

### Week Schedule

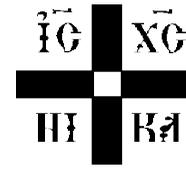
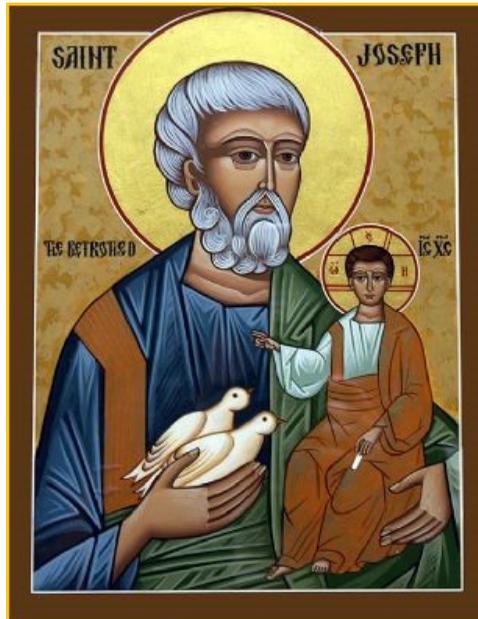
**Saturday** Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m.  
Confessions following Vespers

**Sunday** Reading of Hours, 9:40 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.  
*Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy*

Saint Joseph the Betrothed was of the lineage of King David. In his first marriage, he had four sons and two daughters. After he became a widower, St Joseph led a life of strict temperance. He was chosen to be the husband and guardian of the Most Holy Theotokos, who had taken a vow of virginity.

An angel told him of the Incarnation of the Son of God through her. St Joseph was present when the shepherds and the Magi worshiped the new-born divine Infant. On the orders of the angel, he fled into Egypt with the Mother of God and the Infant Jesus, saving them from the wrath of King Herod. He lived in Egypt with the Virgin Mary and the divine Child, working as a carpenter. St Joseph reputedly died at the age of one hundred.

St Joseph is commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, his Feast is moved to December 26. The Righteous Joseph is also commemorated on the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers.



## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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**Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Acting Rector**

**Rev. Sergius Willis, Associate Pastor**

Call to arrange sacraments, services, instruction, counseling, home visits, sick calls.

### **Troparion (Tone 6)**

The angelic powers were at Your tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Your grave, seeking Your most pure body. You took hell captive, not being tempted by it. You came to the Virgin, granting life.//O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

### **Troparion (Tone 4)**

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!

### **Kontakion (Tone 3)**

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!"

### **Kontakion (Tone 3)**

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!

**December 26, 2010**

**31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST —  
Tone 6 (14<sup>th</sup> of Luke). SECOND DAY OF  
THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY — SY-  
NAXIS OF THE MOST-HOLY THEOTO-  
KOS. Sunday After the Nativity. Holy  
Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed,  
David the King, and James the Brother of  
the Lord. Afterfeast of the Nativity of  
Christ.**

### **Prayers for The Faithful and Departed**

Dn. Peter Skoog, Lena, Herbert family,  
Melanie and James, John Kopcha, Pel-  
lack family and friends, Wanenchak fam-  
ily, clergy and parishioners, LeRoy fam-  
ily and friends, Melanie Albrecht, Dr.  
Nancey Bridgens, Judy Currier,  
McCartney family, Robovitsky family,  
Buruska family, Olga and Vick Vail.  
**May God Grant Them Many Years!**

Michael Spack, Sr., Helen Kraynvak,  
Maryann Sinak, Helen Scalese. **May  
Their Memories Be Eternal!**

### **Epistle Reading**

#### **Galatians 1:11-19**

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

### **Gospel Reading**

#### **Matthew 2:13-23**

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

### **Welcome to our Visitors!**

A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us for our Fellowship Hour in the Church Hall . **Please note: Only those Orthodox Christians that have properly prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, and confession of sins should approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Church Telephone Number**

Our church's telephone number is 215-468-3535. If there is inclement weather, do please call the number and wait for the answering machine. If church is canceled, it will be announced on the machine.

#### **House Blessings**

I've posted a sign-up sheet for house blessings in January. If you would like me to bless your house and/or visit you then, please don't hesitate to sign-up!

#### **A Blessed Feast to You All**

Fr. Matthew and family wish you a blessed Feast of the Nativity. May our Lord, Jesus Christ, bless you all.

#### **Church Education and Discussion**

Today, being the last Sunday of the month, will entail a discussion on suffering and Christ. Why do we suffer? Can suffering be good? We will examine whether or not the well know phrase, "Why do good people suffer?", is descriptively appropriate.

***Christ is Born!  
Glorify Him!***