulos

Walter and Mary Damm

Donnell Gregory and Mary "Rebecca" Beck

Michael Bogosh

Christos Tsakiris

Harry and Grace Dorion

Marianne Rupp

Mary Bincarowsky

Gene "Paul" Strayer

Katherine Monsour

George and Darla Feeser

Cindi "Monica" Bennett

Mary Kopey

Martha Allen

Mary Lou Grove

Melinda "Magdalena" Stika

James Fetter

Andrew Himes

Patty May

Julie Acierno

Vincent Michael Terzano-Borovic
Steven Smith
Edward Boner
Cheryl "Alexandra" Bury
Thomas Lehman
Barry "John" Hart
Angela Pandelidis
Kathryn Velen
Renee McCutchen