

Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

“... the Disciples were called Christians first in Antioch!” Acts 11:26

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DECEMBER 20, 2009

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

(KNOWN AS THE SUNDAY OF THE GENEALOGY)

Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer, bishop of Antioch; Newmartyr John of Thasos; Daniel II of Serbia

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the first-born of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, and has granted the world great mercy!

Troparion for the For the Forefeast – Tone 4

And it came to pass that Mary was enrolled with Joseph the old man, in Bethlehem, since she was of the seed of David, and was great with the Lamb, without seed. And when the time for delivery drew near, and they had no place in the village, the cave did appear to the queen as a delightful palace. Verily, Christ shall be born, raising the likeness that fell of old.

Troparion for the For the Fathers – Tone 2

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as thou at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, Have mercy upon us.

Titular Feast of the Church (Kontakion for Pascha) – Tone 8

You descended into the tomb O immortal; You destroyed the power of death. In victory you arose O Christ God, proclaiming ‘Rejoice’ to the myrrh-bearing women. Granting peace to Your apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Kontakion for the Preparation of the Nativity of Christ – Tone 3

The virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice O earth at the message. With the angels and shepherds give glory to him who shall appear by his own will as a young child, he who is from eternity God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **The Myrrhbearers** of are having a potluck dinner on at HROC Saturday, January 9th at 4:00pm to raise funds for a charity not yet determined. Please plan on attending and let us know if have a particular charity you’d like us to consider.
- ❖ We are planning an **OCMC trip to the Yukon River area of Alaska** August 17th - 28th. We will be teaching the basic tenets of the Faith to the Athapaskan people. Please **read the posting downstairs** for more information and see Denise Lynch if you are interested. Your application should be sent in soon. We will be having fundraisers to offset the costs involved.
- ❖ The **2010 Church Cleaning Schedule** is posted downstairs. Please volunteer to serve the church in this way if you can. Thank you.
- ❖ **Food for Hungry People** is sponsoring a food drive from October through the end of December. They are asking us to contribute as much food as we can to our local food pantry. We collected 125 pounds of food during this time last year. **Let’s see if we can fill up our box in the narthex this year.** Thank you very much! - Denise
- ❖ **Choir Rehearsals** – We are now having **monthly choir researsals** following Great Vespers on the same Saturday Parish Council meets, which is normally the 3rd Saturday of each month. Please contact Mitch or Curt if you’re willing to participate. **Please consider serving in the choir!**

CALENDAR

(✘ Denotes Fast Day)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
✘ Dec 20	✘ Dec 21	✘ Dec 22	✘ Dec 23	✘ Dec 24	Dec 25	Dec 26
Orthros - 8:45am Liturgy - 9:30am			No Vespers		Nativity Liturgy - 9:00am	Vespers - 6:00pm Julianne Lear
Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 1	Jan 2
Orthros - 8:45am Liturgy - 9:30am	Matthew Drennan		No Vespers			Vespers - 6:00pm

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO CALENDAR OR PRAYER LIST MAY BE SENT TO 'MRB@BRIGHTSITES.COM' OR CALL 840-0120

PRAYER REMINDER

Fr. Paisius (The Academy)
 Jim Vail (St. Seraphim Brotherhood)
 Chaplain Terry Harman
 Chaplain David Rogers
 St. Moses Community
 Gertrude Parrish
 Resa Ellison
 Ellison & LaRocco Families

George
 Frank
 Allison
 Ann
 Sharon
 Cathy
 Shane
 Anthony Gonzalez

Thomas
 Kay
 Alex Mellinger
 Chris Tucker
 Joe O'Dea
 Jeff
 Trevor Butler

Orthodox Departed
 Archbishop Job
 Patriarch Paul
 The Priest Daniel
 Celia LaRocco

THE EPISTLE READING

HEBREWS 11:9-10; 17:23, 32-40

Prokeimenon: *Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our Fathers.
For you are just in all you have done*

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

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.

THE GOSPEL READING

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.

WORDS OF WISDOM

“Beware of greed and remain pure and just. Restrain yourself from every vice. He who cannot restrain himself, how will he be able to teach others restraint?”

St. Polycarp