

December 31st, 2023
Sunday before Theophany
Apodosis (Leave-taking) of the Nativity 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 5

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

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 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 the Nativity of Christ – 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 31 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we take leave of the Nativity of Christ, and we commemorate our Venerable Mother Melania the Younger of Rome.

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 the Lord 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 Christ our 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 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 31st 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 220

Operating Fund Offering Received: \$15,002.00

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

Church Calendar

Dec. 31 8:50 am Orthros. 10:00 am Divine Liturgy. Inquirer's Class. SCS. **6:00 pm Vespers for the Circumcision of our Lord and St. Basil the Great.**

January 3 6:00 pm Vespers.

January 5 9:00 am Royal Hours & Typika for Theophany.

January 6 8:00 am Festal Orthros. 9:00 am Festal Divine Liturgy – Feast of Theophany.
6:00 pm Great Vespers

January 7 8:50 am Orthros. 10:00 am Divine Liturgy. SCS. 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 & wellbeing

Metropolitan SABA

Bishop Thomas

Denise Zakula

Olena Bassarab

Jayne 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

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

Karl and Nancy Usner

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

Mary Jane Glagola

Norm "Nourhan" and Eva "Marie" Kailian