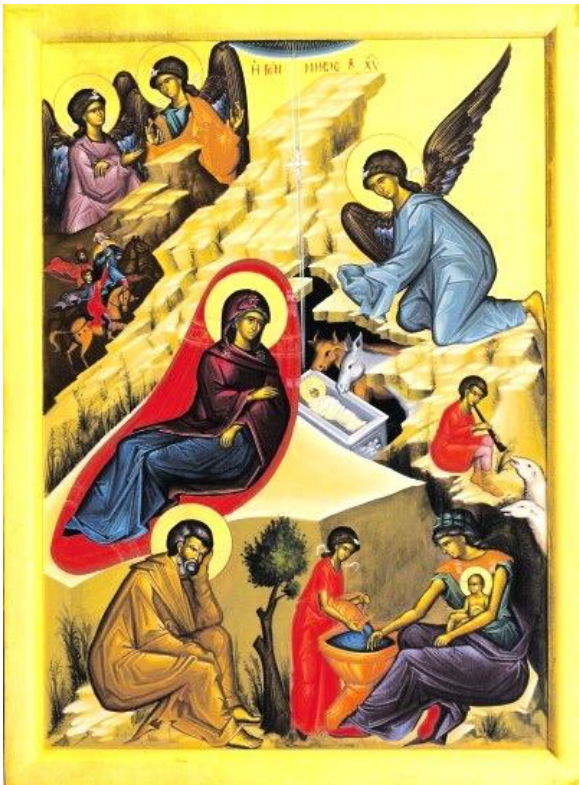




PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

No. **142**/30 December 2018



**Sunday after Nativity; St.
Joseph, King David, and St.
James**

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode pl. 2.

When the angelic powers were at Thy tomb, then they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood beside the grave seeking Thine immaculate body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried

thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant life to us. O Thou Who art risen from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Seasonal Kontakion. Mode 3.

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; to the Unapproachable, the earth doth offer a small cave; Angels join in choir with shepherds in giving glory; with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; for our sakes is born a young Child, He that existed before the ages as God.

Prokeimenon. Mode 4. Psalm 67.35,26

**God is wonderful among his saints.
Verse: Bless God in the congregations.**

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the
Galatians 1:11-19

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a

revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.



The Gospel According to Matthew 2:13-23

When the wise men departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to

destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaos reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets

might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Word of the week – Reflection

St. Basil the Great (Jan. 1st)

Troubles are usually the brooms and shovels that smooth the road to a good man's fortune; and many a man curses the rain that falls upon his head, and knows not that it brings abundance to drive away hunger.

If you see your neighbor in sin, don't look only at this, but also think about what he has done or does that is good, and infrequently trying this in general, while not partially judging, you will find that he is better than you.

Do not say, 'This happened by chance, while this came to be of itself.' In all that exists there is nothing disorderly, nothing indefinite, nothing without purpose, nothing by chance ... How many hairs are on your head? God will not forget one of them. Do you see how nothing, even the smallest thing, escapes the gaze of God?

Prayer is a request for what is good, offered by the devout of God. But we do not restrict this request simply to what is stated in words... We should not express our prayer merely in syllables, but the power of prayer

should be expressed in the moral attitude of our soul and in the virtuous actions that extend throughout our life... This is how you pray continually — not by offering prayer in words, but by joining yourself to God through your whole way of life, so that your life becomes one continuous and uninterrupted prayer.

St. Seraphim of Sarov (Jan. 2nd)

You cannot be too gentle, too kind. Shun even to appear harsh in your treatment of each other. Joy, radiant joy, streams from the face of one who gives and kindles joy in the heart of one who receives. All condemnation is from the devil. Never condemn each other, not even those whom you catch committing an evil deed. We condemn others only because we shun knowing ourselves. When we gaze at our own failings, we see such a morass of filth that nothing in another can equal it. That is why we turn away, and make much of the faults of others. Keep away from the spilling of speech. Instead of condemning others, strive to reach inner peace. Keep silent, refrain from judgement. This will raise you above the deadly arrows of slander, insult, outrage, and will shield your glowing hearts against the evil that creeps around.



Liturgical Schedule for this week

Monday <i>December 31</i>	10:30 pm	Vespers & Litia – Circumcision of Our Lord & St. Basil the Great
	12:00 am	Thanksgiving Service for New Year
Tuesday <i>January 1</i>	9:00 am	Matins
	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy – Circumcision of Our Lord & St. Basil the Great
Wednesday <i>January 2</i>	8:30 am	Divine Liturgy – St. Seraphim of Sarov
	6:00 pm	
Friday <i>January 4</i>	5:30 pm	Akathist
Saturday <i>January 5</i>	9:00 am	Divine Liturgy & Memorial
	5:00 pm	Vespers & Litia for Epiphany
Sunday <i>January 6</i>	9:00 am	Matins Epiphany - Divine Liturgy followed by the service of blessing the Great Holy Water
	10:00am	



Announcements:

- **Happpy name day** to Melania Collazo (St. Melania – Dec. 31st), Vasilica Tanko, and Vasilios Nahn (St. Basil – Jan. 1st).
- **New Year's Eve pot luck** – December 31st at 7pm at Fr. John's home, followed by vespers and litia at 10:30pm for St. Basil and a Thanksgiving service for the New Year at 12am.
- **House blessings** – Please contact Fr. John by phone, email, or in person to schedule a time.
- **Coffee hour** sponsored by Sam and Debbie Yanka.

