



Sunday December 25, 2016 27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2. THE NATIVITY ACCORDING TO THE FLESH OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. The Adoration of the Magi: Melchior, Caspar, and Balthasar. Commemoration of the Shepherds in Bethlehem who were watching their flocks, and went to see the Lord. Priestmonk Jonah the Martyr of Pechenga (1590).

This Week's Schedule
Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Saturday 12/31 Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 01/01/2017 Hours 8:40 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

Followed by coffee hour

Reader Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>3RD HOUR</u>	<u>6TH HOUR</u>	<u>EPISTLE</u>
Dec 25	<i>NATIVITY OF CHRIST</i>		
	A RILEY	J RILEY	J RILEY
Jan-1	LEWIS	SOUDER	BRASOWSKI
<i>Jan 6</i>	<i>THEOPHANY</i>		
Jan-8	BUNITSKY	BUNITSKY	CAREY

Hymns and Prayers

The First Antiphon

I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all
Thy wonders known. (*Ps.110/111:1a*)

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

In the company of the upright, in the congregation, great are the works of
the Lord. (*Ps 110/111:1b*)

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

They are sought out according to His will. (*Ps 110/111:2*)

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Full of honor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures
forever. (*Ps 110/111:3*)

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever,
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

The Second Antiphon

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His
commandments. (*Ps.111/112:1*)

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee:
Alleluia!

His descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright
will be blessed. (*Ps 111/112:2*)

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin...

Glory and wealth are in His house, and His righteousness
endures forever. (*Ps 111/112:3*)

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Light rises in the darkness for the upright; the Lord is merciful, compassionate and righteous. (*Ps 111/112:4*)

Refrain: O Son of God...

The Third Antiphon

The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand...” (*Ps. 109/110:1a*)

Tone 4 Troparion

Thy 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 Thee,
the Sun of righteousness,
and to know Thee, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to thee!

“...until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool!” (*Ps 109/110:1b*)

Troparion of the Feast

The Lord shall send Thee the scepter of power from Zion: “Rule in the midst of Thine enemies!” (*Ps 109/110:2*)

Troparion of the Feast

Authority shall be with Thee on the day of Thy power, in the splendor of Thy saints. (*Ps 109/110:3*)

Troparion of the Feast

Entrance Verse

“Out of the womb before the morning star have I begotten Thee.” The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind: “Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.” (*Ps. 109/110:3b-4*)

Tone 4 Troparion

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For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore Thee,
the Sun of righteousness,
and to know Thee, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to thee!

Tone 3 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 the star, //
since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

(Instead of the Trisagion)

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Tone 8 Prokeimenon

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee! Let it praise Thy Name,
O Most High! (*Ps 65/66:4*)

v: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His Name! Give glory to His praise! (Ps 65/66:1-2)

Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. (Ps 18:1)

*v: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declare knowledge.
(Ps 18:2)*

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' "

Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.

And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery:
heaven—the cave;
the cherubic throne—the Virgin;
the manger—the place where Christ lay;
the uncontainable God, Whom we magnify in song.

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)

The Lord has sent redemption to His people. (*Ps 110/111:9*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

This Week's Announcement

New Years Eve Next Saturday evening (New year's eve) following vespers we will have a parish get together for all who are interested in spending New year's eve with our church family. All who are interested please see Catalina Finck for more details.

Study Group Nativity Break Our Study group will be taking a break for Nativity and Theophany. We will meet again on Thursday January 12 at 10 a.m. All are welcome to join us.

Parish Office to be Closed The parish office will be closed from Wed. Dec 28th - Saturday Dec. 31st. For any emergency where a priest is needed please call Fr. Dn. James Carpenter. Thank you!

Thank You Thanks to all who have offered their time and talents this past week for the funerals of Joe Wojciechowski and Sofia Puit. Your efforts are an incredible asset to our parish and to those suffering loss. Thanks to all! Memory Eternal!

The Nativity of Our Lord 2016

Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon

To the Honorable Clergy, Venerable Monastics, and Pious Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,

My Beloved Brethren and Blessed Children in the Lord,

Christ is born! Glorify Him! In recent years, we have been increasingly invited to immerse ourselves in a multitude of "universes" as an alternative to our everyday lives. Most recently, yet another installment of the "Star Wars" universe was released, and surely there will be more to come, along with an endless array of similar cinematic worlds and virtual realities in the realms of sports, entertainment, the internet and in the media. While promising an escape from the mundane, such things often leave us still trapped in our own world of earthly passions and desires.

Today, as we celebrate the Great Feast of the Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, we are invited to immerse ourselves, not into the world of escape, but into that “strange and glorious mystery” by which we are transfigured and transformed, embracing the Kingdom of heaven while allowing the Lord to embrace us. We are offered the possibility of encountering, not dazzling “heroes” of the three-dimensional, high definition sort, but rather the simple beauty of the birth of the child Jesus.

In appearance, aside from its extreme austerity, there is nothing externally noteworthy to behold: a woman gives birth in a cave and lays her child in a manger. But it is precisely through these simple realities that a great mystery—the pre-eternal God embracing our human nature in its fullness—is revealed to the universe. “He Who adorned the heavens with stars has been well-pleased to be born as a babe, and He Who holds all the ends of the earth in the hollow of His hands is laid in a manger of dumb beasts.”

This mystery becomes meaningful to us through the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church and through our small efforts to live with Christian kindness. This is far more than being virtuous. As Father Alexander Schmemmann wrote, “A kind person is kind because he or she accepts people as they are, covers them with kindness. Kindness is beautiful, the most beautiful thing on this earth. Virtuous people are activists, obsessed with the desire to impose their principles and goodness and easily condemning, destroying, hating.... In this world there is a lot of virtue, and so little kindness.

Virtue is not the goal, but rather a life of humility and a struggle to discern the Lord’s very image in everyone whom we encounter. He “Whom in essence none can touch” is wrapped as a mortal in swaddling clothes that we might become “partakers of His divine nature.” If there is any element of escape here, it is rooted in the turning away from sin and the all-too-deceptive seductiveness of this world.

The grace of the Holy Spirit is not given to us for virtue or heroic asceticism; rather, it is rooted in the humility that transforms us as surely as the Incarnation transforms the universe. “Let the creation now cast off all things old, beholding Thee, the Creator, made a child, for through Thy birth Thou dost shape all things afresh, making them new once more and leading them back again to their first beauty.”

May the joy of this great feast transfigure us now, in the New Year to come, and every day of our lives as we await the fullness of the Kingdom of heaven, yet to be fully revealed, but already fully present in the life of the Body of Christ, the Church.

With love in the New-Born Christ,

With love in the Lord,

+ TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington Metropolitan of All America and Canada

Prayers for the Departed: Nabil Gouda, Dolores Kozak, Jesse Jones, Ardythe Hope, Joseph Wojceichowski, Sofia Puit

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need:, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Lemlem Resat, Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, Agnes Timchak, Olga Riley, Anna Hotrovich, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Maria Current, Anna Herko, Zack Bajuyo, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, Maria and Doug Dozier, Mary Anne Farrell, Michael Vannello, Catalina(Mary) & Jeremy (John) Finck, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Carson, Stephen, Maria, Aiden, Peck Family, Walter Danchenka,

Service Ministries

Date	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaner</u>	<u>Library</u>
25-Dec	Nativity	Sulpizi/ Finck	Kendall	No Library

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

DATE	VESPERS and LITURGY
Dec-25	All Servers
Jan-01	Team George
Jan-06	All Servers
Jan-08	Team Conover
Jan-15	Team Gabriel

Last Week's attendance

Dec.10th .Vespers: 38 Dec.11th Liturgy:110

Dec. 17th Vespers:34 Dec. 18th Liturgy:101