



**December 20th, 2020**  
**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...

## DEC Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Dec 1 - Robert Boyd
- Dec 1 - Sheila and Johnny Tart
- Dec 2 - Pete Pyatt
- Dec 2 - Marah Robinson
- Dec 6 - Jeanie Mikita
- Dec 11 - Anya (Boyd) Gazii
- Dec 12 - Mayzie Ann Jackson
- Dec 17 - Tetiana Boyd
- Dec 20 - Lexi Ann Guy
- Dec 27 - Larry Don and Lori Meier
- Dec 31 - Natalie Hlatki

## SERVICES

- Prayers for Rain - 7:00 AM (23rd)
- Christmas Eve Vigil - 4:00 PM (24th)**
- Christmas Day Divine Liturgy - 8:30 AM (25th)**
- Great Vespers - 5:00 PM (26th)
- Adult Education - 9:00 AM (27th)
- Divine Liturgy - 9:30 AM (27th)

## WISDOM

*Yes, Christmas is a feast for children, not just because of the tree that we decorate & light, but in the much deeper sense that children alone are unsurprised that when God comes to us on earth, he comes as a child. Christ said "become like children" (Mt 18:3). A child has neither authority nor power, yet the very absence of authority reveals him to be a king; his defenselessness & vulnerability are precisely the source of his profound power; in that distant Bethlehem cave has no desire that we fear him; He enters our hearts not by frightening us, by proving his power & authority, but by love alone. He is given to us as a child, & only as children can we in turn love & give ourselves to him. The world is ruled by authority & power, by fear & domination. The child God liberates us from that, desiring only our love, freely given & joyful. Through the feast of Christmas, the Church reveals to us a joyful mystery: the mystery of freely given love imposing itself on no one. A love capable of seeing, recognizing & loving God in the Divine Child, & becoming the gift of a new life.*

-Fr. Alexander Schmemmann

**Confessions Every Saturday After Vespers or By Appointment**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Gospel Cont. (Matthew 1:1-25)

...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. 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.

## Thank you from the Osburns

Joyous feast from Fr. Stephen, Mat. Lindsey, and Zoe! Thank you to everyone for their love and support these past couple years. We are so blessed to be living and being apart of this wonderful community. You are all truly the best. We love you all. May the Lord shine upon every member of St. Mary's throughout this feast and grant everyone Many Years. Enjoy the Christmas feast! And because its Christmas, Go Broncos! Go Aves! Go Rockies! Go Nuggets! (That hurt a little...just kidding. Enjoy the feast!)

## Christmas Caroling

Today we are going to be a modified, impromptu Christmas caroling after Liturgy. Carrie has setup a route and will be handing out the carols. We will sing first outside of the church for those present and then make our way to various homes. A few rules: Everyone must stand outside their cars, staying at least 6 feet apart, and the elderly we go to visit (who have been informed) will come outside, standing by their doors. It should be fun, even in this form, so please join us!

## Photo Directory (Tentative Release – Early January 2021)

The photos have been edited and Fr. Stephen has begun creating the directory. Everyone's photos are on discs next to the commemorative loaves in the Narthax. If you are unable to pick your disc up, let Fr. Stephen know and he will be more than happy to deliver it to you. Also, we need to make sure everyone's information is up to date for the directory, prior to printing so please check the sheet in the Narthax and update accordingly. The directory should be ready to go by early January. If you'd like to donate above and beyond your normal tithing to the printing of the directory, please see Lori or Fr. Stephen.

## Pledge Forms for 2021

2020 was not the year we expected it to be; however, we have almost made it through it. Glory to God. We are again asking everyone to prayerfully consider their pledges, including making up the difference of income we lost due to not being able to have Slavic Fest this year, sign and return the forms in the Narthax if you are changing your pledge from last year. If your pledge from 2020 is remaining the same, please let Lori know. Either way, please let Fr. Stephen or Lori know by December 31st, 2021.

## Brian Hlatki's Address

EOCA Hlatki, Bryan  
CTF 75  
PSC 455 Box 185  
FPO AP 96540

## Nativity Challenge

Today is the final day for the Challenge. Please leave any items you collected in the Narthex or in Vicki's classroom in the rectory. Tuesday morning, Fr. Stephen will take them to the pantry. If you would still like to donate, please let Fr. Stephen know today or give him a call. He is more than happy to come pick them up.

**Rector: Fr. Stephen Osburn | Cell: 702.521.6988 | E-Mail: [frsteve@holydormition.net](mailto:frsteve@holydormition.net)  
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