

### Sun Dec 30

- Regular Schedule **No Sunday School**
- **Fellowship Hour - Open**

### Mon Dec 31

- **NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE**  
St. Basil's Liturgy  
Matins 8:30pm Divine Liturgy 9:30pm
- **NEW YEAR'S DANCE IN SUPPORT OF YOUTH MINISTRIES**

### Tue Jan 1

- The GOYA youth will visit as many parishioners homes as possible, to wish them a blessed, healthy and happy New Year while singing the traditional New Year's carols (Kalanda). If this is inconvenient, please call the office requesting to be taken off the list.
- **Happy New Year!**

### For Pondering

Every Christmas we celebrate the coming of God in three tenses: past, present, and future. He *came*. He *comes*. He *will come again*. We *remember* the first: He came. We *live* the second: He comes. We *look forward* to the third: He *will come again*.

## JOIN US AS WE RING IN THE NEW YEAR AS A COMMUNITY FOR ALL AGES!

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY** DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> 10:00 PM  
FEATURING TASIOS CHRISTOU & BAND FROM WASHINGTON, DC  
THE HELLENIC CENTER

**PRESALE \$35 ADULTS / \$20 STUDENTS / 12 & UNDER FREE**  
**(TICKETS AT THE DOOR WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL \$5)**

- JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF GREEK & AMERICAN MUSIC, DELICIOUS FOOD, AND A LOT OF FUN!
  - ◆ CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT
  - ◆ FEATURING A PRIME RIB DINNER BUFFET
- TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AFTER CHURCH



For more information contact Sammy Gianopoulos 336-682-2290,  
Sammy J. Ballas 336-407-0085 or the office 336-765-7145.

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT YOUTH MINISTRIES!**

## THIS WEEK AT ANNUNCIATION....

Office: (336) 765-7145  
wsgoc.office@gmail.com  
Website: www.wsgoc.org

**Proistamenos** - Fr. Demetri Kangelaris **Assistant** - Fr. Costa Shepherd  
**Parish Council President** - Stan Carroll **Philoptochos President** - Kiki Gonzales  
**Sunday School Coordinators** - Zoe Bobotsiaries, Helen Karagiorgis, Heather Vlachos

### The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and The Adoration of the Magi: Melchior, Gaspar, & Balthasar

**USHERS** - All Parish Council Members  
**CHURCH SERV COMM** - Open  
**READER** - Chris Lohr  
**ALTAR BOYS** - Open to All  
**NURSERY** - Open but not staffed



#### HYMN OF CHRISTMAS

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.

*Ἡ Γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως· ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα σοι.*

#### KONTAKION - HYMN OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

On this day the Virgin gives \* birth to the Super-essential. \* To the Unapproachable, \* earth is providing the grotto. \* Angels sing and with the shepherds offer up glory. \* Following a star the Magi are still proceeding. \* He was born for our salvation, a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν ὑπερούσιον τίκτει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἀστέρος ὁδοιποροῦσι· δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων Θεός.

*On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to wish all of the community, Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!*

Stan Carroll, President, Parish Council

#### Tue Dec 25—CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

- **Matins 9:00AM** Divine Liturgy 10:00AM
- **WISHING OUR COMMUNITY A BLESSED CHRISTMAS**

#### Thu Dec 27

- **St. Stephen Archdeacon and Protomartyr**  
Matins/Divine Liturgy 7:00am
- **GOYAn's attending Winter Youth Rally** must be at church by 9:00am for departure to Atlanta  
**St. Basil's Winter Youth Rally in Atlanta Dec 27-30**

*Please see back of bulletin for more calendar information*

The Reading is from  
St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 4:4-7

Ἀδελφοί, ὅτε δὲ ἦλθεν τὸ πλήρωμα τοῦ χρόνου, ἐξαπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ, γενόμενον ἐκ γυναικός, γενόμενον ὑπὸ νόμον, ἵνα τοὺς ὑπὸ νόμον ἐξαγοράσῃ, ἵνα τὴν υιοθεσίαν ἀπολάβωμεν. Ὅτι δὲ ἐστε υἱοί, ἐξαπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ εἰς τὰς καρδίας ἡμῶν, κρᾶζον, Ἀββὰ ὁ πατήρ. Ὡστε οὐκέτι εἶ δοῦλος ἀλλὰ υἱός· εἰ δὲ υἱός, καὶ κληρονόμος διὰ θεοῦ.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to  
the Galatians 4:4-7

BRETHREN, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir of God through Christ.

December 2018

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I greet you with love and joy in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We are now once more blessed to be able to celebrate our Lord's Incarnation in the cave, and thus the beginning of His salvific plan to reconcile God and His Creation. May we all, in this season which renews friendship and affection between neighbor and family, never forget, that it is not the new gift which matters most, but instead a loving and open heart. For if our Lord condescended to take on human flesh, and if our Father loved His fallen creation enough to give us His Only-Begotten Son, then what more do we need? Surely no gift we will receive this season, nor any present that we can give to another, will compare to our Incarnate Lord and Savior, who comes once again to demonstrate true humility as the Child in the manger.

Notice, I say "comes again"; for just as our Christmas greeting is, "Χριστὸς Γεννᾶται! Δοξάσατε! Christ is Born! Glorify Him!" our celebration is not some way to mark time: Christ is being born now, just as He was then! In a world that seems increasingly divided, the coming of our Lord's Nativity serves to demonstrate that the Gospel message is eternal. Kindness toward the stranger, meekness instead of pride, acceptance of God's Will: these are the things that still touch our hearts when we consider the reality of our Lord's Birth, and these things are just as meaningful today as they were two-thousand years ago.

As we prepare to follow the example of our Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, to keep all these things, and to ponder them in our hearts, my fondest wish is that each and every one of you experience a Nativity season that is full of warmth, true joy, and spiritually uplifting moments of worship. I therefore remain,

Paternally yours with love in our Incarnate Lord,

+ALEXIOS  
Metropolitan of Atlanta

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The Reading is from Matthew 2:1-12

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον. Τοῦ Ἰησοῦ γεννηθέντος ἐν Βηθλεὲμ τῆς Ἰουδαίας ἐν ἡμέραις Ἡρώδου τοῦ βασιλέως, ἰδοὺ μάγοι ἀπὸ ἀνατολῶν παρεγένοντο εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμαλέγοντες, Ποῦ ἐστὶν ὁ τεχθεὶς βασιλεὺς τῶν Ἰουδαίων; εἶδομεν γὰρ αὐτοῦ τὸν ἀστέρα ἐν τῇ ἀνατολῇ καὶ ἠλθομεν προσκυνῆσαι αὐτῷ. Ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ βασιλεὺς Ἡρώδης ἐταράχθη καὶ πᾶσα Ἱεροσόλυμα μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ συναγαγὼν πάντας τοὺς ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ γραμματεῖς τοῦ λαοῦ ἐπυνθάνετο παρ' αὐτῶν ποῦ ὁ Χριστὸς γεννᾶται. Οἱ δὲ εἶπαν αὐτῷ, Ἐν Βηθλεὲμ τῆς Ἰουδαίας· οὕτως γὰρ γέγραπται διὰ τοῦ προφήτου· Καὶ σύ, Βηθλεὲμ γῆ Ἰούδα, οὐδαμῶς ἐλαχίστη εἶ ἐν τοῖς ἡγεμόσιν Ἰούδα· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἐξελεύσεται ἡγουμένος, ὅστις ποιμανεῖ τὸν λαόν μου τὸν Ἰσραὴλ. Τότε Ἡρώδης λάθρα καλέσας τοὺς μάγους ἠκρίβωσεν παρ' αὐτῶν τὸν χρόνον τοῦ φαινομένου ἀστέρος, καὶ πέμψας αὐτοὺς εἰς Βηθλεὲμ εἶπεν, Πορευθέντες ἐξετάσατε ἀκριβῶς περὶ τοῦ παιδίου· ἐπὶ δὲ εὑρητε ἀπαγγεῖλάτε μοι, ὅπως κἀγὼ ἔλθων προσκυνήσω αὐτῷ. Οἱ δὲ ἀκούσαντες τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπορεύθησαν, καὶ ἰδοὺ ὁ ἀστὴρ ὃν εἶδον ἐν τῇ ἀνατολῇ προῆγεν αὐτοὺς ἕως ἔλθων ἐστάθη ἐπάνω οὗ ἦν τὸ παιδίον. Ἰδόντες δὲ τὸν ἀστέρα ἐχάρησαν χαρὰν μεγάλην σφόδρα. Καὶ ἐλθόντες εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν εἶδον τὸ παιδίον μετὰ Μαρίας τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ, καὶ πεσόντες προσεκύνησαν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀνοίξαντες τοὺς θησαυροὺς αὐτῶν προσήνεγκαν αὐτῷ δῶρα, χρυσὸν καὶ λίβανον καὶ σμύρναν. Καὶ χρηματισθέντες κατ' ὄναρ μὴ ἀνακάμψαι πρὸς Ἡρώδη, δι' ἄλλης ὁδοῦ ἀνεχώρησαν εἰς τὴν χώραν αὐτῶν.

The Reading is from Matthew 2:1-12

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.'"

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

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