

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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JANUARY 7, 2023
GREAT FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Epistle Reading
Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel Reading
Matthew 2:1-12

**CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!
HRISTOS SE RODII! VOISTINU SE RODII!**

Troparion for the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the Light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars were taught by a Star to adore You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Orient from on High. O Lord, glory to You!

Kontakion Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One! Angels with shepherds glorify Him! The wise men journey with a star! Since for our sake the Eternal God was born as a Little Child! 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!

Metropolitan Tikhon Joins Us for the Feast of the Nativity – Eis Polla Eti Despota

We are grateful to have His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon celebrate the Feastday with us today. We ask his archpastoral blessing on our parish, each of us and our families. We welcome Fr. John Mikitish from the OCA Chancery and his family.

Nativity Luncheon

Following the Divine Liturgy we gather together for the Nativity Luncheon. We extend our gratitude to the members of the Sisterhood for their warm hospitality and to all who donated desserts so that together we can celebrate the Joy of the Feast.

Holy Days of the After-Feast of the Nativity

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

Welcome to all guests with us by livestream and in person. May you experience along with us the fullness of the Orthodox Faith through the Feastday Liturgy. We invite you to stay for the luncheon and get acquainted with us. If you are interested in learning about the Orthodox Faith and St. Luke parish life, feel free to talk with Fr. John and Deacon Stefan.

Gift Shop Kiosk for Christmas Shopping

Come and see the beautiful icons, adult and children's books, CDs, and jewelry at the Gift Shop, plus St. Tikhon's 2023 Julian Calendars with artwork by Hierodeacon Marc.

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

Church School Nativity Play – Sunday, January 8

The 2023 Nativity Play which will be performed by our children after Liturgy tomorrow. God bless our youth in their Christmas joy and wonder – and beautiful costumes.

Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, January 11 – 7PM on Zoom

Everyone is invited to join in this week's teaching and discussion on the Gospel of Luke, chapter 22:35-71. Watch for Fr. John's email with the Zoom link and his notes.

Men's Prayer Breakfast – Saturday, January 14

This coming Saturday is the monthly men's gathering. Come at 9AM for food, fellowship and stimulating conversation on faith matters and events of the day.

Holy Days of the Feast of Theophany

Wednesday, January 18 Strict Fast Day on the Eve of Theophany
Vigil for Theophany at 7PM

Thursday, January 19 Feast of Theophany, Great Blessing of Water at 10:30AM
Friday, January 20 Feast of Saint John the Baptist (Slava – Petron Saint Day)

Annual March for Life, Washington DC – Friday, January 20

Join Metropolitan Tikhon, bishops, clergy and Orthodox Christians for Life from across the US for the March and for prayers on the sanctity of human life. More details to come.

Saint Sava Slava/Patron Saint Day Celebration – Sunday, February 5

We will soon celebrate our St. Sava Slava with Divine Liturgy at 10:30AM followed by the Slava Prayers and a festive luncheon. It is a special occasion to honor our beloved saint, his legacy of education for children and spiritual enlightenment of the Serbian people. Plan to come and invite family and friends to join with us.

God Grant You Many Years! Mnogaja Ijeta!

May God bless Nora Costello, Isabela Little, Annika Bidy and JoAnne de la Riva who are celebrating their birthdays this coming week. God bless Cindy Volosin as she celebrates the 4th anniversary of her reception into the Orthodox Church on January 13.