

# CHRIST THE SAVIOUR ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE OCA DIOCESE OF EASTERN PA • HIS GRACE, BISHOP TIKHON OF PHILADELPHIA

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*Celebrating 48 years of Proclaiming the Truth of Orthodox Christianity*

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 18, 2011

**27<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2 (13<sup>th</sup> of Luke). SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY** Martyr Sebastian at Rome and his companions: Nicostratus, Zoë, Castorius, Tranquillinus, Marcellinus, Mark, Claudius, Symphorian, Victorinus, Tiburtius, and Castulus. Ven. Sebastian, Abbot of Pshekhónsk Monastery. Righteous Simeon the Wonderworker. St. Modestus, Archbishop of Jerusalem. St. Florus, Bishop of Amisus. St. Michael the Confessor at Constantinople.

**Epistle:** Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

**Gospel:** Matthew 1:1-25

### UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS:

**Dec 18, Sun:** **Martyr Sebastian.** Adult Ed -8:30am; *Divine Liturgy* -9:30am; Fellowship -11am; Church School Nativity Play -11:15am

*Hour Readers:* (3<sup>rd</sup>) **Joseph Russian** (6<sup>th</sup>) **Leavitt Keener** • Altar Servers – **All welcome**

**Dec 20, Tue:** Parish Council Meeting -7pm

**Dec 21, Wed:** Bible Study (33 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St) –noon; *Vespers* -6:30pm; *Confessions* -7pm

**Dec 22, Thu:** **Great-martyr Anastasia and her Companions**

**Dec 23, Fri:** *Royal Hours* -9am

**Dec 24, Sat:** **Eve of the Nativity Strict Fast.** *Divine Liturgy* -9:30am; *Great Compline & Matins* -7:30pm

**Dec 25, Sun:** **Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.** *Divine Liturgy* -10am

*Hour Readers:* (3<sup>rd</sup>) **Nicholas Ressetar** (6<sup>th</sup>) **Chet Lubecki** • Altar Servers – **All welcome**

● **ANGIENTFAITHRADIO.COM** - 24 hour Orthodox Internet Radio

● **OrthodoxyinAmerica.org** (Traveling or Going on Vacation?) **check it out!**

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!!!** Please join us for fellowship in the church hall and sign our guest book in the vestibule. **If you are interested in becoming a part of our community please ask to speak to Fr. Stephen. Please note:** Only those faithful who are Orthodox Christians and have properly prepared themselves by fasting (*from all food and drink from midnight*), prayer, and recent confession; and who were present for the reading of the Epistle and Gospel, should approach to receive the Eucharist.

## PARISH PRAYER LIST:

Please remember the following persons during your daily morning and evening prayers. **Names will be listed for 2 weeks unless requested.** Submit names to the office by Wednesday for inclusion.

**Ailing:** Linda Fatula (John Dotsey's co-worker); **Karen Carson** (Elise Mosser's step-fathers sister); **Barbara Lee Pickering** (niece of Gloria Maliniak); **Landon Payne** (child of Jerry & Ann Cole's friends); **Thalia Studulis** (sister of Paul Pellegrini); **Kimberly Rapso, Louis Zang, Dorothy Metelsky** (cousins & friend of M. Theodora); **Saba Ghebremichael; Joan Payne** (Nadzia's friend); **Billy Harter** (Kathy Pankiw's cousin); **William Shaeffer** (John R. Barn's brother-in-law); **Irene Priggin's** (Christine's mother); **Lou DiNafo** (Moe's son-in-law); **Joan Sysak; Francis Friel** (infant son of Lorrie Pawlush's friend); **Joseph Pilc** (Kathryn's son); **Theodore Demopolous** (Samantha's father); **Addison Holl & Van Milbrand** (Larry Smith's friends); **Diane Chambers** (Anna Doray's daughter); **Jamie Krempasky & Irene Pagel** (George's daughter and friend); **Keturah Faust** (J. Barns and L. Shuga's friend); **Naomi Hershey & Carrie Faust** (friends of the Cole's); **Matthew Kocsis; Marlene Kalenak** (Anna Doray's niece); **Pauline Lapinsky, Susan Strenski, & John Fatich** (Janet Kuzupas' siblings); **Christine Demchak** (Sue's sister).

**Health & well-being:** Kevin Herman; **V. Rev. Joseph Martin** (Dave's brother); **Becky Voras** (friend of Lydia Mantle); **Daniel Bretz; Robin Kuzupas; Salwa Shunnara; Addison, Judy & Greg** (family of Christine Priggins); **Dr. Joseph & Barbara Norato; Mattie Martin; Margaret & Cecilia Hunt** (Aunt & Cousin of Larry Smith); **Myron Starinshak & Diane Broskey** (Libby's brother & niece); **Willard Brown; Thomas Ridenour & Christian Ridenour** (son & grandson of Suzanne Mioff); **Joe Demchak; Tom & Bernadine Antolick** (Mary Ellen Osuch's sister & brother-in-law); **Deb Reigle** (friend of Ann Cole); **Archpriest Alexander Atty; Home-bound & in Care Facilities: Betty Danko; Agnes Risser; Millicent Russell; Shirley Sass; Nicholas Essis** **Military: Stephanie King; Ian Smith; Jessica Shingara; Kevin Leonhard; Matthew Pylypciw; Steven Heberle; Thomas Shingara; Sponsored Seminarian: Dn. Ian & M. Priscilla Shipley and family; OCMC Missionary: Christina Semon; Catechumen(s): John & Sharon Shingara; Jonathan Dunnavent; Expectant Mother(s): Jennifer Firestine; Popaija Rebecca Lange; Luda Bryzzheva Sysak; Amanda Schilling** and the children to be born of them;

**Newly Departed:** **Leavitt Keener Sr.** (Leavitt's father) –Dec 14; **Carl Polansky** – Dec 6; **Brian Miller** (friend of Bob Drozd & Beth Lenker) –Dec 5; **Benedetto Panzarella** (George Krempasky's friend) - Nov 14; **Valerie Koskovich** (Shirley Sass's granddaughter) - Nov 14; **Benedict "Ben" Benda** –Nov 12;

**Anniversaries of Those Departed:** **Archbishop JOB** (Diocese of Chicago and Midwest), Dec 18 -2<sup>nd</sup>; **Kathryn Sultzbaugh**, sister of +Russell Sass, Dec 19 -23<sup>rd</sup>; **Bill Brousseau**, husband of Evelyn Krempasky's cousin, Dec 20 -1<sup>st</sup>; **Todorka Mioff**, mother of Eli, Dec 21 -23<sup>rd</sup>; **Nadya Snow**, sister of Gloria Maliniak, Dec 21 -10<sup>th</sup>; **Peter Krempasky Jr.**, George's brother, Dec 22 - 5<sup>th</sup>; **Sophia Smetanick**, mother of Vicki Henry, Dec 23 -19<sup>th</sup>; **Dorothy Whitesel**, aunt of John R. Barns, Dec 23 -9<sup>th</sup>; **Marie Broskey**, sister of Libby Hancher, Dec 23 -2<sup>nd</sup>;

**Candle Offerings:** *For information on how to purchase commemoration candles, please go to the candle desk or speak with one of the vestrymen.*

- ❖ **Seven Day Votive** is offered in **Memory of Marie Broskey**, sister & aunt of the Hanchers
- ❖ **Two decorated candles (on Oblation table)** are offered in **Memory of John Osuch, Sr.**, father of Mr. & Mrs. John Osuch, Jr., on the 26<sup>th</sup> year of his departing this life.

**Many Years:** Names will be accepted for each week. Please submit to [ctsocahbq@aol.com](mailto:ctsocahbq@aol.com) by the preceding Wednesday for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin.

**Anniversaries:** **Doug & Barbara Cain** – Dec 24

**Birthdays:** **Angela DiFlorio** – Dec 18; **Leavitt Keener** – Dec 21; **Christopher Dupkanick** - Dec 22

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS:

**Nativity Play:** TODAY our children and young adults will be performing their production of "How Does Santa Fit into Christmas" after Divine Liturgy in the Fellowship Hall. The entire parish family is encouraged to attend the performance "produced" by our Church School teachers and "starring" our children and young adults.

**Christmas Poinsettia & Decorated Candles:** You can donate a poinsettia to adorn our church during the Nativity & Theophany season or donate decorated candles for the Great Feast of Nativity in memory of a loved one or for the health and salvation of your family & friends. *Please see the sign-up lists on the candle desk in the vestibule*



- **Poinsettias** are \$8 ea. and you may take it home after the festive season.
- **Regular Decorated Candles** are \$10 ea.

**Men's Club Open House:** The Men's Club will host their Annual Open House on **Monday, Dec 26<sup>th</sup>**. Vespers is at 5pm, followed by a social at 5:30pm. The complimentary Pork Loin Dinner will be at 6pm. Please sign the list in the vestibule if you plan to attend. If you wish to bring a dessert please make a notation by your name on the sign up sheet in the vestibule.

**Book Club: "Facing East"** by Frederica Matthewes-Green is now available in the office for \$12. The discussion will take place at Agia Sophia Coffee House and Bookstore (225 Market St.) on **Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3pm**. All are welcome, please bring a friend!

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS:** The season of Advent, in which we prepare to celebrate the Birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, is an opportune time to participate in the Sacrament of Confession. Our Lord came to free humanity from the weight of sin and death, and He continues to offer us the possibility to experience this "first-hand" through this blessed and holy Sacrament. Orthodox Christians who regularly receive Holy Communion (the **goal** is at least every Sunday) should participate in the Sacrament of Confession every 6-8 weeks; or more often if their conscience dictates. May God bless your efforts!

**Greeters wanted:** If you would like to serve your parish by being a greeter one Sunday morning a month, please contact **Joanne Wevodau** at [jwevodau@verizon.net](mailto:jwevodau@verizon.net), in person or call 580-4833. "No experience necessary" – just a friendly smile and a willingness to help.

**CTS Cook Book:** The reprint of CTS Cook Book is available. Please see Alice Mallick or Evelyn Krempansky for more information.

**Fellowship Hour Schedule:** Parishioners are asked to help by bringing at least **48** servings of baked goods and to serve them during their assigned fellowship hour. Please check the dates below and mark your calendar accordingly. ***The complete list through next May 2012 is available at the parish hall.*** If you are unable to be at church on your scheduled date contact **Nadzia Schilling** at 652-2759.

**Dec 25:**

**NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST**

Jan 1:

New Year's Day

Jan 8:

Larissa Shuga

Evelyn Krempasky

Mary White

**LAST SUNDAY LITURGY ATTENDANCE: 145**

## EVENTS AROUND OUR ORTHODOX COMMUNITY

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of the Susquehanna:** this Pan-Orthodox event will be held on **Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm** at City Island Park. Following the blessing all are invited to Agia Sophia Coffee House (225 Market Street, Harrisburg) for some fellowship.

**75<sup>th</sup> Annual Novogodny (New Year's) Ball:** is sponsored by St. Stephen's OCF (FOCA @ St. Stephen's Cathedral, Philadelphia) will be held on **Sunday January 15, 2012**. For details call Paul Fedoronko at 610-328-6911 or email [novogodnyball@verizon.net](mailto:novogodnyball@verizon.net). There is also a flyer posted in the church hall.

**Winter Retreat 2012:** The Diocese of Eastern PA Offices of Young Adult Activities is hosting a Winter Retreat for **Students in grades 7 – 12** at the Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton, PA on **Feb 3-5**. The Theme is *Thou Art the God Who Does Wonders: Miracles & Orthodoxy*, presented by Fr. Timothy Hojnicky of Holy Apostles Mission. For more information please see the flyer in the candle stand or visit [www.ocayouth.org](http://www.ocayouth.org).

## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 18, 2011

### ***Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23,32-40 (Epistle, Sunday Before)***

*Brethren,* <sup>9</sup> by faith Abraham dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; <sup>10</sup> for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God. <sup>17</sup> By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten *son*, <sup>18</sup> of whom it was said, "*In Isaac your seed shall be called,*" <sup>19</sup> concluding that God *was* able to raise *him* up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. <sup>20</sup> By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. <sup>21</sup> By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, *leaning* on the top of his staff. <sup>22</sup> By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. <sup>23</sup> By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw *he was* a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command. <sup>32</sup> And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also *of* David and Samuel and the prophets: <sup>33</sup> who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, *in* dens and caves of the earth. <sup>39</sup> And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, <sup>40</sup> God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.



### ***Matthew 1:1-25 (Gospel, Sunday Before)***

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:<sup>2</sup> Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. <sup>3</sup> Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. <sup>4</sup> Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. <sup>5</sup> Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, <sup>6</sup> and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her *who had been the wife* of Uriah. <sup>7</sup> Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. <sup>8</sup> Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. <sup>9</sup> Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. <sup>10</sup> Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. <sup>11</sup> Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. <sup>12</sup> And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. <sup>13</sup> Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. <sup>14</sup> Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. <sup>15</sup> Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. <sup>16</sup> And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. <sup>17</sup> So all the generations from Abraham to David *are* fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon *are* fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ *are* fourteen generations. <sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. <sup>20</sup> But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: <sup>23</sup> "*Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,*" which is translated, "God with us." <sup>24</sup> Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, <sup>25</sup> and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

**GLORY TO THEE O LORD, GLORY TO THEE!**