

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
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DECEMBER 27, 2020
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 (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 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 for the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

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.

Prokeimenon for the Holy Forefathers

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!

Memory Eternal + - Večnaja pamjat +

We pray for Mark Mamula’s mother, Millicent, on the tenth anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord. May He grant her rest eternal in blessed repose.

The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers falls on the second Sunday before the Nativity when the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh are remembered: All the great Fathers and Mothers and Prophets of the Old Testament, starting with Adam, Abraham, the Righteous Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, including Holy Prophet Elias and Daniel, and concluding with Holy Prophet Zechariah (Zachary), Joachim and Anna, Holy Prophet and Forerunner John the Baptist and The Theotokos. They lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Genesis 12:3, 22:18).

~ Adapted from [OrthodoxWiki](https://www.OrthodoxWiki.org)



Welcome to everyone praying with us today in person. Thank you for following our safety guidelines. May all who are in the Church and those livestreaming experience the great joy of the Divine Liturgy. Coffee Hour follows each gathering

The Nativity Fast and Sacrament of Confession - through Wednesday, 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 7th Nativity, either in person or over the phone - by appointment only: john.vitko@gmail.com or 925-667-6451.

“Come, open your heart, speak in all truth to Him, knowing that you are loved beyond judgment to the point of sacrifice and death: His death, and your life - life in time and life eternal.” ~ Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

St. Luke Faith in Action - “Adopt a Family” – Thank You for Donating

The gifts and financial support to the local family were delivered on Tuesday. From the mother: “That is just truly incredible, I'm speechless. Thank you so, so much. I can't wait to make this day special for them.”

Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, December 30 – Online at 7PM

Fr. John is leading the discussion of a new book, “Acquiring the Mind of Christ” by Abbott Sergius of St. Tikhon’s Monastery. He will email notes & a Zoom invite.

First-Saturday-of-the-Month Great Vespers – January 2

Everyone is invited to attend Vespers in person or online this Saturday at 5PM in preparation and anticipation of the Nativity of Our Lord.