

## SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY

December 26, 2021

**Saints Commemorated today:** Afterfeast of the Nativity; Synaxis of the Holy Theotokos; Euthemios the Confessor, Bishop of Sardis; Holy New Hieromartyr Constantine of Russia, who struggled in Constantinople (1743); Constantius the Holy Martyr; Barlaam the Righteous of Valaam

### EPISTLE READING

**Galatians 1:11-19**

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

### GOSPEL READING

**Matthew 2:13-23**

When the wise men departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaos reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

### ENTRANCE HYMN: 2ND TONE

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the netherworld, all the powers of the heavens were crying out. O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

### FOURTH MODE

As the first-called of the Apostles, and brother of their leader O Andrew, entreat the Master of all that peace be granted unto the world and great mercy to our souls.



## HOUSE BLESSINGS

Following Theophany on January 6th, Fr. John will be offering the House Blessing service to the community. House blessings are a wonderful tradition in the Orthodox Faith that both bless the home with holy water and allow time for families to get to know their priest better. Please contact Amber in the office to schedule a time for Fr. John to come during the month of January!

## PHILANTHROPY AT SAINT ANDREW

This year's Wishing Tree will support the Children's Dispensary and Hospital on Lasalle Ave. in South Bend. This organization, which may not be known to many, works to enhance the learning and enrich the lives of individuals with special needs. Please follow [this link](#) to learn more about this local organization. . This facility needs new (not used) board games and craft supplies (coloring pencils, crayons, markers, craft paper, ribbons, etc. - and whatever else your imagination tells you is a good craft supply for this scenario). Basically items that they can use to make things with. And then of course craft boxes to maybe store these items in. Collection bins are in front of the small decorated Christmas tree in the church foyer. We have extended the deadline for donations until January 8.

We invite everyone to participate in a new fundraiser we plan to execute in 2022 - Festival of Tables. It is an online fundraiser which is widely known and used to raise money. Google "festival of tables" and you will see an array of examples for information and inspiration. Here is [a link](#) of the one executed by the Daughters of Penelope Thamyris Chapter in Gross Pointe / St. Clair Shores.

This is how it works:

1. Set your beautiful Christmas and New Year's table(s) in whatever style you choose - It doesn't have to be a holiday theme. It can be whatever subject or passion that strikes your fancy.
2. Take 3 good quality pictures with your phone or other camera
  - 1 picture of the entire table
  - 1 picture of the individual setting
  - 1 picture of the centerpiece
3. Email the 3 pictures to [Tina Assimos](#) no later than January 28 to
4. After we create the website:
  - a) We will share the site publicly
  - b) People will view the tables and donate money which we will donate to the children's wing at Memorial Hospital

If you'd like to participate, please let Tina know by Dec 31 and email her your 3 pictures to the above email address by 1/28. Thank you in advance for supporting this new and fun initiative to help fund the philanthropic ministry of Saint Andrew.

We wish everyone a very blessed, healthy and happy holiday season!

## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2022

We are once again at the time of year when we must all submit our stewardship pledges for 2022, in support of our church. We ask that parishioners submit their pledges for time, talent and treasure through the mail or [online](#) by Dec 31. To date we have received 37 pledges, totaling \$79,342 (the 2022 annual church operating budget is Income \$344,300/Expense \$344,150). This year's stewardship theme established by the Archdiocese is "Our Church - Our Spiritual Home". Christian Stewardship is about becoming good caretakers of all that God has given us. God has given each of us special and unique gifts, and through Holy Scripture He teaches us that everything we have is a loan from Him. Saint Paul instructs us: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" Colossians 3:23. When we see our work in this way, we are able to become stewards of our work and our church. Christian stewardship of work also teaches us that we are responsible to those with whom we work and those that may be served by our work. We are called to reflect the light of Christ in their lives, encourage them, support them and even love them. So remember that stewardship is not ONLY defined as

dollars, although reality says that with no money, we have no church. But true stewardship involves offering your time AND work to keep your church alive and viable. Thank you for being devoted stewards to Saint Andrew.

### **SOCIALLY DISTANCED SECTION**

We kindly remind everyone that we have set aside a section of pews for those who wish to wear masks and continue to socially distance. Masks and distancing are required in this section, as per the Metropolis of Chicago. We ask that if you are not wearing a mask and distancing, that you sit in another section. Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

### **DISCRETIONARY FUND**

The Discretionary Fund is to assist local parishioners (individuals, and families) who have encountered financial hardship. If you would like to help please contact Father John or make donations payable to the Discretionary Fund.

### **VISITING SAINT ANDREW?**

People of different religious affiliation or tradition are always welcome at the liturgical services of our Holy Orthodox Church. If you are interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity or have specific questions, please set up a time to speak with Father John.

### **YOUR PRAYERS HELP...**

“...I was sick and you visited Me...” St. Matthew 25:36. “Holy Father, Physician of our souls and bodies have mercy, forgive and heal thy servants.” The following brothers and sisters in Christ need your constant prayers and love, recovering at home or ill at home/hospital: Makarios Ngure, Vasilios Spentzos (home) and Nick Limberopoulos (home).

In nursing homes or home bound: Artemis Hoke (Westgate Garden), and Amelia Morris (Miller's Merry Manor, Walkerton).

Today's **Ushers** are: Manolis Anagnostou, Anna Napoleon, George Mighion, Pete Arvan. If you are not serving in the pangari today, please join everyone in the Sanctuary.

Today's Epistle Lesson will be read by an Altar Boy.

**Maria Giannakakis** prepared the Prosforo for this morning. May our God grant you spiritual joy always.

Coffee Hour was lovingly prepared for our entire community by the. We thank you for your love and generosity.

### **THIS WEEK**

Fri Dec 24	Eve of the Nativity of Christ	8:30a Great Hours & Vesperal Divine Liturgy
Fri Dec 24	Nativity of Christ	6p Orthros & Liturgy
Fri Dec 24	Office Closed	
Sat Dec 25	The Nativity of Christ	8:15a Matins 9:15a Liturgy
Sun Dec 26	Sunday after Christ's Nativity	8:20a Matins 9:30a Liturgy

Mon Dec 27	St. Stephen	9:30a Liturgy
Mon Dec 27	Office Closed	
Tue Dec 28	Office Closed	
Wed Dec 29	Office Closed	
Thu Dec 30	Office Closed	
Fri Dec 31	Office Closed	
Sat Jan 1	St. Basil the Great Christ's Circumcision	8:30a Matins 9:30a Liturgy
Sun Jan 2	Sunday before Theophany	8:20a Matins 9:30a Liturgy

### LOOKING AHEAD

Wed Jan 5	Eve of Theophany	8:30a Great Hours & Vesperal Divine Liturgy
Thu Jan 6	Theophany	8:30a Matins 9:30a Liturgy & Great Blessing of Waters
Fri Jan 7	Synaxis of St. John the Prophet & Forerunner	8:30a Matins 9:30a Liturgy
Sun Jan 9	Sunday after Theophany	8:20a Matins 9:30a Liturgy
Fri, Jan 14	Leavetaking of Theophany Fathers of Sinai/Raitho	9:30a Liturgy
Sat Jan 15	Great Vespers	5p
Sun Jan 16	Twelfth Sunday of Luke	8:20a Matins 9:30a Liturgy
Mon Jan 17	St. Anthony the Great	8:30a Matins 9:30a Liturgy
Mon Jan 17	Office Closed	
Tue Jan 18	Sts. Athanasios and Cyril	9:30a
Tue Jan 18	Office Closed	
Wed Jan 19	Office Closed	