



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Dec. 23

Saturday before Christmas

Readings: Heb. 11:9-10 & 32-40; Mt. 1:1-25

St. John, Rocks

6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sunday, Dec. 24

Sunday before Christmas/Sunday of the Ancestors

Readings: Heb. 11:9-10 & 32-40; Mt. 1:1-25

St. George, Rocks

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+**Maria & Basyli Szczypczyk (By Anna Kuncik)**

Supplications will be offered for+**Andrei & Yustyna Pyptyk (By Pyptyks)**

Christmas Eve

St. John, Rocks

8:00 P.M Vespereal Divine Liturgy, Anointing with Holy Oil

God's blessing upon all parishioners

Monday, Dec.25

The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Readings: Gal. 4:4-7; Mt. 2:1-12

St. George

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy, Anointing with Holy Oil

Saturday, Dec. 30

Saturday after Christmas

Readings: Gal. 1:11-19; Mt. 2:13-23

6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Dec. 31

Sunday after Christmas; David, Joseph and James

Readings: Gal. 1:11-19; Mt. 2:13-23

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+ **Yuriy Hordynskyj, 1st anniversary, given by mother Marta.**

Supplications will be offered for+ **Marta Osades, given by Myroslava Slyuz.**



Jesus was called by many names and titles. One of them was "Immanuel," which means "God with us."

Find these names and titles of Jesus in the puzzle below.

They may be found ↑ ↓ → ← ↖ ↗ ↘ ↙ .

Immanuel
Messiah
Master
Word
Savior

Beloved
King
Way
Christ
Bread

Lamb
Rock
Jesus
Shepherd
Light

Redeemer
Son
Lord
Prince
Cornerstone





The Icon of the Nativity of Christ

One of the most famous icons in our Holy Churches is that of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Its symbolism is that of the Creator of the Universe entering history as a newborn babe. The little helpless figure in swaddling clothes represents the complete submission of Christ in the physical conditions governing the human race. Yet He remains Lord of Creation. The angels sing praises. The Magi and the shepherds bring their gifts. The sky salutes Him with a star. The earth provides Him with a cave. The animals watch Him in silent wonder and we humans offer Him one of us, the Virgin Mother.

The lower scenes underline the scandal of the Incarnation. The right-hand scene shows the

washing of the infant by the mid-wife and her assistant. It tells that Christ was born like any other child. The scene in the left portrays the righteous Joseph, who, having observed the washing of the infant, is once again assailed by doubts as to the virginity of his spouse.

He is tempted by the devil, who suggests that if the infant were truly divine He would not have been born in the human way. The Mother Mary is in the center, and from her reclining position looks at Joseph as if trying to overcome his doubts and temptations.

When the Lord Jesus was born of the Virgin, the whole creation lit up. Behold: shepherds keep watch, the Magi adore, angels sing hymns of praise, and Herod trembles, for the Savior of our souls has appeared in the flesh!

Today the Virgin gives birth to the One who surpasses all essences, and the earth offers a cave to God, the Inaccessible One. Angels sing His glory together with the shepherds, for unto us is born a Child who is God from all eternity.



December 24, 2023

Sunday before the Nativity of Christ
- Sunday of the Holy Fathers,
Octoechos Tone 5; Eve of the
Nativity of Christ; The Holy
Venerable-Martyr Eugenia

Changeable Parts – Pages 4-5,
in the Booklet of Changeable Parts
(Small white book)

Христос Рождается! Christ is Born!

May our celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of Jesus Christ fill our hearts with faith, our minds with hope, and our souls with love for Almighty God and for one another; and for all of you may the New Year 2024 be happy, healthy, and rich in the blessings of our ever-present God.

With love in the newborn Christ,

Fr. Igor and Family



Announcements:

Christmas Fast Project

As we continue our journey of the Christmas Fast we begin with the parish project during which we will reach out and help Ukrainian soldiers survive this winter. We are asking for new pairs of clothes: underwear, warm men's Socks, warm Thermal Shirts and Pants, hats, Gloves & Protein Bars.

Fast and Privileged Week

Please remember that according to the Pastoral Guide of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States (Art. 475, 3), on Christmas Eve we are to abstain from meat in addition to eating only one full meal and a smaller snack, milk products being permitted in accordance with local custom. The week following the Nativity of Christ (December 25-January 4) in our Church calendar is dedicated to this Feast Day, therefore we enjoy the "privileged week" during which the laws of abstinence from meat on Friday do not oblige.

Prayers for the Living & Deceased

As we slowly come to the beginning of the year 2024, I ask that if you have any special dates throughout the year on which you would like to have prayers offered for the living or for the blessed repose of your loved ones, you please contact the parish office now to reserve that day. Remember that during the Great Fast and Holy Week (Feb. 18– March 31, 2024) the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated on weekdays due to the fact that these are aliturgical (without Divine Liturgy) days.

Envelopes 2024-Calendar 2024

The Church offering envelopes for the year 2024 and the Church Calendar 2024 are ready for distribution. They are available now in the vestibule. Sincere thanks to Thomas P. Kunsak Funeral Home for sponsoring the calendars for 2024. Should you not see your envelopes, please let Father Igor or Ms. Olga Perkun know, following the Divine Liturgy. Thank you all for your support and generosity throughout the year 2023. May Our Lord reward you with good health and many happy and blessed years: *Многая Літа!*

Prayer List:

Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have one, contact the office and we'll send you one. In a special way, at this time, remember the following members of our parish family: **Barbara Fedora, Kasya Wyko, Thomas Kunsak, Orysia Barshowski, Kathee Shabla, and Rose Shedno.**

Pyrohy

This past week was one of the busiest week in our pyrohy activity. From the previous week our total income was \$4,541.00. An enormous THANK YOU to all our dedicated pyrohy workers. We will reopen on Thursday, January 10th, 2014. Enjoy your well-deserved Christmas vacation!

Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday of December 17, 2023 was **\$12,156.00 + \$4,541.00**
(Collection: \$10,980.00, Loose & other: \$76.00; Nut Rolls: \$730.00, Ukrainian Aid: \$370.00)

Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!



Holy Supper on Christmas Eve

On Christmas Eve, many families prepare a traditional twelve-dish supper known as Sviata Vecheria, or Holy Supper. Traditionally this supper consists of twelve meatless dishes representing the twelve apostles who shared the last meal with Christ. Meat, eggs, and milk are not permitted at the traditional meal. Instead we dine on fish, mushrooms, grains, fruits, and vegetables.

Here are a few dishes one might see at a traditional Holy Supper:

Kolach – Three large, ring-shaped braided loaves representing the Holy Trinity.

Fish – A variety of fish, typically herring, carp, or pike.

Pyrohy – Traditional dumplings stuffed with sauerkraut, mashed potatoes or fruit.

Kutia – A sweet grain pudding made of wheat berries, poppy seeds, honey, and nuts.

Uzvar – Traditional drink consisting of stewed fruits, or fruit compote.

Borscht – A traditional beet-based soup.

As part of our tradition, this dinner is sacred, and therefore remember to begin with prayer and end with prayer, singing our beautiful Christmas Carols – Kolyadky and Schedrivky.

