

*"Your birth, O Christ, our God,
Shines forth on the world with the light
Of knowledge.*

*For those who adored the stars,
Were taught by a star to worship You,*

*The sun of justice,
And to know You,
The Orient from on high.
O Lord, glory to You."*

Troparion, Tone IV

*"Glory to God in the heights,
And on earth peace.*

*For today, Bethlehem receives Him
Who never leaves His Father's side.
Today, the angels offer hymns of praise
To the infant in the manger:*

*Glory to God on high,
On earth peace,
Good will to men."*

Troparion, Tone IV



*Behold, a virgin shall be with child,
and shall bring forth a Son,
and they shall call His name Emmanuel*

Matthew 1:23

THE TRINITARIAN

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V. REV. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

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BULLETIN 7 - VOLUME LIX

TONE 1

DECEMBER 19, 2021

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday of the Holy Fathers

Sunday Before the Nativity

Martyr Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia, and Righteous Aglaïa of Rome;

Martyrs Elias, Probus, and Ares, in Cilicia;

Martyrs Polyeuctus at Caesarea in Cappadocia, and Timothy the Deacon in Mauretania;

St. Gregory, Archbishop of Omirita; St. Boniface the Merciful, Bishop of Ferentino;

Ven. Ilya, of Múrom, Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves

“You would not worship an image made by hands, O thrice-blessed youths; but shielded by the ineffable Essence, you were glorified through your ordeal by fire. In the midst of the unbearable fire you called upon God, crying: ‘Hasten, O compassionate One, and in Your mercy come to our aid, for if You will, You can do so.’”

Kontakion, Tone VI

“You fervently followed the way of the martyrs, confessing Christ before unbelievers, O Boniface. You gave your body to modest Aglaïa as an imperishable treasure. Healing and mercy flow from it for the world.”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: HEBREWS 11:9-10,17-23,32-40

TODAY’S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:1-25

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Friday, December 24	9:00 a.m. Royal Hours - Eve of the Nativity of Christ 6:30 p.m. Vigil
Saturday, December 25	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy - Nativity of our Lord and Savior 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, December 20	I Timothy 5:1-10	Mark 9:42-10:1
Tuesday, December 21	I Timothy 5:11-21	Mark 10:2-12
Wednesday, December 22	I Timothy 5:22-6:11	Mark 10:11-16
Thursday, December 23	I Timothy 6:17-21	Mark 10:17-27
Friday, December 24	Hebrews 1:1-12	Luke 2:1-20
Saturday, December 25	Galatians 4:4-7	Matthew 2:1-12

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER:

19, TODAY

Pre-Christmas Potluck Lunch
Slavic Merchandise Sale
3:00 p.m. Christmas Concert at St. Theodosius

POTLUCK:

Today we will have a Pre-Christmas Potluck Lunch in the Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy. Join us for food and fellowship!

SLAVIC MERHCANDISE:

In addition to the Potluck today, there will be a sale of a large selection of Slavic merchandise (Rusyn, Polish, Ukrainian, Slovak, etc.). Items featured will include cards, books, CD's, jewelry and especially embroidered imports from Ukraine. Many items will focus on Christmas themes. A percentage of sale proceeds will be donated to HTOC.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

We appreciate your offerings for the flowers that will adorn our church during the Nativity season. There is a special envelope in your box.

REMINDER:

Your 2022 Offering Envelopes are available in the church vestibule. They are organized alphabetically. If you do not see a box with your name on it, or if your address needs correction, please contact Fr. Alexander.

EASTERN CHURCHES SEMINAR:

The 37th Eastern Churches Seminar, sponsored by Notre Dame College is now available for viewing. It features Bishop John Michael Botean of the Romanian Byzantine Diocese, speaking on "After the Deluge, What it means to be Church in Post-Pandemic Times." [YouTube.com/NotreDameCollege](https://www.youtube.com/NotreDameCollege).

LA COUPOLE:

There is a selection of Orthodox Christmas ornaments and cards (\$3/ea or 2/\$5) available in La Coupole. All books are 20% off! Come in and browse the assortment of icons, prayer books and religious articles perfect for gift giving.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

All are invited to the 44th Annual Christmas Concert at St. Theodosius Cathedral this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Admission is free and open to all.

HALL ROOF REPAIRS:

Work on the roof of the Fellowship Hall continues. Parishioners are reminded that this is an expensive project, and your support is needed and appreciated. To those who have already donated, much thanks!

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Bruce and Anica Billow.

If you would like to make an offering for Trinitarians in 2022, there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

COFFEE HOUR:

Last week's donors were Pauline Smolarchuk and Judy Howe. Many thanks to all who have donated refreshments this year!

BAPTISM:

Axel Uziel, son of Adam Uziel, will be baptized at noon next Sunday, December 26, 2021.

The fact that the omnipotent nature should have been capable of descending to the humiliated condition of humanity provides a clearer proof of power than great and supernatural miracles.

His descent to our lowliness is the supreme expression of His power.

St. Gregory of Nyssa

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, 12/12/21	\$ 8221.00
BUILDING FUND	205.00
CANDLES	128.00
FELLOWSHIP HALL ROOF	6,265.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	30.00
COFFEE HOUR, 12/5/21	40.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 7 – Volume LIX

December 19, 2021

THE SAINTS AMONG US - ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH AND ST. JOHN OF KRONSTADT

On December 20, the Church honors St. Ignatius of Antioch and St. John of Kronstadt. That their memories coincide on this one day is a fascinating juxtaposition, as these two saints represent extremes, one having lived in the 1st century and the other in the 20th century.

In our church, St. Ignatius is on the right, South wall, at the top, just to the side of Jesus Christ's right hand. St. Ignatius was the second or third bishop of Antioch, an early Christian writer and theologian, and also one of the first notable Christian martyrs. Of his early life, nothing is known, but his final days and martyrdom have been recorded and are an important testimony of early Church history. He referred to himself as "Ignatius the God-bearer." The descriptive sur-name gave rise to a tradition that as an infant child he was held in the arms of Jesus Christ. Arrested as a Christian, he was transported to Rome, tortured and killed in the coliseum. Seven of his epistles have been preserved and are noted for their spiritual insights and for his exaltation of Christian martyrdom. Together with Saints Polycarp and Clement of Rome, St. Ignatius is part of the group of the "Apostolic Fathers." They were all connected to the original Twelve Apostles and Disciples of Jesus Christ, either through direct contact or through theology and spirituality. As he was bishop of Antioch, St. Ignatius is regarded with special veneration among Antiochian Christians. His famous statement, "where the bishop is, there are the people of God," is understood as the basis of Orthodox ecclesiology, that is, the teaching that worshipping communities are organized on a principle of the bishop's hierarchical authority. This authority comes directly from Jesus Christ, as it is passed on from bishop to bishop through "apostolic succession."

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St. John of Kronstadt died on December 20, 1909. He was born in 1829 in a small village in Northern Russia. He was educated in his parish school and local seminary, and through diligent studies was accepted at the St. Petersburg Theological Academy. After graduation and marriage, he became a priest in the city of Kronstadt, an island suburb of St. Petersburg and the center of the Russian Imperial Navy. His pastoral and liturgical approach were unique and brought him recognition from all quarters of Russian society. He is regarded as one of the prime advocates of the revival of Orthodox Sacramental Life. He encouraged frequent participation in Holy Confession and the Eucharist, not just as a once-a-year formality as was commonly practiced by most Orthodox Christians. A man of prayer and rigorous ascetic spirituality, St. John's intercessions were sought for healing and spiritual direction. He was also instrumental in the establishment of houses of mercy for the homeless and needy in his city, which became models for other outreach ministries throughout Russia.

St. John is the author of "My Life in Christ," a remarkable collection of writings on the spiritual life. Many regard it as a classic of Christian literature. Another facet of his life was being an advocate for religious education and a proponent for women's monasticism. According to his wishes, he was buried in the St. John's Convent in St. Petersburg, and the site of his interment has become a much-venerated religious site. In our parish, his icon is among the medallions on the left side, where he is depicted holding a Communion Chalice.

Fr. Alexander Garklaus