



December 22nd, 2019
Forefeast of the Nativity
27th Sunday after Pentecost

ST. MARY'S HOLY DORMITION

Scripture Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

Brethren, By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented - of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel...Continued on Back

NOV Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Dec 1 - Robert Boyd
- Dec 2 - Pete Pyatt
- Dec 2 - Marah Robinson
- Dec 6 - Jeanie Mikita
- Dec 11 - Anya (Boyd) Gazii
- Dec 17 - Tetiana Boyd
- Dec 20 - Lexi Ann Guy
- Dec 27 - Larry Don and Lori Meier
- Dec 31 - Natalie Hlatki

SERVICES

- Christmas Vigil - 4:00 PM (24th)
- Christmas Divine Liturgy - 8:30 AM (25th)
- Great Vespers - 5:30 PM (28th)
- Divine Liturgy - 9:30 AM (29th)

WISDOM

"He lay in a manger, a child newly born: tiny in body, abject in poverty. But in this Child something great lay hidden, of which these, the first-fruits of the Gentiles, had learned, not from earthly rumor, but from heavenly revelation. Hence we have: We have seen His Star in the East. They announce, yet they ask; they believe, and yet they seek to know: as though prefiguring those who walk by faith, yet still desire to see."

- St. Augustine on the Nativity

Confessions Every Saturday After Vespers or By Appointment

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nativity Fast Challenge

Just a freindly reminder that on Christmas day, we will have a few bins in the Narthex for everyone's items that we will donate to the Eastern Plains Food Pantry a few days later. There is still time to join in!

Slavic Fest Leftovers

We still have some leftover Pierogi from Slavic Fest that are for sale. This is a great time of year to buy some and not have to worry during all the Christmas planning, so when you are ready (and by ready, today), please see Butch.

Deacon Gregory Memorial Fund

As we mourn the loss of Deacon Gregory, many have asked about continued giving to this fund. The medical bills have continued to roll in, as the Jewett family pursued all options, leaving them with large costs after insurance. So with that said, please consider giving to their GoFundMe above and beyond your normal tithing. The link is down below:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/DeaconGregoryFund>

House Blessings

House blessings will begin on January 7th. A sign up list is in the Narthex. If you would like Fr. Stephen to bless your home and/or farm, please sign up, indicating time of day that is normally best for you. If you have a special request, please note that and Father will contact you to arrange his visit.

Nativity Services

The times for Christmas services will be this Tuesday at 4:00 PM (Vigil) and Wednesday (Liturgy) at 8:30 AM. The Nativity Day service is earlier specifically so everyone can come and then go home to their families to open gifts. Please make every effort to attend these services and celebrate the birth of our Lord!

Gospel Continued: Matthew 1:1-25

Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, 'God with us.'" Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name **JESUS**.

Youth Activities

December

Today - 1 PM
Nativity Play 2019

Today, our youth will be performing our annual Nativity play at 1 PM. Parents, note that there will be a brief dress rehearsal after Liturgy so please make sure your kids are ready to go. Also, today's coffee hour is a potluck. Its going to be a great show!

January

11th - 6 PM
CC Hockey Game

Coming up in January, we are looking to take a group to see the CC Tigers take on Miami University Hockey. If you'd like to attend, please let Fr. Stephen know. Ticket prices to be announced shortly.

25th - After Vespers
Board Game Night

We will be having another fun board game night at the end of January for all the Youth and young at heart. There will be a snacks, drinks, and dinner for everyone. So mark it in your calendars and join us for what will be a great evening!

UPCOMING SERVICES

Jan. 5th - Vespers After Liturgy

Jan. 6th - Theophany Divine Liturgy (8:00 AM)

Feb. 1st - Great Vespers with Litya (5:30 PM)

Feb. 2nd - Meeting of the Lord Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

Mar. 1st - Forgiveness Vespers After Liturgy

Mar. 2nd - Great Lent Begins

Mar. 25th - Annunciation Liturgy (8:00 AM)

Apr. 11th - Lazarus Saturday Liturgy (9:00 AM)

Apr. 12th - Palm Sunday Liturgy (9:30 AM)

Apr. 13th-18th - Holy Week

Apr. 18th - PASCHA Services (10:30 PM)

Apr. 19th - Agape Vespers (11:00 AM)

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