



Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

December 24, 2023

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 Chrismated 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!!!**

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mark T. Adam (3 years)

WEEK IN PREVIEW

<u>Sun, Dec 24</u>	<u>Mon, Dec 25</u>	<u>Tues, Dec 26</u>	<u>Sun, Dec 31</u>
<i>Matins</i> 8:30am	<i>Nativity of Our</i>	OFFICE	<i>Matins</i> 8:30am
<i>Divine Liturgy</i>	<i>Lord/Christmas Day</i>	CLOSED	<i>Divine Liturgy</i>
9:30am	NO SERVICES	Library will be open	9:30am
Memorial Service	OFFICE CLOSED	9am to 11:30am	
Christmas Pageant		Library Memory	
<i>Christmas Divine</i>		Project Picture ID	
<i>Liturgy of St. Basil</i>		by Zoom 7pm	
<i>the Great 5pm</i>			

Altar candles are given in memory of Zaferios Mitsopoulos by Roula Mitsopoulos.

Welcome to the Christmas Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great here at St. George!

We are delighted that you and your family have chosen to take a few moments this evening to worship the Lord with us.

Over 2,000 years ago on a silent and Holy Night, the Savior of the World was Born in the Flesh. Not in a Palace filled with pomp and circumstance, but in a lowly cave because there was no room for Him in the Inn. So many people today still have no desire to make room for the Savior in their hearts, but we would encourage you tonight to once again dedicate your heart to invite Him in to dwell in your heart.

We will chant the Nativity Hymns (the hymn "Those who have been Baptized into Christ have put on Christ" will be chanted instead of "Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal"), read the Scripture Passages for the Feast and we hope that you will ponder them in your heart when they are proclaimed.

We hear in Scripture "Behold, the Virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

When Jesus came to earth it was God declaring His desire to be "with us," and as Jesus breathed His first breath into this fallen world, God was declaring that His presence was available not only then but now too!

Let's make room for Jesus in our hearts and allow God to be "with us" both now and as we celebrate this Feast in our homes!

Hymns Chanted Following the Small Entrance

Anthem for the Nativity of our Lord and Savior in Fourth Tone

Ἡ Γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως· ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. 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 ὑπερούσιον τίκτει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἀστέρος ὁδοιποροῦσι· δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων 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

Galatians 4:4-7

BRETHREN, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir of God through Christ.

Γαλατας 4:4-7

Ἀδελφοί, ὅτε δὲ ἦλθεν τὸ πλήρωμα τοῦ χρόνου, ἐξαπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ, γενόμενον ἐκ γυναικός, γενόμενον ὑπὸ νόμον, ἵνα τοὺς ὑπὸ νόμον ἐξαγοράσῃ, ἵνα τὴν υἰοθεσίαν ἀπολάβωμεν. Ὅτι δέ ἐστε υἱοί, ἐξαπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ εἰς τὰς καρδίας ὑμῶν, κρᾶζον, Ἀββᾶ, ὁ πατήρ. Ὡστε οὐκέτι εἰ δοῦλος, ἀλλ' υἱός· εἰ δὲ υἱός, καὶ κληρονόμος θεοῦ διὰ Χριστοῦ.

Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.'"

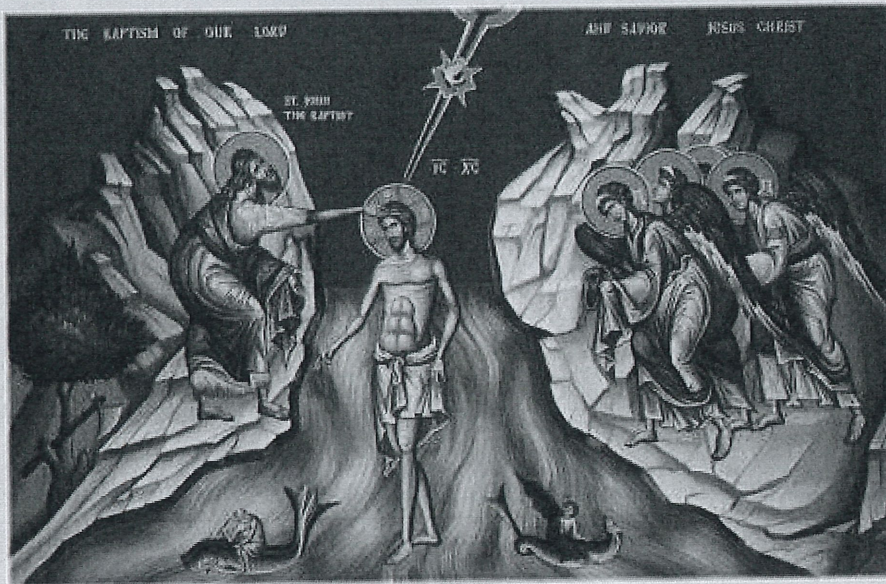
Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." When they had heard the king they

went their way; and lo the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Ματθαιον 2:1-12

Τοῦ δὲ Ἰησοῦ γεννηθέντος ἐν Βηθλεὲμ τῆς Ἰουδαίας ἐν ἡμέραις Ἡρώδου τοῦ βασιλέως, ἰδοὺ μάγοι ἀπὸ ἀνατολῶν παρεγένοντο εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα λέγοντες· ποῦ ἐστὶν ὁ τεχθεὶς βασιλεὺς τῶν Ἰουδαίων; εἶδομεν γὰρ αὐτοῦ τὸν ἀστέρα ἐν τῇ ἀνατολῇ καὶ ἦλθομεν προσκυνῆσαι αὐτῷ. Ἀκούσας δὲ Ἡρώδης ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐταράχθη καὶ πᾶσα Ἱεροσόλυμα μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ συναγαγὼν πάντας τοὺς ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ γραμματεῖς τοῦ λαοῦ ἐπυνθάνετο παρ' αὐτῶν ποῦ ὁ Χριστὸς γεννᾶται. οἱ δὲ εἶπον αὐτῷ· ἐν Βηθλεὲμ τῆς Ἰουδαίας· οὕτω γὰρ γέγραπται διὰ τοῦ προφήτου· καὶ σὺ Βηθλεὲμ, γῆ Ἰούδα, οὐδαμῶς ἐλαχίστη εἶ ἐν τοῖς ἡγεμόσιν Ἰούδα· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἐξελεύσεται ἡγούμενος, ὅστις ποιμανεῖ τὸν λαόν μου τὸν Ἰσραήλ. Τότε Ἡρώδης λάθρα καλέσας τοὺς μάγους ἠκρίβωσε παρ' αὐτῶν τὸν χρόνον τοῦ φαινομένου ἀστέρος, καὶ πέμψας αὐτοὺς εἰς Βηθλεὲμ εἶπε· πορευθέντες ἀκριβῶς ἐξετάσατε περὶ τοῦ παιδίου, ἐπὰν δὲ εὕρητε, ἀπαγγείλατέ μοι, ὅπως κἀγὼ ἐλθὼν προσκυνήσω αὐτῷ. οἱ δὲ ἀκούσαντες τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπορεύθησαν· καὶ ἰδοὺ ὁ ἀστήρ ὃν εἶδον ἐν τῇ ἀνατολῇ προῆγεν αὐτούς, ἕως ἐλθὼν ἔστη ἐπάνω οὗ ᾧ ἦν τὸ παιδίον· ἰδόντες δὲ τὸν ἀστέρα ἐχάρησαν χαρὰν μεγάλην σφόδρα, καὶ ἐλθόντες εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν εἶδον τὸ παιδίον μετὰ Μαρίας τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ, καὶ πεσόντες προσεκύνησαν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀνοίξαντες τοὺς θησαυροὺς αὐτῶν προσήνεγκαν αὐτῷ δῶρα, χρυσὸν καὶ λίβανον καὶ σμύρναν· καὶ χρηματισθέντες κατ' ὄναρ μὴ ἀνακάμψαι πρὸς Ἡρώδην, δι' ἄλλης ὁδοῦ ἀνεχώρησαν εἰς τὴν χώραν αὐτῶν.

HOLY THEOPHANY SERVICES



Thursday, January 4 - Eve of Holy Theophany

6pm Vespers Divine Liturgy with Lesser Blessing of the Waters to follow

Saturday, January 6 - Holy Theophany

8:30am Matins/Orthros *(if chanter available)*

9:30am Divine Liturgy with Greater Blessing of the Waters to follow

Sunday, January 7 - Synaxis of St. John the Baptist

830am Matins/Orthros

930am Divine Liturgy

Vasilopita Cutting to follow in Community Center

VASILOPITA SUNDAY



imgg.com

January 7, 2024

Our Cathedral Family will celebrate Vasilopita Sunday on January 7 in our Community Center following Divine Services.

This year we are asking...

**FOR YOUR INVOLVEMENT!
HOW???**

We are asking our Faithful to make a Vasilopita using their own recipe from their own tradition.
(as you can see in the picture below)

Please remember to put a coin in the bread (wrapped in foil or parchment paper) that way many of our ministres and their dedicated leaders and participants have a chance to get a coin for the year!!!



PROSPHORO

Help with
this need!

AN OFFERING TO GOD

THE PREPARATION OF THE HOLY
BREAD OFFERING, IN THE
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

[Go straight to "How-to"](#)

Bread has been the emblem of God's providence for us, throughout humanity's history. Both physical (bread as food) and spiritual - the *επιούσιον* (epiousion) or "supersubstantial" bread of the Lord's prayer, the bread of Holy Communion.

In the Orthodox Christian church, the pinnacle of our worship is union with Christ, both spiritually but also physically, by consuming the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Since the Last Supper, before every Divine Liturgy, one or more of the faithful prepare and bring bread to church to be used as the Body of Christ in the Eucharist. The Orthodox church is liturgical. For those of us who bake prospophoro, the liturgy begins as we prepare to bake!

Prospophoro is an offering to God, made from His material gifts to us, and prepared lovingly and prayerfully.

A special website is available to share with the faithful this 'proper' method of preparation of the holy gift according to the Greek Orthodox tradition. Please click the following QR code to visit the site, to learn about this wonderful tradition of our church.





PRAYER LIST

Pondering on the words of St. Paul, "Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's wellbeing. (I Cor. 10:24).

Give rest to the weary, visit the sick, support the poor, for this is also worship. Aphahat

For any prayer concern (salvation, health, employment, stress and anxieties, etc.) please send baptismal names only to: office@stgeorgenh.org

We may not be able to help others materially or medically, but God does hear our prayers and always asks us to pray for each other and so build up the Body of Christ (Eph. 4:11-16).

For health, recovery from illness and surgery: Fr. Nicholas, Fr. Peter, Leah, Thomas, Soultana, Nick, Maura, Ernie, Dean, Vasilios, Rigley, Zachary, Rachel, Daniel, Kathy, Andrew, Jamie, Megan, Stephanie, Katherine, Christos, Maureen, Vasiliki, Maria, Faye, Emily, Nicole, Olivia, Georgia, Mark, James, Vasilios, Maria, Anna, Efthimios, Christopher, Katerina, Debra, Pavlos, Ken, Star, Maria, John, Chris, Anthony, Laurie, Emily, Kleoniki, Michael, Nicholas, Paul, George, Angelina, Lajuana, John and Family, Alexandra

For comfort, spiritual help & strengthening of faith: Pres. Patricia and family, Pres. Diane, Pres. Sophia, Pres. Dianthe, Barbara, Nancy, Amantha and Family, Maddie, Dino, Nick, Connie, Amy, Christopher, Joanna, Paris and Family, Helen & Jim and family, Mary, Fr. Elias and family

For couples, parents, and their families: Neal and Elena, Penelope & Florence, Teddy, Christina & Casey, Melanie and Michael, Alex, Fr. George and Pres. Harriet

For those engaged to be married:

For conceiving of children:

For childbearing: Despina, Karleigh

For those in the Armed Forces: Benjamin, Michael, Gabriel, Felipe, Matt

For those travelling abroad:

For those seeking employment: Lia, Jillian, Nick

****UNFILLED NEED: SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS** - Please sign up to be a teacher and share the teachings of our faith with the future of the church – the children! For more information on how you can help, contact Athena Bevan.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CHRISTMAS RESOURCE TABLE - We welcome all faithful to visit this area in the Community Center. You will find articles, reflections, and information about this beautiful Season in the life of the Church!

METROPOLIS WINTER CAMP - Be quick to sign up for Winter Camp 2024 before it sells out! Choose from Tour De Tooky or Pat's Peak Ski Mountain field trips. Scan the QR code or go to metropolisofbostoncamp.org for more information.



SUPPORT THE MBC WITH AMAZON SMILE - Support MBC by purchasing



much-needed program, medical, and facility supplies! Your generosity helps us provide a summer unlike any other for the hundreds of young people. How it works: Scan the QR code, view the Wishlist items, select the ones you wish to donate, finish the checkout process. The item arrive at camp in just a few short days! Thank you!

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

2024 CALENDARS ARE AVAILABLE - Pick up your calendar in the Narthex, foyer of the community center, or the church office. The Archdiocese discontinued printing the pocket calendars since they have found most people get this information online.

UPCOMING MEMORIALS -January 21: Theodore Karametros (2 years), Demetrios Dellas (1 year), James Dellas (6 years)

ST. PHOTIOS NATIONAL SHRINE 2023 ESSAY CONTEST is accepting submissions through January 5, 2024. Winners will be chosen from each category and will receive an award of \$1,000: 13-15 year old participants and 16-19 year old participants. For more information, please scan this QR code.



PAN HELLENIC SCHOLARSHIPS - Apply online through January 31, 2024 for this scholarship. For application, qualification criteria, requirements, and guidelines, scan this QR code. For more information regarding the scholarship program, contact Elizabeth Danielides at edanielides@panhellenicsf.org.



THOUGHTS ON THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

THE PROPHET ISAIAH: "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His Name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

ST. JOHN OF KRONSTADT: "The Feast of the Nativity of Christ reminds us that we are born of God, that we are sons of God, that we have been saved from sin, and that we must live for God and not sin."

ST. PAUL: "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons."

ST. LUKE: "And Mary brought forth her first-born Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger."

THE PROPHET ISAIAH: "Behold, the Virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Immanuel."

THE ANGELIC HOSTS: "Behold, I bring to you tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David, a Saviour, Who is Christ the Lord."

ST. ISAAC THE SYRIAN: "Today the Divine Being took upon Himself the seal of our humanity, in order for humanity to be decorated by the seal of Divinity."

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Lord's Day (Sunday) Services:

Orthros/Matins: 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy: 9:30 a.m.

An electronic copy of this bulletin is available on the website.