



SERVING THE LORD



December 31, 2023

Sunday Before Epiphany

Saints of the Day: Apodosis of the Nativity; Melania, Nun 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!!!**

WEEK IN PREVIEW

Sun, Dec 31

***Matins 8:30am
Divine Liturgy
9:30am***

**Divine Liturgy for
St. Basil The
Great 4:30pm**

Mon, Jan 1

**Happy New Year!
OFFICE CLOSED**

Tues, Jan 2

**Library will be open
9am to 11:30am

Basketball
HS Boys 5:30pm

Library Memory
Project Picture ID
by Zoom 7pm**

Wed, Jan 3

**Greek Preschool
4pm

Scouts 6pm**

Thurs, Jan 4

***Vespersal Divine
Liturgy with
Blessing of the
Lesser Waters 6pm

Basketball
Grades 5/6 & 7/8
Boys 6pm
HS Boys 7:15pm***

Sat, Jan 6

***Holy Theophany

Orthros 8:30am
Divine Liturgy
with Great
Blessing of the
Waters 9:30am***

Sun, Jan 7

***Synaxis of St.
John the Baptist
Matins 8:30am
Divine Liturgy
9:30am

Vasiloptia Cutting***

**Altar candles are given in memory of Evangelos B. Tsingos
by Vasso Tsingos and Family.**

Hymns Chanted Following the Small Entrance

Resurrectional Hymn in the Plagal of the First Tone.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν· ὅτι ἠυδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγεῖραι τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

As the Father and Spirit are unoriginate, * so the Word, who was born from the Virgin for us. * Let us praise Him, O believers, and let us worship Him. * For our salvation He was pleased * to be crucified in the flesh, * and to undergo death, * and to resurrect the dead, by His glorious resurrection.

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.

Anthem for the Ancestors in the Second Tone

Εὐαγγελίζου Ἰωσήφ, τῷ Δαυὶδ τὰ θαύματα τῷ Θεοπάτορι· Παρθένον εἶδες κυοφορήσασαν, μετὰ Μάγων προσεκύνησας, μετὰ Ποιμένων ἐδοξολόγησας, δι' Ἀγγέλου χρηματισθείς. Ἰκέτευε Χριστὸν τὸν Θεόν, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Annunciate the miracles to David the ancestor of God, O Joseph. You saw the Virgin pregnant. You glorified with the shepherds. You worshipped with the Magi. And you were warned by an Angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

Anthem of St. George in the Fourth Tone

Ὡς τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθερωτῆς, καὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστής, ἀσθενούντων ἱατρός, βασιλέων ὑπέρμαχος, Τροπαιοφόρε Μεγαλομάρτυς Γεώργιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Liberator of captives and defender of the poor, physician of the sick and champion of kings, oh Trophy-bearer and Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, that our souls be saved.

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

2 Timothy 4:5-8

TIMOTHY, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry.

For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Τιμοθεον β' 4:5-8

Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, νῆφε ἐν πᾶσιν, κακοπάθησον, ἔργον ποιήσον εὐαγγελιστοῦ, τὴν διακονίαν σου πληροφόρησον. Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἤδη σπένδομαι, καὶ ὁ καιρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀναλύσεως ἐφέστηκεν. Τὸν ἀγῶνα τὸν καλὸν ἠγωνίσμαι, τὸν δρόμον τετέλεκα, τὴν πίστιν τετήρηκα· λοιπὸν, ἀπόκειται μοι ὁ τῆς δικαιοσύνης στέφανος, ὃν ἀποδώσει μοι ὁ κύριος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, ὁ δίκαιος κριτὴς· οὐ μόνον δὲ ἐμοί, ἀλλὰ καὶ πᾶσιν τοῖς ἡγαπηκόσιν τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν αὐτοῦ.

Matthew 2:1-12

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Μαρκον 1:1-8

Ἀρχὴ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ὡς γέγραπται ἐν τοῖς προφήταις, ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὸν ἄγγελόν μου πρὸ προσώπου σου, ὃς κατασκευάσει τὴν ὁδὸν σου ἔμπροσθέν σου· φωνὴ βοῶντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, ἐτοιμάσατε τὴν ὁδὸν Κυρίου, εὐθείας ποιεῖτε τὰς τρίβους αὐτοῦ, ἐγένετο Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ καὶ κηρύσσων βάπτισμα μετανοίας εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν. Καὶ ἐξεπορεύετο πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶσα ἡ Ἰουδαία χώρα καὶ οἱ Ἱεροσολυμίται, καὶ ἐβαπτίζοντο πάντες ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ ποταμῷ ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ ἐξομολογούμενοι τὰς ἁμαρτίας αὐτῶν. Ἦν δὲ ὁ Ἰωάννης ἐνδεδυμένος τρίχας καμήλου καὶ ζώνην δερματίνην περὶ τὴν ὀσφὺν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐσθίων ἀκρίδας καὶ μέλι ἄγριον. Καὶ ἐκήρυσσε λέγων· ἔρχεται ὁ ἰσχυρότερός μου ὀπίσω μου, οὗ οὐκ εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς κύψας λῦσαι τὸν ἱμάντα τῶν ὑποδημάτων αὐτοῦ· ἐγὼ μὲν ἐβάπτισα ὑμᾶς ἐν ὕδατι, αὐτὸς δὲ βαπτίσει ὑμᾶς ἐν Πνεύματι Ἁγίῳ.

Archepiscopal Encyclical on the New Year 2024

January 1, 2024

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation! What's past has passed. Behold! Everything is new! (II Cor 5:17)

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America:

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

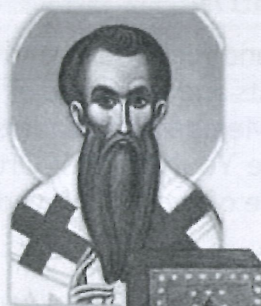
On this first day of the New Year of 2024, let us embrace the newness in Christ, which He has appointed for our renewal and salvation. The Apostle Paul reminds us that we are, in fact, new creations! And that whatever has transpired is beyond us, forgiven and even forgotten. For every new year — whether this civil one, or the Ecclesiastical New Year on September 1 — is a call and opportunity to begin again. Why? Because in Christ, “everything is new.”

This is the truest and the best optimism. Neither a false hope for the future, nor a denial of mistakes in the past. We press forward in Christ, Who is an ever-flowing fountain of love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness. This is how we are called to live — in the dynamic flow of God's grace through the Holy Spirit. Whether it is by our participation in the Sacred Mysteries of the Church, or by applying the teachings of our Savior in our everyday lives. When we pray, “give us this day our daily bread,” it is much more than an invocation of the Eucharist, as precious and profound as it is. We are affirming that the gift of life itself is a constant source of God's nourishing love and care.

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, let us embrace 2024 with the optimism that is grounded in the truth of God. And as we base our hopes in the promises of His Grace, let us remember the Saint of this Day, and the sacred institution of our Archdiocese that bears his righteous name. Saint Basil Academy is a literal incarnation of new beginnings. It is a place of God's love and His promise where newness of life flourishes. Let us always generously remember the Academy and its mission. And may the New Year of God's grace bestow upon you and all those you love the blessings of good health of body and soul, and the newness of life that propels you to reach for even greater spiritual heights.

With much paternal love in Christ,
† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America

VASILOPITA SUNDAY



January 7, 2024

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

This year we are asking...

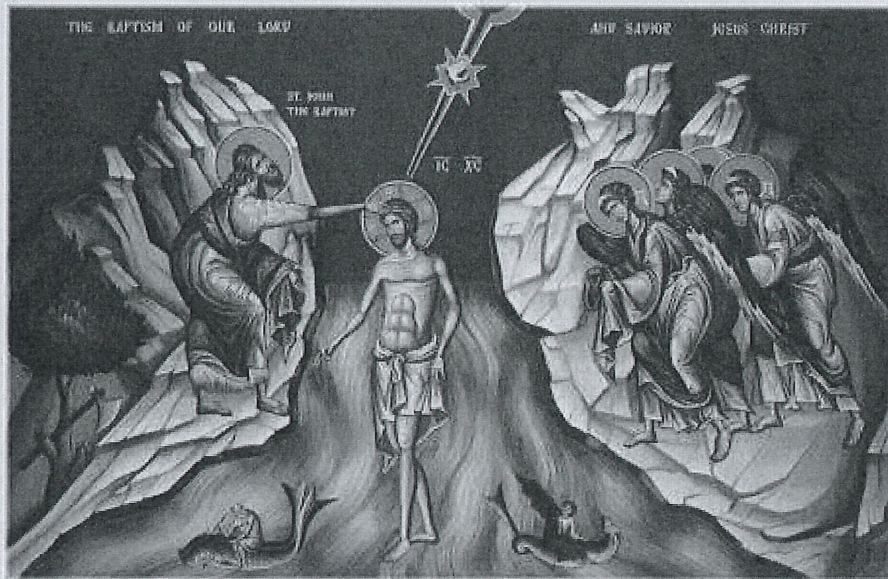
**FOR YOUR INVOLVEMENT!
HOW???**

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 ministires and their dedicated leaders and participants have a chance to get a coin for the year!!!



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

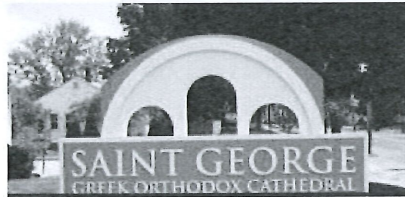
Vasilopita Cutting to follow in Community Center

FamilyNight

BRINGING GENERATIONS TOGETHER

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY CATHEDRAL FAMILY NIGHT!!!

Our St. George Cathedral Family will gather on the first Friday of EVERY month, for a night of fellowship, food and fun!!!



Upcoming Nights and Themes:



Friday, January 12

Basketball Night

All will be invited to learn some drills and to play a few games!

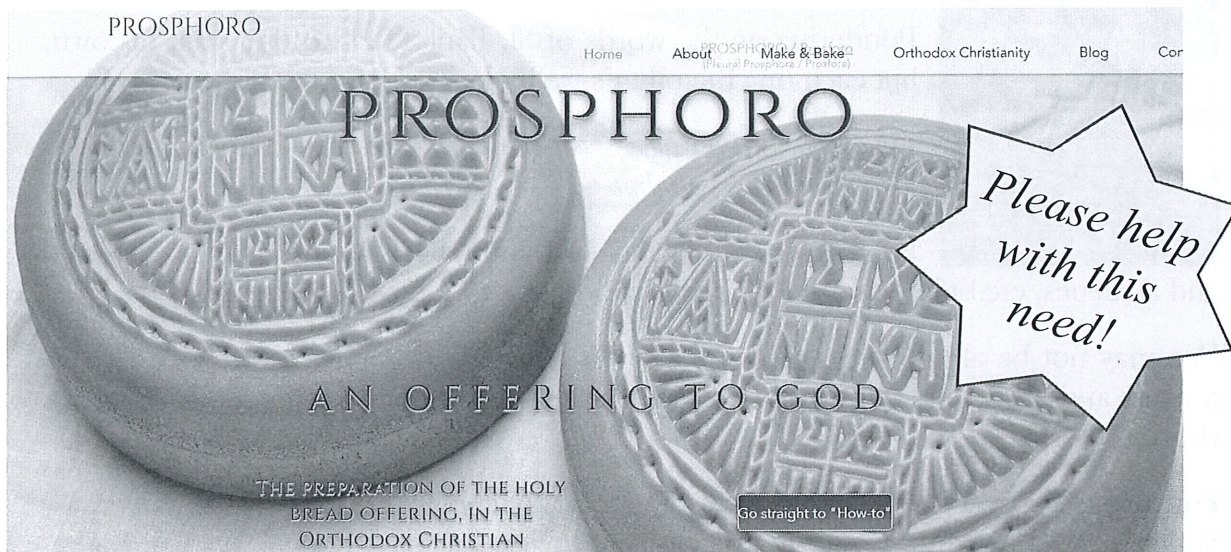


Friday, March 1

BBQ Night

Come and eat MEAT on a Friday at Church...because we CAN!!!!

BRING YOUR CHILDREN,
PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS
TO ALL OF THESE DATES
SO WE CAN ALL ENJOY THESE FRIDAYS
TOGETHER AS
A PARISH FAMILY!!!



Bread has been the emblem of God's providence for us, throughout humanity's history. Both physical (bread as food) and spiritual - the *ἐπιούσιον* (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 prosphoro, the liturgy begins as we prepare to bake!

Prosphoro 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

TAKE A POINSETTIA – If you or someone you know would enjoy a poinsettia plant, please take one after the service. They need new homes.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY – You are invited to join us for our weekly Bible Study which resumes on Wednesday January 10 at 11am in the Library. We do respect one's time and therefore the Bible Study will be one hour. If you are unable to join the morning session, please consider attending Bible Study at Assumption Church on Thursdays at 7pm.

****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.

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.



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)

CADILLAC BALL 50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS – Would you like to be a part of the Cadillac Ball 50/50 Raffle? Then contact the office to participate! Tickets are \$10 each and you do not need to be present to win. Would you like to attend the Cadillac? Contact the church office to let us know. We may have tickets available.

****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.



JESUS CHRIST WANTS US!

For decades, the United States Armed Forces have effectively used the following slogan for recruiting purposes: "Uncle Sam Wants You!" Surely, we have all seen the poster of the old, bearded gentleman, attired in his patriotic suit of red, white and blue. With a piercing gaze, he points to us and appeals to our civic pride. Our country needs us! There is work for us to do for America! We are important to our government! Enlist now!

We should note, however, that the Church has placed a similar message before us for centuries: **JESUS CHRIST WANTS US!** Yes, we are all important to the Lord. Every Orthodox Christian is expected to contribute to the growth of Christ's Church. Christ wants us to be modern-day "apostles," defending His teachings and living according to His precepts. He wants us to be teachers, preachers, leaders and ministers -- there is something we all can be doing for our Savior. Indeed, ". . . we, being many, are one body in Christ." (Romans 13:5)

Our Orthodox Christian responsibility to Christ and His Church is great. The Church has prevailed for over 2,000 years largely because Christ's dedicated followers of every generation have recognized the role that they have been called upon to fulfill. Our Lord needs us to be true to our baptismal vows and serve Him with love to the best of our ability. The future of the Church now rests in **OUR** hands.

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• Fr. Demetrios Costarakis, Cathedral Dean

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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.