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Priest Silviu Bunta

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Week of December 17, 2023

Sunday, December 17

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Sunday of the Forefathers. Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias and Misael (600 B.C.). Tone 3.

9:00am Matins

10:00 The Divine Liturgy of St. John the Golden-mouth

11:45 Sunday school

12:00pm Fellowship

This Sunday's Hymns & Readings

Tone 3. Troparion of the resurrection

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

Tone 2. Troparion of the forefathers

Through faith You justified the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. These saints exult in glory, for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: she who bore You without seed. So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Tone 3. Kontakion of the resurrection

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

Tone 6. Kontakion of the forefathers

You did not worship the graven image, O thrice-blessed ones, but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, you were glorified in a trial by fire. From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying: "Hasten, O compassionate One! Speedily come to our aid, for You are merciful and able to do as You will!"

Tone 4. Prokeimenon

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name forever!
For You are just in all that You have done for us!

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

Tone 4. Alliluias

Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name!
They called to the Lord and He answered them.

Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just!
Alliluia, Alliluia, Alliluia!

This week's schedule

Monday, December 18. Martyr Sebastian at Rome and his companions (ca. 287).

1:00-3:00pm Fr. Silviu office hours

Tuesday, December 19. Martyr Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia, and Righteous Aglaïa of Rome (290).

Wednesday, December 20. Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ. Repose of St. John of Kronstadt (1908). Ieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer, Bishop of

Antioch (107).

3:00-5:00pm Fr. Silviu office hours

6:00-7:15pm: Holy Unction

Thursday, December 21. Virgin Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia, and with her 500 men and 130 women (304).

Friday, December 22. Great Martyr Anastasia, “Deliverer from Poisons”, and her teacher, Martyr Chrysogonos, and with them Martyrs Theodota, Evodias, Eutychianus, and others, who suffered under Diocletian (ca. 304).

Saturday, December 23. Holy Ten Martyrs of Crete: Theodulus, Saturninus, Euporus, Gelasius, Eunician, Zoticus, Pompeius, Agathopus, Basilides, and Evaristus (3rd c.).

5:00-5:50pm Adult education class with Fr. Kyril--cancelled

6:00-7:00pm Ninth Hour and Great Vespers

7:00-7:30pm Choir practice

Announcements

Holy Unction on December 20

The service of Holy Unction will be done again on Wednesday December 20 at 6:00, instead of Vespers. The last time it was served in March, during Lent, and it won't be served again until Lent.

Divine Liturgy on Monday December 25 for the great feast

We will celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the great feast of Nativity on Monday, Dec 25, at 10:00. Because the feast falls on a Monday, the Liturgy will be the one of St. Basil the Great. Join us for this proper way of celebrating the Lord's nativity!

Our annual parish meeting is on January 14, at 1:00pm

Our yearly parish meeting will be on January 14, at the end of our fellowship. Please plan to attend. We have many important matters to attend to, including the election of the parish council, clergy reports, financial reports, needs of and plans for our parish, etc. Participation is strongly encouraged!

Divine Liturgy and Great Sanctification of the water on Saturday January 6

We will celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the great feast of Epiphany on Saturday, January 6, at 10:00am. It will be immediately followed by the Great Sanctification of the water. Join us and come take holy water for your healing

and for the blessing of your houses.

Schedule your house blessings with Fr. Silviu between January 8-18

Please schedule the blessing of your house here: <https://calendly.com/father-silviu/house-blessings>. If you are not a member of the parish or a regular visitor, please know that Fr. Silviu would like to see you in church before he will bless your house. He will not bless the houses of people whom he does not know and he cannot confirm to be Orthodox.

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Quote of the Week

A brother whom another brother had wronged came to see Abba Sisoës and said to him, 'My brother has hurt me and I want to avenge myself.' The old man pleaded with him saying, 'No, my child, leave vengeance to God.' He said to him, 'I shall not rest until I have avenged myself.' The old man said, 'Brother, let us pray.' Then the old man stood up and said, 'God, we no longer need you to care for us, since we do justice for ourselves.' Hearing these words, the brothers fell at the old man's feet, saying, 'I will no longer seek justice from my brother; forgive me, abba.

(from *The Sayings of the Desert Fathers (The Gerondikon)*. The Alphabetical Collection. Translated, with a foreword by Benedicta Ward)