

December 25th, 2010
The Nativity of Christ

Saturday, Dec 24th:

7PM Matins of Christmas
Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7
God sent forth His Son...

Reader: Mary Veloff

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12
Wise men come

Christmas Holy Supper,
breaking of the Advent Fast



This Week

There will be no services on Christmas day.

FOCUS dinner, Christmas Day, 3:30 PM to 6 PM at St. Michael parish.

Divine Liturgy for Synaxis of the Theotokos, Monday 9 AM.

Divine Liturgy for The Protomartyr Stephen, Tuesday 9AM.

Open house at Moultons, Friday 6-10 PM.

Prayer group next Saturday after Vespers.

Sisterhood meeting next Sunday.

Participation in Holy Communion requires proper preparation, including regular reception of Sacramental Confession. If you have not been to Confession since Dormition (August 15), go to Confession before approaching the Chalice. Confessions will be heard before or after Vespers and Divine Liturgy.

Your prayers are requested for:

Archimandrite Alexander Golitzin

Archpriest Kiril Antonoff

Archpriest Thomas Succarotte

Leslie Aerts

Cis Mountz

Bertha Petty - hospice

Diane Stoffan

Nora Todoroff

Christ is Born!

Glorify Him!

Kristos rozhdaetsya!

Slavite ego!

Christos Gennatai!

Doxasate!



The Advent fast ends with the Divine Liturgy this evening. There is no fasting permitted during Christmas tide, until January 5th, the eve of Theophany.

Let us not forget that this tiny baby, whose miraculous birth we commemorate tonight, is a king -- and not merely a king, but the king of all. *And the Lord will give to Him the throne of His father David... and of His kingdom there will be no end.* (Lk 1:32-33). Clearly Christ understood this, for it was at the center of His preaching: *Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand* (Mt 4:17).

Christ has come meekly, but to be a

king, to rule over our hearts, minds, and actions. His kingdom can not be found on a map; It must be lived. We are called to be, to live, this wondrous kingdom, ruled by no mortal man, but by the God-Man Himself.

The reception of the Holy Eucharist at Christmas is an important part of the spiritual life of Orthodox Christians, as is the frequent and sincere reception of the Holy Sacrament of Confession.

Confessions will be heard before and after the service. Those who go to Confession after the service will be able to receive the Holy Eucharist at that time.

Christ not only spoke in parables, He was Himself a parable. We are called to be like Him. We are called to the meekness of His birth. We are called to the humility of His baptism. We are called to transform ourselves as He was transformed on Tabor. And finally, we are called to take up our cross, as He took up His and walked to Golgotha.

Thank you to our December meal team, and all those who helped with our Holy Supper this evening.

Special thanks to Popadia Joan and all the choir members for their efforts for our Christmas services.

Popadia and I warmly invite all the members of our parish family to our home for an open house from 6 to 10PM on Friday, December 30th.

He comes not as a fierce man of war, threatening all things living with death, but as a newly born babe, bringing the hope of rebirth and life into the entire realm of death; He comes—but the land of destruction does not meet, does not embrace, does not praise, does not even see its Saviour, and does not hear the Word of God keeping silence in a manger. Virtually in vain does the glory which Jesus Christ had with God the Father before the world was (John 17:5) on the lips of the angels, follow Him descending into

the world and pursuing Him, attain even unto the earth. - Metropolitan Philaret of Moscow

Sisterhood ladies are reminded to bring a dish to pass for the sisterhood potluck next Sunday.

Christmas Poinsettia Donations

The Ambuehl family

Mary Tarpoff - In memory of Alexander Tarpoff, Kris Tarpoff and brother George Palcheff.

Donna Carli - In memory of dear parents Peter and Evelyn Ferro, and brother Ken.

Walter and Sharon Peleshenko - In memory of the departed members of the Polen and Peleshenko families.

Dr. Goni Michaeloff - In memory of dear mother Tsana and dear father Kosta.

Father Andrew and Popadia Joan - For the repose of John Yarbrough, Carol Thomas, and Ralph Moulton.

Diane Stoffan - For the repose of Robert, Joseph, Zina, and Joseph.

Cis and Chuck Mountz - In memory of the departed members of the Markuly and Evangeloff families.

Mary Veloff - In memory of the departed members of the Veloff and Vernotzy families.

Mike & Catherine Delmore and family - In memory of the departed members of the Dimitroff and Delmore families.



Sts. Cyril & Methody Orthodox Church Nativity of Christ