



December 20, 2020

SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY ANCESTORS

Parish Schedule

- Dec. 19 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**
+George Yarosik req by David Yarosik
- Dec. 20 (Sun) SUNDAY OF THE HOLY ANCESTORS**
Divine Liturgy 10:30am
+Karen Malakany req by Michele Rudolph
- Dec. 24 (Thu) VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY**
Divine Liturgy Of St Basil 8:00pm
- Dec. 25 (Fri) CHRISTMAS - Nativity of Our Lord**
Divine Liturgy 10:30am
For our Parish Family
- Dec. 26 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**
- Dec. 27 (Sun) SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**
MEMORY OF DAVID, JOSEPH & JAMES
FEAST OF ST STEPHEN
Divine Liturgy 10:30am
For our Parish Family

Our Tithe to our Parish - Dec. 15, 2020 - \$3,567.00

To all those who have been so faithful in your donations, especially during these trying times, we offer a huge Thank You! Our parishioners have been very conscious in the support of our church that allows us to continue to meet our expenses and even the extra items that come up.



The Sanctuary Lamp continues to burn before the presence of Our Risen Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in our church during the week of December 20 thru December 26 for +Carl Magdic.

CALENDARS

Again, as they do every year, our thanks goes out to The James Shirley Funeral Home for their generous contribution to cover the printing of our parish calendar.

Calendars are available and can be picked up after Liturgy or in the office on Tuesdays.

Let us remember in our prayers all of our friends and parish family members who are sick at home or in a nursing facility and for all who are in need of our prayers.



Tillie Abraham, Diana Abraham, Ron Bishop, George Bodnar ,
Jude Bodnar, Pamela Seech Dawson, Steve Fekete, Margaret Gegick,
Barb Gulich, Kevin Ianni, Ted Race, Clarence Rizzi, Helen Rizzi,
Rose Marie Rupnik, Joseph Rusinko Sr.

Dear Parishioners

A note of extreme gratitude to members of our parish congregation. During our East Allegheny Christmas Drive, we collected 23 coats, 6 sweatshirts, various pieces of clothing/shoes and more than 100 toiletry items. We also collected \$850.00 which will benefit Ma's Pantry who will be providing 200 food boxes at the upcoming Christmas giveaway on December 16.

This outpouring of support is not only heartwarming, but it is a testament to the amazing people who attend Saint Stephen's. This is certainly on track with the legacy of St. Nicholas, whom we honor when we look out for those who are experiencing tough times in our community and beyond.

Thank you again for making this effort such a huge success.

Kristen and her Elves
Great Job God Bless Everyone

ENVELOPES

The donation envelopes will be available before the New Year. Please be patient with us and we will let you know when they are here. They will be available in the office on Tuesdays also.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear Parishioners,

And I am happy to report that I am feeling well and look forward to resuming a regular schedule this weekend.

Speaking of schedules, since there was no bulletin last weekend, I would like to offer a copy of the schedule for quick reference.

24 December	Christmas Eve	8:00 pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy for Christmas
25 December	Christmas Day	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy for Christmas
26 December	Saturday	5:00 pm	Divine Liturgy
27 December	Sunday	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy

Beginning with the Liturgy on Sunday, 20 December, the above listed services will also be live-streamed from our parish.

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, we will follow our normal schedule from here on. Let us continue to pray for our country, our Church our parish and for each other. And let us do our best to try to stay healthy and strong during these difficult days.

God be with you,

Fr. John

HOLY SUPPER

One of the beautiful Slav traditions that we have received is that of the Holy Supper (Svjatij Večer ... Vilija). This special meal is served on Christmas Eve, and consists of foods that are within the bounds of fasting ... special foods that families hand down from generation to generation.



The meal opens our celebration of the feast in the context of our families ... and then we continue our celebration with the singing of Vespers and the Divine Liturgy in church.

Whatever be the traditions in your family ... cherish them dearly and pass them on to the upcoming generations. Traditions such as these help to create the atmosphere of the feast ... and they link us with some deep roots of our families.

Especially in our rootless and ephemeral society, it is important to establish strong roots of stability ... and the celebration of the birth of Christ offers us the opportunity to tap into such deep roots.