



Lenten Events & Festal Services during the Nativity Fast

Advent 2017 Christian Education Opportunities

Parish-Wide Education – “Search the Scriptures: The Old Testament”

Presentation during Coffee Hour / Church School on Sundays during Advent, working through the Books of the Old Testament

- Sun, November 19 @ 11:00am | Part I – The Law: *Genesis - Deuteronomy*
Sun, November 26 @ 11:00am | Part II – Early History: *Joshua – II Samuel*
Sun, December 3 @ 11:00am | Part III – Later History: *I Kings - Nehemiah*
Sun, December 10 @ 11:15am | Part IV – Major Prophets: *Isaiah - Daniel*
Sun, December 17 @ 11:00am | Part V – Minor Prophets: *The 12 Prophets (Hosea – Malachi)*
Sun, December 24 @ 11:00am | Part VI – Wisdom Literature: *Psalms, Proverbs, Job, etc.*
Sun, December 31 @ 11:00am | Part VII – Apocrypha + “Reading Scripture in 2018”

Adult Bible Study – “Beholding the Glory: The Gospel of St. John”

*Group discussion on Wednesday evenings after Vespers, working through the Gospel of St. John,
Bible Study Series: The Gospel of John: Beholding the Glory by Fr. Lawrence Farley*

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|------------------------------------|----------|----------------|------------------------|
| Wednesday, November 22 | @ 6:30pm | John 6:22-71 | [Study Guide: 109-125] |
| Wednesday, November 29 | @ 6:30pm | John 7:1-13 | [Study Guide: 126-130] |
| Wednesday, December 13 | @ 6:30pm | John 7:14-8:11 | [Study Guide: 131-148] |
| Wednesday, December 27 | @ 6:30pm | John 8:12-8:59 | [Study Guide: 149-167] |
| Wednesday, January 3 rd | @ 6:30pm | John 9:1-12 | [Study Guide: 168-174] |

****This Study continues weekly until Bright Week 2018****

Catechism / Adult Education – Worship in 5 Senses / Life in 5 Disciplines:

Discussion on Orthodox Worship & spiritual disciplines in the Orthodox tradition on Tuesday evenings from 7:00pm-7:45pm.

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| Tuesday, Nov 21 st | @ 7pm | Sense 1: Sight | + Discipline 1: Prayer & Reading |
| Tuesday, Nov 28 th | @ 7pm | Sense 2: Smell | + Discipline 2: Fasting |
| Tuesday, Dec 5 th | @ 7pm | Sense 3: Touch | + Discipline 3: Almsgiving |
| Tuesday, Dec 12 th | @ 7pm | Sense 4: Sound | + Discipline 4: Confession |
| Tuesday, Dec 19 th | @ 7pm | Sense 5: Taste | + Discipline 5: Holy Communion |

****Required for Catechumens, but recommended for all interested Orthodox Christians****

Advent / Nativity Fast Events & Services

The Nativity (or Advent) Fast is 40 days (11/15 – 12/24), although less strict than Great Lent

Mon, Wed, & Fri:	Strict Fast	- We abstain from Meat, Dairy, Fish, Wine, & Oil
Tues & Thurs:	Fast	- We abstain from Meat, Dairy, & Fish (Wine & Oil are allowed)
Sat & Sun:	Relaxed Fast	- We abstain from Meat & Dairy (Fish, Wine, & Oil are allowed)

See calendar below for feastdays on which we relax the fast

1st Week of the Nativity Fast

Wednesday, November 15th– Feast of St. Gurias, Samonas, & Habibus (Fast)

6pm – Vespers for St. Matthew & Confessions

Thursday, November 16th– Feast of the Holy Apostle & Evangelist Matthew [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

7am – Matins for Feast of St. Matthew

6pm – Thanksgiving Meal @ Cosgrove Commons

Friday, November 17th– Feast of St. Gregory the Wonderworker of Neocaesarea (Fast)

6pm – Vespers for St. Romanus & Confessions

Saturday, November 18th– Martyr Platon of Ancyra & the Martyr Romanus [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

4pm – Church School Play – Read Through

5pm – Vigil for the Resurrection & Confessions

Sunday, November 19th – 1st Sunday of Nativity Fast & Holy Prophet Obadiah [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

8:30am – Pre-communion Prayers & Hours

9:00am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

10:30am – Coffee Hour & Parish-Wide Education: **Part I – The Law: Genesis - Deuteronomy**

Monday, November 20th– Forefeast of the Entry into the Temple of the Holy Theotokos (Fast)

6:00pm – Great Vespers for Entry of the Theotokos

NO OCF @ U-Hart

Tuesday, November 21st– The Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

7:00am – Festal Divine Liturgy

7:00pm – Catechism / Adult Education: **Part 1 – Sight/Prayer & Reading**

Wednesday, November 22nd – Afterfeast of the Entry; Apostles Philemon & Onesimus (Fast)

6pm – Vespers & Bible Study: John 6:22-71 [Study Guide: 109-125]

Thursday, November 23rd – Afterfeast of the Entry; St. Amphilocius (*Feast of Thanksgiving*)

7am – Akathist Hymn: “Glory to God for All Things”

Friday, November 24th– Afterfeast of the Entry; Great Martyr Catherine of Alexandria (Fast)

Rally After Rally” Youth Retreat: “Nativity Fast Retreat”

6:30pm Evening Worship (Vespers/Akathist)

7:15pm Dinner & Fellowship

8:00pm Activity/Discussion

9:00pm Night Prayers (Compline/Akathist)

Saturday, November 25th– Leavetaking of the Entry; St. Clement the Pope of Rome [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

Monastery Visit: All Saints (Agion Panton) Monastery @ Calverton, NY (Long Island)

8:30am Depart for Calverton, NY (arrival ~ 11:30am)

Monastery Visit (Monastery Vespers @ 4:30pm) //Reader’s Vespers @ ASOC-Hartford at 5pm

5:00pm Depart for Hartford, CT (arrival ~8pm)

2nd Week of the Nativity Fast

Sunday, November 26th– 2nd Sunday of the Nativity Fast & Feast of Ven. Alypius [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

8:30am – Pre-communion Prayers & Hours

9:00am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

10:30am – Coffee Hour & Parish-Wide Education: **Part II – Early History: Joshua – II Samuel**

Monday, November 27th– Feast of the Great Martyr James the Persian (Strict Fast)

7am – Matins for Feast of St. James the Persian

6:15pm – Orthodox Christian Fellowship @ University of Hartford

Tuesday, November 28th– Monkmartyr Stephen the New w/ Auxentius and many others (Fast –W&O)

7am – Matins for the Venerable Martyrs

7pm – Catechism / Christian Education - **Part 2: Smell/Fasting**

Wednesday, November 29th– The Holy Martyr Paramon & the 370 Martyrs of Bithynia (Fast)

6pm – Vespers & Bible Study: **John 7:1-13** [Study Guide: 126-130]

Thursday, November 30th– Feast of the Holy Apostle Andrew, the First-Called [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

7am – Festal Liturgy for St. Andrew

Friday, December 1st– Feast of the Holy Prophet Nahum (Strict Fast)

CT Orthodox Clergy – Nativity Fast Retreat: “Clergy Self-Care,” by Fr. Harry Pappas

Saturday, December 2nd– Feast of the Holy Prophet Habakkuk [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

5pm – Vigil for the Resurrection & Confessions

3rd Week of the Nativity Fast

Sunday, December 3rd– The 3rd Sunday of the Nativity Fast & Prophet Zephaniah [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

8:30am – Pre-communion Prayers & Hours

9:00am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

10:30am – Coffee Hour & Parish-Wide Education: **Part III – Later History: I Kings - Nehemiah**

Monday, December 4th– Feast of the Hieromartyr Alexander (Hotovitzky) [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

7am – Matins for Feast of the Holy Hieromartyr Alexander

6:15pm – Orthodox Christian Fellowship @ University of Hartford

Tuesday, December 5th– Feast of the Venerable Sava the Sanctified [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

7am – Matins for Feast of Venerable Sava the Sanctified

6:00pm – Festal Great Vespers for St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

7pm – Catechism / Christian Education: **Part III – Touch/Almsgiving**

Wednesday, December 6th– Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

7:00am – Festal Divine Liturgy for St. Nicholas

6:00pm – Akathist Hymn to St. Nicholas & Festal Fish Fry

Thursday, December 7th– Feast of St. Ambrose, the Bishop of Milan (Fast-W&O)

7am – Matins for St. Ambrose of Milan

Friday, December 8th– Feast of the Venerable Patapius of Thebese (Strict Fast)

6pm – Vespers for St Hannah the Prophetess & Confessions

Saturday, December 9th– Conception of the Theotokos; Prophetess Hannah, [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

5pm – Vigil for the Resurrection & Confessions

4th Week of the Nativity Fast

Sunday, December 10th – 4th Sunday of the Nativity Fast; Martyr Menas [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

8:30am – Pre-communion Prayers & Hours

9:00am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

10:30am – Coffee Hour & Special Presentation: **Compassion in Action**

11:00am – Parish Wide Education : **Part IV – Major Prophets: Isaiah - Daniel**

Monday, December 11th – Venerable Daniel the Stylite & Synaxis of All Saints of Georgia (Strict Fast)

7am – Matins for All Saints of Georgia

6pm – Vespers & **“Compassion in Action”** Workgroup Meeting

Tuesday, December 12th – Feast of St. Spyridon the Wonderworker & Bp of Tremithus (Fast –W&O)

7am – Matins for Feast of Venerable Sava the Sanctified

7pm @ All Saints: Catechism / Christian Education: **Part 4 – Sound/Confession**

Also, at 7pm @ Cosgrove Commons: Bingo for Veterans

Wednesday, December 13th– Repose of St. Herman of Alaska & St. Lucia of Syracuse [*Fish, Wine & Oil*]

7am – Festal Divine Liturgy

6pm – Vespers & Bible Study: **John 7:14-8:11** [Study Guide: 131-148]

Thursday, December 14th– Feast of Ss. Thyrsus, Leucius, & Callinicus of Appolonia (Fast – W&O)

6am – Matins for the Holy Martyrs (*note: earlier time!*)

6pm – Pannikhida: 5th Year Anniversary of Sandy Hook

Friday, December 15th – Feast of the Hieromartyr Eleutherius & his mother Evanthia (Strict Fast)

6pm – Vespers for Prophet Haggai & Confessions

Saturday, December 16th– Feast of the Holy Prophet Haggai [*Fish, Wine, & Oil*]

11:30am Pet Blessing & Parish Luncheon: Hot Soup in the Park

5:00pm Vespers & Confessions

Final Week of the Nativity Fast

Sunday, December 17th – 5th Sunday of Advent & Sunday of the Holy ForeFathers [*Fish, Wine, & Oil*]

8:30am Prayers in Preparation before Holy Communion & Hours

9:00am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

11:00am Coffee Hour & Parish Ed: **Part V – Minor Prophets: 12 Prophets (Hosea – Malachi)**

Monday, December 18th – Feast of St. Zebastian & Zoe at Rome; St. Modestos of Jerusalem (Strict Fast)

7:00am Matins for St. Sebastian & Zoe at Rome & St. Modestos of Jerusalem

6:00pm Orthodox Christian Fellowship @ University of Hartford

The Pre-festal Services of The Nativity of Christ

Tuesday, December 19th – Feast of St. Boniface of Tarsus & St. Aglaida of Rome (Fast-W&O)

7:00am Matins for St Boniface & St. Aglaida

6:00pm Daily Vespers with Compline for the Pre-Feast & St. Ignatius + Confessions

7:00pm Catechism / Christian Education: **Part 5 – Taste/Holy Communion**

Wednesday, December 20th – 1st Day of the Pre-feast of Nativity & St. Ignatius (Strict Fast)

7:00am Matins for Prefeast & St. Ignatius

6:00pm Daily Vespers with Compline for the Pre-Feast & +Parish Council Meeting [No Study]

Thursday, December 21st – 2nd Day of the Pre-feast of Nativity & St. Juliana (Fast – W&O)

7:00am Matins for Prefeast & St. Juliana

6:00pm Daily Vespers with Compline for the Pre-Feast & Greatmartyr Anastasia + Confessions

Festal Services for The Nativity in the Flesh of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

Friday, December 22rd – 3rd Day of the Pre-Feast of Nativity; St. Anastasia [Strict Fast]

7:00am Royal Hours of the Feast of Nativity + *Confessions* (10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm)
6:00pm Daily Vespers with Compline for the Pre-feast & the 10 Martyrs of Crete + Confessions

Saturday, December 23rd – 4th Day of the Pre-Feast & Sat Before Nativity (Fast – W&O)

5:00pm Vigil for the Resurrection
5:30pm General Confession (*Last opportunity for Confession before Christmas!*)

Sunday, December 24th – Christmas Eve / Eve of the Nativity (Fast – W&O)

8:30am Pre-Communion Prayers & Hours
9:00am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
11:00am Coffee Hour & Parish Ed: **Part VI – Wisdom Literature: Psalms, Proverbs, Job, etc.**
5:15pm Community “Holy Supper” – Church Hall
7:00pm Festal Vigil for the Feast of Nativity: Great Compline & Matins

Monday, December 25th – Christmas Day / Feast of the Nativity (Fast Free!)

9:30am Akathist to the Nativity of our Lord, Jesus Christ
10:00am Festal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great for the Nativity of Christ

The 12 Days of Christmas: NO FASTING

*The Feast of Nativity lasts 12 Days into Feast of Theophany in January of the next year
Monday, December 25, 2017 – Thursday, January 4, 2018*

Tuesday, December 26th – 2nd Day of the Feast of Nativity; Synaxis of the Theotokos (No Fasting)

7:00am Akathist to the Theotokos
6:00pm Festal Potluck & Carol Singing

Wednesday, December 27th – 3rd Day of the Feast of Nativity (No Fasting)

6:00pm Daily Vespers for the 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia & St. Nicanor
6:30pm Bible Study: **John 8:12-8:59 [Study Guide: 149-167]**

Thursday, December 28th – 3rd Day of the Feast of Nativity (No Fasting)

7:00am Daily Matins for 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia & St. Nicanor

Friday, December 29th – 5th Day of the Feast & “Rally After Rally” Youth Retreat: “Fast-Free Friday”

6:30pm Evening Worship (Vespers/Akathist)
7:15pm Dinner & Fellowship
8:00pm Activity/Discussion
9:00pm Night Prayers (Compline/Akathist)

Saturday, December 30th – 6th Day of the Feast of Nativity (No Fasting)

5:00pm Great Vespers for the Resurrection

Sunday, December 31st – Sunday after Nativity / Sunday Before Theophany (No Fasting)

8:30am Akathist to the Nativity of Christ
9:00am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
10:30am Coffee Hour & Parish Education: **Part VII – Apocrypha + “Reading Scripture in 2018”**

Monday, January 1st – Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord & The Feast of St. Basil (NO Fast)

9:00am Festal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
6:00pm Daily Vespers with Compline for the Pre-feast

*Schedule of Pre-festal & Festal Services for the
Feast of the Theophany of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ*

Tuesday, January 2nd – First Day of the Forefeast of Theophany & Repose of St. Seraphim (No Fast)
6:00pm Daily Vespers with Compline for the Pre-feast

Wednesday, January 3rd – 2nd Day of the Forefeast of Theophany & Holy Prophet Micah (No Fast)
6:00pm Daily Vespers with Compline for the Pre-feast
6:45pm Adult Bible Study: **John 9:1-12** [Study Guide: pp. 168-174]

Thursday, January 4th – 3rd Day of the Forefeast of Theophany & Synaxis of the 70 Apostles (No Fast)
6:00pm Daily Vespers with Compline for the Pre-feast

Friday, January 5th – Eve of Theophany (Strict Fast)

7:00am Royal Hours of Theophany
6:00pm Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
7:30pm Great Sanctification of Water (inside: for distribution)

Saturday, January 6th – Feast of the Theophany (Fast Free!)

5:00pm Festal Vigil for Theophany

Sunday, January 7th – Afterfeast of the Theophany & “Old Calendar: Christmas” (No Fast)

8:30am Akathist to the Theophany of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ
9:00am Festal Divine Liturgy for Feast of Theophany
10:30am Procession outside & Sanctification of Water (Blessing of Hog River)
11:00am Parish Luncheon & Church School Christmas Program



Glory to God



for



All Things

