



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

812 Grand Street, Trenton, NJ 08610

(609) 393-1234 website: <http://saintvladimir.org/>

Sunday of the Forefathers

December 17, 2017

Troparion – Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world// great mercy.

Troparion – Tone 2

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. These saints exult in glory, for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: she who bore Thee without seed.// So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Kontakion – Tone 6

Ye did not worship the graven image, O thrice-blessed ones, but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, ye were glorified in a trial by fire. From the midst of unbearable flames ye called on God, crying: “Hasten, O compassionate One! Speedily come to our aid,// for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou dost will!”

Prokeimenon – Tone 4

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!

v: For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

Sunday of the Forefathers

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, “In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

Then He said to him, “A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’ But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me

excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. 'For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.'"

Service Schedule for the week of December 17

Today – 9:00 AM Church School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday December 23 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday December 24 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy – No Coffee Hour

5:00 PM Christmas Eve Supper, Daria Hall

7:00 PM Great Compline and Matins

Monday December 25 – NATIVITY 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy – No church school

Weekly Giving

December 10 – 48 adults, 20 youth, \$4,703

Parish Announcements

Remember to partake in the Sacraments of Confession and Communion prior to the Nativity. If you need to schedule a particular time for Confession this week please contact Father Volodymyr.

There will be a Senior R Club Meeting today during Coffee Hour.

Sunday School classes on Sunday December 24 and Sunday December 31 will not be held; classes will resume on Sunday January 7.

Christmas Eve Supper will be held on Sunday, December 24 at 5 PM in Daria Hall. *Due to the Supper, we will not have Coffee Hour after Divine Liturgy.* There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church. Please bring a Lenten dish to share (estimate 20-25 people). The Supper will be followed by Great Compline & Martins in the church at 7:00 PM.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday January 28, 2018. Anyone interested in being a member of the Parish Council should contact Father Volodymyr before the end of 2017.