

**Our Vision: *To know and love Christ, sharing His love with others***

December 27th, 2015

**Today's commemorated feasts and saints**

**30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 5. Third Day of the Feast of the Nativity. Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen (34). Sunday after Nativity. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord. Ven. Theodore Graptus ("the Branded"), Confessor and brother of St. Theophanes the Hymnographer (ca. 840). St. Theodore, Archbishop of Constantinople (ca. 686).**

**Tone 5 Troparion (Resurrection)**  
 Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead//by His glorious Resurrection.

**Tone 4 Troparion of the Feast**  
 Your 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 You, the Sun of righteousness, and to know You, the Orient from on high.//  
 O Lord, glory to You! (*Twice*)

**Tone 2 Troparion (of the Righteous Ones)**

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph, to David, the ancestor of God; you saw a Virgin great with child; you gave glory with the shepherds; you worshipped with the Magi; you received the news from the Angel. Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

**Tone 3 Kontakion (of the Righteous Ones)**

Today godly David is filled with joy; Joseph and James offer praise. The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy. They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth, and they cry out: "O Compassionate One, save those who honor You!"

**Tone 3 Kontakion of the Feast**

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!

**Tone 5 Prokeimenon**

You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever. (Ps 11/12:7)

*v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any*

*that is godly! (Ps 11/12:1)*

**Tone 4 Prokeimenon**

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel. (Ps 67/68:35)

**Epistle Galatians 1:11-19 4:4-7**

*(Sunday after the Nativity)*

**Tone 5**



Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation. (Ps 88/89:1)*

*v: For You have said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens." (Ps 88/89:2)*

**Tone 4**

*v: Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness! (Ps 131/132:1)*

**Gospel**

Matthew 2:1-12 2:13-23

*(Sunday after the Nativity)*

*(Instead of "It is truly meet," we sing:) 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.*

*(or, the ninth heirmos of the second canon)*

*Out of fear, we should choose to love silence, for that is a safer course;*

*so difficult it is to lovingly compose intricately woven songs*

*to you, O Virgin.*

*But grant us strength, O Mother, equal to our natural calling.*



## Announcements

**CHRIST IS BORN ! GLORIFY HIM!  
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**Pledge Cards** for 2016 are in your mailboxes. Please prayerfully consider your giving and how you can do your part to help the ministry of the Church!

There will be **no regular vespers or akathist this coming Wednesday**. However, this **Thursday Dec 31 at 6:30 pm** we will be having Great Vespers for St. Basil / the Circumcision of Christ - and as a way to bring in the New Year!

The **Coffee Hour sheet** for the first half of 2016 has been posted on the bulletin board.

**Parish Council** nominations are open for 2016, if you are interested in possibly serving on Parish Council, please see Fr Stacey or Kathy.

**Orthodox theology courses** offered through the Diocese of the Midwest (St. Macrina Institute) will be offered in Cleveland starting in January. These courses are available to all, but are specifically designed for continuing education and for those training for teaching roles in the parish and for the diaconate. More information is on the bulletin board, but please check out <http://www.stmacrina.org/apply/> The first course will be on Orthodox Spirituality, starting January 10.

### 10 motorcycles for the Archdiocese of Kenya

There are some 250 priests serving the Archdiocese of Kenya. Many of them minister to multiple communities, some of which are extremely remote and only accessible by foot or motorbike. The distance between communities presents another obstacle in serving the faithful regularly.



“With this in mind, I would like to ask our diocesan parishes and missions to raise alms during the Nativity Fast to purchase at least 10 motorcycles for the Archdiocese of Kenya,” Bishop Paul wrote in [a letter addressed to all Clergy and Faithful of the Diocese](#). “One motorcycle costs a mere \$1,000.00. Perhaps one parish can donate the entire amount to purchase a motorcycle; two parishes could donate \$500.00 each to purchase one, or four parishes might donate \$250.00 each to purchase another. Of course, any gifts of any amount would be greatly appreciated. What a wonderful way for parishes of our diocese to work together to raise these funds.”

## WELCOME VISITORS!

We are delighted to have visitors worship with us, and we pray that you will be blessed in your time with us! Regarding participation in the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion is treated with the utmost respect and reverence in the Orthodox Church, and it is the rule that only practicing Orthodox Christians may receive it. Our non-Orthodox guests are welcome, however, to participate with us in any other way they may desire, and are welcome to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

### Please Join us for Coffee Hour after Divine Liturgy in the Social Hall!



*If this is your first visit to our parish, we welcome you and invite you to return as often as you are able. For those interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity please ask any of our church community – or feel free to contact Fr Stacey. Our parish library is available for your reading interests. Children are welcome to join*

*church school classes after liturgy.*

### CONFESSIONS

Fr Stacey can usually hear confessions after any weekday service or after Saturday Vespers. He is also available by appointment, or during his regular office hours.

#### Mission Statement:

Bringing the love of Christ to our community through prayer, worship, fellowship, discipleship, service, and outreach within the tradition of historic Orthodox Christianity.

Going to miss a service? Listen online to our Divine Liturgy and other Orthodox Christian Teachings

### Coffee Hour Schedule

DEC 27 CONDO, MILLER,  
KRAJCI, GATES

#### This Week:

Today

<b>Hours</b>	<b>9:15 AM</b>
<b>Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>11:15 AM</b>

Thursday

<b>Great Vespers</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>
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Saturday

<b>Great Vespers</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>
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Next Sunday

<b>Hours</b>	<b>9:15 AM</b>
<b>Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>11:30 AM</b>

Upcoming

<b>Royal Hours for Theophany</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>3 Jan</b>
<b>Great Vespers, Great Blessing of Waters</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>5 Jan</b>
<b>Divine Liturgy for Theophany, Outdoor Blessing of Water at Stadium Park</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>6 Jan</b>

