

DECEMBER 22, 2019

BULLETIN – SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY

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

Many Years -- Birthday

Jack Zweers

December 28

Belatedly to Ezra Hofschneider

December 20

NEW ITEMS IN THE BOOKSTORE

Pick up last-minute gifts for Nativity from our bookstore in the parish hall. We have a nice selection of books for adults and children as well as cards, candles, and other specialty items. Both Thia Franck and Sh. Donna Wentzel will help you with your purchases.

NATIVITY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

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

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 the church family.

PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE

July 1-5, 2020

**Hosted by St. Nicholas Church
San Francisco (Diamond Heights)**

To register and for more information go to

[https://www.antiochianevents.org/events/
diocese-of-los-angeles-and-the-west/](https://www.antiochianevents.org/events/diocese-of-los-angeles-and-the-west/)

DAY RETREAT

The Diocese of Los Angeles and the West is offering a day retreat for Orthodox moms to be held at St. Luke Church in Garden Grove on January 11, 2020. Fr. Nicholas and Kh. Jan Speier will be the speakers. The minimum donation requested is \$25. Go here to register online

[https://www.antiochianladiocese.org/files/
organizations/women/Moms-Retreat-
Registration---Jan-2020.pdf](https://www.antiochianladiocese.org/files/organizations/women/Moms-Retreat-Registration---Jan-2020.pdf)

or use a registration form from the parish hall bulletin board.

Memory Eternal

December 24

Edward Werner

This Week @ Ss. Peter & Paul – December 23-29, 2019

- 12/23 Mon** 6:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal
12/24-1/3 Church office closed
12/24 Tues **9:00 am** – Royal Hours followed by
Vespers & Divine Liturgy
10:00 pm – Orthros & Divine Liturgy
for the Feast of Nativity
12/27 Fri 6:30 pm – Nativity Dinner at the Inn at
Pasatiempo
12/28 Sat **6:00 pm** – Great Vespers & Compline
12/29 Sun **8:20 am** – Orthros
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
10:20 am – Church School

Looking Ahead –

- January 3* *Royal Hours of Theophany, Typica & Great Vespers*
January 4 *Men's Breakfast*
January 5 *Feast of Theophany & Great Blessing of Waters*
January 6 **No** *Choir Rehearsal*
January 8 *Wednesday morning Divine Liturgies resume*
January 10 *Women's Book Study resumes*
January 12 *Youth Group*
January 15 *Parish Council*
January 22 *Paraklesis*
January 26 *Community Dinner*

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.

Orthodox Tidbits

“Be ashamed when you sin, don't be ashamed when you repent. There are two things: sin and repentance. Sin is the wound, repentance is the medicine. Sin is followed by shame; repentance is followed by boldness. Satan has overturned this order and given boldness to sin and shame to repentance.”

St. John Chrysostom

We should approach confession without shame, knowing that the sins that we confess and the shame of them will be washed clean. The shame was in the act of the sin itself, not in the act of confessing it. The only shame in confession comes in leaving something out that should be confessed, for that comes from pride. Therefore, have no shame in approaching confession, knowing that it is only through repentance that we will be saved.

**In Christ,
Fr. Nathan**

*“And the Word became flesh!
...in order to make us earthly beings into heavenly ones, in order to make sinners into saints;
in order to raise us up from corruption into incorruption, from earth to heaven;
from enslavement to sin and the devil—into the glorious freedom of children of God;
from death—into immortality, in order to make us sons of God and to seat us together with Him upon the Throne as His royal children.*

O, boundless compassion of God!

O, inexpressible wisdom of God!

O, great wonder, astounding not only the human mind, but the angelic [mind] as well.”

St. John of Kronstadt