

DECEMBER 15, 2019

## BULLETIN – SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS OF CHRIST

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Deadline for Bulletin Submissions – **10:00 am Wednesday** ♦ church website: <https://ssppaoc.org/>

*Many Years -- Birthday*

Jameson Lachmund December 15

Steve Franck December 16

Kh. Suzanne Washburn December 21

*Many Years – Anniversary*

Jack & Monica Zweers December 16

social activity and service project for the Nativity season. Any woman 18 and older is a member of the Antiochian Women, so come and learn more about the group and the larger sisterhood of Antiochian Women.

### URGENT NEED

Ron Roberson, who had a stroke recently, needs help while his wife is out of town. If you are able to fix dinner for Ron at 6:00 pm, clean up afterwards, and check on Ron's status, please contact Marilyn Spurgeon, who is scheduling helpers, at 831-345-5448. This is part of the Kindness Ministry.

## NATIVITY SCHEDULE

**Royal Hours & Vespers  
Divine Liturgy for the Feast  
Tuesday, December 24  
beginning at 9:00 am**

**10:00 pm  
Festal Orthros & Divine  
Liturgy**

**VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY  
for  
St. Ignatius the God-bearer  
Thursday, December 19  
6:00 pm**

*Followed by fasting food potluck*

### CHURCH BOOKSTORE

Celebrate the real meaning of Nativity with gifts from the bookstore in the parish hall. Both Thia Franck and Sh. Donna Wentzel will help you with your purchases.

### PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council meets Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 pm in the parish hall.

### ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

The Antiochian Women will meet today during coffee hour. Bring your ideas for a

### NATIVITY DINNER

Come celebrate the birth of Christ at the Inn at Pasatiempo on Friday, December 27. The cash bar is open 6:00 pm-9:00 pm, and the buffet dinner is 6:30 pm-10:00 pm. The cost is \$45 per person, junior high age and up. The deadline to pay for the dinner is Tuesday, December 24. Pay online by going here <https://ssppaoc.weshareonline.org/>. Or either write a check to Ss Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church with 2019 Nativity Dinner in the memo or pay with cash in an envelope marked "2019 Nativity Dinner" and deposit in offering plate. Look for a flyer in your church mailbox with more details about the dinner. Please speak with Fr. Nathan if cost is an issue for you. Don't let lack of funds keep you away from this chance to celebrate with our church family.

**This Week @ Ss. Peter & Paul – December 16-22, 2019**

- 12/16 Mon** 6:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal  
**12/17 Tues** **6:00 am** – Readers Orthros  
**12/18 Wed** **9:00 am** – Divine Liturgy  
**6:00 pm** – Vespers  
7:00 pm – Parish Council  
**12/19 Thurs** 6:00 am – Men’s Reading Group  
**6:00 pm** – Vesperal Divine Liturgy for  
St. Ignatius followed by fasting food  
potluck  
**12/20 Fri** 10:00 am – Women’s Book Study  
**12/21 Sat** **6:00 pm** – Great Vespers & Compline  
**12/22 Sun** **8:20 am** – Orthros  
**9:30 am** – Divine Liturgy-Forefathers  
of Christ  
10:20 am – Church School  
Youth Group

**Looking Ahead –**

*December 24-January 3 Church Office Closed*

*December 24 Royal Hours*

*Vesperal Divine Liturgy*

*Festal Orthros & Divine Liturgy for the  
Feast of Nativity*

*December 27 Nativity Dinner*

*January 1 Vespers*

*January 3 Royal Hours of Theophany, Typica &  
Great Vespers*

*January 5 Feast of Theophany & Great Blessing of  
Waters*

**TIMES FOR CONFESSIONS**

Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings during Orthros prior to 9:15 am, before or after Vespers on Wednesday evenings (by appointment), on Saturday evenings following Compline, and by appointment during the week. If you desire to go to confession during Orthros, please send a message to one of the priests through one of the deacons.

**CALENDARS**

Be sure to pick up your December calendar flyer in your church mailbox and remove personal items and outdated papers.

**Orthodox Tidbits**

Fasting is one of the gifts that Our Lord has given us, through His Church. One of the basic necessities of life is food. Our hunger is a sinless passion. It is necessary for us to survive, but it is a passion nonetheless. Because our hunger is one of the most basic drives in our lives, it is also a good starting point in learning how to control ourselves.

The sinful passions that accompany hunger are gluttony and drunkenness. Both of these passions are easy to identify and correct, so fasting helps us to learn to control ourselves by learning to limit what we eat and drink. Learning to control these more basic passions helps in learning to control the more difficult passions, such as lust, anger, jealousy, pride.

Christ commented after casting out a demon, “This kind can only come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.” The Church teaches that this refers not only to demons, but to the passions as well. We fast, not because fasting will save us—it is Christ who saves us—but we do so out of obedience, since He asked us to and because it aids us in our struggle to purify ourselves from sin.

+Fr. Nathan

*“The Fathers have declared the  
singing of psalms to be a weapon,  
prayer to be a wall,  
and honest tears to be a bath...  
without which no one subject to  
passions will see the Lord.”*

*St. John Climacus*