

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Epistle Reading
Colossians 3:4-11

Gospel Reading
Luke 14:16-24

*Christ is in our midst!
He is and ever shall be!*

Troparion for the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

Through faith You justified the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. These saints exult in glory, for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: She who bore You without seed. So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Kontakion

You did not worship the graven image, O thrice-blessed ones, but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, you were glorified in a trial by fire. From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying: Hasten, O compassionate One! Speedily come to our aid, for You are merciful and able to do as You will.

The Fast and Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

- Fr. John invites everyone who has not yet come to the Sacrament of Confession to prayerfully prepare and schedule a time to meet with him.
- Saturday, January 6 7:30PM Burning of the Badnjak and Christmas Vigil
- Sunday, January 7 10:30AM Festal Divine Liturgy and Christmas Luncheon

Special Message from Fr. John about December 25

“Our parishioners have my blessings to not adhere to the fast on 'new calendar Christmas', so that they can participate in fellowship and love and with a clear conscience with those who do celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord on this day.”

Welcome to Our Guests

We offer a warm welcome to all guests. May you experience along with us the fullness of the Orthodox Faith through the Divine Liturgy. Please join us for Coffee Hour. You are always welcomed in our worship, fellowship and charity outreach.

Winter Coat Drive – Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who generously gave to last Sunday's coat drive and also to the Coordinator, Louise Romanchak.

Vespers and Orthodoxy 201 – Schedule Change

The weekly Wednesday Vespers and adult class will not be held this week. They will resume on January 10.

Remember Our Parishioners at Home and in Long-Term Care Facilities

The Nativity season is an especially good time to visit and reach out by phone or greeting card to Vukota Mastilovic, Bob and Ludmilla Trbovich, Joyce Warner, Nick and Helen Wultich. Contact information is available from Donna Karabin.

St. Luke Gift Shop

- Still shopping for holiday giving? Visit the Gift Shop for icons, classic books and handcrafted items from St. Tikhon's and other monasteries.
- A Special 15% Discount will be applied to all jewelry purchases now through December 31. Stop by today during Coffee Hour.

January Special Events

Friday, January 19 10:30AM Divine Liturgy for Theophany, Blessing of Waters
Sunday, January 21 Zacchaeus Sunday, the first of the pre-Lenten Sundays
Sunday, January 28 Archpastoral visit of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon
Slava for Saint Sava of Serbia immediately after Liturgy

Special Request for a French Teacher

Fairfax County foreign language program is looking for someone fluent enough to teach French to kindergarteners at Kent Gardens Elementary in McLean for one hour on Monday afternoons. Curriculum is ready and training will be provided. Contact Naz Minhas at NQMinhas@fcps.edu or 703-658-1215.

God Grant You Many Years!

May God bless Maggie Sledge on her birthday today and to our choir director, Alexia Koliass, whose birthday is on Tuesday. Mnogaja ljeta!