

Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

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December 17, 2017 + 28th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 3
Sunday of the Forefathers + Second Sunday before Christmas

Divine Liturgy Saturday, 5:30 PM · Sunday, 10:00 AM · Holy Days, 7:30 PM
Confessions Saturday, 4:30-5:00 PM · Sunday, 9:00-9:30 AM
Collection Last week: **\$2,458.00**. God bless you for your continued generosity.
Sunday Readings Colossians 3:4-11 + Luke 14:16-24
Sacramental Needs Please call Fr. Deacon James 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401

During the month of December, the Altar Lamp burns before our Lord in the tabernacle for Barbara Bates' parents +Michael and +Madelyn Wasilnak and sister +Elaine Helen Getz.

The Light of the East ...



“If he had chosen the great city of Rome, men would have said that the transformation of the world had been accomplished by the might of that people. Had he come as the son of the Emperor, they would have attributed that to military power. But how did he come? He chose only what was poor and humble, so that it would be seen that Divinity had changed the world. And so He chose a poor woman as His Mother, a poorer fatherland as His home. He had no money, and His crib in a cave makes that plain to see.”

Theodoret of Cyrus, 5th century Bishop and Theologian

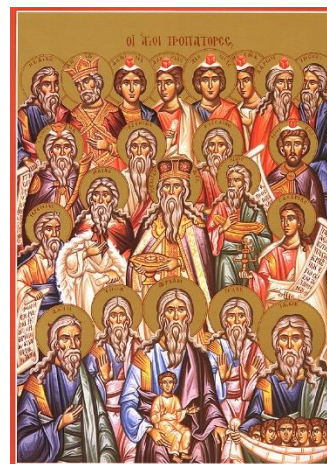
Saint George Outreach! For those heading over to Saint George's Village on Sunday after Liturgy, please pick up a map in the narthex. If you can carpool with others it will make parking easier at the facility. We will leave from Epiphany at 11:30 sharp to get there by 11:45. Our visit at Saint George's will end at 12:30 PM. **There will be no coffee social after Liturgy.**

Holiday Liturgy Schedule

December 23 (Saturday) No Liturgy
December 24 (Sunday) 10:00 AM – *Liturgy Sunday before Christmas*
December 24 (Sunday) 9:00 PM – *Christmas Eve Liturgy*
December 25 (Monday) 10:00 AM – *Christmas Day Liturgy*

The morning Liturgy of December 24 fulfills the obligation for Sunday but not the obligation for Christmas Day; the evening Liturgy of December 24 fulfills the obligation for Christmas, but not for Sunday. To fulfill our obligation for Sunday and Christmas, you should attend EITHER Sunday morning AND Sunday evening, OR Sunday morning AND Monday morning.

Holy Forefathers and Foremothers of Christ, pray to God for us!



On the *Sunday of the Holy Forefathers*, the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh are remembered.

From **Adam** and **Eve** on, there were holy men and women whose lives prefigured the life of Christ. **Abel**, murdered by his brother **Cain**, is a prefiguration of Christ, who was also murdered by men. **Melchizedek** the priest is the prefiguration of Christ the High Priest. **Enoch** and **Elijah**, who were taken up to heaven, prefigure Christ Who was also taken up to heaven. **Noah**, whose family survived the Flood, is a prefiguration of the baptism given to us by Christ. **Job** the long-suffering prefigures the long-suffering Christ. **Abraham**, who was asked to sacrifice his son **Isaac**, prefigures the sacrifice that God the Father made with His Son. **Jacob** prefigures Christ, for he saw the ladder that connects earth to heaven, enabling heaven to come down to earth and earth to rise up to heaven.

Joseph, who was betrayed by his twelve brothers, prefigures Christ who was betrayed by His disciples. **Moses** prefigures Christ, for **Moses** saw the burning bush unconsumed, the Virgin's womb unconsumed by the fire of Christ. **Joshua**, whose name is the same as **Jesus**, prefigures Christ the Deliverer of His people. **David**, related by blood to Christ, saw Christ in the Psalms and **Solomon** expressed the Wisdom of God in his Books of Wisdom. **Daniel** saw the Holy Trinity through the Three Holy Youths in the furnace of Babylon. **Isaiah** saw Christ the suffering Servant. **Jonah** prefigures the three-day burial of Christ through his three-day stay in the belly of the whale. All these holy forefathers together with our holy foremothers, **Sarah**, **Rebecca**, **Ruth**, **Deborah** and many more, whose icons are on the back wall of our church which is devoted to the righteous of the Old Testament, all these we commemorate today.

Let us in these last few days before the celebration of the Birth of the Savior on earth renew our links with our ancestors in the Faith.

Together in the Holy Trinity ... One Faith, One Church, One Future!