

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON  
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017

*Sunday of the Holy Fathers*  
*Sunday before the Nativity of Our Lord*  
THIRTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Epistle Reading**

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

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

**Gospel Reading**

Matthew 1:1-25

**Troparion for the 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!

**Kontakion for the 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.

“Prepare us, O God, to celebrate the coming of our Lord and Savior. Open our hearts wide to make room for Him. Steady our feet upon the rock of Your Word which abides forever. Amen +” - From “Daily Meditations for the Christmas Advent Fast”

**Memory Eternal +**

We offer prayers today for Mile Milosevich, Edward Phillips, Zora Milasnovich and Mary Szul on the anniversaries of their falling asleep in the Lord. May our Lord grant rest eternal in blessed repose to His servants. Večnaja pamjat +

**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.

**Feastday of the Nativity of Our Lord**

- Saturday, January 6, 7:30PM – Eve of the Nativity: Burning of the Badnjak and the Christmas Vigil; Traditional Serbian refreshments will be served afterwards. (Strict fast)
- Sunday, January 7, 10:30AM - Festal Divine Liturgy followed by a special Christmas Banquet; the Sisterhood requests donations of desserts.

**St. Luke Gift Shop**

Visit the Gift Shop for icons, books and handcrafted items from monasteries. Today is the final day for the special 15% discount on all fine jewelry.

**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.

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



On cold winter days, please enter the Chapel through the parish hall.

