

SUNDAY BEFORE NATIVITY, OF THE ANCESTORS



Icon of the Nativity of Our Lord -- December 25th

The Nativity of Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ

Come, then, let us observe the Feast! Truly wondrous is the whole chronicle of the Nativity. For this day the ancient slavery is ended, the devil confounded, the demons take to flight, the power of death is broken, paradise is unlocked, the curse is taken away, sin is removed from us, error driven out, truth has been brought back, the speech of kindness diffused, and spreads on every side, a heavenly way of life has been implanted on the earth, angels communicate with men without fear, and men now hold speech with angels.

Why is this? Because God is now on earth, and man in heaven; on every side all things commingle. He became Flesh. He did not become God. He was God. Wherefore He became flesh, so that He Whom heaven did

not contain, a manger would this day receive. He was placed in a manger, so that He, by whom all things are nourished, may receive an infant's food from His Virgin Mother. So, the Father of all ages, as an infant at the breast, nestles in the virginal arms, that the Magi may more easily see Him. Since this day the Magi too have come, and made a beginning of withstanding tyranny; and the heavens give glory, as the Lord is revealed by a star.

To Him, then, Who out of confusion has wrought a clear path, to Christ, to the Father, and to the Holy Ghost, we offer all praise, now and forever. Amen.

St. John Chrysostom

Rev. Dr. Ronald Popivchak
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"Christ is Born!"
"Khristos Razhdayetsia!"

Dec. 22, 2013
Christmas Sun.

OUR CHRISTMAS FEAST begins this Saturday as we share in the annual dinner-party with all our parish workers and volunteers at Chick's Tavern here in Bridgeport, 3:30 - 5:30 pm. We trust and hope that a goodly number of our teachers, ushers, singers and sundry other faithful workers will be with us Saturday.

OUR CHRISTMAS FEAST continues this Sunday morning with the 9 am Holy Liturgy, 10:30 am Sunday School Nativity Pageant, Visit of St. Nicholas, the Archbishop of Myrra, AND our buffet-sampler of the 12 dishes of Holy Supper. ALL OUR FAITHFUL are expected to attend this annual feast. It's all free and all for you!

OUR CHRISTMAS FEAST culminates Tuesday evening with the singing of the Great Compline at 8:30 pm and the Christmas Liturgy at 9. We will celebrate the Nativity of our Lord on Wednesday, the 25th, by singing the Holy Liturgy at 10 am. The Good Lord Jesus, newly Born in Bethlehem, is giving us some great weather for a reason!

SPECIAL SCHEDULES of all our Christmas services and events have been printed for your convenience. You can find these schedules in the vestibule today. Take one home for your family.

BRAND NEW 2014 CALENDARS, along with your 2014 envelope boxes, have been prepared for all our Faithful today. You can find these items in the Church basement. Please take them home today!

TO BE MARRIED SATURDAY: Adrian Pyrih and Melanie Popel. We pray that our Newborn Lord Jesus Christ will bless this young couple with much love, great joy and a fine family - NA MNOHAYA LEETA!

WE ARE SO VERY GRATEFUL to all our Parishioners and friends for their generosity to our beautiful (and growing!) parish this Holy Christmastide. We pray that you will be blessed by Our Good Lord this Christmas and New Year with lots of love and hearty health!

FATHER RONALD thanks all the good people who remembered him this Christmas with their prayers, cards, gifts and kind words. God bless all of you with great joy and peace this Christmas!

DIVINE SERVICES THIS WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm +Jessie Cermignano (Sister Olga Cienki)
Sunday, 9 am +Dolly Hershey (Antoinette, Lois, Dr. Debbie)
 +Lomhyn Switenko (The Borys Pawluk Family)
Tuesday, 9 pm Christmas Liturgy for all the Faithful
Wednesday, 10 am Christmas Liturgy, +Peter Martinick (The Family)
Thursday, 8 am +Olga Maruszczak (The Timbario Family)
Saturday, 8 am +John Berkizchuk (Wife Jean)
Saturday, 6 pm +Jack Danko (Olga and Family)
Sunday, 9 am +Agnes and Michael (The Fonock Family)

CHRISTMAS TROPAR: O Christ Our God, Your Birth has spread the Light of Wisdom through the world. The star-gazing Magi learned by The Star to worship You, the Sun of Justice, and to know You as the Orient from on high. O Lord, Glory to You. GLORY BE...

CHRISTMAS KONTAK: Today the Virgin gives birth to the Inconceivable One Christ. The earth presents a cave to the Inaccessible One Christ. The angels and shepherds praise Him. It is for our sake that a little infant, the Eternal God, is born.

CHRISTMAS PROKIMEN: All you who were baptized in Christ have put on Christ, Alleluia!

R. Ronald