NATIVITY
of our Lord

GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING!
December 24, 2022

Eve of the Nativity of Christ

Saints of the Day: Eugenia the Nun-martyr of Rome

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS!!!

Thank you for worshipping with us!!! Please join us for fellowship immediately following The Divine Liturgy. For those visiting an Orthodox Church for the first time, please be aware that Holy Communion is a sign of unity of faith which is only offered to Baptized or Christened Orthodox Christians. All present are welcome, and encouraged, to receive the antidoron (bread given to those who do not/are not able receive Holy Communion) which is distributed at the end of the service. For those interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, please feel free to speak with Fr. Demetri after the service.

WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO FOLLOW ALONG AND PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVINE LITURGY WITH THE BOOKS PROVIDED!!!

WEEK IN PREVIEW

**Sat., Dec 24**
Greek Preschool 9am
***Christmas Eve***
Divine Liturgy 4:30pm

**Sun., Dec 25**
**Nativity of our Lord***
Christmas Day
**Orthros 7:30am***
**Divine Liturgy 8:30am***

**Mon., Dec 26**
OFFICE CLOSED
Basketball
3/4 Coed 6pm
HS Boys 7:30pm

**Tues., Dec 27**
Library Memory Project
Photo ID by Zoom 7pm
Basketball HS Boys 7pm

**Thurs., Dec 29**
Basketball
5/6 Boys 6pm
Combined 7/8 & HS Boys 7:30pm

**Sat., Dec 31**
New Year’s Eve
Dance 8pm

**Sun., Jan 1**
**Orthros 8:45am***
**Divine Liturgy 10am***

**Mon., Jan 2**
OFFICE CLOSED
Hymns Chanted Following the Small Entrance

Anthem for the Nativity of our Lord in the Fourth Tone

Ἡ Γέννησις σου Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τῷ τῆς γνώσεως ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἁστροῖς λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἁστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἡλίου τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολῆν. Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.

Seasonal/Kontakion Hymn in the Third Tone

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν υἱερούσιον τύπτει, καὶ ή γῆ τοῦ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Άγγελοι μετὰ Πισιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἁστέρος ὀδουροῦσι δι’ ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννηθή, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰῶνον Θεός.

On this day the Virgin gives * birth to the Super-essential. * To the Unapproachable, * earth is providing the grotto. * Angels sing and with the shepherds offer up glory. * Following a star the Magi are still proceeding. * He was born for our salvation, a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrews 1: 1-12

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs. For to what angel did God ever say, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? And again, when he brings the first-born into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "Who makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever, the righteous scepter is the scepter of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, thy God, has anointed thee with the oil of gladness beyond thy comrades." And, "Thou, Lord, didst found the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands; they will perish, but thou
remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle thou wilt roll them up, and they will
be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years will never end."

Titus 1:1-12

Аделфоί, полумерώς καὶ πολυτρόπως πάλαι ο Θεός λαλήσας τοῖς πατράσιν ἐν τοῖς
προφήταις, ἐπὶ ἐσχάτων τῶν ἡμερῶν τούτων ἐλάλησεν ἡμῖν ἐν Υἱῷ, ὃν ἔθηκε κληρονόμον
πάντων, δι᾽ οὗ καὶ τοὺς αἰῶνας ἐποίησεν ὡς ὁ ἄπαγαγόμας τῆς δόξης καὶ χαρακτὴρ τῆς
ὑποστάσεως αὐτοῦ, φέρον τε τὰ πάντα τῷ ῥήματι τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ, διʼ ἐκείνου
cathaρισμὸν ποιησάμενος τῶν ἁμαρτίων ἡμῶν ἐκάθισεν ἐν δεξιᾷ τῆς μεγαλωσύνης ἐν
ὕψηλοις, τοσοῦτο κρείττων γενόμενος τῶν Ἀγγέλων, ὡς διαφορώτερον παρ’ αὐτοῖς
κεκληρονόμηκεν ὅνομα. Τίνι γὰρ εἶπέ ποτὲ τῶν Ἀγγέλων Υἱός μου εἰ σύ, ἣν ὁ σήμερον
γεγένηκα σε, καὶ πάλιν ἑγὼ ἐσομαι αὐτῷ εἰς Πατέρα, καὶ αὐτὸς ἔσται μοι εἰς Υἱόν; Ὄταν
dὲ πάλιν εἰσαγάγῃ τὸν πρωτότοκον εἰς τὴν οἰκουμένην, λέγει καὶ προσκυνησάτωσαν
αὐτῷ πάντες Ἀγγέλοι Θεοῦ. Καὶ πρὸς μὲν τοὺς Ἀγγέλους λέγει ὁ ποιῶν τοὺς Ἀγγέλους
αὐτοῦ πνεύματα, καὶ τοὺς λειτουργοὺς αὐτοῦ πυρὸς φλόγα: πρὸς δὲ τὸν Υἱὸν ὁ θρόνος
σου, ὁ Θεός, εἰς τὸν αἰώνα τοῦ αἰώνος, ῥάβδος εὐθύτητος, ἡ ῥάβδος τῆς βασιλείας σου
ἡγάτης δικαιοσύνην καὶ ἐμίσησας ἀνομίαν: διὰ τούτο ἔχρισε σε ὁ Θεός, ὁ Θεὸς σου
ἐλαιον ἀγαλλιάσσεσαι παρὰ τούς μετόχους σου καὶ σὺ κατ’ ἀρχάς, κύριε, τὴν γῆν
ἐθεμελίσσας, καὶ ἐργα τῶν χειρῶν σου εἰσὶν οἱ σύρανοι αὐτοὶ ἀπολοῦνται, σὺ δὲ
diαμένεις καὶ πάντες ὁς ἵματον παλαιωθήσονται, καὶ ὁσεὶ περιβόλαιον ἠλίξεις αὐτούς, καὶ
ἀλλαγήσονται σὺ δὲ ὁ αὐτὸς εἶ, καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου οὐκ ἐκλείψουσιν.

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This
was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each
to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the
city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be
enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came
for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling
clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in that
region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an
angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were
filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a
great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.
Christmas Message 2022

Christmas is about the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is about love—eternal, unselfish and self-sacrificing love. It is about sharing and caring. It is about forgiving and reconciling. It is about respect for other people’s human rights and dignity. It is about our yearning for peace here in America and throughout the world. It is about all those whom we have forgotten, the homeless and the hungry, the imprisoned and the rejected, the battered and the abused.

Saint John the Evangelist writes in the first chapter of his Gospel, “the Logos became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory as an only Son coming from the Father, filled with enduring love”. Unselfish love is the reality of Christmas. We exchange presents on Christmas day to signify the treasure of God’s love. In all the dazzle of TV ads and toys, of frenzied shopping, of the office parties and the staggering bills, we tend to lose sight of the enduring love of God. We tend to be so engulfed in possessions rather than focusing on the Messiah who emptied Himself to become a servant in order to emancipate humanity from servitude to sin.

We are distracted, I fear, by the shopping frenzy. Sadly, Christmas has been relegated to “making a list and checking it twice”. The shameful assaults of consumerism dilute the Christmas joy that we should all experience.

Christmas should be a time for us to reflect on family life, on marriage, on love, on commitment, on the grace of God, on the design of God in our lives and our response to His call to salvation. Christmas should be a time to reflect upon the gospel message and its power to change the world.

We celebrate today the incarnation of the Son of God. If peace, justice, compassion, reconciliation, and love are to become incarnate in our world, our hearts must be converted. “Peace on earth and good will toward men” can only become realities when they become incarnate in our hearts and manifested in our daily lives. Christmas is a time to accept the Son of God in our lives and be strengthened in our faith and commitment. Christmas is a time to slow down from our hectic pace for moments of
prayer and reflection to communicate with God. Christmas is a time to share God’s love with those in our midst who suffer, for God shed His Grace upon each of us in order that we may share His Grace, joy and salvation with everyone.

Christmas is a time to measure the influence of society on our lives: To evaluate our values, if you will. What values are portrayed in the media today? What religious and emotional impacts do advertisements and television and radio programs have upon us? Where is the message of Christ? Is it not tuned out by the glaring sounds of consumerism and materialism? Can we distinguish the melody of hope and joy associated with Christmas? Can we rejoice in the splendor of God’s love? Can we celebrate His promise fulfilled?

We cannot if we have dashed about hurriedly, writing cards and attending parties, shopping and cooking and not stopping to reflect on the miracle of Christmas.

Christmas cannot be celebrated with glitter and tinsel, jingle bells and holly, because Christmas is all about life, birth, joy. It is about Love, the eternal, unselfish love of God. It is about the family of mankind sharing, caring, forgiving and being with one another. It is about respect for human dignity and freedom. It is about our yearning for peace. It is about the homeless and the hungry, the imprisoned, the despised, the battered and abused. It is about God and His love for each of us and how we share that love with our fellow human beings.

Let us grasp the true meaning of Christmas. Let us reach out for the redeeming truth and for one another in a reborn spirit of brotherly love.

May our Savior rest in the manger of our hearts and grant us health, peace, joy and every heavenly gift every day of the New Year.

With Hierarchical Love,

METHODIOS
Metropolitan of Boston
A PRAYER IN TIME OF NEED

Almighty God, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, come to my help and deliver me from this difficulty that besets me. I believe, Lord, that all trials of life are under Your care and that all things work for the good of those who love You.

Take away from me fear, anxiety and distress.

Help me to face and endure my difficulty with faith, courage, and wisdom. Grant that this trial may bring me closer to You, for You are my rock and refuge, my comfort and hope, my delight and joy.

I trust in Your love and compassion. Blessed is Your name, Father Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THOSE GOING THROUGH DEPRESSION

Lord Jesus Christ our God, who brought great joy into the world with Your Divine Birth, and salvation through Your glorious Resurrection; who shed Your precious blood to wash away the sins of humankind and to revive our spirit;

Approaching Your goodness, I ask that you hear my prayer and the voice of my petition and look with compassion upon (person’s name) and restore hope and well-being to his/her life.

Banish from him/her the spirit of depression and melancholia by Your Grace. And if it was brought by the stain of sin, wash it away with your precious blood; if by unrighteousness, remove it with Your justice; if by guilt, lead him/her to confession and forgiveness; if by fear, drive it away with Your reassurance; if by anger and hostility, replace them with calmness and love.

Let not his/her faith waver; permit not his/her hope to flee; let not his/her trust in you fade away.

Illumine the darkness of his/her soul; disperse the cloud of despair that has encompassed him/her; reassure his/her mind; lift up his/her spirit; restore his/her confidence, and open the doors of his/her hear to permit the Holy Spirit to enter and abide there, and bring renewal and healing to his/her body and soul.
REGISTRATION SCHEDULE
Grades 11 & 12 - Registration opens Monday 1/2 @ 7pm
Grades 6 - 10 - Registration opens Tuesday 1/3 @ 7pm
REGISTRATION FEE & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFO CAN BE FOUND BELOW
ARRIVAL: Saturday, February 16th - 9am | DEPARTURE: Monday, February 20th - 11am

Campers will choose one of the two field trip options listed below upon registering.
Changes may not be accommodated after January 31st. Any balance will be credited to the camper’s account for future use.

WINTER CAMP FIELD TRIP OPTIONS

TOUR DE TOOKY
Maple Syrup Factory
Cow Milk Farm
Ice Skating
$300

PAT’S PEAK SKI MOUNTAIN
Skiing
Snowboarding
Tubing
$350

BOTH ENDING AT PAT’S PEAK FOR OUR WINTER CAMP SLEIGH ROOM DANCE

DUE TO NEW MANAGEMENT AT PAT’S PEAK, THE PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WHICH ALLOWED CAMPERS TO SKI FOR FREE HAS BEEN TERMINATED. THE FIELD TRIP NOW COSTS ABOUT $100 PER CAMPER, WHICH THE CAMP IS SUBSIDIZING IN PART.

Please visit metropolisofbostoncamp.org for more info or scan the QR code.
New Year’s Eve Dance

Saturday December 31, 2022
Doors open 8 p.m.

Tickets $60 per person (children 12 and under free)

Tickets available through Tuesday December 27

Music by the Kosta Taslis Band
Champagne, Dinner, and Dancing
Cash Bar—Wine and Beer

St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral
650 Hanover Street, Manchester, NH 603-622-9113 office@stgeorghnh.org

Please scan this QR Code for all registration information or visit metropolisofbostoncamp.org/young-adult-retreat.html
PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP TIME CHANGE - On Sunday December 25, Orthros starts at 7:30am and Divine Liturgy starts at 8:30am.

ALTAR CANDLES - Altar candles on Sunday December 25 and Sunday January 1 are provided in loving memory of Evangelos B. Tsingos by Vasso Tsingos and family.

OFFICE CLOSED - The office is closed on Monday December 26 and Monday January 2.

NEW YEAR’S EVE DANCE - Tickets are still available from the church office! Come celebrate the start of the New Year at the New Year’s Eve dance. See flyer for more info.

CADILLAC 50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS - Stop by the office to pick up your 50/50 Cadillac Raffle ticket, $10 each. You do not need to attend the event for a chance to win. If you are interested in attending the Cadillac Classic, please call the office for more information.

VASILOPITA 2023 - Vasilopita are available for purchase $20 each on Thursday December 29 from 6pm to 8pm and Friday December 30 from 10am to noon.

KOURAMBIETHES - Cookies are available while supplies last! $2 each or 6 for $10. Available after Sundays at coffee hour until noon and during the week from 9am to 4pm. Cash or check made payable to Anagenesis Ladies Society.

GOYA MEETING - There will be a GOYA member meeting on Sunday January 8 after Sunday School.

PROSFORA, PLEASE - You are invited to make Prosfora to be used during the Sunday Services. Thank you for helping with this special need.

PHOTOGRAPHERS WANTED - Photographers wanted to take pictures at future events for the St. George Memory Project. Please contact the office for more info.

SAVE THE DATES - The Apokreatiko Dance will be held on Saturday, February 18. AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope will host a pancake breakfast on Sunday, February 19.
HAS CHRISTMAS LOST IT'S TRUE MEANING?

We have probably heard that troubling query expressed hundreds of times over the course of the past few weeks. Each of us, no doubt, has lamented the misplaced emphasis and focus during this season when we are supposed to be commemorating the BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR. Through the years, we have watched helplessly as Christ has effectively been taken out of our celebration of Christmas. “Receiving” has become more important than “giving.” Solemnity has given way to revelry. When we attempt to speak out against those who have distorted the meaning of this sacred day, we are truly “a voice crying in the wilderness!” Consequently, we find ourselves saying little about it – except to those who share our sentiments. As we witness the self-indulgent way that today’s society observes a day that should be filled with spiritual joy, we are tempted to echo the words uttered by Ebenezer Scrooge: “Christmas? Bah, humbug!”

We must truly remember that CHRIST IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON. God gave of Himself for the benefit of all mankind. “For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son . . .” Christ brought peace to the world . . . He brought hope to the world . . . He brought salvation to the world. Only those who willingly give of themselves for the benefit of others can receive these wonderful “gifts” offered freely by our Lord.

Perhaps it involves giving a gift to your favorite charity. Perhaps it involves a donation of your time or talent to a person in need. It could even be something as simple as a kind word of encouragement or an attentive ear. All of these acts are viewed positively by our Lord above.

It is refreshing to see that the true message of Christmas has not been lost. Hopefully this restores our faith in humanity, melts away our cynicism and reminds us what Christmas is all about. May the “SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS” live on in the hearts of those who love and serve the Lord.

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Lord’s Day (Sunday) Services:
Orthros/Matins: 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m.

An electronic copy of this bulletin is available on the website.
Elements of Great Vespers on December 24

Priest: Blessed is our God always now and forever and to the ages of ages.

Chanter: Amen (in the Plagal of the 2nd Tone)
O Savior, You were secretly born in the cave, but heaven used the star as a mouth and announced You to all. It brought to You the Magi who worshipped You with faith. Together with them have mercy on us.

Verse: His foundations are in the holy mountains; the Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
It brought to You the Magi who worshipped You with faith. Together with them have mercy on us.
Καὶ Μάγους σοι προσήνεγκεν, ἐν πίστει προσκυνοῦντάς σε' μεθ' δὲν ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς

Verse: Glorious things were said concerning you, O city of God. I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to those who know Me.
It brought to You the Magi who worshipped You with faith. Together with them have mercy on us.
Καὶ Μάγους σοι προσήνεγκεν, ἐν πίστει προσκυνοῦντάς σε' μεθ' δὲν ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς

Verse: Behold, foreigners, and the people of Tyre and Ethiopia.
It brought to You the Magi who worshipped You with faith. Together with them have mercy on us.
Καὶ Μάγους σοι προσήνεγκεν, ἐν πίστει προσκυνοῦντάς σε' μεθ' δὲν ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς

Verse: These were born there. A man will say, "Mother Zion," and a man was born in her; for the Most High Himself founded it.
It brought to You the Magi who worshipped You with faith. Together with them have mercy on us.
Καὶ Μάγους σοι προσήνεγκεν, ἐν πίστει προσκυνοῦντάς σε' μεθ' δὲν ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς

Verse: The Lord shall describe it in a written account of the peoples and of the rulers, of those who were born in her. How glad are all who have their dwelling in you.
It brought to You the Magi who worshipped You with faith. Together with them have mercy on us.
Καὶ Μάγους σοι προσήνεγκεν, ἐν πίστει προσκυνοῦντάς σε' μεθ' δὲν ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. O Savior, You were secretly born in the cave, but heaven used the star as a mouth and announced You to all. It brought to You the Magi who worshipped You with faith. Together with them have mercy on us.

Reader: The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.
Deacon: Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

Reader: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. His name will be called the Angel of Great Counsel, for I shall bring peace upon the rulers, peace and health by Him. Great shall be His government, and of His peace there is no end. His peace shall be upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order and establish it with righteousness and judgment, from that time forward and unto ages of ages. The zeal of the Lord of hosts shall perform this.

Chanter: (In the Plagal of the 2nd Tone)
You rose from the Virgin, O Christ, the noetic Sun of Righteousness, and a star pointed to You, the Uncontainable contained in a cave. It led the Magi to worship You; and with them we magnify You. O Giver of Life, glory to You!

Verse: The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty; the Lord clothed and girded Himself with power.
It led the Magi to worship You; and with them we magnify You. O Giver of Life, glory to You! Μάγους οδηγήσας εἰς προσκύνησιν σου’ μεθ’ ὑν σε μεγαλύνομεν, Ζωοδότα δόξα σοι.

Verse: He established the world, which shall not be moved.
It led the Magi to worship You; and with them we magnify You. O Giver of Life, glory to You! Μάγους οδηγήσας εἰς προσκύνησιν σου’ μεθ’ ὑν σε μεγαλύνομεν, Ζωοδότα δόξα σοι.

Verse: The rivers, O Lord, lift up; the rivers lift up their voices.
It led the Magi to worship You; and with them we magnify You. O Giver of Life, glory to You! Μάγους οδηγήσας εἰς προσκύνησιν σου’ μεθ’ ὑν σε μεγαλύνομεν, Ζωοδότα δόξα σοι.

Verse: Because of the voices of their many waters, marvelous are the billows of the sea; wondrous is the Lord on high. Your testimonies are very much believed.
It led the Magi to worship You; and with them we magnify You. O Giver of Life, glory to You! Μάγους οδηγήσας εἰς προσκύνησιν σου’ μεθ’ ὑν σε μεγαλύνομεν, Ζωοδότα δόξα σοι.

Verse: Holiness is proper to Your house, O Lord, unto length of days.
It led the Magi to worship You; and with them we magnify You. O Giver of Life, glory to You! Μάγους οδηγήσας εἰς προσκύνησιν σου’ μεθ’ ὑν σε μεγαλύνομεν, Ζωοδότα δόξα σοι.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. You rose from the Virgin, O Christ, the noetic Sun of Righteousness, and a star pointed to You, the Uncontainable contained in a cave. It led the Magi to worship You; and with them we magnify You. O Giver of Life, glory to You!

Priest: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us.
Chanter: Amen