



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Dec. 20

Saturday before Christmas

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

4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Dec. 21

Sunday before Christmas/Sunday of the Ancestors

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

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy/Confession

Supplications will be offered for **+Philip Perkun (By Maria Perkun)**

Supplications will be offered for **+Wasył Pivko (By Pyptyk's)**

Wednesday, Dec. 24

Eve of the Nativity of Christ (Christmas Eve)

8:00 P.M. Paramon Vespertal Divine Liturgy,

Anointing with Holy Oil (Mirovanya)

Strict Fast

Thursday, Dec. 25

The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Please join us for Christmas carols at 9:10 A.M.

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

Saturday, Dec. 27

St. Stephen, Protomartyr

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

4:00 P.M. NO SERVICE (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Dec. 28

Sunday after Christmas; David, Joseph and James

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

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Yuriy Hordynskyj (By mother Marta)**

Eternal light Candle offering for December 21, 2025

Blessed memory of **+Mary Senko** requested by Michael and Vicki Senko.

Mystery of Reconciliation-Confession

The following are instructions for the penitent approaching the Mystery of Reconciliation:

Cross yourself twice; kiss the Gospel Book and the Cross; cross yourself a third time.

Then, facing the Gospel Book and the Cross, say:

I confess to the Lord my God before you, Reverend Father, all my sins which I have committed up to the present day and hour, in deed, word and thought. Every day and every hour I sin through ingratitude to God for His great and numberless blessings to me and His most gracious providence and care for me, a sinner. I have sinned through...

(Here one should mention specifically all the sins which may be burdening the soul.)

I have sinned with all my senses, both spiritual and physical, wherefore I repent to the Lord and ask forgiveness. Absolve all my sins, Reverend Father, and bless me to partake of the Mysteries of Christ. (kneel)



After the priest has spoken to you and given absolution, get up and cross yourself twice; kiss the Gospel Book and Cross; cross yourself a third time and bow. Then turn towards the priest, bow to him, saying "Thank you, Father," kiss the end of the epitachelion which he is wearing, and go to your place. There, stand or kneel down, say your penance, and thank God for His great mercy.



The Star of Bethlehem



There have been many attempts to explain the Christmas Star scientifically, and three ideas will be mentioned here. Some scholars think this “star” was a comet, an object traditionally connected with important events in history, such as the birth of kings. However, records of comet sightings do not match up with the Lord’s birth.

Others believe that the Star of Bethlehem was a conjunction, or gathering of planets in the night sky. Since planets orbit the sun at different speeds and distances, they occasionally seem to approach each other closely. Johannes Kepler (1571-1630) preferred this view. However, multiple planets do not look like a single light source, as described in Scripture.

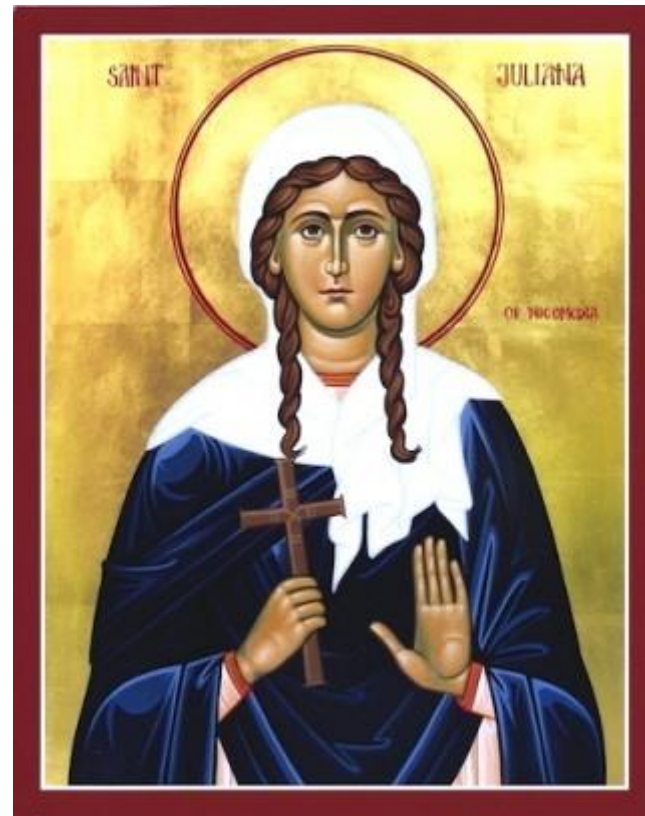
Finally, an exploding star, or supernova, has been proposed to explain the Christmas Star. Some stars are unstable and explode in this way with a bright blaze. However, historical records do not indicate a supernova at the time of Our Lord’s birth. All three explanations for the Star of Bethlehem fall short of the Nativity story as predicted in the Book of Numbers 24:17 and recorded in Gospel from St. Matthew 2:1-12. Two details in the Gospel of St. Matthew are of special interest:

First, the text implies that only the Magi saw the star. However comets, conjunctions, and exploding stars would be visible to everyone on earth.

Second, the star went before the Magi and led them directly from Jerusalem to Bethlehem. This is a distance of about six miles, in a direction from north to south. However, every natural object in the sky moves from east to west due to the earth’s rotation. It also is difficult to imagine how a natural light could lead the way to a particular house.

The conclusion is that the Star of Bethlehem cannot be naturally explained by science! It was a temporary and supernatural light. This special light is a visible manifestation of Divine Majesty.

The great mystery of the first Christmas is not the origin of its special star. It is the question of why the Magi were chosen to follow the light to the Messiah and why we are given the same invitation today.



December 21, 2025

**Sunday of the Holy
Fathers**

Tone 3

Changeable Part: *See the special
insert available in the church
vestibule.*

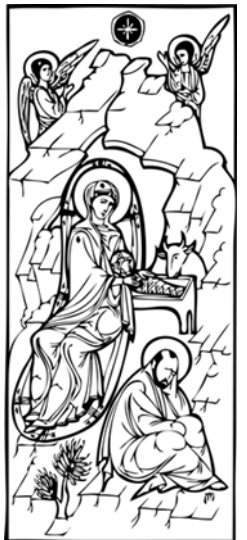


Христос Рождается! Christ is Born!

As we will gather together to celebrate the great feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we pray that the blessings of the new-born Christ the Savior will remain with all of you at all times unto the ages of ages.

In His abundant Love and with great Joy,

Fr. Igor, Inna, Nicholas, Michael and Marta



Announcements:

Christmas Advent Project!

For our Advent Project this year, I would like us to help the sick and displaced animals in Ukraine. The ongoing conflict has left countless pets and livestock abandoned, injured, and in desperate need of care. **In the front of church by the large Christmas tree, we have a box (made by Marta Hohosha) for donations to support shelter for the sick and displaced animals in city of Kharkiv, Ukraine.** <https://www.animalrescuekharkiv.org/> I am working with an organization to ensure that any donations we provide will get where it is needed most. Let us do whatever we can to help. See Fr. Igor for more information. All donations will be accepted through December.

Envelopes 2026-Calendar 2026

The Church offering envelopes for 2026 and the 2026 Church Calendars are available now in the church vestibule. Sincere thanks to Thomas P. Kunsak Funeral Home for sponsoring the calendars for 2026. Should you not see your envelopes, please let Olga Perkun know, following the Divine Liturgy. Thank you all for your support and generosity throughout the year 2025. May Our Lord reward you with good health and many happy and blessed years: *Многая Літа!*

Adult Religious Education class

Next class is Thursday, January 22, 2026 at 6:30 pm. The title of this session is “The Desire to Be Loved & The Desire to Love”. "Join Fr. Benedict Groeschel as he leads us to understand that the search for holiness should be our primary purpose in life. Fr. Groeschel's goal in this series is to teach "how to organize and focus all the powers of your personality and life in responding to the Gospel and the Call of Jesus Christ." Thanks to Don Fontana for coordinating these sessions.

Pyrohy Project

This past week was one of the busiest weeks in our pyrohy activity. An enormous THANK YOU to all our dedicated pyrohy workers. Return to pyrohy production date will be determined but is expected to be either Wednesday, January 14th or January 21st. Enjoy your well-deserved Christmas vacation! There is a limited amount of frozen pyrohy available for sale. Please come to the church hall after liturgy or call 412-766-8800 to confirm flavors and sale hours.

PARISHIONERS’ PRAYER LIST - Our parish’s listing for people IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS who might be suffering illnesses – especially, but not only, if they are unable to attend church services because they are shut-in either at home, or in hospitals and nursing homes. The names we have received are: Barbara Fedora, Thomas Kunsak, Kathee Shabla, Dorothy Waslo and Msgr. George Appleyard (The Willows, 1215 Hulton Rd, Oakmont, PA 15139).

As a parish family, we hope John Alston is feeling better.

We send sympathies to Lori, DJ, Madison, Mackenzie and Lucy on the passing of Richard Werner. May he rest in peace.

RaiseRight Gift Card Program -Gift cards with a purpose!

Are you stuck on what to give someone for Christmas. RaiseRight has the answer with over 750 gift cards to choose from. Each week there are gift card bonuses that will maximize the amount St. George receives. This is an easy way to support St. George while purchasing gift cards you normally would. Each week there are gift cards that offer special bonuses which means an extra amount goes to St. George. This money will be used to offset expenses. Please share this information with family and friends so they can also help! The St. George code to enroll and start earning is: **M2MGCVH7NH2P**. Sign up at www.raiseright.com/shop or download the RaiseRight app.

Need help or have questions? Please see Vicki Senko before or after liturgy.

Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday of December 7, 2025, was **\$1,475.00 +\$3,064.00**

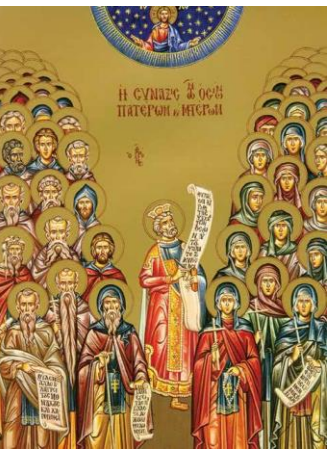
(Collection: \$220.00, Loose: \$55.00, Fire suppression: \$1,100.00,

Advent Project: \$100.00, Pyrohy: \$3,064.00)

Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity!



SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS (ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST



Indeed, the Lord Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to redeem humanity, which suffered the weight of evil since Adam, to realize the promise made to Abraham, to change the Law of Fear into the Law of Love and to give Resurrection and Life to mankind. This feast prepares us for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, placing before us the anticipation and hope for His coming among us.

Today, we remember all the holy Patriarchs of the Old Testament who prefigured or foretold Christ: Adam the first Father, Enoch, Melchizedek, Abraham, the friend of God, Isaac, the fruit of the Promise, Jacob and the twelve patriarchs. We then commemorate those who lived under the Law: Moses, Aaron, Joshua,

Samuel, David, and the Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel; the twelve minor prophets; Elijah, Elisha, Zachariah, and John the Baptist; and finally, the Virgin Mary, the intermediary between mankind and her divine Son.