

**December 18, 2022**

**Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (Sunday of Genealogy)**

*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 1**

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 Sunday before the Nativity – Tone 2**

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, 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 cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

**SYNAXARION**

On December 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy, glorious and rightvictorious Martyrs Sebastian and Zoe of Rome, and those with them.

On this day, the Sunday before the Nativity of Christ, we have been enjoined by our holy and God-bearing Fathers to make commemoration of all them that from the beginning of time have been well-pleasing unto God, from Adam even unto Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, according to genealogy, as Luke the Evangelist hath recounted historically; and likewise for the Prophets and Prophetesses, especially of Daniel the Prophet and the three holy youths. It is also known as the Sunday of the Holy Genealogy. We remember the aforementioned names, those in the Old Testament who were related to Christ by blood, and those who spoke of His Birth as a man. In the Divine Liturgy, we shall read of Jesus Christ's lineage from the Gospel of Saint Matthew. In this way, the Church shows us that Christ truly became a man, taking on human nature. He was not a ghost, an apparition, a myth, a distant imagined god, or the abstract god of philosophers; such a god does not have a family tree. Our God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He has flesh and blood, human ancestors—many of whom sinned greatly, but like David, also repented greatly. Yet, all of these righteous ones in every age had been well-pleasing to God because they loved Him. By taking on human nature, the Son of God became like us in all ways, in flesh and blood, in mind and soul, and in heart and will. He differed from us in only one way: He could not sin. Since we know that Christ's human nature remained sinless, He is also fully divine, and He shows us the way in which we can avoid sin, and so improve and transform our human nature. 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 Antonios, Patriarchal Vicar to North America  
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](http://www.orthodoxyork.org)

**The Inquirer's Class** – will meet today, Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> 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 Sunday: 141**

**Operating Fund Offering Received: \$6,089.75**

**Amount Needed Each Week To Meet Operating Fund Budget: \$7,280.00**

### **Church Calendar**

**Dec. 18** 8:50 am Orthros. 10:00 am Divine Liturgy. SCS. Inquirer's Class. Parish Council.  
**Dec. 19** 5:00 pm Orthros. 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy. St. Ignatios of Antioch.  
**Dec. 20** 7:00 pm Chant Practice.  
**Dec. 21** 6:00 pm Daily Vespers.  
**Dec. 23** 9:00 am Royal Hours of the Nativity.  
**Dec. 24** 8:00 am Daily Orthros. 9:00 am Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. 6:00 pm Vespers.  
**Dec. 25** 8:50 am Festal Orthros. 10:00 am Festal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil.

### **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 & wellbeing**

Metropolitan Antonios  
Bishop Thomas  
Denise Zakula  
Olena Bassarab  
Jayme Miller  
Matthew Miller  
Officer Jamie Miller  
Joyce "Kassiane" Williams  
Michael Acierno  
Ian Snyder  
Jerry "David" Desautels  
Vincent McKee  
Christopher Reese  
Rachel and Emmanuella Deneffe

#### **The Departed – Memory Eternal!**

Metropolitan PHILIP  
Bishop Antoun  
Priest Boniface Black  
Angela Burke  
Wayne "Stephen" Coleson  
Georgette Habib Soliman  
Leavitt "George" Keener  
Mary Jane Glagola  
Norm "Nourhan" and Eva "Marie" Kailian  
Nicholas Raptapolus  
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