

Commemorated on December 16

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

Sunday of the Forefathers

Troparion - Tone 2

Through faith You justified the Forefathers,
betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles.
These saints exult in glory,
for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:
She who bore You without seed.
So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Kontakion - Tone 6

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.

Holy Spirit Orthodox Church - Wantage, NJ
Archpriest Samuel Kedala, Rector

Joanne Patrick, Choir Director

Parish Council

Timothy Kachur, Sr. Warden

Mark Benda, Jr. Warden

Michael Olsen, Treasurer

Doris Livanos/Susan Matthews, Co/Recording Secretary

Council members

Edward Engelsman • Michael Chwan

Anna Seniw • Louis Matthews

www.holyspiritorthodox.org

HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH

Wantage, New Jersey

December 16, 2007



Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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Sunday, December 16, 2007

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

Saturday, Dec 22, 6:00 PM Vespers/Private Nativity Confessions
Sunday, Dec. 23 9:15 AM Church School, 9:35 AM Hours, 10 AM Divine Liturgy
Church School Nativity Program
Monday, Dec. 24 Vespers Divine Liturgy 9:00 am, **Holy Supper 6:00 PM everyone invited,**
7:30 PM Compline of Nativity
Tuesday, December 25, **NATIVITY OF OUR LORD IN THE FLESH 10:00 am-Divine Liturgy**

Today's commemorated feasts and saints... 29th Sunday after Pentecost (13th of Luke) - Tone 4 - SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS. Prophet Haggai (Aggaeus — 500 B.C.). Martyr Marinus of Rome (3rd c.). Bl. Empress Theophano (Theophania — 893-4).
Colossians 3:4-11 (Epistle, Forefathers — from the 28th Sun) Luke 14:16-24 (Gospel, Forefathers — from the 28th Sun)

BULLETIN

Thank you to the Church Schools Teachers and families who brought their children and prepared for the Annual Church School Nativity presentation and decorated the Christmas Tree. A good time was enjoyed by all.

Thank you to those of you who had taken **Gift tags for Nativity gifts** for needy children and families. They will be distributed tomorrow Monday, December 17. May God Repay

Thank you to **Pighi Mardaloescu** who hosted the Coffee Social last week. **The Engelsman family** signed up to host the Social today. **No one** is signed up to host next week. **Please sign-up to host a future social.**

Thank you to all who attended and participated in The Annual Parish Meeting last week. It was a fruitful meeting. God Bless You all.

Thank you to **John Clauson** for his gift of a 50 lb. bag of ice melter and for his shoveling of our walk way.

It is only one week away from the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord. Very few parishioners have come to the Sacrament of Confession. Father Samuel will be available before and after Great Vespers and by appointment if necessary. Sunday mornings are **not** a good time to go to confession as Father Samuel is preparing for the Divine Liturgy. **We must come to Confession to receive Holy Communion.**

Please pray for those affected by the **fires in Southern California.** A fund has been

set up by the OCA Diocese of the West to help those affected by the devastation. Visit the diocesan website at www.ocadow.org.

Please place a small donation in the basket at Coffee Social to help pay for the paper products.

Supermarket Gift Cards will be sold at today's Coffee Hour. Please help support the General fund with your purchases of these supermarket Gift Cards. Five percent of all sales go to the parish General Fund.

A reminder to all who are worshipping at Holy Spirit Church, please turn off your cell phones or leave it in your cars until after Divine Liturgy

PLEASE PURCHASE gift cards for shopping at ShopRite and A & P stores. They are working out wonderfully. Very convenient for shopping. No cash, no checks, just a little card. They are great, and our church benefits by your using them.

WE HAVE SHOP RITE AND A&P GIFT CARDS-STOCK UP ON GIFT CARDS FOR YOUR REGULAR SHOPPING & AS GIFTS TO OTHERS

Please keep the following people in your prayers: Catherine Schwed, Thelma Macheska, Alyssa Karakos, Mary Kwak, Matushka Evelyn Kreta, Christopher, the infant Ella Jane, Corinne Matthews, infant Nicholai, Dan Taylor, Doug Taylor, Stephen Kachur, Pighi Mardaloescu, Valentina Bobrowsky, Archimandrite Joachim (Parr), Frank Higginbotham, Matushka Marie Kreta, Joanne Patrick, Feodora Apanasow, Archpriest Joseph Chupeck, the infant Logan Eugene, Evanthis, Loren Chwan, Jennifer and Matushka Vera Yuschak

SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES

By the **Chwan Family** for the health, and Salvation of **Loren & Elise**

Seven day vigil candles are available for the faithful to sponsor in memory of their departed, the sick, or for the general intentions (anniversaries, birthdays, weddings, baptisms, etc.). They will remain lit on the altar and table of oblation. The suggested donation is \$10.00 each and will burn for seven days. The intentions and those who offered them will be announced in the weekly bulletins. You may purchase your offering at the Parish Council office.

If you would like to have something published in the weekly bulletin, e-mail or bring typed copy to Father Samuel by Wednesday of the week prior to the Sunday you would like it published.

We welcome our guests who are worshipping with us today. Please join us downstairs for refreshments and fellowship. Please sign our guest book before you leave.