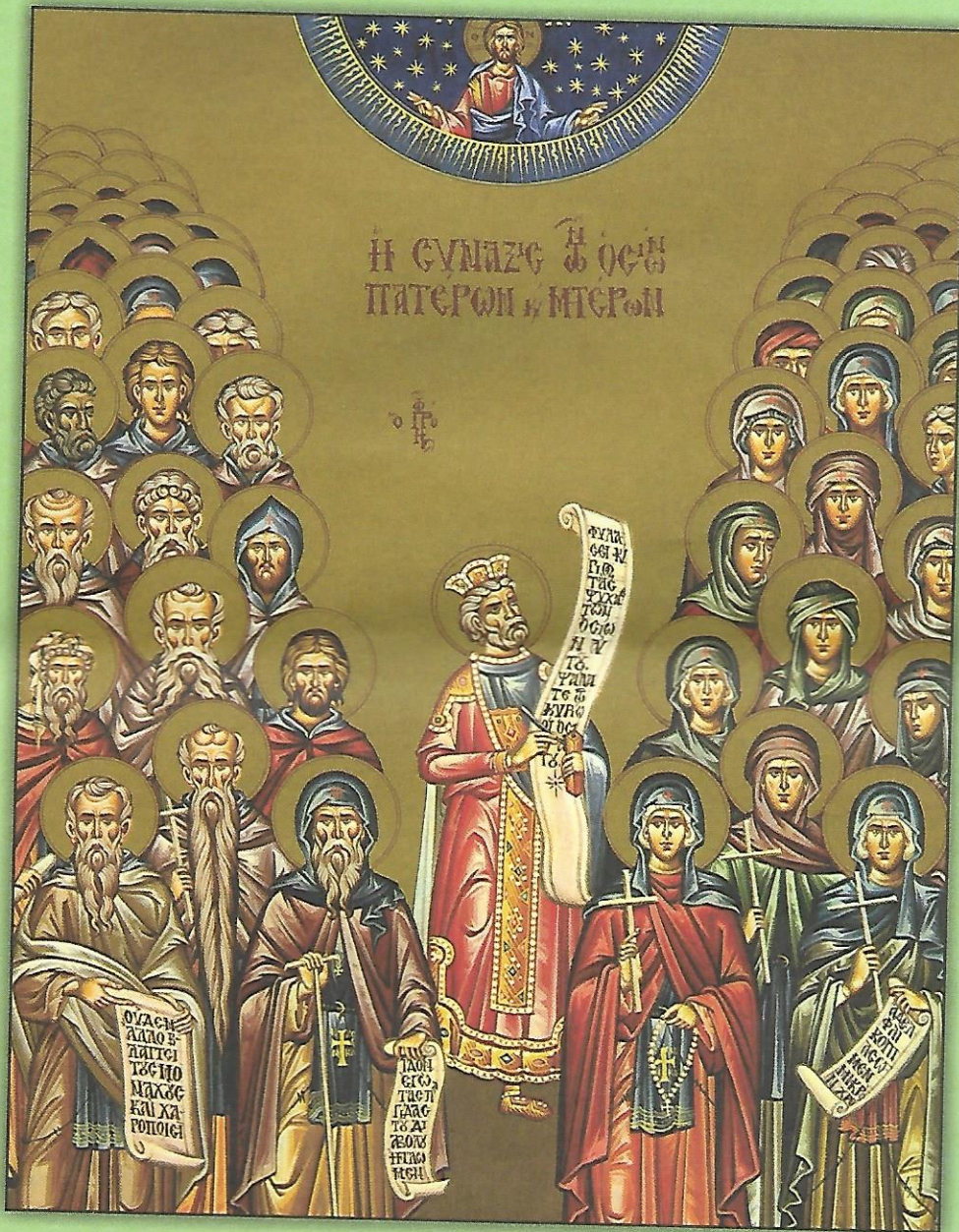


SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD  
SUNDAY OF THE ANCESTORS



*Icon of the Holy Ancestors*

**Divine Liturgy Guide**

**Sunday, December 23, 2018**

**Sunday Before Christmas**

SAT DECEMBER 22: 4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy God's blessing for Stefan & John Tutka

SUN DECEMBER 23: 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy Gods blessings for His People  
Sunday before Christmas

MON. DECEMBER 24: 9:30 p.m. Divine Liturgy Christmas Eve

TUE. DECEMBER 25: 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Christmas Birth of Our Lord

WED. DECEMBER 26: 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Synaxis of the Theotokos  
God's blessing for Mark & Leslie Izak

THU. DECEMBER 27: 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Stephen Protomartyr  
God's healing for Margaret Brewinsky

FRI. DECEMBER 28: 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy God's blessing for Amendola Family

SAT DECEMBER 29: 4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy God's blessing for Marylee Schirg & Family

SUN DECEMBER 30: 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy Gods blessings for His People  
Sunday After Christmas

**Collection Basket**



**Dec 15 & 16 \$ 7581**

**We thank last week counters:**

**Dave Pedley and Linda Gerrity**

**Next in Line:**

**Mike Trusz & Olenka Chandoha-Knott**

**Happy Birthday!**

**Birthdays December 22-28**

**Helen Ewasko - Dec. 25**

**Dolores Zapotochny - Dec. 28**

**SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY – SUNDAY OF THE ANCESTORS**  
(Sung to the melody of "O Little Town of Bethlehem")

O come, you lovers of the feasts! With gladness let us raise,  
For Patriarchs and Prophets blest a hymn of thankful praise!  
For Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and his seed  
Whose covenant with God endured, we give you praise indeed!

Believers, let us praise this day the fathers on faith's trek;  
For Adam, Enoch, Noah and the great Melchizedek!  
For prophets like Isaiah, for Daniel and the youths,  
Who in the face of evil, still proclaimed Your holy truths.

For Miriam, Sarah, Rachel fair, for Hannah and for Eve,  
For all the mothers, who conceived and bore those to believe  
That God would keep his promise, we give you thanks this day;  
So give us grace, in all our deeds, to serve you, as did they!

O Bethlehem, prepare yourself, O Ephrathah, rejoice!  
The gate of Eden's open wide! Cry out with joy filled voice;  
Our Christ makes haste to come now and brings us back to grace.  
Prepare your hearts, your homes, you lives! Give Christ the finest place!



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**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

- CHRISTMAS EVE MON. DEC. 24 AT 9:30PM
  - TUE. DEC. 25 DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM CHRISTMAS BIRTH OF OUR LORD
  - WED. DEC. 26 DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS
  - THU. DEC.27 DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR
-

SAVE THE DATES PARISH TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2018-2019

- JAN 26 - PYROHY
- FEB 24 - PRELENTEN DINNER
- MARCH 4 - BEGINS GREAT FAST (LENT)
- MARCH 9 - PYROHY
- APRIL 6 - PYROHY
- MAY 5 – EASTER DINNER
- MAY 18 - FIRST PENANCE
- MAY 19
  - FIRST SOLEMN COMMUNION
  - LAST DAY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
  - LAST SOCIAL

Announcements

1. CHRISTMAS EVE IS A DAY OF FASTING

A reminder that on Monday, the Vigil of the Nativity, No Meat may be Eaten. This is a Day of Fasting for Ukrainian Catholics. Please Honor this Regulation of the Church.

2. SYNAXIS OF THE MOTHER OF GOD HOLY DAY ON WEDNESDAY

The celebration of Christmas continues on Wednesday, December 26th, with the Synaxis of the Mother of God Holy Day. Divine Liturgy will be held at 10:00am. Please come to Church as we continue to Honor the Mother of God.

3. ST. STEPHEN HOLY DAY ON THURSDAY

The Feast of St. Stephen, who was the first Martyr, is this Thursday, December 27th. Divine Liturgy will take place at 10:00am. Everyone is invited to continue the Christmas celebration by coming to Church again on Thursday to Honor this special Saint.

4. CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BREAK

There will be no classes on December 23 and 30. Classes will resume January 6, all teachers wish their students a blessed, safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

*The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.*

*Matthew 2:10-11*

Announcements

5. ST. VLADIMIR'S COLLECTS OVER \$400 FOR OUR SISTER CHURCH IN NEW JERSEY

Our Parishioners have donated \$452 in the special collection for St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Carteret, New Jersey after they lost everything in the recent devastating fire. Thank you to all for making this sacrifice for one of our Churches in Need.

6. SPECIAL THANKS TO DECORATORS OF OUR CHURCH

St. Vladimir's would like to thank those who worked hard on Friday in decorating our Church for the Christmas Season. Your commitment and dedication is deeply appreciated.

7. 2019 CALENDARS AVAILABLE

St. Vladimir's official 2019 calendars are now available in the back of the Church. Thank You once again to the Edward Chomko Funeral Home for donating these beautiful calendars. Pick yours up today.

8. A GIFT FOR YOU

Attached to this bulletin is a special insert, which covers the highlights of all our holy days of the Christmas and Theophany season. We purchased these leaflets for your spiritual enrichment. Please save the insert and take time to read it during this holy season.

9. CONFESSION WEEKEND

Father will be hearing confession SATURDAY JANUARY 5 - FROM 3:15 PM TO 3:45 PM  
SUNDAY JANUARY 6 - AFTER DIVINE LITURGY

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

Please include in your prayers those members of our parish who are in hospitals, care homes, rehabilitation facilities & those who are not able to join us actively in our church community.

Mid-Valley Nursing Home

Mary Wasylyniak

Linwood Nursing Home

Dolores Zapotochny

Mountain View

Sylvester Cybroski

Nadia Biloskirka

Lackawanna Health Care Center

Antonietta Kohut

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Stella Patrick  
Ceil Harrison  
John Knott

Home  
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Mary Tucker  
Ronald Kozak  
Kathleen Izak  
Sharon Selwocki  
Ann Cosminski  
Walter Skula  
Doris Romancho  
Mary Warholak  
Dorothy Kowalchick  
Irene Slagan  
Michael McConnell  
Olga Trusz  
Michael Stec

**SAINT VLADIMIR**

**Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church**

**Mailing address: 430 N. 7th Ave., Scranton, Pa. 18503-2104**

**Telephones: Parish Office (570) 342-7023 Fax 342-7130**

**REVEREND MYRON MYRONYUK, PASTOR Email: myronyukm@yahoo.com**

***Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viky!***

**Divine Liturgies: Saturday 4 p.m., Sunday 10:30 a.m.,**

**Holy Days & Weekdays see bulletin**

**OUR MISSION PARISH: Saints Peter & Paul, 47 Rittenhouse Street, Simpson,  
Pennsylvania**

**Sick calls / Communion calls / Home visits/ Emergencies: call parish office.**

***The Story of the Origin of Jesus Christ, Son of David, and the Rest of the Names***

Matthew's genealogy is extraordinarily comprehensive in his theology of the roots of Jesus' story in the Old Testament. But that is only one part of the story of Jesus Christ. The story has a sequence as well; and the continuing sequence is what makes the genealogy "good news" for Matthew's audience and for us. Human being have been empowered to preserve, proclaim, and convey the salvation brought by Jesus Christ throughout history. The God who wrote the beginnings with crooked lines also writes the sequence with crooked lines, and some of those lines are our own lives and witness.

A God who did not hesitate to use the scheming as well as the noble, the impure as well as the pure, men to whom the world hearkened and women upon whom the world frowned - this God continues to work through the same melange. If it was a challenge to recognize in the last part of

Matthew's genealogy that totally unknown people were part of the story of Jesus Christ, it may be a greater challenge to recognize that the unknown characters of today are an essential part of the sequence. The proclamation of that genealogy in the Advent liturgy is designed to give us hope about our destiny and our importance.

By stressing the all-powerful grace of God, the genealogy presents its greatest challenge to those who will accept only an idealized Jesus Christ whose story they would write only with straight lines and whose portrait they would paint only in pastel colors. If we look at the whole story and the total picture, the Gospels teach us that Jesus' ministry was not thus; the history of the church teaches us that the sequence as not thus. God's grace can work even with people like us.

*Father Raymond E. Brown, S.S.*