

DECEMBER 15, 2024

BULLETIN – FOREFATHERS (ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST

ChurchOffice@ssppaoc.org ♦ (831) 336-2228 ♦ Office hours: 9 am-1 pm, Mon.-Thurs.

Father's office hours: 9 am-3 pm, Mon.-Thurs. or by appt. ♦ (805) 708-6066 ♦ frchristopherdillon@gmail.com

Bulletin Submissions Deadline – **10 am Wed.** ♦ church website: <https://ssppaoc.org>

Ss Peter & Paul Mission: preserve, practice, and proclaim the Gospel of our Lord, God, & Savior Jesus Christ in order to glorify God in the parish and wider community.

This Week @ Ss. Peter & Paul – December 23-29, 2024

- 12/24 Tu 9:00 am** – Royal Hours, Typika,
Vespers Divine Lit. – Prefeast of
Nativity
- 12/25 Wd 8:00 am** – Festal Orthros & Divine
Lit. – Feast of Nativity *followed by*
Christmas breakfast
- 12/27 Fr 8:00 am** – Divine Lit. – St. Stephen the
Protomartyr
- 12/28 Sa 5:30 pm** – Learn Byzantine Tones
6:00 pm – Great Vespers & Compline
- 12/29 Su 9:30 am** – Divine Liturgy – Sunday
After the Nativity
10:20 am – Church School
Adult choir rehearsal
Youth choir practice

Looking Ahead—

- December 31 *Akathist to the Theotokos for healing*
- January 1 *Morning Divine Liturgy*
- January 3 *Royal Hours & Typika – Theophany*
- January 5 *Youth choir sing Divine Liturgy*
Chrismations
- January 6 *Theophany*

Many Years – Birthday

Jack Zweers

December 28

NATIVITY FAST

December 13-24

- As the Feast of our Lord's Nativity approaches, we increase our preparation by increasing our fasting.
- We abstain from meat, dairy, fish, oil, and wine during this period.
- On Saturday, Sunday, and certain feast days, wine and oil are allowed.
- As always, we prepare to receive Holy Communion with a complete fast from food and drink, unless medically necessary, and with the blessing of your father confessor.

Feast of Nativity

Christmas Breakfast

****Bring a prepared sweet bread, egg dish, or meat to share**

****Enjoy church provided cider**

Community Dinner **Sunday, December 29** **2:00 pm**

Join us for the feast, help prepare and serve the food, clean up afterwards, contribute funds; any and all help is greatly appreciated. For more information and to volunteer, contact Keidi Lewis at (831) 588-9575.

Adult choir rehearsal today

GOOD WORKS FOR ADVENT

Valley Churches United Canned Food Drive: Bring cans of food and leave in the VCM barrel on the north side of the parish hall.

Alms: Almsgiving is above and beyond our tithe and is an important part of Orthodox piety.

IOCC: Donations of money

Food For Hungry People: FFHP boxes are in the narthex, so take one home today. **When the fast is over, return the loaded box to the Narthex for collection.**

Friday, December 27 @ 8:00 am
Divine Liturgy – St. Stephen the
Protomartyr

Youth choir rehearsal
Sunday, December 29

IN APPRECIATION

Thank you to Keidi Lewis, Amy Nicholas, Kh. Claire, Teen Soyo, and all who helped move chairs back and forth to the church barn, set up for the St. Nicholas celebration, and brought cookies to share. Thank you to Fr. Christopher, Peter Dillon, Caleb Hofschneider, Darlene Johnson, and the Youth Choir who helped with Christmas carols and special music. Thank you to our special guest. Pray for us St. Nicholas, you who are good, good, good!

Akathist to the Theotokos for healing
Tuesday, December 31 @ 10:00 am

EARLY NEW YEAR'S EVE IN THE BARN

Join church family for a celebration in the barn. The evening will end by 9:00 pm so that everyone will be well rested to come to the January 1 service for St. Basil and the Circumcision of Christ at 8:00 am. Contact Keidi Lewis at (831) 588-9575 for info.

Feast of
Circumcision of Christ
& St. Basil the Great
8:00 am Divine Liturgy
January 1, 2025

Friday, January 3 @ 8:00 am
Royal Hours & Typika for Theophany

HOUSE BLESSINGS

It's that time of year again! Please talk to those in your neighborhood so that you can coordinate house blessings. Plan to get them on the calendar after January 6.

Coming to Communion

We all know that receiving the body and blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist is a holy sacrament that should be done with reverence and humility. But what does that look like?

In addition to preparing ourselves with prayer, fasting, and a recent confession, there are a few ways we, who are unworthy, should approach the chalice.

+We stand in the presence of Christ. While the clergy are receiving, while we wait for our turn, and while others are receiving after us, it is proper to stand in reverence while the hymns are sung.

+We do not need to cross ourselves before or after receiving the Holy Eucharist. Receiving the body and blood of Christ is the greatest blessing we can receive. When we cross ourselves, we ask God's blessing on ourselves. It is unnecessary to bless ourselves before or after receiving the greatest blessing of the Holy Eucharist. There is also a danger of hitting the chalice with our hand and spilling the holy gifts. Simply come forward with your arms crossed over your chest.

+When you approach the chalice, it is a good practice to say your baptismal name, even if the priest knows it. Sometimes the multitude of names is overwhelming for the clergy.

+If you are not prepared to receive Communion, please approach the chalice as usual and say "Father Bless."

+After the dismissal, post-communion Prayers of Thanksgiving are read. All are welcome and encouraged to stay for these prayers. If you are not staying to pray, please take conversation outside so as not to disturb those who are praying.

+Fr. Christopher

BIG SUR CAMPING TRIP

This year's summer camping trip will be at **Arroyo Seco**, not Big Sur. The dates are June 9-13. If you want to join the group camp site, please contact Kh. Claire at (760) 408-5973.

Church office closed
December 23, 2024 - January 6, 2025

Memory Eternal

December 24

Edward Werner

December 27

Judy Buchfuehrer

December 28

Barbara Woodthorp