



St. John Chrysostom Church

A Mission of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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January 2018 SJCC News

My Joy in the Lord,

January marks the beginning of the year not just for the civil calendar but for us in the Church as well. No matter how often you may see people talking about the beginning of the Church Year being in September, the number of the year changes on January 1 not September 1. In Russia as in Greece, beginning with the end of the 19th century, many church books were starting to be printed January to December instead of September to August. There was a recognition that some things should follow our lives rather than our lives having to follow some things.

No matter when we start, the important part is that we start. In America, birthdays are very important. So many things depend on exactly when we were born. But with the Church, those times and dates are much less important. The Church is not concerned whether we are celebrating the Nativity and the Theophany of Christ for the 1987th time or 2018th time or the 1900th time. It is important that we remember that those events happened and that we remember why they happened, what effect they have for our salvation. In the same way, we need to celebrate our namesdays – not as something that the priest reminds us of on a given Sunday, if we happen to be in church, but as something that is important to us – the remembrance of a saint who has meaning for us.

Most of us were not given a choice in our saints – our parents picked them when they gave us our names. But that does not mean that those saints need be foreign. They are our patrons, they are the ones who pray for us before the throne of God. They are the ones, who remember us and know us – as fellow Christians, as fellow human beings.

If you have forgotten their stories, or just want to remember better, you can look up almost any saint on the internet these days, especially on www.oca.org/saints/lives. Take some time this year to become better acquainted with your patron saint and remember to pray to them, asking, in return, their prayers for yourself and for all of us, as well.

With love, in Christ,
Fr. Seraphim

Please see the schedule for House Blessings CAREFULLY in this newsletter. Many times and dates have changed even though you were fine with the originally proposed day and time!! If the scheduled time or day does not work for you, please let me know as soon as possible and I will reschedule.

I am appointing Alex Beim to the Parish Council for the next three years. Each year, we elect one individual and I appoint one individual to serve a three year term on the Parish Council. The members of the Parish Council then elect the Parish officers for the current year at their first meeting, subject to the blessing of our Bishop.

Fr. John Behr will be with us at the end of the first week of Lent to give a Retreat on “Male and Female in Christ”. Cost is \$20 and coffee and lunch on Saturday is included. (Feb 23 & 24)

I have included a new schedule for Coffee Hours. We tried regular potlucks but I heard a number of pleas to return to schedules. As per the discussion last year, we are going to three households at a time. **This will mean that each household will need to serve 4 times this year.** Some may only be able to give a donation while the other two households do the work. That is acceptable.

BUT, please think of yourselves as teams. If you cannot participate on a given day, first let your team know. Don't just ask for someone to replace you. They may be willing to proceed without you. Or, they may agree that they all need to switch with another team. That is most important, please switch as teams not as individuals! And, as always, please remember that this is a Coffee Hour not a lunch! Simplicity, simplicity, simplicity. A bite to eat after fasting from everything by mouth so that Christ may be first into our bodies, is the concept.

I will be out of town for a Conference on January 19 & 20. There will be no Vespers nor class on the 20th but I will be back for Liturgy on the 21st.

We are continuing with the \$5-a-Month Club to support the priests in Uganda. Please join – just write a check for \$5 every month or \$60 for the year.

Prayer Circle: The Prayer Circle is a group of Parishioners who, at least once each week, spend some time asking God to care for and bless various individuals who are in need of His Mercy. If you wish to be part of the Prayer Circle or would like more information, please contact Dianna Vagianos-Armentrout at diannavagianos@gmail.com.

We have two Fund-raising opportunities – through Amazon Smile and through the Archdiocesan on-line Purchasing – please see the notice at the end of the newsletter for details of how you can participate.

Parishioner Celebrations

**NOTE: If you don't see your day listed OR see your day listed on the wrong day
PLEASE let Fr. Seraphim know – as soon as possible**

January

01/01	Namesday	Emma Dovey
01/02	Namesday	Seraphima Rahe
01/06	Birthday	Donald Wallace
01/10	Namesday	Robert Saieg
01/14	Namesday	Nina Beim
01/14	Namesday	Bethany Cheaqui
01/15	Birthday	Matthew Bourquin
01/17	Birthday	Nathan Berry
01/17	Birthday	Larissa Spencer
01/17	Birthday	Linda Saieg
01/21	Birthday	Kalee Zinng
01/24	Birthday	Andrei Tarashchuk
01/25	Anniversary	Richard & Joanna Hill
01/29	Anniversary	Chris & Dawn Dovey

February

02/03	Birthday	Dana Berry
02/03	Birthday	Masha Gisetti
02/05	Birthday	Sandro Beim
02/06	Namesday	Thea Goudzwaard
02/11	Birthday	Christopher Cheaqui
02/17	Anniversary	Tim & Dianna Armentrout
02/18	Ordination	Fr. Seraphim Gisetti
02/21	Birthday	Ken Fredricksen
02/22	Birthday	Manda Baker
02/23	Anniversary	Donald & Angela Wallace
02/26	Birthday	Gabriel Armentrout

PROSPHORA Baking

REMINDER: PLEASE make sure that you bring ONE (and only one) prospora with names for commemoration -this includes both living and departed, if some of the living or departed are not Orthodox, I want them anyway - to church at least the night before the date on which it is due. You can bring it up to three weeks before and we'll freeze it until the date, but don't try to bring it that morning. I usually start the Proskomedie early and need the prospora to be there. If it's not there by the night before, I will defrost a spare to use. Thank you for your consideration.

We will always need prospora. I will be happy to come to your house and bake them with you if you're not sure how to do it.

Parish Responsibilities

	Prospora	Epistle	Communion help	Coffee Hour
January				
7	Robert Saieg	Joe Mikita	Kaitlin & Hanna	<u>Potluck</u>
14	Bethany Cheaqui	Margo Waisanen	Taisia & Alyssa	J. Gisetti, Fiscus, Yakubik
21	Kalee Zingg	Chris Dovey	Pelagia & Kylee	J&S Rahe, D. Rahe, Waisanen
28	Chris & Dawn Dovey	Dana Berry	Kaitlin & Hanna	Wallace, Veselak, Arnold
February				
4	Alex Beim (for Sandro)	Jonathan Spencer	Taisia & Alyssa	Spencer, Zingg, Perkins
11	Christopher Cheaqui	Seraphima Rahe	Pelagia & Kylee	Hill, Cheaqui, D. Mikita
18	Fr. Seraphim	Andrei Gisetti	Kaitlin & Hanna	Saieg, M. Gisetti, Baldwin
25	Diana Armentrout (for Gabriel)	Susan Arnold	Taisia & Alyssa	Armentrout, Taraschuk, Conder

Parish Cleaning:

January 6,7	Cheaqui
February 3,4	Dovey

2018 House Blessing Schedule

Name	Day	Date	Time
Armentrout, Tim & Dianna	Sun	7	3:00 PM
Baker, Manda	Mon	8	1:00 PM
Baldwin, Carolyn	Mon	8	11:30 AM
Beim, Alex & Ketino	Sun	14	1:00 PM
Berry, Nathan & Dana	Wed	10	5:30 PM
Castellano, Andrew & Anna	Mon	15	7:00 PM
Cheaqui, Christopher & Bethany	Wed	10	4:00 PM
Conder, Joe	Sat	13	12:30 PM
Dovey, Chris & Dawn	Sun	7	7:30 PM
Drakulich, Mike & Dagmar	Tue	9	11:00 AM
Fiscus, Jon	Fri	12	11:30 AM
Fiscus, Jon & Colleen	Sun	14	6:30 PM
Fox, Josh & Miriam	Sun	7	1:00 PM
Gisetti, Alexandra	Tue	9	7:00 PM
Gisetti, Andrei & Jacque	Fri	5	5:30 PM
Gisetti, Anna	Fri	5	8:30 PM
Gisetti, Fr. Seraphim & Masha	Fri	5	1:30 PM
Goudzward, Lee & Darya	Sun	14	2:30 PM
Higgins, Zach & Becca	Thu	11	5:00 PM
Hill, Rick & Joann	Sat	13	11:00 AM
Kurtz, Tim & Sid; Gray, Vayann	Sat	6	1:30 PM
Mikita, Denise	Thu	11	4:00 PM
Mikita, Joe & Joyce	Mon	8	10:00 AM
Perkins, Kelsey	Tue	16	4:00 PM
Rahe, Dan	Wed	10	12:00 PM
Rahe, John & Seraphima	Sat	6	7:30 PM
Roberts, Savannah	Sat	13	3:00 PM
Saieg, Robert & Linda	Tue	9	2:00 PM
Spencer, Jonathan & Larissa	Sat	6	6:00 PM
Tarashchuk, Andrei & Brigitte	Wed	17	6:30 PM
Waisanen, Bert & Margo	Fri	12	7:00 PM
Wallace, Don & Angela	Sat	6	12:00 PM
Yakubik, Kara	Thu	11	7:00 PM
Zingg, Russell & Kalee	Tue	16	5:30 PM

Schedule of Services and Events

January

5	Fri	9:00 am	Royal hours Vespers Liturgy with Blessing of Water	Eve of Theophany
		7:00 pm	Vigil	
6	Sat	9:00 am	Liturgy NO Vespers	Theophany
7	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy Coffee Hour and Sunday School	St. John the Baptist Sunday after Theophany
13	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
14	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy Coffee hour & Sunday School	Leave-taking of Theophany
20	Sat		NO Vespers	
21	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy Coffee hour & Sunday School	
27	Sat	4:00 pm	What is Orthodoxy? An introduction.	
		5:00 pm	Vespers	
28	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy Coffee hour & Sunday School	Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee

February

2	Fri	6:30 pm	Liturgy	Meeting of our Lord
3	Sat	4:00 pm	What is Orthodoxy? An introduction.	
		5:00 pm	Vespers	
4	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy Coffee hour & Sunday School	Sunday of the Prodigal Son
10	Sat	4:00 pm	What is Orthodoxy? An introduction.	
		5:00 pm	Vespers	
11	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy Coffee hour & Sunday School	Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare)
17	Sat	4:00 pm	What is Orthodoxy? An introduction.	
		5:00 pm	Vespers	
18	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy Coffee hour & NO Sunday School Vespers of Forgiveness	Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)
19	Mon		<u>Great Lent Begins</u>	
		7:00 pm	Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	
20	Tue	7:00 pm	Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	
21	Wed	6:30 pm	Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Potluck and Discussion	
22	Thu	7:00 pm	Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	
23	Fri	6:30 pm	Medaia	
		7:00 pm	Opening Presentation	Lenten Retreat with Fr. John Behr
24	Sat	8:00 am	Liturgy	
		9:00 am	Lenten Retreat with Fr. John Behr	
		5:00 pm	Vespers	
25	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy Coffee hour & Sunday School	1st Sunday of Lent (Orthodoxy)
		5:00 pm	Pan Orthodox Vespers Assumption Cathedral	
28	Wed	6:30 pm	Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Potluck and Discussion	

Amazon Smile Program

1. Instead of using www.amazon.com, use smile.amazon.com
2. Bookmark smile.amazon.com in all of your browsers
3. Search for St. John Chrysostom Church (Christian – Lakewood, CO)
4. Select it as your charity.
5. Always use smile.amazon.com when purchasing from Amazon. Everything will look the same and work the same as on www.amazon.com including Prime if you have it.

EXCEPT, St. John's will get a (small – 0.5%) donation of every purchase that you make.

THIS DOES NOT COST YOU ANY MORE.

That's it.

Thank you



St. John Chrysostom Rewards Program

Program Overview:

1. A digital savings and fundraising platform for our ministry.
2. The program creates an automatic monetary contribution to our ministry as a percentage of your online spending.
3. This program is endorsed by the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

How Does It Work?

1. Shop at thousands of your favorite retailers, such as Target, Best Buy, Nordstrom, Home Depot, Kohl's, J. Crew, and more.
2. Save by taking advantage of discounts and deals including %-off discounts, \$-off discounts, and free shipping.
3. Support the parish, as a percentage of every purchase you make at participating retailers is contributed back to the ministry at no additional cost to you.

How Do You Participate:

1. Go to antiochian.org/rewardsprogram and register with your email address.
2. Remember to visit antiochian.org/rewardsprogram prior to making online purchases to enable a contribution to St. John's and to discover relevant savings offers for you. OR
3. Install the antiochian.org/rewardsprogram support button on your Chrome, Firefox, or Safari browser to automatically support the ministry every time you make a purchase—without having to visit the deal site first.