



## St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

812 Grand Street, Trenton, NJ 08610

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### Sunday after the Nativity; Commemoration of the Holy Righteous David the King, Joseph the Betrothed, and James the Brother of the Lord December 31, 2017

#### **Troparion – Tone 5**

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead//4by His glorious Resurrection.

#### **Troparion – Tone 4**

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high.// O Lord, glory to Thee!

#### **Troparion – Tone 2**

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph, to David, the ancestor of God; you saw a Virgin great with child; you gave glory with the shepherds; you worshipped with the Magi; you received the news from the Angel. Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

#### **Kontakion – Tone 3**

Today godly David is filled with joy; Joseph and James offer praise. The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy. They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth, and they cry out: “O Compassionate One, save those who honor Thee!”

#### **Kontakion – Tone 3**

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds glorify Him; The wise men journey with the star, // since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child.

#### **Prokeimenon – Tone 5**

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

*v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly!*

#### **Prokeimenon – Tone 4**

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

## **Sunday after the Nativity; Commemoration of the Holy Righteous David the King, Joseph the Betrothed, and James the Brother of the Lord**

The Holy Prophet-King David, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, and Saint James the Brother of the Lord are commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, their commemoration is moved to December 26.

At an early date, some churches in the East began to commemorate certain important figures of the New Testament at the time of Theophany, and later during the Nativity season. In Syria, for example, Saint Stephen (December 27), Saints James (April 30) and John (September 26), and Saints Peter and Paul (June 29) were commemorated near the end of December.

In Jerusalem, the saints mentioned above were combined with a feast that the Jews of Hebron celebrated on December 25 or 26 in honor of the Old Testament Patriarch Jacob. Later on, the Christians substituted Saint James (October 23) for Jacob, and then the commemoration of the Brother of the Lord became associated with his ancestor King David. In time, Saint Joseph was linked with Saints David and James.

### **Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19**

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

### **Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23**

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: "A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

### **Service Schedule for the week of December 31**

**Today** – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour

**Monday January 1** – 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy CIRCUMCISION

**Friday January 5** - 7:00 PM Great Compline and Matins

**Saturday January 6** - 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Water FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY  
5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

**Sunday January 7** – 9:00 AM Church School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

## **Weekly Giving**

December 24 – 51 adults, 12 youth, \$2,327

## **Parish Announcements**

Sunday School classes will resume next Sunday January 7.

Thank you to Melody for all of her hard work and time devoted to the recent Rummage Sale! Please be advised that we are not able to accept any more donated items as we are unsure of when the next Rummage Sale will be held - please donate your items to other charities. We greatly appreciate all of the past donations!

If you would like your house blessed, please sign the sheet on the table across from the candle desk and Father Volodymyr will contact you to schedule a time.

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

*Happy New Year – May God Bless all of you with good health and happiness!*