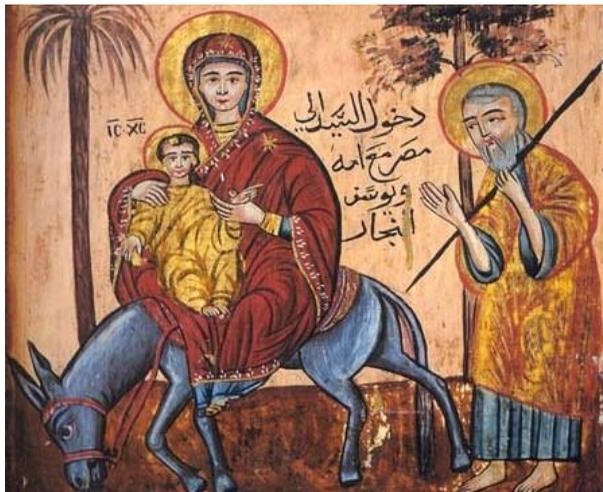


Sunday, December 30, 2018

Sunday Orthros, 9:00 am • Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am

Sunday after the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ: St. Joseph the Betrothed, David the Prophet and King, James the Brother of the Lord



Pastor:

Father Andrew Kishler

Parish council members:

Matthew Rowan, *chairman*
 Leo Kapetaneas, *vice chairman*
 Anysia Medawar, *treasurer*
 Jennifer Harshman, *secretary*

Christina Kapetaneas, *Ladies of St. George*
 Genie Sanders, *choir*
 Lynette Forsa
 Patrice Nimee
 David Anderson



Today's Holy Bread and Coffee Hour: Fr. Andrew and Patty Kishler (open house at the church rectory)

Today's Epistle Reader: David Anderson

Next week's Holy Bread and Coffee Hour: George and Lynette Forsa

Hymns of the day, following the Small Entrance:

Troparion for the Resurrection (Tone 6): When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb. And the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world. O Thou, who art risen from the dead: O Lord, glory to Thee!

Troparion for the Nativity (Tone 4): Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn there from to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion for the Sunday after Nativity (Tone 2): Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders: for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child. With the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

Troparion to St. George (Tone 4): Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings: O great among Martyrs, the victory-clad George, intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion for the Nativity (Tone 3): Today the Virgin giveth birth to the Transcendent in Essence. The earth offers the cave to the unapproachable One; the angels with the shepherds glorify Him; and the Magi with the star travel on their way. For a new Child hath been born for our sakes, God before the ages.

THE EPISTLE

For the Sunday after Nativity of Christ

God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul 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

For the Sunday after Nativity of Christ

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (2:13-23)

When the wise men had 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 until 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 Archelaus 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.”

Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services at St. George, see our website, www.springvalleyorthodox.com.

- **Today: All are invited to come to the church rectory after Liturgy, for an open house and meal hosted by Fr. Andrew’s family.**
- **Monday, Dec. 31:** Divine Liturgy for St. Basil the Great and St. Seraphim of Sarov, 6pm.
- **Church office hours this week:** Wednesday, 9-noon; Thursday, 9am-noon.
- No Vespers on Wednesday evening this week.
- **Saturday, Jan. 5:** Vespers for the Feast of Theophany, 6pm.
- **Next Sunday, Jan. 6: Theophany of our Lord Jesus Christ.** Matins, 9am; Divine Liturgy, 10am, followed by our annual blessing of the Holy Water.

From Fr. Andrew, Kh. Patty, and family: Merry Christmas to all of you! We are blessed to be a part of the St. George community, and we thank you for your cards, gifts, and generous hospitality. May God bless you!

Live-streaming of our church services and events is available on our church’s YouTube channel, “St George Orthodox Church.” Many thanks to Mark Kerasotes for making this possible, and to Mark Kerasotes and Nicole Wiltse, who donated some equipment and services.

Special thanks to Melanie Thompson, Patty Kishler, and our teens and children for all the hard work that went into our Christmas pageant last week! We offered the pageant this year in memory of our recently-departed friend Carol Bachio. Carol helped with this pageant for many years, and we miss her greatly.

Special thanks to Ron and Dottie Malooley for donating the new collapsible classroom wall downstairs. This will greatly help our Sunday school program, and allow for overflow seating during coffee hour, if necessary.

The Blessing of the Holy Water will take place next Sunday, Jan. 6 after Liturgy, two weeks from today. Father Andrew will begin house blessings at that time.

Holy Land pilgrimage: We have an opportunity to participate in an Orthodox-led trip to the Holy Land, May 6-18, 2019. Information is available downstairs; please see Mike and Ruth Baum for additional information or if you have any questions.

Sunday Volunteer Schedule

	Holy Bread/Coffee Hour	Epistle Reader
TODAY	Kishler open house	David Anderson
Sunday, Jan. 6	George/Lynette Forsa	George Forsa
Sunday, Jan. 13	Beverly Malooley	
Sunday, Jan. 20	OPEN	Matt Rowan
Sunday, Jan. 27	All-Church Meeting <i>*Potluck luncheon*</i>	Mike Kasap
Sunday, Feb. 3	Paul Khoury memorial	

*Regarding HOLY BREAD, you are welcome to bake your own, or use the bread provided by the church (**a donation of \$10-\$20 is appreciated** to cover the cost of the bread). On your Sunday, please also provide to Father Andrew a list of names (living and departed) for prayers during the Liturgy.*

COFFEE HOUR may be as simple or elaborate as you want. While CLEAN UP is primarily the responsibility of those who provide coffee hour, all of us should help by bussing our own tables and cleaning up as we are able.

** SHADED DATES indicate fasting. No meat should be served on these dates.*



December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Please let Father know if we are missing anyone!

Dec. 4 – Katherine Buss

Dec. 10 – Ann (Bachio) Townsend

Dec. 12 – Mark Wiltse

Dec. 16 – Keeley Thompson

Dec. 16 – Matthew Rowan

Dec. 16 – Nolan Kaleel

Dec. 18 – James Harvey

Dec. 21 – Angelena (Leonard) Panizzi

Dec. 24 – Kim Leonard

Dec. 27 – Gabe Leonard

Dec. 30 – Monique Harvey

Church Finances*

November 2018

Operating income: \$6,067.00

Operating expenses: \$8,327.93

Cash flow: -\$2,260.93

January 1 to November 30, 2018

Operating income: \$61,434.33

Operating expenses: \$70,048.27

Cash Flow: -\$8,613.94

Please note that “operating income” includes only tithes and regular donations, and does not include proceeds raised at the 100th anniversary banquet or income from memorial donations. The parish council voted last month to put these funds in a separate account called the Legacy Fund. We cannot survive without the regular, faithful giving of our members, so please remember our duty to support the work of our church!

“He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

~ 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

:: The Holy Innocents: The male infants of Bethlehem, slain by King Herod ::

Commemorated December 29



14,000 Holy Infants were killed by King Herod in Bethlehem. When the time came for the Incarnation of the Son of God and His Birth of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, Magi in the East beheld a new star in the heavens, foretelling the Nativity of the King of the Jews. They journeyed immediately to Jerusalem to worship the Child, and the star showed them the way. Having worshipped the divine Infant, they did not return to Jerusalem to Herod, as he had ordered them, but being warned by God in a dream, they went back to their country by another way. Herod finally realized that his scheme to find the Child would not be successful, and he ordered that all the male children two years old and younger at Bethlehem and its surroundings be killed. He thought that the divine Infant, Whom he considered a rival, would be among

the dead children. ...

The wrath of God soon fell upon Herod himself: a horrid condition struck him down and he died. Before his death, the impious king murdered the chief priests and scribes of the Jews, and also his brother, and his sister and her husband, and also his own wife Mariam, and three of his sons, and seventy men of wisdom who were members of the Sanhedrin. He initiated this bloodbath so that the day of his death would not be one of rejoicing, but one of mourning.

~ Adapted from www.oca.org

“Childermas” or Holy Innocents’ Day is celebrated by the western churches on Dec. 28 and the Eastern Orthodox Church on Dec. 29. In some cultures it is a day of fasting and mourning, and in others, a day of fun and celebration for children. The Holy Innocents, although young children, are seen as martyrs and saints for the newborn Christ Child. We modern Christians would do well on this day to ask their intercessions and help for all victims of child abuse, human trafficking, abortion, and for all families who mourn the loss of a child for any reason. May the prayers of the Holy Innocents be ever with us!



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

DECEMBER 30–JANUARY 5

**Sunday, Dec. 30 – St. Joseph the Betrothed,
David the Prophet and King, and James the
Brother of the Lord**

John 20:19-21 / Galatians 1:11-19 / Matt. 2:13-23

**Monday, Dec. 31 – Melania the Younger of
Rome**

James 2:14-26 / Mark 12:13-17

**Tuesday, Jan. 1 – St. Basil the Great and the
Circumcision of our Lord Jesus Christ**

Genesis 17:1-14 / Proverbs 8:22-30 / Proverbs 10:31-11:12
John 10:9-16 / Colossians 2:8-12 / Luke 2:20-21; 2:40-52

Wednesday, Jan. 2 – St. Seraphim the Wonder-worker of Sarov

James 3:11-4:6 / Mark 12:28-37

Thursday, Jan. 3 – Holy Prophet Malachi

James 4:7-5:9 / Mark 12:38-44

Friday, Jan. 4 – Synaxis of the 70 Holy Apostles

1 Corinthians 4:9-16 / John 1:18-28

Saturday, Jan. 5 – Holy Prophet Micah

1 Timothy 3:13-16, 4:1-5 / Matthew 3:1-11

Videos of sermons and Feast Day services are available on our website, www.springvalleyorthodox.com

Follow “St. George Orthodox Church of Spring Valley” on Facebook for daily Bible readings and lives of the saints.

Please be aware that photographs and videos from our church appear on our website and Facebook page. Please feel free to let us know if you would prefer not to have your pictures online.

St. George is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH
The Right Reverend Bishop ANTHONY, Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest
www.antiochian.org