



WEEKLY BULLETIN

BULLETIN BUILDER

Saint John The Baptist Orthodox Church

December 24, 2017

Church Lectionary & Typicon



**Second Sunday Before The Nativity Of Our Lord
The Sunday of The Holy Forefathers**

St Daniel The Stylite

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11 Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

Resurrectional Tone 4



**St John The Baptist
Orthodox Church
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**Very Rev. Protopresbyter
Peter Paproski**

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Church Services and Events

Tuesday, December 26

7:00PM Teen Catechism Class

Wednesday, December 27

7:00PM Adult Scripture Study

Saturday, December 30

5:00PM Great Vespers

Sunday, December 31

9:00AM Divine Liturgy

10:45AM Church School

St John's Stewards

DATE	COFFEE HOUR HOST	HOURS	EPISTLE
Dec 31	Ivers/Pierce	Pani Carol	Bill Bilcheck
Jan 7	Christmas Fellowship	Holly Bilcheck	Matthew Mihaly

2017 STEWARDSHIP YTD: \$63,380.00 As of 12/17/17 Goal: \$68,000.00

**A Parish of The American
Carpatho-Russian Orthodox**



Diocese

Diocesan Website:

<http://www.acrod.org>

Camp Nazareth:

<http://www.campnazareth.org>

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/acroddiocese

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/acrodnews>

You Tube:

<https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

Announcements

Today's Saint

PRAYERS FOR PEACE - Please do not forget that Bishop Gregory has asked all of us to pray a special prayer for peace each night during our evening prayers. It is included in this bulletin for your convenience.

ADULT EDUCATION - Our Orthodox Boot Camp will meet next on Wednesday Dec 27 at 7:00 pm. We are now turning our attention to Holy Scripture. Our study is of a practical nature: we are learning about the basics of the Bible, its origin and how to read it with them main focus being how the bible offers answers to the struggles we face in everyday life. Those who are interested in taking part in the class either in person or by telephone or video conferencing are kindly asked to contact Fr. Peter.

CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY SUPPER - Many thanks to all those who donated the food ingredients, prepared the meal and served at the Lord's Kitchen Christmas Dinner last Wednesday. May God Bless you all!

LEAF RAKING SESSION - As we were snowed out with our planned work day last Sunday, we are hoping to reschedule, weather permitting during the next couple weeks. Watch your email in box for new day and time.

EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGES – We have instituted a parish email system. For correspondence with Fr. Peter please use the following email address: priest@sjoc.org For parish bulletin or monthly newsletter submissions or questions please use news@sjoc.org

LOTS O LUCK CALENDARS - Now on sale in the Church hall. Cost is \$25.00. Proceeds support Diocesan Mission Fund and other charitable works of the ACRY.

2018 PERPETUAL CANDLE PROGRAM: Those parishioners who are currently participating in the 2017 Perpetual 7 Day Candle Program are reminded that it concludes with this week's candles. Those parishioners who wish to continue to have candles perpetually lit for their family, friends, or themselves, or would like to take part for the first time, are invited to be enrolled in the 2017 Perpetual Candle program. Cost is \$156 per candle for the year. To be enrolled in the perpetual candle list for this coming year, all current and new participants are asked to contact Fr. Peter and let him know the desired number of candles you would like lit and the intentions. Please make checks payable to St. John The Baptist Orthodox Church with perpetual candle program in the memo and either mail to the Church or place in the donation box on the candle desk in the back of the Church before the end of December.

ACRY - THE FELLOWSHIP OF STS CYRIL AND METHODIOS - The purpose of our parish ACRY is to provide a forum for our young adults and young at heart to provide input and generate ideas for parish outreach projects and provide more opportunities for parish fellowship. All parishioners are invited to take part in the meetings. Those who wish to become official members of the ACRY are kindly asked to see Holly Bilcheck who is collecting the \$20 annual dues which supports the various Diocesan outreach ministries, scholarship and campership programs spearheaded by the National ACRY.

LORD'S KITCHEN - Our Next Meal will be Mon. Jan 15, 2018. Please See Mary or Eve if you wish to help.

St Daniel The Stylite

December 11/24

This Saint was from the village of Marutha in the region of Samosata in Mesopotamia. He became a monk at the age of twelve. After visiting Saint Symeon the Stylite (see Sept. 1) and receiving his blessing, he was moved with zeal to follow his marvellous way of life. At the age of forty-two, guided by providence, he came to Anapulus in the environs of Constantinople, in the days of the holy Patriarch Anatolius (see July 3), who was also healed by Saint Daniel of very grave malady and sought to have him live near him. Upon coming to Anapulus, Saint Daniel first lived in the church of the Archangel Michael, but after some nine years, Saint Symeon the Stylite appeared to him in a vision, commanding him to imitate his own ascetical struggle upon a pillar. The remaining thirty-three years of his life he stood for varying periods on three pillars, one after another. He stood immovable in all weather, and once his disciples found him covered with ice after a winter storm. He was a counsellor of emperors; the pious emperor Leo the Great fervently loved him and brought his royal guests to meet him. It was at Saint Daniel's word that the holy relics of Saint Symeon the Stylite were brought to Constantinople from Antioch, and it was in his days that the Emperor Leo had the relics of the Three Holy Children brought from Babylon. Saint Daniel also defended the Church against the error of the Eutychians. Having lived through the reigns of the Emperors Leo, Zeno, and Basiliscus, he reposed in 490, at the age of eighty-four.

Announcements

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS - All parishioners are kindly asked to prepare themselves to receive Holy Communion at the Christmas Morning Divine Liturgy. All parishioners, including regular communicants, are asked to come to Holy Confession during the remaining time of the Nativity Fast. Fr. Peter is available before and after Vespers and Divine Liturgy. He will also be available on the afternoon of Christmas Eve, after the 8 pm Compline Service and before Divine Liturgy of Christmas, beginning at 9:15 am. and through appointment at any other time. We will also schedule a few choir rehearsals to go over the Christmas Liturgy and Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY SUPPER - All parishioners are cordially invited to take part in our annual Community Holy Supper to be held on Sati, Jan 6, 2018 at 6:30 pm, prior to the 8:00 pm Compline Service. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the parish Hall if you plan on attending. There is no cost but all are asked to bring a food item and take part in the clean-up after the supper.

NEW YEAR'S BRUNCH - We will ring in the Julian Calendar New Year with a celebratory luncheon (Sunday Sauce) at Ralph and Riches in Bridgeport following Sunday Divine Liturgy on January 14, at approx Noon. 12:30 pm. Cost is approximately \$27 for a four course meal. Please mark your calendar and add your name to the sign up sheet in the Church Hall. Reservations must be made by Jan 7th.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 25	Maribel Best	Birthday
Dec 27	Faith Stirna	Birthday
Dec 29	Bryan Papillo	Birthday
Dec 29	Jeff Stokely	Birthday

FINANCIAL STATISTICS 12/17/17

Pew Collection	1147.00
7 Day Candles	9.00
Christmas Outreach	1161.00
St Nicholas Brunch	820.00
<u>St Nicholas Donation</u>	25.00
TOTAL	\$3,305.00

Wisdom From Th Fathers

Great indeed was the faith of Abraham. . . It was necessary to go beyond human reasoning. . . to manifest also something more.

St. John Chrysostom

The tribes of Judah and Levi were united by a fusion of their lines of descent, and that is why Matthew assigns Christ's family to the tribe of Judah. And the Apostle says, 'for our Lord has sprung out of Judah' (Heb. 7:14).

St. Ambrose of Milan

Prayer For Peace – Evening Prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, Son and Word of God, You became flesh and dwelt among us. You made the womb of Your most-pure Mother more spacious than the heavens. Yet You, the true light, were born in the darkness of a cave, thereby enlightening the world that was darkened by sin. To redeem us, You shared Your whole life. You submitted to death on the Cross and rose from the dead, bestowing life. We share in Your death and resurrection, that we may indeed be dead to sin and alive in You. As we fast and prepare to celebrate Your life-giving manifestation, we pray especially that our respect for life will prevail in the world. Directed by Your command to care for “the least of these,” may we and all people heed Your call to show care and concern for life in the womb; for the lives of the poor, oppressed, and suffering; and for the lives of the sick, the elderly, and the dying. May Your peace reign in our hearts and throughout world, especially in places of unrest, so that the shedding of blood in warfare, violence, terrorism, tyranny, and all manner of strife may come to an end. May aggression between neighbors and nations fade away. May love reign in the lives of families. O Savior, You have said “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” May we become partakers of Your abundant life, together with all the saints whose lives have pleased You from the beginning. For You are the way, the truth and the life, O Christ our God, and to You we give glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your most-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and forever. AMEN.

