

Holy Virgin Dormition

Russian Orthodox Church

330 Shaw Avenue McKeesport, Pennsylvania

Archpriest Dimitri D. Ermakov, Rector

Office: 412-672-3444

Home: 412-469-8879

(Internet: www.holyvirgindormitionmckeesportpa.com)

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Russian Orthodox Church*

Nativity of Christ 7 January 2024

SCRIPTURES FOR TODAY

Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:1-12

Next Sunday Colossians 2:8-12; Luke 2:20-21, 40-52

Church Services This Week

Second Day of Christmas (Monday, January 8th)
9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Third Day of Christmas – (Tuesday, January 9th)
9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Feast of the Circumcision of Christ/St. Basil the Great/Julian
New Year's Day
(Sunday, January 14th)

Saturday evening (January 13th) – 5:00 PM, Great Vespers
Sunday morning (January 14th) – 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy of St.
Basil the Great

Sunday School Yolka Program following services

Blessing of homes schedule

Check next Sunday's bulletin for the full schedule of blessing homes.

Weekday Parking

Just a reminder that when parking for weekday services, use the back parking lot of the city lot. It would be helpful to place a sign on your dashboard saying that you are "In Church."

The Virgin today brings forth the Supersubstantial One, and the Earth offers a cavern to the Unapproachable; Angels with the shepherds sing praises; and the Magi journey with the star: since for our sake is born a Young Infant, the Pre-Eternal God.

SAINTS NAME FOR THIS WEEK (Jan 7/Dec 25)- Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ: (3 Magi) Melchior, Gaspar, Baltasar. MON- Council of the Birthgiver of God/Sunday after Nativity: Joseph (the espoused), David the King, James (Jacob, brother [cousin] of Jesus), Evthimius, Evarest, Constantine, Consantius. TUE- St. Stephen (first martyr), Theodore, Theofan, Tikhon, *Antonina*. WED- 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia: Glierius, Zinonus, Theophilus Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Indisus, Gorgonius, Peter, Evthimius, *Agatha, Domna, Theophila*; Nikanor, Igantius, Simon, Nikodim. THUR- 14,000 Infants slain by Herod, Marcellus, Mark, Theophilus, John, Thaddeus, Benjamin, Athinadorus, George. FRI- Macarius, *Anysia*, Zoticus, Timon, Philaret, *Theodora*. SAT- Leave taking of Nativity, *Melania (Melanie, Mildred)*, Gelasius, Gaius, Theophylactus, *Sabiana*.

MANY, MANY THANKS!

We would like to express our great appreciation to all those individuals who answered the call to volunteerism. We graciously extend our gratitude to all of you who were able and willing to give your precious time in decorating the Christmas trees, in cleaning church fixtures and lecterns and in the task of ordering flowers.

Also, thank you to Fr. Protodeacon Andrei Garine, Fr. Dcn Andrew Temple and all our Altar boys as well as the choir members who attended rehearsals.

Everything that we do is done for the glory of God. No effort goes unnoticed before the Lord.

GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!

Christ Is Born!

Glorify Him!

Altar Candles

Sandra Janicki 2, Memory of parents Anthony & Rose Janicki;
Health of family.

Kuehner Family 2, Memory of Robert Barron, Sr.; Memory of
grandparents.

Simo & Paula Dragovich
Georgeann Klipa

Dolores Vidil, Memory of Steve & Nettie Janicki.
Arthur Vidil, Memory of Arthur Sr. & Margaret Vidil.

Nick Gatto, Memory of wife, Fran.

Michael Mezhinsky, Health of family.

Ronald Demay Family, Memory Paul T. and Pearl S. Demay.
Priatko Family, God's Blessings.

Carolyn Simkovich 2, Health for my family; In memory of my
son, Eric.

Daniel & Lindsay Klipa and Family 2, Salvation and Protection of
our Family; Blessed repose for Peter and Clara Klipa.

Barron Family 3, Memory of deceased in Homa Family; Memory
of Hatalovich Family; Memory of deceased in Barron Family.

Dorosa Family, In memory of parents Maxim & Anne.

Tim & Kathy Andreychek 2, In memory of Andreychek Family; In
memory of Ermakov Family.

Dan & Mary Mizik, Memory of Family.

Carolyn Greco 2, Memory of husband, John Greco; Memory of
parents, Jacob & Anne Homer, brothers Joseph & James and
sister Shirley Ann.

Marcie & Luke Sippey

Beth Bratkowski & Deb Schultz 2, Health of family; Memory of
family.

Marlene, John & Jenn Sinichak 3, In memory of John Sinichak;
In memory of Anna Sinichak; In memory of John W. Sinichak.

Helen Pennington, In memory parents Wasily & Mary Lucza,
husband Russell Sr., son Russell, Jr., brother Charles & wife
Anna, sister Mary & Edward Kelly, sister Ann & Michael

Dolekary.

Christ is Born!

Glorify Him!

Jeonastas Lampadi

CHRISTMAS DAY

Priatko Family, Christ is Born: Glorify Him

NEW YEARS/ST. BASIL (Jan. 14)

George & Dorothy Klipa

Advanced Vigils for Nativity: Sandra Janicki, health of Peter
Janicki & family Nadine Dorosa 2 Helen Pennington 4, health
of parishioners, family & friends/mem of parishioners, family &
friends/Gratitude to God/Happy Birthday to daughter with God's
Blessings, Mary Jane Dan & Mary Mizik 2, health of family &
friends/memory of family & friends Mary Mizik, spec. int.

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath shown forth
upon the world the light of wisdom; for in it those that
worshipped the stars, were taught by a star, to adore
thee the Sun of Righteousness and to know thee from
highest, the orient; O Lord, glory to Thee.

A MOST HEARTFELT WELCOME

Welcome to all our parishioners and friends visiting with us
today on this The Nativity of Christ. As always, everyone is
welcomed to worship with us. Today, after the Divine Liturgy, all
of the faithful are invited downstairs to the church auditorium to
join in a fellowship hour which will include coffee, donuts and
some singing of Christmas carols.

Hot Dog Brigade

Our Hot Dog Brigade will make its annual trip to Mr. Hoagie
Restaurant on Monday, January 8th after Divine Liturgy. Anyone
and everyone are welcome to join in the fun. We hope you can
join us.

Nativity of Christ Epistle from Metropolitan Nicholas of Eastern America and New York, Primate of the Russian Church Abroad

Eminent Brother-Archpastors, Reverend Fathers, Beloved in the Lord, Brothers and Sisters:

It is with feelings of humble gratitude, love and joy in the Lord that I greet everyone on this great and most joyous celebration of the Nativity of Christ—the arrival on earth of the incarnate Son of God born to the Most-Blessed Virgin Mary. May the saving grace of God, appearing now in a humble Bethlehem cave and shining upon the waters of the Jordan River, be poured forth upon us all, visiting our homes, parishes and monasteries with unearthly light and peace!

We pray also that the Holy Land, which quenched the Savior's thirst with its waters and fed with its bread Him Who is for us even Himself our food and drink, be sated with the peace heralded by the angelic choir over the city of Bethlehem! May the Lord strengthen the clergymen and monastics of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, who are enduring difficult times as they preserve and protect our holy sites. Their courageous podvig, in the words of St John the Wonderworker, who was glorified 30 years ago, "evokes a feeling of tenderness and is worthy of reverence," and it is our holy duty to send them our support in these sacred days.

As we continue to endure a burdensome time of enmity, division and apostasy from the Faith, let us not forget that GOD IS WITH US (Isaiah 8:10). And if, as we sing during these days, it is "Him we will fear," that is, if we are pious before Him, striving towards Him and seeking to manifest in our lives the adherence to His commandments, then we will find that we "fear not His terror, neither are we troubled." We must, in this spirit, strengthen our prayer for those who violate Christian peace between nations, and in society, and in our interrelationships with other people. This is not only a commandment of Christ (cf. Matthew 5:44), but counsel given as a means of reconciliation with our neighbors;

for such prayer, which evokes God's mercy, works positively both upon one's enemies and upon the one who prays.

Bending the knee of our hearts before the God-Child Christ and His Most-Pure Mother, I beseech for the Orthodox peoples of the world, for the Holy Churches of God, unity and well-being; for the persecuted, freedom; for the suffering hearts of people, consolation; and for each one of you the fulfilment of God's good will and the receipt of His all-powerful aid. May the Lord bless you all, and I express hope that our combined efforts in serving God and mankind will result in the year 2024 becoming "the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:19). Amen.

Beseeching your holy prayers, I remain with love in the Newborn Christ,

+NICHOLAS

*Metropolitan of Eastern America and New York,
First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of
Russia*

Nativity of Christ 2023/2024

Grand Chandelier

CHRISTMAS EVE

Kuehner Family, Health Ian.

CHRISTMAS LITURGY

Carolyn Greco, Memory of cousin, Sharon Sabo.

2nd DAY OF CHIRSTMAS (Jan. 8)

George & Dorothy Klipa

EPIPHANY (Jan 19)

Carolyn Greco, Health of Godchildren Kim Gephart, Dan Phillips,
Mary Elizabeth Blythe, Miles Bruggeman.

Shrine Candles

Sandra Janicki, Memory of Hatalovich & Janicki grandparents.

Dolores Vidil, Memory of Theresa Charlesworth.

Arthur Vidil 2, Memory of Ruth Ann Williams; Memory of Margaret Vidil.

Sarah Tomkowitz, Memory of Uncle Mark & Joanne Sinichak.

Diane Tomkowitz, Memory of Mark.

Tomkowitz Family 2, Health of Family; Memory of deceased Family.

Elena & Philip Anischenko, Health of Family & Friends.

Ronald Demay 2, Memory of Theodore & Mary Demay; Memory of Edward & Eva Sapinsky.

Marcie Sippey 2, Health of Family; Memory of Grandparents.

Robert Barron 5, Memory Fr. Dimitri Ermakov; Memory David

Nothnagle; Memory Nicholas, Mary & Ronald Homa; Memory

John Edward & Ronald Barron; Memory David Yarnevich.

Potluck Dinner

This dinner is something we started last year to try to promote more fellowship amongst our parishioners and friends. There will be no charge.

We are hoping to hold a potluck dinner at least once a month. It is hoped that someone would sponsor the food for the dinner and you can choose your own menu. It does not have to be extravagant and can be as simple as hot dogs or sandwiches.

We have a sign-up sheet in the back of church for future potluck dinners. Hopefully we can make this a successful endeavor.

Sunday School Yolka

Our Sunday school will be holding it's annual Yolka next Sunday, January 14th. Sunday school students are asked to report at 9:00 AM for the final rehearsal. There will be NO adult session next Sunday. Adult classes will resume on January 21, 2024.

Votive Candles

CHRISTMAS EVE

- 1) Sandra Gephart, Health Grandchildren.
- 2) Kuehner Family, Health Family.

CHRISTMAS LITURGY

- 1) Carolyn Greco, Memory parents, Jacob & Anne Homer.
- 2) Carolyn Greco, Memory husband, John Greco.

2nd DAY OF CHRISTMAS (Jan. 8) – HOLY VIRGIN

- 1) Simo & Paula Dragovich
- 2) Rdr. Dimitri Ermakov,

3rd DAY OF CHRISTMAS (Jan. 9)

- 1) Simo & Paula Dragovich
- 2) Alyssa & Andrey, Memory of Friend & Relatives.

NEW YEARS – ST. BASIL'S (Jan. 14)

- 1) Simo & Paul Dragovich
- 2) Sandra Janicki, health of Family/Gratitude to God.

EPIPHANY (Jan. 19)

- 1) Carolyn Greco, Memory parents Jacob & Anne Homer.
- 2) Sandra Gephart, Memory parents Jacob & Anne Homer.

Flowers & Vases

Nina Molchanova 40

George & Dorothy Klipa 20

Dan & Mary Mizik 50

Ronald Demay 100

Dale & Cindy Kuehner 25

Nativity 2023/2024

"Today Christ is born of the Virgin in Bethlehem. Today, He who knows no beginning now begins to be. And the word becomes incarnate, the Powers of Heaven do rejoice. The Magi bring gifts unto the Master. The shepherds marvel at the New-born. And we unceasingly do exclaim: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will in men." (From the Nativity Matins service.)

What a glorious day it is! How can we not feel the joy in our hearts when we realize just how much God loves us?

There are so many troubles in the world today, that we may ask ourselves "where is the love of God?" It is right here in the church today! Let us never forget that Christ told us that troubles will always be in this world but if we put our trust in him, he will give us that true and everlasting peace in His Kingdom.

If we feel that sometimes we are overwhelmed by what is going on in our lives and in the world, then come to the church more frequently and feel the peace and joy that only Christ can give. It is His eternal gift that He gives to each and every one of us.

May the holiness of this Feast fill your hearts with gladness and love. And let us exclaim "Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace. Good will in men!"

Christ is Born!

Glorify Him!

With Love in Christ,
Archpriest Dimitri D. Ermakov



Altar Candles (continued)

John Dolekary, In memory of parents Anna & Michael Dolekary, Jr., grandparents Helen & Michael Dolekay Sr., and uncle John. Robert Barron, Health of Godchildren.

St. Herman Shrine Votives

CHRISTMAS EVE

Kuehner Family, Health Bob Barron.

CHRISTMAS LITURGY

Carolyn Greco, Memory sister Shirley Piggford and brothers, Joseph & James Homer.

SECOND DAY OF CHRISTMAS (Jan. 8)

Dolores Vidil, Memory of Peter & Theresa Janicki.

THIRD DAY OF CHRISTMAS (Jan. 9)

Dolores Vidil, Memory of Stephen & Anna Broda.

NEW YEARS/ST. BASIL (Jan. 14)

Beth Bratkowski & Deb Schultz, Memory grandparents, Anna & Andrew Dorich.

EPIPHANY (Jan 19)

Sandra Gephart, Memory of husband, Louis.

The Candy Cane

One of the oldest traditions of Christmas decorating is the candy cane.

From the beginning of the tradition of the Christmas tree, it was customary to decorate the tree with symbols of the newborn Christ. Candles represented the Light of the World, the star recalled that first Christmas night, and the shepherd's crook symbolized the humble shepherds in the fields near Bethlehem who were first to receive the news, "Unto you is born a Savior."

Christmas tree decorations in Europe from which our tradition comes, were customarily made of food, principally cookies and candy. This symbolically expresses thanks for "our daily bread" - thus, the shepherd's crook became a candy cane.

Candy canes on the Christmas tree symbolize the shepherds in the fields on that first Christmas night, shepherds who heard the angel chorus and came to worship at the crib of the newborn King.

