

December 17th, 2023
Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of 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 3

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Apolytikion of the Forefathers – Tone 2

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.

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 of 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 17 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths Ananias, Azarias and Mishael; and Dionysios of Zakynthos, the wonderworker.

On this day we celebrate the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Ancestors) of our Lord Jesus. We remember all the holy Patriarchs of the Old Testament who prefigured or foretold Christ: Adam the first Father, Enoch, Melchizedek, Abraham, the friend of God, Isaac, the fruit of the Promise, Jacob and the twelve patriarchs. We then commemorate those who lived under the Law: Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Samuel, David, and the Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel; the twelve minor prophets; Elijah, Elisha, Zachariah, and John the Baptist; and finally the Virgin Mary, the intermediary between mankind and her divine Son. Indeed, the Lord Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to redeem humanity which bemoaned the weight of evil since Adam; to realize the promise made to Abraham; to change the Law of Fear into the Law of Love; and to give Resurrection and Life to mankind. This feast prepares us for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, placing before us the anticipation and hope for His coming among us. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon 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 SABA, Metropolitan of New York and North America
His Grace Bishop Thomas, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, Oakland and the Mid-Atlantic
The V. Rev. Peter Pier, Pastor

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

The Inquirer's Class – will meet today, Sunday, December 17th following the Annual Christmas Pageant. 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 171

Operating Fund Offering Received: \$8,905.00

Amount Needed Each Week To Meet Operating Fund Budget: \$7,443.00

Church Calendar

Dec. 17 8:50 am Orthros. 10:00 am Divine Liturgy. Christmas Pageant. Inquirer's Class.
Dec. 18 6:00 pm Vespers followed by Bible Study on Romans.
Dec. 19 9:00 am 3rd Hour followed by Play and Pray. 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy. St. Ignatios.
Dec. 20 6:00 pm Choir Practice. NO Daily Vespers.
Dec. 22 9:00 am Royal Hours and Typika.
Dec. 23 6:00 pm Great Vespers with Lita and Artoklasia.
Dec. 24 8:50 am Orthros. 10:00 am Divine Liturgy. Inquirer's Class. **10:00 pm Festal Orthros. 11:00 pm Festal Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of our Lord.**

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 SABA
Bishop Thomas
Denise Zakula
Olena Bassarab
Jayme Miller
Matthew Miller
Officer Jamie Miller
Joyce "Kassiane" Williams
Michael Acierno
Jerry "David" Desautels
Christopher Reese
Beverly Kushner
Michelle Prince
Richard "Stephen" Vangel
Joshua "John" Ranck
Ronna "Sophia" Castle

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

The Departed – Memory Eternal!

Metropolitan PHILIP
Bishop Antoun
Priest Boniface Black
Helen Diamond
Angela Burke
Wayne "Stephen" Coleson
Georgette Habib Soliman
Joseph Danyo
Leavitt "George" Keener

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
Karl and Nancy Usner