

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019
**SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS AND
FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY**

Epistle Reading

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

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!

Troparion of the Forefeast

Prepare, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened to all! Adorn yourself, 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 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.

Kontakion of the 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!

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 sign the guest book at the entrance and pick up a welcome folder. Join us for Coffee Hour.

~ Thank you to all who donated food dishes for today's Pot-luck Coffee Hour ~

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord – Sunday-Monday, January 6-7

Today after Liturgy The Children's Christmas Program will be presented
Tonight - 7:30PM Burning of the Badnjak followed by the Christmas Vigil;
Traditional Serbian refreshments will be served (Strict fast)
Monday, January 7 10:30AM - Festal Divine Liturgy followed by a Nativity Luncheon. Our Sisterhood requests donations of desserts.

Holy Days of After-Feast of the Nativity

January 7-17 Fast-free days celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord
Tuesday, January 8 Synaxis of the Theotokos – Second Day of the Nativity
Wed., January 9 Feast of St. Stephen
Monday, January 14 Circumcision of our Lord, Feast of St. Basil the Great

January Events

All Wednesdays Vespers at 7PM followed by a study of the Divine Liturgy
Saturday, January 12 Men's Prayer Breakfast at 9AM
Sunday, January 13 Reception of Cindy Volosin into the Orthodox Church during Divine Liturgy starting at 10:30AM
Friday, January 18 March for Life, Washington DC (Mall @12th St, 12 noon)
Join Met. Tikhon, bishops, clergy and laity from across the US for the March and prayers for sacredness of human life

Holy Days of the Feast of Theophany

Friday, January 18 Strict Fast Day on the Eve of Theophany
Saturday January 19 Vigil for Theophany at 5PM
Sunday, January 20 Feast of Theophany, Great Blessing of Water at 10:30AM
Feast of Saint John the Baptist (Slava)

Save the Date: St. Sava Slava – Sunday, January 27

We will join together on the 27th for the Divine Liturgy, banquet and celebration of St. Sava, the enlightener of the Serbian people. Invite your friends to join us.

God grant many years to Nora Costello on her 7th birthday this Tuesday!