

The Sunday of the Holy Fathers
The Sunday *before* Christmas, January 3
The Sixth Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM: **Divine Liturgy** for the *Sunday of the Holy Fathers, and the Sunday before Christmas and the Sixth Sunday of Advent*. Antiphon “*Bless the Lord, O my soul*” on p. 8. The Beatitudes on pp. 14-15. Tropar for Tone 5 on p. 93. Additional Tropar, Kondak and remaining Propers are from the Holy Fathers on pp. 129-130. The Cherubic Hymn and the Communion Hymn may be sung according to the “*Divnaja Novina*” melody on p. 134.

THE ETERNAL LAMP burns *in memory* of **+Steve Koval** and **+Adam Snider**. Requested by *Arleen Koval*.

THE LEFT SIDE ALTAR LAMPS (Prothesis) burn with prayers for **Laney & Anna Ross**. Requested by *Laney & Cindi Ross*.

THE TETRAPOD LAMPS burn with prayers for *Special Intentions*. Requested by *Theresa Reese*.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES are still available in the back of church. Pick-up your envelopes today!

PLEASE CONTINUE to be generous in your support of our church during these difficult times. Thanks to you, our parish is financially stable. We are all weary of the Covid-19 pandemic, but it appears that it is far from over. Please remain steadfast in your generosity, especially during this holiday season, so that we can weather this storm successfully. Remember: *God is with us!*

MORE COOKIES! Dr. Lazo has brought in some more cookies that we are welcome to partake of. They are available downstairs in the freezer in the kitchen. Help yourself!

CONFESSION will be available after the Divine Services **TODAY**.

FATHER MICHAEL is scheduled for necessary eye surgery *this coming* **Tuesday, December 29** to remove scar tissue (epiretinal membrane) in the back of the left eye. Your prayers for a successful surgery will be most appreciated! There are no services scheduled for this week, since Father does not know how well he will be seeing immediately after the surgery.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES need to be turned-in by *next* **Sunday, January 3**. Names & donors will be published in the Christmas bulletin (January 10, 2021). Additional envelopes can be found in the back of church. **\$15/large. \$5/small**.

COOKBOOKS and other books are available downstairs. **FREE to a good home**. Help yourself!

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

1. The pandemic is not over. It’s worse now than it’s ever been. This is no time to let down our guard. Regardless of our personal feelings about the whole thing, we still need to abide by the restrictions from the State and the Diocese. Be considerate of others.
2. If you are not feeling well, please do not come to church. It’s common sense!
3. Please continue to make the effort to tilt your head way back and open your mouth wide to receive Holy Communion. We’re getting a little lax about this.
4. Please turn the wi-fi setting on your phone to OFF when you are in the church.

CHRISTMAS DIVINE LITURGIES. Since we are still limited to **30 people** in church per service, Father Michael has obtained special permission from Metropolitan Gregory to serve 2 Christmas Divine Liturgies. One Liturgy will be served on **Christmas eve (January 6) at 7 PM**; and the other Liturgy on **Christmas morning (January 7) at 10 AM**. Please be reminded that we are still not open to the general public. These Divine Liturgies are for parishioners only. Reservations for each service will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis, until we reach our limit of 30. We can also plan to stream the services on Facebook; and cast the services to the big-screen TV downstairs.

WE GOT IT HALF RIGHT....

“If My people who are called by My Name humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

— 2 Chronicles 7:14

We are praying! That is good! But are we repenting?

JUDGE NOT....

“If you have the sinful habit of judging your neighbor, then whenever you judge someone, make three prostrations that day with this prayer: ‘Save, O Lord, and have mercy on him (whom I have judged), and by his prayers, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ Do this every time you judge someone. If you do this, God will see your sincerity and will deliver you from this sinful habit forever. And if you never judge anyone, then God will never judge you. In this way you will even receive salvation.”

— Priest-Confessor Sergei Pravdolubov

VAINGLORY is a feeling of empty pride about yourself. It’s hollow externally, since it has nothing of substance, and pursues only the superficial admiration of other people. Everything vainglorious people do and say is so that they’ll be in the public eye. Such vanity is a major obstacle to virtue.

— Saint Nectarios of Pentapolis

CONFESSION is always available at the regular times, *before* and *after* most services. No one else can be present in the nave while confessions are going. If a line forms, one person can wait in the classroom, with the door closed. Another person can wait in the coatroom, with the door closed. Another person can wait in the vestibule, with the doors closed. Otherwise, people can wait outside, downstairs or in their vehicles. If you are planning to go to Confession before Christmas, you would be well advised to go before Father Michael’s eye surgery on December 29.

SUGGESTED STIPEND OFFERINGS:

- Panachida — \$5.00
- Parastas — \$10.00
- Divine Liturgy — \$20.00

THE GIFT SHOP has a number of books, icons and religious articles which would make wonderful Christmas gifts. Christmas cards are also available. Many new items are available! Please stop by and have a look. Get your Christmas holiday shopping off to a good start!

STOP BY AND PRAY. We will continue to leave the church open for prayer, meditation and lighting of candles from **Noon to 4 PM** each Sunday.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

- Saturday Vespers (12/19) — 6
- Moleben in Time of Pestilence (12/22) — 3
