

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
6801 GEORGETOWN PIKE, MC LEAN, VIRGINIA 22101
www.oca.org www.wdcoca.org www.stlukemclean.org
ARCHPRIEST JOHN VITKO – (925) 667-6451 (c), (703) 893-1759 (Church office)
DEACON STEFAN GLOMAZIC - (617) 784-0939

JANUARY 1, 2023
SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY
SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:1-25

**CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST!
HE IS AND EVER SHALL BE!**

Troparion (Resurrection)

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion (Holy Fathers)

Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest; and the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

Troparion (Forefeast)

Prepare, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened to all! Adorn thyself, O Ephratha, for the Tree of Life blossoms forth from the Virgin in the cave! Her womb is a spiritual paradise planted with the Divine Fruit; if we eat of it, we shall live forever and not die like Adam. Christ comes to restore the image which He made in the beginning.

Kontakion (Holy Fathers)

Rejoice, O Bethlehem! Prepare yourself, O Ephratha! The Lamb is on her way to give birth to the Chief Shepherd she carries in her womb. The God-bearing Forefathers will rejoice, beholding Him, and with the shepherds, they will glorify the Virgin nursing Him.

Kontakion (Forefeast)

Today the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth to the Eternal Word. Hear the glad tidings and rejoice, O universe! Glorify with the angels and the shepherds the Eternal God, Who is willing to appear as a little child!

Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

- Fri., January 6 at 7:30PM Burning of the Badnjak, Christmas Eve Vigil
- Sat., January 7 at 10:30AM Divine Liturgy with Metropolitan Tikhon



Welcome to all guests with us by livestream and in person. We invite you to stay for Coffee Hour and get acquainted with us. If you are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith and St. Luke parish life, feel free to talk with Fr. John and Deacon Stefan.

Memory Eternal + Večnaja pamjat +

We offer prayers today for Millicent Mamula, Zora Milasnovich, Mile Milosevich, Edward Phillips and Mary Szul on the anniversaries of their falling asleep in the Lord. Grant rest eternal with the Saints, in blessed repose, O Lord, to the souls of Thy servants.

The Nativity Fast and Sacrament of Confession - Now through Friday, January 6

Fr. John invites everyone who has not yet come to the Sacrament of Confession to schedule a time to meet with him before January 7: john.vitko@gmail.com, 925-667-6451.

First-Sunday-of-the-Month - Faith in Action: Food for the Needy – Today

Thank you and God bless everyone who donated food or financial gifts to the NVFS [Hunger Resource Center](#).

Church School Nativity Play – Rehearsal Today

John Minahan has announced the 2023 Nativity Play which will be performed after Liturgy on January 8. There will be rehearsal today during the students’ regular class time.

Preparations for the Celebration of the Nativity –

Today	After Coffee Hour, set up extra tables: 2 large and 4 small
Fri. January 6	9-11AM Food preparations and hall and table decorations Serve refreshments after 7:30PM Christmas Eve Vigil
Sat. January 7	Donate desserts for the Christmas Day Luncheon

Holiday Specialties

Good News! Nutrolls and Smoked Sausages are still available to buy for holiday gift giving.

Gift Shop Kiosk for Christmas Shopping

Our Gift Shop has beautiful icons, adult & children’s books, CDs, jewelry, plus St. Tikhon’s 2023 Julian Calendars with artwork by Hierodeacon Marc.

Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, January 4 – 7PM on Zoom

Everyone is invited to join in this week’s discussion on the Gospel of Luke, starting with chapter 22:31. Watch for Fr. John’s email with the link and his notes.