

Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Bulletin Dec. 28, 2025



On the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ, the Orthodox Church commemorates three saints who stand in a unique relationship to the Lord according to the flesh: **Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, Holy Prophet and King David, and James the Brother of the Lord**. Their joint commemoration immediately after Christmas is not accidental. Each of them reveals something essential about the mystery of the Incarnation.

Righteous Joseph the Betrothed. Joseph is the guardian of the Holy Family, the one who protected the Theotokos and the Christ Child with obedience, humility, and courage. Through dreams, God entrusted Joseph with the safety of His Son—leading the family to Egypt, shielding them from Herod, and guiding them back to Israel. Joseph shows us that the Incarnation unfolds within real human responsibility, sacrifice, and love.

David the King. David is the royal ancestor of Christ, the one through whom God promised that the Messiah would come. By commemorating David, the Church proclaims that Jesus is not an isolated figure who appears out of nowhere, but the fulfillment of God's long-standing covenant with Israel. Christ is born into David's line, taking on a genuine human heritage and fulfilling the prophecies spoken centuries before His birth.

James the Brother of the Lord. James, traditionally understood as Joseph's son from his earlier marriage, grew up in the same household as Christ. He later became the first bishop of Jerusalem and a pillar of the early Church. His life testifies that Christ truly entered a human family, lived among relatives, and sanctified the ordinary bonds of kinship. James also shows how those closest to Christ are called to leadership, witness, and holiness.

These three saints are commemorated together because they form Christ's earthly family—His protector, His ancestor, and His kinsman. Their lives remind us that the Incarnation is not merely a theological idea but a real event in human history. God entered a family, a lineage, and a community. He took on our story so that we might share in His.

By honoring Joseph, David, and James on the Sunday after the Nativity, the Church invites us to contemplate the depth of Christ's humility and the fullness of His humanity. The Savior who is born in Bethlehem is truly Emmanuel—God with us, in every sense.

Welcome all to the Parish Holy Supper before the Feast of Christ's Baptism. Monday, January 5. Begins with Great Compline Service at 4 PM. Sign up downstairs.

ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME

We are on the New Calendar

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BLESSED NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST TO THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN FAMILY, TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS, PARISH BOARD, SISTERHOOD AND UOL MEMBERS, CHOIR, CHURCH SCHOOL, ALTAR SERVERS, ALL WHO DONATE THEIR TIME AND RESOURCES TO OUR CHURCH. GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

**Christ is Born! Glorify Him!
Моліть за мир в Україні!**

**Христос Народився! Славимо Його!!
Let us pray for peace in Ukraine!**

**Sun. 28 Dec. 29th Sunday after Pentecost. SUNDAY after the NATIVITY of CHRIST. Tone 4. Righteous JOSEPH the Betrothed. DAVID the King. JAMES the Brother of the Lord. 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia (302) Apostle NICANOR the Deacon (34).
Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23**

Welcome all for the Coffee Hour after the Liturgy – Запрошуємо на каву після Літургії

**THE BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY BETTYANN AND JANET WOYEWODA
IN MEMORY OF THEIR GRANDFATHER, AKSENTY HEWKO.**

LITURGICAL MENEION & SCRIPTURE READINGS (Dec. 25th till Jan. 5th is a Fast-free period).

Mon. 29 Dec. The 14,000 Infants (Holy Innocents) slain by Herod at Bethlehem (1st c.).
Heb. 8:7-13 **Mk. 8:11-21**

Tue. 30 Dec. Virgin-martyr Anysia at Thessalonica (298). Apostle Timon the Deacon
Heb. 9:8-10, 15-23 **Mk. 8:22-26**

06:30 PM **Moleben for Peace in Ukraine (Our Church).**

Wed. 31 Dec. Ven. Melania the Younger, nun, of Rome (439). St. Peter Mohyla (1647).
Heb. 10:1-18 **Mk. 8:30-34**

Thu. 01 Jan. **Circumcision of Christ.**
Col. 2:8-12 **Luke: 2:20-21, 40-52**

Fri. 02 Jan. Saint Sylvester.
Heb. 11:8, 11-16 **Mk. 12:1-12**

Sat. 03 Jan. Prophet Malachi.
1 Tim. 3:14-4:5 **Mt. 3:1-11**

12:00-02:00 PM **Snow Tubing: UOL Fellowship at Blue Mountain Ski Resort.**

Great vespers is cancelled

Sun. 04 Jan. **09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY.**



PROPERS for DIVINE LITURGY

Tropar of Resurrection, Tone 4: When the women disciples of the Lord/ learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection/ they cast away the ancestral curse/ and with gladness told the Apostles/ Death is overthrown/ Christ God is risen/ granting the world great mercy.

Tropar of Nativity, Tone 4: Your 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 You/ the Sun of Righteousness/ and to know You, the Orient from on high/ O Lord, Glory to You.

Tropar to the Saints, Tone 2: O Joseph, proclaim the wonders to David/ the ancestor of God/ you have seen a Virgin great with child/ you gave glory with the shepherds/ you worshipped with the Magi/ you received an answer from the Angel/ Ask Christ God to save our souls.

Glory... Kondak to the Saints, Tone 3: Today the godly David is filled with gladness/ and Joseph offers praise with James/ Having received the crown of their kinship with Christ, they rejoice/

praising in song Him Who is inexpressibly born on earth/ crying out: “O Compassionate One, save those who honor You.”

Now and ever... Kondak of the Feast, Tone 3: Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One/ and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable God/ Angels with shepherds glorify Him/ The wise men journey with a star/ since for our sake the Pre-Eternal God was born as a young Child.

Prokimen of the Resurrection, Tone 4: How marvelous are Your works, O Lord. In wisdom You have made them all.

Verse: Bless the Lord, my soul. O Lord, my God, You are very great.

Prokimen of the Righteous Ones, Tone 4: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Alleluia Verses, Tone 4. Bend Your bow and proceed prosperously, and reign because of truth, meekness and righteousness.

You have loved righteousness and hated iniquity.

Lord, remember Daavid and all his meekness.

Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-23

Instead of “It is right in truth...” Magnify, my soul, the Most Pure Virgin Birthgiver of God, who is greater in honor and more glorious than the hosts on high.

Irmos, Tone 1: It is a strange and most wonderful mystery that I see: the cave is heaven, the Virgin the throne of the Cherubim; the manger a room in which Christ, the Uncontainable God, is laid. Him do we praise and magnify.

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest. Rejoice in the Lord, you Righteous, praise befits the upright. Alleluia (3X)

- Please take the envelopes and calendars downstairs.

- Collecting can goods for Food Bank in memory of victims of artificial famine in Ukraine 1932-33. Box downstairs (canned potatoes, and meats, tuna, pasta, sauces, mac. & cheese).

- Sisterhood meeting: January 18 after the Liturgy.

- Pyrohy schedule: Jan. 8, 22. First come, first served (until we reach 250 doz.). Please volunteer for peeling, running, cooking/mashing, pinching and clean-up.

- Loving Waters Campaign for the All-Saints Camp Water System Repair (Emlenton, PA). The camp is facing a **large bill** for its water system. Let’s help! Envelopes are near entrance.

-Sunday School Schedule: Every Sunday right after the Communion. Welcome.

- Please turn in Redner’s save a tape. The receipt must show the Save-A-Tape amount. Thanks!

- Virtual Bible Study Day. Check the information on the board downstairs.

BIRTHDAYS:

31 Dec...Vera Alexander

MNOHAYA LITA! MANY YEARS!

NECROLOGY:

Ukrainian civilians and soldiers, killed in the Russian invasion.

28 Dec...Josephine Peters '82

29 Dec...Eustachij Psebyla '22, Martha Zaharuyko '60, Priest Gregory Pypiuk '62

30 Dec...Katherine Yaremko 28, James Osmun '91

31 Dec...Ol'ha Kutianski (infant) '22

02 Jan...Paul Lukacz '46, Alleck Schur '74, Mary van Kirk '08

VICHNAYA PAMYAT! MEMORY ETERNAL!

ORTHODOX NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

The Feast of St. Nicholas was celebrated by Archbishops Viktor and Benjamin with parishioners of St. Nicholas Church in Bari, Italy where the relics of the beloved saint rest.



Metropolitan Epiphaniy celebrated the 7th anniversary of the Unification Council at St. Sophia's Cathedral in Kyiv which led the establishment of autocephaly of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church by the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

The Church of St. Nicholas of Japan in Maebashi celebrated the 150th anniversary of its founding by Catechist Matthew Niwa with an archpastoral visit by Metropolitan Seraphim of Tokyo.



St. Paraskeva Orthodox Charity which supports orphans at the St. Onufrie Home in Romania is expanding to shelter for 24 more.

A new Ukrainian Orthodox parish, "Pochaiyev Icon of the Mother of God" in Paris.

Fr. Joel Wilson, Priest of Annunciation parish in St. James, Missouri announced that after its 12 yrs. of missionary work their mission has grown to church status.

Archimandrite Metodij from Mt. Athos visited St. Peter's Monastery, an all English Pan-Orthodox facility on its 1,000 acre site in Montana where 50 young men interested in monastic life gathered.

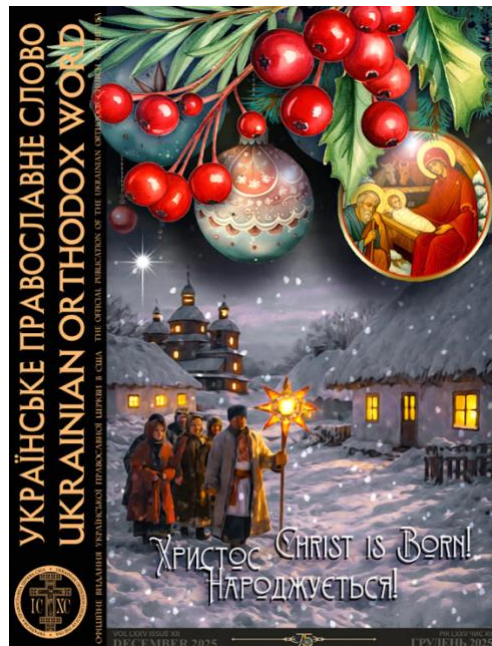


Ukrainian Orthodox faithful in Constantinople worship at St. Nicholas Church in Cibali, led by Archimandrite Methodiy (Volostsenko).

After years of civil war the Orthodox Church of South Sudan is undergoing a revival with the establishment of Bishop Constantine in 2024, 6 new parishes and hundreds of baptisms and catechumens.



To read December edition of the **Ukrainian Orthodox Word** please scan this QR code with your phone camera and follow the link.



Євангеліє. 13 Коли ж вони відійшли, то ангел Господній уві сні з'явився Йосифові, говорячи: устань, візьми Немовля і Матір Його та біжи в Єгипет і будь там, доки не скажу тобі, бо хоче Ірод шукати Немовля, щоб погубити Його. 14 Він же, вставши, узяв Немовля і Матір Його вночі та й пішов у Єгипет 15 і був там до смерти Іродової, щоб збулося сказане Господом через пророка, який говорить: з Єгипту покликав Я Сина Мого. 16 Тоді Ірод, побачивши себе осміяним волхвами, дуже розгнівався і послав побивати усіх немовлят у Вифлеємі і в усіх околицях його, — від двох років і менше — за часом, про який вивідав у волхвів. 17 Тоді збулося сказане через пророка Єремію, який говорить: 18 голос в Рамі чути, плач і ридання та голосіння велике; Рахиль плаче за дітьми своїми і не хоче втішитися, бо нема їх. 19 Як помер Ірод, то ангел Господній уві сні з'явився Йосифові в Єгипті 20 і говорить: устань, візьми Немовля і Матір Його та йди в землю Ізраїлеву, бо вже померли ті, що шукали душу Немовляти. 21 Він же, вставши, узяв Немовля і Матір Його і прийшов у землю Ізраїлеву. 22 Почувши ж, що Архелай царює в Юдеї замість Ірода, батька свого, побоявся йти туди; а, одержавши уві сні одкровення, пішов у землю Галилейську. 23 І, прийшовши, оселився в місті, яке зветься Назарет, щоб збулося сказане через пророків, що Він Назореєм наречеться.

Prayer for the health & salvation of the afflicted: Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, wounded during the Russian aggression, Helen Crayosky, Rosemarie Pypiuk, Caroline Hallman, Joseph Killino, Reader Maximos(Meashock), Barbara Grason, Sandra Miller, John Vitushinski, Raisa Bakalets, Karen Yurconic, Tom, Sylvia Petro, priest Demetrius Nicoloudakis, Martha Dowling, Michael Szymonifka, Karen Kankula, Evelyn Kankula, Russel Kerick, Christina Truss, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, William Savitz, Walter & Mary Ann Dworakivsky, William Leszczuk, Mary Berger, Jessica Meashock, Ray Stoner, Zachary Y. Siyufy, soldier Oleh, Raisa Melnychuk, Vasyl Beizyn, Lubov Shevchuk, Volodymyr Hranat, Ihor Broda, Gary Lelo, Debi Hutnick, Eric Hewko, Phil O'Brien, child Charlie, Juliana, Shirl Merolli, Stephanie Donnelly, child Alexandria, Elizabeth Pastushenko, MaryAnn Ramaley, Aaliyah Osmun, Brendan Phillips, Adam Hewko, Andrew Thaxton, Susan Ferretti, Judy Albright, Daniel Kochenash, Christopher Mack, Joann Hoodmaker, Norman Betrous, Robert Zarayko, Lisa Kulhanek, Esther Wilt, Benjamin Tomeo, Olena Kalichenko, Robert, Marybeth Smith.