

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

605 Washington Avenue, Manville, New Jersey 08835-1856

Voice: 908-685-1452 / fax: 908-685-1074 Email: frjames@ssppoc.org

Parish Website: www.ssppoc.org Diocese of NY-NJ: www.nynjoca.org

BULLETIN OF DECEMBER 18, 2011

SUNDAY/DECEMBER 18

Sunday Before the Nativity (Tone 2)

8:00a.m. Church Doors Open

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour; Church School

MONDAY/DECEMBER 19

3:00p.m. Confessions

7:00p.m. Compline; Confessions

TUESDAY/DECEMBER 20

3:00p.m. Confessions

7:00p.m. Compline; Confessions

WEDNESDAY/DECEMBER 21

7:00p.m. Compline; Confessions

THURSDAY/DECEMBER 22

7:00p.m. Compline; Confessions

FRIDAY/DECEMBER 23

7:00p.m. Royal Hours

8:30p.m. Confessions

SATURDAY/DECEMBER 24

Eve of Nativity

9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:30p.m. Vigil

SUNDAY/DECEMBER 25

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

(One of "the 12 Great Feasts")

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

6:30p.m. Vespers

MONDAY/DECEMBER 26

Synaxis of the Theotokos

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy



Lessons in Divine & Christian Love (98)

Watch, my child, and do not deceive yourself. How tender the love of the Lamb (Christ) for those who with fear and love answer the call of the Father to the marriage of the Son. And how terrible the anger of the Lamb against those who have received the call but have not responded, if they should reject it or tear it up or call apostles, missionaries, priests to suffer martyrdom. For when the Lamb of God overcomes all the monsters in human or non-human form, and reveals himself to the world, then those will scream in terror "to the mountains and the rocks. 'Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb'" (Rev. 6:16). But just and dreadful will be the retribution for love betrayed.

- Fr. Callistratus of Mileseva (Serbia)

Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Dec. 18, 1980 Joseph Pituch
Dec. 20, 1962 Michael Popko
Dec. 20, 1980 Anna Martin
Dec. 21, 1946 Helen Semoskovich
Dec. 21, 1997 Nadia Marchuk
Dec. 21, 2006 Nicholas Chabra
Dec. 23, 1950 Gregory Persurance
Dec. 23, 1989 Peter Kozura
Dec. 23, 1991 Olga Barna
Dec. 24, 1946 Steven Holovach
Dec. 24, 1947 Catherine Hriniaak
Dec. 24, 1961 Sophie O'Connell
Dec. 24, 1978 Anna Martinchuk

Namesday Greetings – Many Years!

St. Anastasia/Dec. 22: Anastasia Mickel, Anastasia
Nevitt, Meredith Anastasia Hansen;
St. Eugenia/Dec. 24: Joan Bongiorno

Offerings for the week of December 18

Olive Oil – in memory of Michael and Justina, in
memory of Vaschen and Emilia; in memory of
Joan and Sandy; for the health of John (birthday);
in memory of Nicholas Chabra.

Wine – for the health of Daniel (namesday) and
Gabriel.

Flowers – for the health of Saba and Anna.

Coffee Hour Hosting

Dec. 18 (fasting) Inga, Eka and Marina
Dec. 25 Nana, Nona and Nino

Nativity 40 Day Lent

The Nativity fast began on November 15th and ends
after the Divine Liturgy on December 25th. In this
Lenten time a fast is observed from meat, dairy,
fish, wine and oil. Days of fasting modification are
indicated on your parish wall calendar.

The Holy Mysteries of Confession & Communion

The receiving of these Holy Mysteries are a normal
part of our Lenten discipline. All are encouraged
to receive Holy Communion on the Feast of the
Nativity of our Lord. Confession should have been
made either in November or December. If you
have not been to Confession in the last two months
(Nov.-Dec.) you must go to Confession before the

Feast of the Nativity if you wish to receive on the
Feast Day, Dec. 25th.

The Eve of Nativity

Dec. 24th, Sat. is the last day of the Nativity Lent,
on this day we fast from meat, dairy and fish. It is
permitted to have wine and oil.

Fast-Free Period

From the Feast of the Nativity, Dec. 25th (after the
Divine Liturgy) there is a general dispensation
from all fasting thru Jan. 4th.

In this period of festal celebration, the church
discipline instructs us not to kneel or make
prostrations either in the church or at home. The
serving of Memorial Services and Marriages are
not done in keeping with the character of these
days.

Seminarian Family Gifts

Sincere thanks for your St. Nicholas Day Gifts for
the Seminarian Family. Gift cards of \$125, Cash
Gifts of \$220 and 10 Particular Gifts were secured.

Great Beans and Tea Fundraiser

A total of 98 items were sold. The profit for the
parish came to \$410. Thank you for your support.

The Winter Coat Collection

Has come to a conclusion. Your response is
certainly appreciated by those needful of warm
outer ware.

Christmas Cookie Walk

Has netted a profit of \$881. Thanks to bakers and
buyers!

Children 2012 Offering Envelopes

Are ready for pick-up. Please see Church School
teachers for a box for the year.

Parish Wall Calendars 2012

The new wall calendars are on a table in the
vestibule. We ask that each household take "one"
calendar. In your planning for 2012, please note
that "pink shaded" boxes are fasting days.

The Nativity Greeting

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

RELEASE NUMBER 2011.41.1

The following is the archpastoral message from His Grace, Bishop Michael, on the occasion of the feast-day of our Lord's Nativity 2011.

Archpastoral Letter for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord 2011

Christ is Born! – Let us glorify Him!

Dearly Beloved Members of our Diocesan Family:

“And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.” (Luke 2:8-9)

One night when the world was very dark, God hung out a brilliant new comforting Star. One night when the world was very lonely, He gave it His Only-Begotten Son. It had been a drab world and a dull night for those shepherds as they stood on a hunch-backed hill watching their flocks. Then all at once, like someone ripping the paper off a package, the sky opened and choiring angels burst into song. The glory of God was about them and the light, like a golden finger, pointed down to a cave in the outskirts of a little town called Bethlehem.

God gets around in the unlikeliest of places. Here was this hole in the hillside, a temporary stable for animals, an emergency shelter for passing shepherds ... now the birthplace of the Savior of the world! Mary the Virgin and Joseph the Betrothed and the Lord Jesus made it so. He wanted to be born in that unlikely and unfitting place to show us how great His love for us really is!

Did you ever notice that everyone who clustered in the glory of that first Christmas had to leave something to get there? Joseph and the Theotokos had to leave their cottage in Nazareth that to them was 'home sweet home'. The Son of God Himself had to leave the angelic hosts and the courts of heaven. The shepherds had to leave their sheep in the bleak unguarded hills. And, the Magi had to leave country and family and friends.

It has been that way ever since. If we want to come close to Christ on the Feast of His Nativity, we must leave something behind. Most often it is simply sin. Many times it is the world and all its trappings and busy-ness. Sometimes it is even our self. But anything that is true and noble, just and pure, lovely and of good report (Phil. 4:8) is welcome at His manger, and His hand is raised to bless it.



