



ST. VINCENT OF LERINS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

Clergy: Fr. Nectarios (Bernard) Funk (frnbfunk@sasktel.net)

Fr. Dn. John (Ivan) Youchezin (iicdn@sasktel.net)



Bulletin for the Week of Dec 1 - 9, 2018

Sat - Dec 1

- 10:00 am** Holy Resurrection Retreat - Session 2
- 1:00 pm** Session 3
- 5:45 - 6:45 pm** Confessions
- 6:00 pm** Church School & Catechism classes
- 7:00 pm** Great Vespers

Sun – Dec 2

- 9:00 am** Orthros
- 10:00 am** Divine Liturgy
- Agape Lunch Team:** Sarah M., Aggie F., Anna Shev.

Mon – Dec 3

- 10:00 am** Paraklesis @ J. Dombowsky's
- 5:15 pm** Lighthouse dinner
- 6:30 pm** Great Vespers for St. Barbara & St. John of Damascus



Wed – Dec 5

5:00 pm

Great Vespers, Litya/Artoklasia for St. Nicholas followed by St. Nicholas visit (**details under announcement #1**)

Thurs – Dec 6 **St. Nicholas feast**

9:00 am

Orthros

10:00 am

Divine Liturgy

(Holy Resurrection church will join us)

Agape Potluck Lunch follows

6 – 8 pm

Children Xmas decorating **at the Lighthouse**

Sat - Dec 8

5:45 - 6:45 pm

Confessions

6:00 pm

Church School & Catechism classes

7:00 pm

Great Vespers for the feast of the Conception of the Holy Theotokos

Sun – Dec 9

Conception of the Holy Theotokos' feast

9:00 am

Orthros

10:00 am

Divine Liturgy

Agape Potluck Lunch follows

Mon – Dec 10

10:00 am

Paraklesis @ J. Dombowsky's



REMINDERS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Youth Group Events

➤ **Wednesday - December 5**

Following Vespers and St Nicholas' visit, children will be decorating cookies that will be given to the Lighthouse.

Please bring fasting finger food snacks to share.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

➤ **Thursday - December 6, 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

Christmas decorating at the Lighthouse

➤ **Friday - December 21**

Following Vespers, Gingerbread House decorating and games at Andrew and Rachel Machnee's house

2. From Lois

➤ **THANKS** to those who contributed to the Samaritan's purse. We delivered 25 boxes this past Sunday.

With Fr. Bernard's blessing, for the next few weeks we will collect various items for the BRIDGE on 20th St. The Bridge is a strongly CHRISTIAN organization which ministers to the needy in our city. They serve breakfast and lunch to around 300 people per day; offer free showers, haircuts, clothing, hygiene items, etc.; kids, youth and adults' programs; and transitional housing. Also they do Bible Studies and offer prayer for people.

Please see the list downstairs on the bulletin board of suggested items to donate. **We will collect until December 16.** If you bring turkeys for their Christmas dinner, please inform Lois if they are put in the freezer. **We will also collect money** at the lunch tables until Christmas for those who prefer to share in this way.

➤ There will be **2 dinners** served at the **Lighthouse** on **December 3 and December 17**, between 5:15 & 7:00pm. We hope to make the 17th a bit festive, although it will not be a turkey dinner! So if possible, wear something RED, GREEN or a Santa hat or something suitable and festive. Also, if you can make or bring some fancier Christmas baking that would be great. I believe decorated CHRISTMAS COOKIES will be PROVIDED by children from St. Vincent church so other baking would be preferred, but we will take whatever is offered. Mandarin Oranges would also be great.

3. From Rachel Machnee

Once again, this year we are planning to do a small **Nativity play** with the younger children for the seniors who live at Samaritan's place. This is a wonderful opportunity to get the young children involved in a small act of service during advent. If your children (ages 4 - 9ish) are interested in participating, please email me and let me know. Also, if your child has a request of what part they would like to play, please email me that request as well.

We will be practicing the play the next few weeks on Sundays during the homily.

Also, if there are any older kids who would like to do some sort of performance (dance, music, poetry, etc) we have space in the program for one or two people to do something small.

I would appreciate if you get back to me ASAP, so that we can start preparations and planning. Thanks!

4. Please contact Joan with names to include in the prayer list, for the parish members and their immediate families.

The prayer lists for this week are:

Pres. Liana, David; Dcn John & Ilene; Anne; Neoma; Crystal, George & Mary; George & Darlene; Victoria; Mervyn; Juliette, Madeleine; Mariam; Gloria; Yvonne, Harriet; Arlene; Shane; Adelle, Bruce, Shaeleigh; Hiet & Halid; Girmay; Bethune; Dimitri; Don; Daryl; David, Joan; Jordan; Marian; Mary & Luis; Sue; Loraine, Michael; Sara; Mikayla, Jordan; Elias, Brad, Jen, Eamonn, Ezri, Isaac; Sarah Machnee & family; Mary Machnee & family; Nancy; Brendan; Geoff, Deanna, Edmond & Alice

Long Term Care: Michael and Rose Kerelchuk



5. **Please send your announcements to the church's email address** - stvincentorthch@sasktel.net **for the weekly bulletins, by TUESDAY**; **AND for the monthly calendars, by the 10th of each month.**

6. **From Tony Machnee**

That time of year to shovel snow at the church has come around again! This year I will not be making a sign-up list or coming around and heckling you to put your names down to clear snow. If you feel it in your heart that you can clear snow at the church, just let me know! If you cannot, not to worry, it will be taken care of.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me :)



LOOKING AHEAD

➤ **January 3 - 7, 2019**

Fr. Herman & Pres. Anna Fields, from St. Vladimir's Seminary, will be visiting us. This will be a busy time, Liturgically, since the Feast of Epiphany/Theophany will be on Sunday in 2019.



PASTORAL TEACHINGS, DIRECTIVES,

NOTES & SAYINGS

❖ Historically, when the deacon said, 'the doors, the doors' there was no more traffic in and out of the nave (worship area) of the church temple.

- ❖ The Eucharistic fast from water & food begins at midnight & is broken with the Holy Eucharist. Please encourage your children at an age appropriate time to follow this discipline.
- ❖ It is OK to suffer a bit.
- ❖ There was a priest who once said, *"If you miss 'blessed is the Kingdom...' you have missed the train"*.
- ❖ There has been money and other types of theft going on in the church. If you know anything about it, please let Fr. Bernard or someone on parish council know.
- ❖ It matters how we sit, if we need to, or stand in the church. Our posture says as much as our words.



Preparing for the Holy Days or the Holidays

"My, how time flies." Yes, we are all saying it. It's nearly Thanksgiving, then Christmas! Why is it that we are always out of time? With so many "time saving devices" and all of the great technology in our lives, why do we find ourselves with less time on our hands?

Well, our life is not what it was. You and I have made choices, bought all of the "state of the art" materials and have actually remained the same people in many ways. We are still very human, need to make good confessions, and while we might consider ourselves as more intelligent, you and I are still very limited in our temporal abilities. Oh, and don't forget: we are all getting older!



Yes, you and I still have only 24 hours a day in which to do what we "have to" do, and you and I still need rest, exercise, and a good diet (or our doctor's medical prescriptions). Many things about our lives have really not changed while we would like to think that they have.

Well, then, what needs to change? A lot! All of which takes time. Yes, precious time!

All of the choices we have made, whether they be: going to school, getting married, having children, getting a new job, buying a home, charging our purchases, paying our bills, or taking that vacation, takes a lot out of us and very often we find that we have very little to give. That is because we easily enjoy feeding our passions and chasing after our dreams. We all have an insatiable appetite with what we believe we need or must have, want to, or have to do. And what does God think about all of this?

Well, with Him nothing has really changed at all. He is the "Alpha and the Omega," the Beginning and the End (*Rev. 21:6*), "the same yesterday, today, and forever" (*Heb. 3:8*), and with Him, "a day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as a day" (*2 Peter 3:8*). Can you imagine? Can you even believe it? Whether you or I do or don't, it is a fact. We live in the frame of time and space and with God everything is an instantaneous now! Wow!

"Life is too short," we say, and it's true. However, our life can be lived with much more if we give a little more thought about what God has in mind and seek to know just that (and a little less about what we think). And that will also require another choice; a very important choice that leads to making

better choices; choices that are based upon who we really are in God's sight and less upon who we think we are or who we are perceived to be in the sight of others. For we are created in His image and likeness and born to be His sons and daughters, "a royal priesthood", "a holy nation" (2 Peter 2:9). We must think more about God's personal calling on our lives, and less upon what we want or think that we need for ourselves.

Now is the time and today is the day that you and I must begin to make God a priority; and our real preparation and participation in the Sacraments of His Kingdom a regular part of our lives. This year let's make the holiday season more meaningful. Plan to buy that gift that someone really needs, or perhaps invest the time in doing those things that really matter to those we love. Let's begin with where and Who it all began with in order that we may experience the fullness of His love and great mercy.

May Christ's presence fill our lives that we may experience the true joy of being sons and daughters of His Kingdom.

Fr. Timothy Baclig
with the blessing of His Eminence Met. Joseph

