

Saint George Greek Orthodox Cathedral

650 Hanover Street Manchester, New Hampshire 03104 Very Rev. Fr. Archimandrite Agathonikos M. Wilson, Cathedral Dean Rev. Fr. Gregory Floor, Second Priest Church Phone: (603) 622-9113

Sunday, December 19, 2021 / The Sunday before the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Resurrection Apolytikion of the tone of the week (Tone 1)

Τοῦ λίθου σφοαγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στοατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τοιήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωήν διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι ζωοδότα Δόξα τῆ Ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δό΄ξα τῆ βασιλεία σου, δόξα τῆ οἰκονομία σου, μόνε φιλάνθρωπε.

The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. And therefore the powers of heaven cried to You, O Giver-of-Life: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ; glory to Your kingdom; glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves mankind.

Apolytikion of the Feast

Μεγάλα τὰ τῆς Πίστεως κατορθώματα! ἐν τῆ πηγῆ τῆς φλογός, ὡς ἐπὶ ὕδατος ἀναπαύσεως, οἱ Ἅγιοι τρεῖς Παῖδες ἠγάλλοντο· καὶ ὁ Προφήτης Δανιήλ, λεόντων ποιμήν, ὡς προβάτων ἐδείκνυτο. Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἱκεσίαις Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Magnificent are Faiths accomplishments! The three holy Youths exultingly stood in the fountain of fire as if beside the still waters of rest. And Daniel the Prophet was shown to be a shepherd of lions. At their entreaty, O Christ God, save our souls.

Apolytikion for Memorial Services

Μνήσθητι Κύριε ος αγαθός του (της, των) δούλος (δουλής, δούλων) σου, και όσα εν βίω ήμαρτεν (ήμαρτων), συγχώρησον, ουδείς γαρ αναμάρτητος, ει μή Συ ο δυνάμενος, και τῶ (τῆ, τοῖς) μεταστάντι (μεταστάση, μεταστᾶσι) δούναι την ανάπαυσιν.

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your Servant(s), and forgive every sin he (she, they) has (have) committed in this life. For no one is sinless except for You, Who has power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

Apolytikion of our Church

Ως τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθερωτής, καὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστής, ἀσθενούντων ἰατρός, βασιλέων ὑπέρμαχος, Τροπαιοφόρε Μεγαλομάρτυς Γεώργιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

As liberator of captives, defender of the poor, physician of the ailing, and champion of Kings, beseech Christ our God, O great martyr George, Standard Bearer, for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion

Η Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἁγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

Today the Virgin comes, unto a Cave, to give birth ineffably to the Word pre-eternal. Hearing this, be of good cheer, all earth and its people, glorify Him, with the Angels and the Shepherds, whose will was to be made, manifest as a young child, the pre-eternal God.

The Epistle Reading - Sunday, December 19, 2021

The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

BRETHREN, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Πρὸς Έβραίους 11:9-10, 32-40

Αδελφοί, πίστει παφώκησεν Άβφαὰμ εἰς τὴν γῆν τῆς ἐπαγγελίας ὡς ἀλλοτοίαν, ἐν σκηναῖς κατοικήσας μετὰ Ἰσαὰκ καὶ Ἰακὼβ τῶν συγκληφονόμων τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τῆς αὐτῆς ἐξεδέχετο γὰφ τὴν τοὺς θεμελίους ἔχουσαν πόλιν, ῆς τεχνίτης καὶ δημιουφγὸς ὁ Θεός. Καὶ τί ἔτι λέγω; Ἐπιλείψει γάφ με διηγούμενον ὁ χφόνος περὶ Γεδεών, Βαφάκ τε καὶ Σαμψὼν καὶ Ἰεφθάε, Δαυΐδ τε καὶ Σαμουὴλ καὶ τῶν πφοφητῶν, οἱ διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰφγάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυφός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίφας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυφοὶ ἐν πολέμω, παφεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἀλλοτοίων ἔλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκφοὺς αὐτῶν ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ πφοσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτφωσιν, ἵνα κφείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν ἔτεφοι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πεῖφαν ἔλαβον, ἔτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειφάσθησαν, ἐν φόνω μαχαίφας ἀπέθανον, περιῆλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέφμασιν, ὑστεφούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι, ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιος ὁ κόσμος, ἐν ἐφημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄφεσι καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὀπαῖς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὕτοι πάντες μαφτυφηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ Θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρεῖττόν τι πφοβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωφὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσι.

The Gospel Lesson - Sunday, December 19, 2021

The Sunday before the Nativity / The Gospel according to Saint Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

Κατά Ματθαῖον 1.1-25

Βίβλος γενέσεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, υίοῦ Δαυῖδ υίοῦ ᾿Αβραάμ. ᾿Αβραὰμ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰσαάκ, Ἰσαὰκ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰακώβ, Ἰακώβ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰούδαν καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ, Ἰούδας δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Φαρὲς καὶ τὸν Ζαρὰ ἐκ τῆς Θάμαρ, Φαρὲς δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἐσρώμ, Ἐσρώμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν ᾿Αράμ, ᾿Αρὰμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν ᾿Αμιναδάβ, ᾿Αμιναδάβ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ναασσών, Ναασσών δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Σαλμών, Σαλμών δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Βοὸζ ἐκ τῆς Ῥαχάβ, Βοὸζ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ὠρῆδ ἐκ τῆς Ῥούθ, Ὠρῆδ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰεσσαί, Ἰεσσαὶ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Δαυῖδ τὸν βασιλέα. Δαυῖδ δὲ ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐγέννησε τὸν Σολομῶνα ἐκ τῆς τοῦ Οὐρίου, Σολομὼν δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ῥοβοάμ, Ῥοβοὰμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν ᾿Αβιά, ᾿Αβιὰ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν ᾿Ασά, ᾿Ασὰ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωσαφάτ, Ἰωσαφάτ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωράμ, Ἰωρὰμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωραμ δὲ ἐν

Μετὰ δὲ τὴν μετοικεσίαν Βαβυλῶνος Ἰεχονίας ἐγέννησε τὸν Σαλαθιήλ, Σαλαθιὴλ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ζοροβάβελ,Ζοροβάβελ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν ᾿Αβιούδ, ᾿Αβιούδ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἐλιακείμ, Ἐλιακείμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν ᾿Αζώρ, ᾿Αζώρ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Σαδώκ, Σαδώκ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν ᾿Αχείμ, ᾿Αχείμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἐλιούδ, Ἐλιούδ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἐλεάζαρ, Ἐλεάζαρ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ματθάν, Ματθὰν δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰακώβ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωσὴφ τὸν ἄνδρα Μαρίας, ἐξ ἦς ἐγεννήθη Ἰησοῦς ὁ λεγόμενος Χριστός.Πᾶσαι οὖν αί γενεαὶ ἀπὸ ᾿Αβραὰμ ἕως Δαυῖδ γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες, καὶ ἀπὸ Δαυῖδ ἕως τῆς μετοικεσίας Βαβυλῶνος γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες, καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς μετοικεσίας Βαβυλῶνος ἕως τοῦ Χριστοῦ γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες.

Τοῦ δὲ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἡ γέννησις οὕτως ἦν. μνηστευθείσης γὰρ τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ Μαρίας τῷ Ἰωσήφ, πρὶν ἢ συνελθεῖν αὐτοὺς εὑρέθη ἐν γαστρὶ ἔχουσα ἐκ Πνεύματος 'Αγίου. Ἰωσὴφ δὲ ὁ ἀνὴρ αὐτῆς, δίκαιος ὢν καὶ μὴ θέλων αὐτὴν παραδειγματίσαι, ἐβουλήθη λάθρα ἀπολῦσαι αὐτήν.ταῦτα δὲ αὐτοῦ ἐνθυμηθέντος ἰδοὺ ἄγγελος Κυρίου κατ' ὄναρ ἐφάνη αὐτῷ λέγων Ἰωσὴφ υίὸς Δαυΐδ, μὴ φοβηθῆς παραλαβεῖν Μαριὰμ τὴν γυναῖκά σου τὸ γὰρ ἐν αὐτῆ γεννηθὲν ἐκ Πνεύματός ἐστιν 'Αγίου.τέξεται δὲ υίὸν καὶ καλέσεις τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦν αὐτὸς γὰρ σώσει τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν άμαρτιῶν αὐτῶν.Τοῦτο δὲ ὅλον γέγονεν ἵνα πληρωθῆ τὸ ἡθὲν ὑπὸ τοῦ Κυρίου διὰ τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος ἰδοὺ ἡ παρθένος ἐν γαστρὶ ἕξει καὶ τέξεται υίόν,καὶ καλέσουσι τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἐμμανουήλ,ὅ ἐστι μεθερμηνευόμενον μεθ' ἡμῶν ὁ Θεός. Διεγερθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰωσὴφ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὕπνου ἐποίησεν ὡς προσέταξεν αὐτῷ ὁ ἄγγελος Κυρίου καὶ παρέλαβε τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ,καὶ οὐκ ἐγίνωσκεν αὐτὴν ἕως οὖ ἔτεκε τὸν υίὸν αὐτῆς τὸν πρωτότοκον, καὶ ἐκάλεσε τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦν.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday December 20 Greek Pre-School 5 p.m.

Anagennesis 7 p.m.

Tuesday December 21 Basketball 6 p.m.

<u>Thursday December 23</u> Royal Hours of the Nativity of Christ 10 a.m.

Basketball 6 p.m.

<u>Friday December 24</u> Office Closed

Vesperal Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil 6 p.m.

Saturday December 25 Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Orthros 9 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

Sunday December 26 Orthros 8:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Monday December 27 Office Closed

This morning we will be offering a Memorial Service for Dennis H. Dal Pra. May his memory be eternal.

This morning the coffee hour will be sponsored by Tom Tsirimokos in memory of Dennis H. Dal Pra.

Altar candles on Saturday December 25 are provided in memory of Evangelos B. Tsingos by the Tsingos Family. May his memory be eternal.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

refrain often heard during one of the services at the Nativity of Christ is: "GOD IS WITH US!" It is the meaning of the word "EMMANUEL." This proclamation provides us with a capsule definition of the Nativity.

This feastday means that God Himself has come to earth, that God has taken upon Himself human flesh, that He has become Man, not ceasing to be God. This is what we might call an unbelievable concept, but it is precisely what we believe is true. This is the glory, wonder and joy of Our Lord's Birth.

There is so much that goes on during this holyday season that takes our gaze off Christ, that makes our ears less attuned to His Word, and even our hearts less yearning for things holy. But the cry - God is with us! - brings the day back into focus. It points to the true significance of the festival: the Birth of the Christchild.

The origin of the exclamation "Emmanuel" is a unique story. It was first used by the great Prophet Isaiah some 750 years before

the birth of Jesus. The Book of Isaiah has been called "the Gospel of the Old Testament," for it speaks so eloquently about the forthcoming Saviour. In 7:14 we have this clear prophecy: "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call

his name Emmanuel."

That is exactly what happened on the day of Nativity. When Christ was born, God became "flesh, and dwelt among us," as St. John the Apostle says. St. Paul picks up the theme: "Christ Jesus Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God; but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Himself the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men . . ." Yes, indeed, we proclaim: GOD IS WITH US!

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

A Ministry of the Orthodox Christian Network

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Volume 9, Issue 51

, December 19, 2021

King of kings

Would you like to meet a king? Usually, a king is a king because his father is a king, and his father is too. Being a king goes on down the line.

We are getting closer and closer to Christmas, and we are almost ready to celebrate our Lord's birth! Today in the Gospel, we hear the history of Jesus's family. We hear many, many names, starting with Abraham and his son, and his son, and so on...all the way down to Joseph, Jesus's earthly father.



In this long list, we hear the names of lots of kings! We hear of David and Solomon. We hear about Manassah and Josiah and Asa. Jesus had lots of kings in his family history! In a way, Jesus had lots of royal connections.

We know though that these were all earthly kings, and Jesus was a different kind of king. We call Jesus the "King of Kings and Lord of Lords," but we're not talking about the kind of king that David was or Josiah was. Jesus is more than that! Jesus was born to be our heavenly king, who reigns forever!

So, would you like to meet a king? Yes, you would, wouldn't you? Let's love our King with all our hearts so that we can meet Him each Sunday in Holy Communion. And that one day, we can meet Him in heaven forever!

What's in an icon?

In this icon and the one on page 3, you can see Saint Anastasia holding a cross and a bottle of medicine. Anastasia was a healing saint because she visited sick people and gave them help.

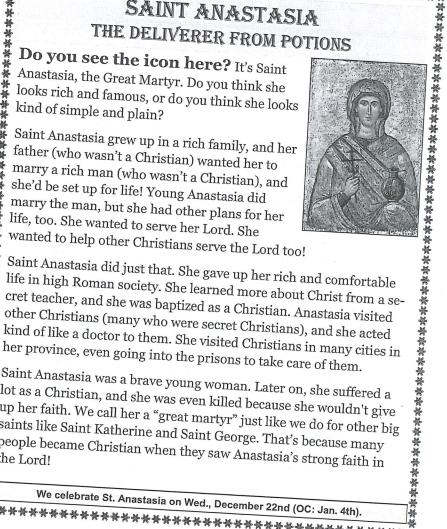
Saint Anastasia is called the "deliverer of potions." Many people pray to her for help with bad habits like drugs and too much alcohol.



SAINT ANASTASIA THE DELIVERER FROM POTIONS

Do you see the icon here? It's Saint Anastasia, the Great Martyr. Do you think she looks rich and famous, or do you think she looks kind of simple and plain?

Saint Anastasia grew up in a rich family, and her father (who wasn't a Christian) wanted her to marry a rich man (who wasn't a Christian), and she'd be set up for life! Young Anastasia did marry the man, but she had other plans for her life, too. She wanted to serve her Lord. She wanted to help other Christians serve the Lord too!



her province, even going into the prisons to take care of them. Saint Anastasia was a brave young woman. Later on, she suffered a lot as a Christian, and she was even killed because she wouldn't give up her faith. We call her a "great martyr" just like we do for other big saints like Saint Katherine and Saint George. That's because many people became Christian when they saw Anastasia's strong faith in

We celebrate St. Anastasia on Wed., December 22nd (OC: Jan. 4th).

Christ is born! Glorify Him!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2021 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) gmail.com. Find it each week at myocn.net.

WELCOME THE NEW YEAR 2022 FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 31st

SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

650 HANOVER STREET, MANCHESTER, N.H.



DOORS OPEN 8:00 P.M.

CHAMPAGNE, DINNER, AND DANCING

MUSIC BY THE KOSTA TASLIS BAND

TICKETS \$60 PER PERSON, CHILDREN 16 AND UNDER FREE AVAILABLE AT THE CATHEDRAL OFFICE 603-622-9113