

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

Troparion — Tone 2

By faith You justified the Forefathers, / when through them You betrothed Yourself beforehand to the Church of the Gentiles. / The saints boast in glory, / that from their seed there is a glorious fruit: / she who bore You without seed. / By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

Kontakion — Tone 6

(The Original Melody)

You did not worship the graven image, / O thrice-blessed youths, / but shielded by the ineffable Essence, / you were glorified in your trial by fire. / In the midst of the unbearable fire you called upon God, crying: / "Hasten, O compassionate One. / and in Your mercy, come to our aid, / for You can do so if You will."

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

2220 Reeves Road NE

Warren, OH 44483

www.stjohnswarren.org

Friend of the Bridegroom: "He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:30)



Sunday, December 15th, 2024

Sunday of the Forefathers

Fr. Brian Crivella, Rector.....330-372-3895 / BrianCrivella@gmail.com

Dn. John Tutoki, Hall Coordinator 330-720-3541

Nina, Prayer List Coordinator.....treasurerstjohnsorthodoxchurch@gmail.com

Sunday, Dec 15th 25th Sunday after PNTCST/Tone 8. Sunday of the Forefathers
9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by coffee hour

Wednesday, Dec 18th Martyr Sebastian at Rome and his companions
8:00 – 11:00 am Confessions
5:00 pm AA Meeting

Friday, Dec 20th Saint John of Kronstadt
2:00 pm Confessions
6:00 pm Akathist followed by Catechuman Class

Saturday, Dec 21st Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ
5:00 pm Great Vespers Followed by Confessions

Sunday, Dec 22nd 26th Sunday after PNTCST/Tone 1. Sunday before Nativity
9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by Church School Nativity Program

Attendance/Stewardship December 8th

Attendance: Adults and Children	Total
Weekly Stewardship Offerings:	\$3,722.00
Weekly Candle Offerings:	\$103.00
Charity of the Month (Saint John's Monastery):	\$100.00
YTD Budget Inflows:	\$169,305.77
YTD Budget Outflows	\$192,382.79
YTD Surplus/deficit	-\$23,077.02

Prayer Corner

Fr. Dcn. John Tutoki	Sbdcn Joseph (Clyde)
Sbdcn George Kaschack	Sarah Crivella
Patty DiGiacobbe	James Livermore Jr.
James Sr. & Karen Livermore	David Campbell
Cassandra, Patrick, Elizabeth, Patrick	Renee & Anna
Laura & Roy	Greg, Clara, Jeanie
Susan Wood	Catherine Wood
Aiden Bowels	Soltis Family
Dawn & Bradley Cyhan	Kathy Soltis-Cyhan
Azouria	John Keaty
Walter Toles	Nicky Cole
Steve Weller	John Buranich (Eleanore Krenitsky's Brother)
Rachel Derr (Denise Higgin's Goddaughter)	
The Faculty, Teachers, and Students of Holy Trinity Orthodox Academy	
The Suffering Christians in Ukraine, Russia, & the Middle East	

Newly Illumined: Kelly, Carter, Emma, & Bennett Worley & Kayla, Alexander, & Cesar Ventura

Newly Departed: Gary Altamara (11/27) [Fr. Brian's Uncle]

Catechumens: Lucian & Lilianna Vasil, Kayla, Donald, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Robert, Timothy, Melissa, Ian, Christohpher, & William Cunningham, Matthew Rose, Nicky Lewis, Alexander Mackey, Tristan & Colleen Beil

Birthdays: William Clark (15th)

Anniversaries: xx

Candle Commemorations

Theotokos	For the Memory of JoAnn Kaschak
Altar	For the Memory of Bishop Job
Christ	For the Memory of Mary Sterchak

Announcements

Confessions

During the fast, in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord, confessions are in order for all Orthodox Christians. Please note the added times that confessions are being heard and be sure to approach in a timely manner.

Nativity Program

The children will be performing a Nativity play for the parish on December 22 during coffee hour. They will be practicing during church school this Sunday the 15th with a final run through on Saturday, December 21 at 10:00 am. See Mary Neimi if you have questions!

UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Parish Development Forum is planning the first ever Ugly Sweater Christmas Party for all parishioners and their families on Sunday December 29, following the Divine Liturgy, and annual Christmas Concert. All attendees are encouraged to wear their favorite classic, ugly, silly, traditional, dressy, or creative sweater to the party for a chance to win a prize in one of multiple Sweater categories. We'll be ordering chicken as a main entree, but will handle side dishes and desserts as a potluck - a sign up sheet will be available on the candle stand. Enjoy a game of Christmas/Nativity trivia, a Hot Cocoa Bar, and a holiday Photo Booth, Christmas music too! This is going to be a great event, so please plan to attend for some fun, food, and fellowship!

Charity for the Month of December: Saint John's Monastery in Hiram

St. John the Theologian Monastery is a small monastic community of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, located in northeastern Ohio. The Monastery supports itself through the sale of church goods to be found on this website, and seeks to live a quiet life of prayer and common labor for the sake of Christ and His Holy Church.

Youth Ministry Training in Florida

There will be youth ministry training in Florida from February 5th-8th and our parish would like to send one or two people to attend. If you are interested, please see the flier and Michael Stan for more details!

PARISH PHOTO

At the conclusion of the Choir Concert on Sunday December 29, we'll be taking an updated parish group photo at the front of the Church before heading to the party in the social hall. Please be sure to attend, and let your fellow parishioners know about the photo!