

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Parish Newsletter

New Parish Center: 20937 Ashburn Rd., #110, Ashburn, VA December 2018

DECEMBER—DAY 9 HOURS, NIGHT 15

- 13 Thu *35th Anniversary of the death of Fr. Alexander Schmemmann*
- 15 Sat 5:00 p.m. Vespers
- 16 Sun^{29•IV•Lk13} 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Smith**
- 22 Sat 5:00 p.m. *No Vespers.*

✦ THE WEEKS OF LUKE BRING US TO THE FEASTS OF LIGHT—ΤΑ ΦΩΤΑ ✦

Who is this man—like us in everything but sin—whom we are following via Luke's Gospel from Nazareth to Jericho and Jerusalem, to Mount Zion and the Cross?

The Church revisits, and contemplates, and celebrates past events ever present to the mind of God and Father, the Divine Manifestations [ΤΑ ΦΩΤΑ] of our Lord Jesus Christ:

- *Life from God—December 25*
- *Life with God—January 6*
- *Encountered in the Sacramental Life of the Church—February 2*

BECAUSE WE ALL FALL SHORT IN MANY WAYS, as St. James says in his epistle (3.2), it seems fitting for a parish to welcome the Feasts of Light with evangelical spirit, driving home to ourselves—despite any evidence to the contrary—that we are in fact disciples of the Lord Jesus who breaks into our world—which comes unto being through him—like the sun with warm healing rays; that we are a people responsible, resourceful, and resilient... and accountable. So plan on taking part in the **Common Confession Rite on the 23rd**. Come on time. Come in the right frame of mind. As the Apostle says, "Let us encourage one another" with our presence. Remember, children are welcome, but none under 10.

- ☛ 23 Sun^{30•V•Lk14} 10:00 a.m. **Common Confession Rite** (*in conjunction with the penitential season and the dawn of the Feasts of Light*)
~10:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Tarassova**
- 4 Mon **EVE OF THE NATIVITY—BEGINS THE FESTIVITY**
4:00 p.m. Vespers with the Divine Liturgy
- 25 Tue **NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**
NOTE: Between Christmas and Theophany—what was long ago called by some the Dodekaïmeron or Twelve Days—there is no Wednesday/Friday abstinence.
- 29 Sat 5:00 p.m. Vespers
- 30 Sun^{31•VI•Lk15} 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Warden**

JANUARY—DAY 10 HOURS, NIGHT 14

- 5 Sat 5:00 p.m. Vespers
- 6 Sun **THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil and the Great Blessing of Water—**Coffee Hour: Wayland**
- 12 Sat 5:00 p.m. Vespers
- 13 Sun^{33•VIII•Lk17} 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Zieg**
- 19 Sat 5:00 p.m. Vespers
- 20 Sun^{34•I•Lk18} 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Adams**
- 26 Sat 5:00 p.m. Vespers
- 27 Sun^{35•II•Lk19} 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Belinsky**
Our Annual Parish Business Meeting follows. (Snow date: Feb. 3)

What then should Christian education be, if not the introduction into the life of the Church, an unfolding of its meaning, its contents and its purpose? And how can it introduce anyone into this life, if not by participation in the liturgical services on the one hand, and their explanation on the other hand? "Taste and see that the Lord is good": first taste, then see—i.e., understand. The method of liturgical catechesis is truly the Orthodox method of religious education because it proceeds from the Church and because the Church is its goal.
—*Liturgy and Life*

Reminder

As discussed Sunday in Church, while the Loudoun Hunger Relief folks do not need the same kinds of contributions as we gave for Thanksgiving, there still is a need. The need is for single serve items that can be heated in a microwave oven such as cereals, Mac 'n' Cheese, stews, soups. Probably the best source for this would be places like Costco as they sell bulk at reasonable prices.

At coffee hour, Norm and Janet Cross indicated that they would buy Mac 'n' Cheese. Whatever you choose to purchase (we suggest a bunch of one item) please bring them to Church this coming Sunday and place everything on a table in the Parish Hall and we will figure out how best to package for delivery to the organization.

Thank you all for your generosity.
—Marsha

Note in re Father Paul and Facebook, etc.

Regarding social media such as Facebook or LinkedIn and the like, Father Paul does not participate in them. He has never opened accounts with such, and is puzzled by the fact that he regularly gets messages on line inviting him to "friend" this one or to link up with that one, who, apparently, are led to think it is possible. So please take no offence at his failure to respond. It is simply not in the cards.

FROM THE EDITORS OF
ORTHODOXY IN DIALOGUE

PUTTING ME BACK INTO CHRISTMAS

by the Lord Jesus Christ

Repent, change the way you think,
turn yourself around, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

Follow Me.

Be poor in spirit.

Be meek.

Hunger and thirst for righteousness,
not material possessions.

Be merciful.

Be pure in heart.

Be a peacemaker.

Be the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

Love your enemies,
pray for those who persecute you.

If you love those who love you, so what?

Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Beware of practicing your piety before others.

Give alms. Pray. Fast.

Do your good works in secret.

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, but in Heaven.

Serve God, not mammon.

Do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Seek rather My Father's Kingdom and His righteousness.

Do not be anxious about tomorrow.

Do not judge.

Go, sell what you possess and give to the poor,
and you will have treasure in Heaven; and come, follow Me.

Feed Me, give Me something to drink,
welcome and shelter Me, clothe Me, visit Me.

Whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.

To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and of him who takes away your goods do not ask for them back.

Do not judge. Do not condemn. Forgive. Give.

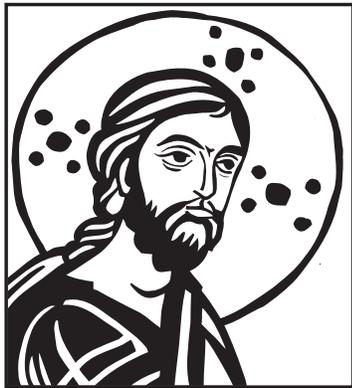
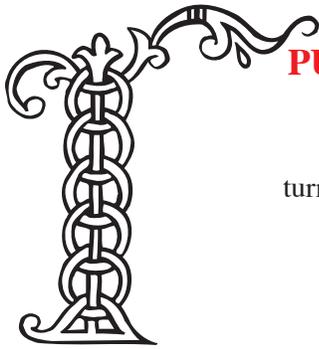
Be born again from on high of water and the Spirit.

Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do, and greater works.

If you love Me,
you will keep My commandments.

Take, eat, this is My Body.

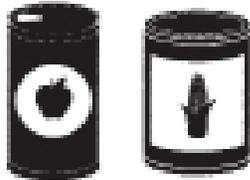
Drink of this, all of you, this is My Blood.





FOOD PANTRY MOST NEEDED ITEMS

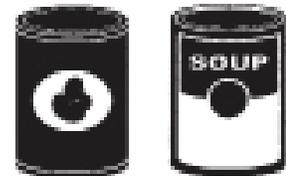
Canned Fruits & Veggies



Canned Meat



Canned Beans & Soup



Cereal



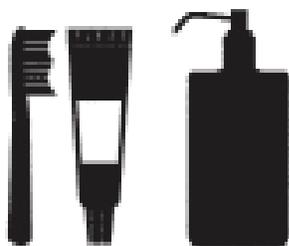
Whole Grain Pasta & Rice



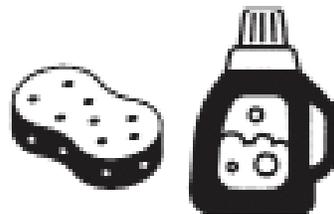
Peanut Butter



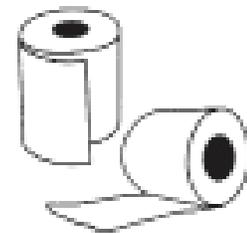
Hygiene Items



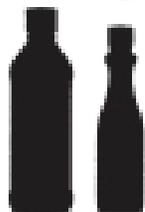
Household Items



Paper Products



Cooking Oil



Fresh Fruits & Vegetables



Other

Diapers Fruit Cups
Wipes Granola Bars
Formula Popcorn
Infant Cereal
Nutritional Shakes
and Drinks

PopTop Cans and Microwavable Cups Preferred
Low Sodium • Low Trans Fat • Sugar Free

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