

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church

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Sunday, January 1, 2017 - 28th Sunday After Pentecost - Tone 3

Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ; Holy Fathers; Serbian Father's Day (Оци); Martyr Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia (290) & Righteous Aglae of Rome.

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 *Gospel:* Matthew 1:1-25

Troparions and Kontakions at the Divine Liturgy

Troparion of the Sunday, Tone III — Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown might with His arm, He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first-born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy!

Sunday Before the Nativity of the Savior, Troparion, Tone II — Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the Three Youths rejoiced 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.

Kontakion of the Sunday, Tone III — On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power!

Kontakion, Tone VI — You did not worship the graven image, O thrice-blessed ones, but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, you were glorified 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.

Schedule of Divine Services/Распоред Богослужења

Friday, January 6, 2017 - Christmas Eve/Бадњи Дан

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy/Божанствена Литургија

6:00 PM - Christmas Vigil/Божихне Бденије

7:30 PM - Blessing of Badnjak in Social Center/Освећење Бадњака у Црквеној Сали

Saturday, January 7, 2017 - Christmas/Божух

10:00am - Divine Liturgy/Божанствена Литургија

Sunday, January 8, 2017 - Synaxis of the Mother of God/Собор Пресвете Богородице

29th Sunday After Pentecost/29. недеља по Духовима

10:00am - Divine Liturgy/Божанствена Литургија

Commemorations at the Divine Liturgy

A memorial litany/pomen was included today for:

+*Nicholas Ostoich*, given by the Genny Ostoich.

Ask the Priest

Question: Can one eat or drink anything before Holy Communion?

Answer: No. Before Holy Communion, one may not drink, eat or smoke anything. (No cough drops or candies.) We remain in a complete fast from midnight until after receiving Holy Communion. In certain cases when medicine must be taken or someone is ill/pregnant and cannot abstain from food, drink or medicine from midnight, then a blessing can be granted by the priest in order to do this, but **ONLY** with the express blessing of the priest.

Announcements

Cultural Club will have its Annual Meeting today following the Divine Liturgy. After the meeting, they will decorate the Badnjak in the Social Center.

The assigned Altar servers for next Sunday, January 8, are Aleksandar Zubic & Lazar Kostur; the Epistle Reader is Aleksandar Zubic.

If you have a question about the Faith that you would like to ask and have answered in the Weekly Bulletin, feel free to leave your question at the Warden's Desk or give it to Fr. Nikolaj. The following people are in nursing homes: Helen Kostelec, Millie Stapinski, Ceba Severns & Sandra Gnatovich. Please remember them in your prayers.

The Nativity of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ is less than one week away. If you haven't prepared for the coming of Christ into the world yet during this Nativity Fast, now is your chance. Take the next week to fast, pray and prepare for Holy Communion. The greatest way for us to celebrate the Birth of Christ is by cleansing our souls and inviting Him into our lives.

On Serbian Father's Day - Оци

In celebrating FATHER'S DAY we remember with esteem all the holy fathers from both the old and new Church. We also remember all the Serbian fathers who gave their lives for "the Holy Cross and golden freedom." Psychology and Religion agree that a child receives its first idea about God from its parents. And the role of the father is vital in developing that idea. Traditionally, one of the first things we teach our children is to cross themselves and pray, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Consequently, the word "Father" is tied to God from the very beginning. Also, the first prayer we teach our children is the Lord's Prayer which begins with "Our Father..." Again, here is a tremendous responsibility imposed upon the father since the word "Father" is tied directly to God. With this concept we are telling our children that God is like our Father. And this puts a heavy load on the father for he must be an example of everything good, moral, and charitable. Perhaps we should mention here also that children can get a totally opposite conception of God if their earthly father is without love, understanding or forgiveness – or if he doesn't care for his children. But in such cases, the mother comes to the rescue. By showing her devotion and inexhaustible love for her offspring, she overshadows the father's weakness and molds a beautiful picture of God on their children.

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