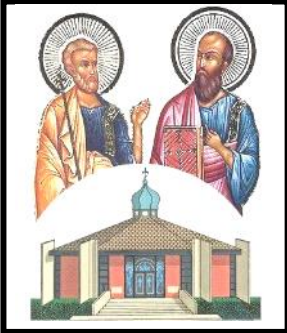


# The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



December 30, 2018

Saints Peter & Paul UOC  
8410 West 131st St.  
Palos Park, IL 60464  
V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha — Rector  
[www.sspeterandpauluoc.net](http://www.sspeterandpauluoc.net)  
[Rev.vasyl@yahoo.com](mailto:Rev.vasyl@yahoo.com)  
708-361-5165

## 12 Days of Christmas - Orthodox

**Parish Council  
President**  
John Beck

**Sisterhood of St.  
Anne**  
Andrea Manson

**Church School  
Director**  
Pat Wolsko

**Ukrainian  
Saturday School  
Director**  
PM Olenka

**Church Choir  
Director**  
George Cepynsky

**Seraphim Group  
President**  
Debbie Pierog

**50/50 Club  
President**  
Michael Gbur



A wonderful part of the Orthodox celebration of Christmas is the period of Christmastide or the 12 Days of Christmas. This is one of those rare times in

the life of the Church where all fasting is suspended, and the fulness of Christ's incarnation is on full display.

Thankfully, people have come to understand more and more that the feast of Christmas was not established as a replacement of a "pagan holiday" (as is proposed in popular discussion), but is rather an intentional celebration of the birth of our Lord. Christ's conception by the Holy Spirit in the immaculate womb of the Ever-Virgin Mary is on April 7 (the feast of Annunciation), and his birth is exactly nine months later on January 7.

The day of the Annunciation was originally celebrated on April 6 in the eastern churches, and the totality of Christ's Incarnation (birth, circumcision, and baptism) was also celebrated nine months later on January 6. Once St. John Chrysostom brought the celebration of Christmas (from Rome) to the Church of Antioch, it soon spread to the rest of the eastern Sees. Theophany was kept as the end of this 12-day Christmas feast. Incidentally, the compound celebration of Theophany and Nativity on January 6 is still observed by the Armenian Christians.

Christmastide is fast-free, but not for the sake of gluttony. Rather, because we are celebrating the purification and redemption of creation that is wrought by Christ's incarnation—all foods are sanctified and acceptable for Christians by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We traditionally give gifts to one another, imitating the magi who brought gifts to the Savior, the Theotokos who offered Christ as a gift for the life of the world, and the example set by St. Nicholas.

On the day after Christmas (Jan 8), a synaxis—a bringing together or gathering—of all the feasts related to the life of the Theotokos is celebrated. By giving birth to Christ, she became an instrument of salvation through the incarnation of God. (One will rarely see an Orthodox icon of Mary where Christ is not present.) Mary served as the prototype of a living temple of the Holy Spirit, and those of the Church after her—both individually and collectively—imitate her in this regard.

This celebration of Mary is followed by the commemoration of the first Christian martyr following Christ's ascension: the deacon Stephen (January 9). A hymn of this feast tells the story beautifully:

Yesterday the Master arrived in the flesh; today the servant departs from the flesh.

Yesterday he who reigns was born; today the servant dies for him by stoning.

As a holy martyr, Stephen was a true "witness" (the Greek word for martyr) of Christ's incarnation.



Today

31st Sunday after Pentecost. Tone six.  
 Nativity (St. Philip's Fast). Fish Allowed  
 Week of Holy Forefathers. Holy Prophet Daniel (600 B.C.) and the Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias, and Misael. Venerable Daniel the Confessor of Spain and Egypt (10th c.). St. Dionysius of Zakynthos, archbishop of Aegina (1622). Martyrs Paternuthius, Coprius and Alexander the Soldier of Egypt (361). St. Sturm, abbot and founder of Fulda monastery (779) (Germany). Sts. Athanasius, Nicholas, and Anthony, founders of Vatopedi Monastery (10th c

Colossians 3:4-11 Epistle  
 Luke 14:16-24 Gospel  
 Hebrews 11:33-12:2 Prophet  
 Luke 11:47-12:1 Prophet  
 Reader of the Hours - Jeremy Oryhon  
 Reader of the Eng. Epist.– Jeremy Oryhon  
 Reader of the Ukr. Epist.– Halyna Kashpar

Saturday, December 29      Vespers at 5:00pm

Sunday  
January 6

32nd Sunday after Pentecost. Tone seven. Fast.  
 Food with Oil  
 Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, Holy Father  
 The Eve of the Nativity of Christ  
 Nun-martyr Eugenia of Rome, and with her Martyrs Philip her father, Protus, Hyacinth (Jacinth), Basilla, and Claudia (262). Venerable Nicholas the Monk of Bulgaria (9th c.). Venerable Antioch, monk of Palestine (635), and St. Vitimionus of Scete. New Martyr Achmed (Ahmet) the Calligrapher (or Architect) of Constantinople (1682) (Greek). Venerable Aphrodisius, monk of Palestine (6th c.).

Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 Sunday Before  
 Matthew 1:1-25 Sunday Before  
 Hebrews 1:1-12 Vespers  
 Luke 2:1-20 Vespers  
 Reader of the Hours - open  
 Reader of the Eng. Epist.– open  
 Reader of the Ukr. Epist.– PM Olenka

On January 11, we remember the horrific slaying of 14,000 infants by Herod, due to his fear and jealousy of the coming Messiah. In fact, this massacre included the death of his own child. This day implores Christians to emphatically not be like Herod in our own attempts to remove Christ from our lives. A life in Christ is a life of martyrdom (as shown by Stephen) and submission (as shown by Mary); in other words, it is a life of humility. By fearing this humility, Herod “lamented that his power would soon be destroyed” (Kontakion of the day) and sought to destroy Christ instead.

The Sunday after Nativity serves as a commemoration of Christ’s relatives “according to the flesh.” These “ancestors of God” serve as the first examples of how we are to both worship and imitate our Savior:

Joseph the Betrothed, the elderly man entrusted with the care of the virgin Mary, believed in the Lord through an angel and overcame the temptations of Satan. With the magi of the east, he too bowed down and worshipped the newborn King.

*To be continued*

### ***Prayer Corner for the Month of December***

***We ask all of you to remember in your prayers the following individuals, who are in need of God's healing and grace:*** Maria, Andrew J, Tony Zerebny, Maria Savoy, Nicole, Victoria, Barbara, Tom Macauliffe, John, Margaret, Eleanor, Ethel Smith, Michael P, Anthony, Catherine Hladky, Andrew Hladky, Wally and Ann Podlecki, Valentina Schacht, Susan Hendrixson, Rayan, Dean Manson, Pavlo & Polina, Barbara Patronik, Elias, Roxana, Anthony Bendy, Katie Bruce, Patti Faye, Toni Marie Klavin, Michael Kimak, Chloe Mckinney, Yuriy Zmysly, Paul Jr & Dorothy Seliga, Wolodymer Kashpar, Priest Vasyl Dovhan, Priest David Clooney, Priest Petro, PM Maria, Frankie, Zachary, Orest, Oksana, Alexander, Paul.

*If there is anyone who is in need of prayers, and you want to add them to the prayer corner, please notify Fr. Vasyl.*

*If you would like me to visit with the Sacraments of the Holy Confession and Eucharist, please call the rectory to set up an appointment. I will gladly visit everyone.*

# Announcements

## Parish Council

Monthly Parish Council meeting is every third Sunday of the month after the Coffee Hour. Next meeting is Sunday January 20, 2019 *Representatives from parish organizations must be present. Guests are welcome.*

## Sunday School



We are going to have a special Mitten tree this year in our Church Hall. Special Collection of New gloves, mittens, scarfs and hats for the homeless at the local PADS shelter. All sizes are appreciated. Please drop of your donations in the box located in the vestibule of our Church building or handed it to one of the teachers of Sunday School. Kids will decorate the tree with the mentioned items. Help the homeless to keep warm this winter.

## Sunday Services in two Languages

**Every First Sunday of the Month** there will be All English Divine Liturgy at 9:30am followed by All Ukrainian Pro-Liturgy at 11:30am. Next Special Sunday is February 3, 2019. Due to the feast of Nativity of Our Lord there will be only one bilingual service on January 6, 2019 at 9:30am and Holy Supper “Sviata Vechera” at the Hall at 5:30pm followed by Nativity Eve Service at 7:00pm

## Seraphim Group

Seraphim Group is a group of seniors and their friends that meets at least every second Tuesday of the month. The group enjoys verity of activities. From get together in the Church hall for lunch and games to outings to the movies and local restaurants or attractions. Everyone is welcome to join them for great time in the friendly atmosphere of fellow parishioners and friends.

**Next meeting is Tuesday January 15, 2019** Seraphim Group Christmas Party. **Bring a dish to share.** Come and join us.

Bring a friend. For more info see Debbie Pierog— President of the Seraphim Group Deb12153@aol.com  
708-710-6009 Text or Call



## Seven Day Vigil Candles



For the health of my very ill mother Polina and father Pavlo by Halyna Kashpar

For the health of Anthony Kacsors sons by Michael Supilowski

For improve health of my husband Paul Seliga by His wife Dorothy

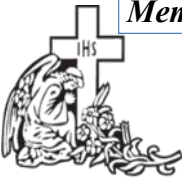
For the health of my mother Oksana by Fr. Vasyl



In memory of Anthony Kaczor by Michael Supilowski

In memory of our son Mark on hist first Christmas in heaven by Paul & Dorothy Seliga

## Memorial Service



**Today:** In memory of newly reposed **Christos** (Christ) Tsoukalas. Requested by Gordan Family Liliana Roviario in memory of my mother, **Nadia Wanshula**

## Nativity Dinner

**Celebrate Nativity**

**with your parish family**

**Divine Liturgy at 9:30am**

**Monday January 7th, 2019**

**Annual Nativity Dinner**

to follow After the Divine Liturgy

*Donation to cover partially the cost of the caterer*

\$17.00 per adult (18+), \$10.00 per Child (6-17), Children 5 and under free



## Snow Removal Winter 2018-2019

WEEK OF 12/30 THRU 1/05 ----- ELIAS GORDON

WEEK OF 1/06 THRU 01/12 ----- ELIAS GORDON

WEEK OF 01/13 THRU 01/19 ----- FATHER VASYL

As in the past years, we need volunteers to remove snow if it is less then 2 inches. If it is more then 2 inches the snow removal company will do it. If you would like to volunteer, please see Rich Ganske



## Church Temple Main Chandelier



We are working on replacing Main Chandelier at the Church Temple. Current one is too small for our temple as well as in very poor condition. We have collected so far \$16,065.00 towards this project. Every little bit helps.



Marlene and Joe Bubnich— \$500.00 in memory of Michael and Pauline Demkowicz.

Linda Sereda —\$2000.00 - In memory of my deceased family members, especially my Father, Michael Sereda; my Mother Josephine Sereda and my Brother, Michael Sereda Jr.

Nina & Vince Gregosanc — \$100.00 in memory of Mother Suzanna Jemec.

## Coffee Hour Schedule



Today –**Vitalii & Ulia Kulyk thank you for volunteer**  
 01/06/2019 Eve Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ  
 After Liturgy in the morning — coffee only strict fast  
 Holy Supper at 5:30 pm Potluck  
 01/07/2019 Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ  
 Nativity Dinner  
 01/13/2019 Nina Coker & Maria Iordanov  
 01/20/2019 Janet Milton and Pat Wolsko  
 01/27/2019 Sandra Hladky & Jeanne Maack  
 02/03/2019 **SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY” - SOUP MAKERS**  
 02/10/2019 Donna & Jim Nevels  
 02/17/2019 Gayle Woloschak

## **Nativity Season Schedule**

**Sunday, December 30 at 9:30 am Divine Liturgy**

**Sunday, January 6 at 9:30 Divine Liturgy (Only one Liturgy)**

**at 5:30 pm** *Eve of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. Lenten Potluck dinner "Svitij Vechir" "Holy Supper followed by Vigil Service 7:00pm*

**Monday January 7 at 9:30 am** Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Nativity According to the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. Nativity Dinner at the Church Hall.

**Tuesday, January 8 at 9:30 am.** Divine Liturgy. The Second Day of Nativity. Synaxis of Theotokos

**Saturday, January 12 at 5:00pm** Vespers

**Sunday, January 13 at 9:30am** Divine Liturgy. Sunday Before Theophany

**Monday, January 14 at 9:30am** the New Year Julian calendar and the Feast of St. Basil the Great

**Friday, January 18 at 6:00pm** Eve of the Theophany Vespers and Great blessing of the water

**Saturday, January 19 at 9:30 am** Divine Liturgy and blessing of the water. **The Holy Theophany.** The Baptism of Our Savior Jesus Christ.

**Sunday, January 20 at 9:30 am** Divine Liturgy Sunday after Theophany. House blessings