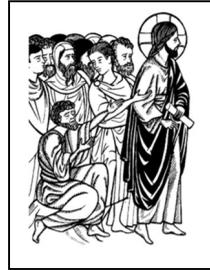


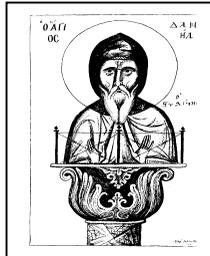
**SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES**

Sunday, Dec. 9      **29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
 9:00 a.m.      +Paul M. Kurilla  
 (Church)      Req. by Wife Anna Marie



Monday, Dec. 10    **Mennas and Others (Martyrs)**  
 8:00 a.m.      +Rita Jyachosky  
 (Chapel)      Req. by Marie, Evelyn, and Anita  
 6:00 p.m.      Emmanuel Moleben  
 (Chapel)

Tuesday, Dec. 11    **Daniel the Stylelite (Venerable), Spiridon (Wonderworker-Bishop)**  
 8:00 a.m.      +Stephanie Sartor  
 (Chapel)      Req. by Matthew and Courtney Miner

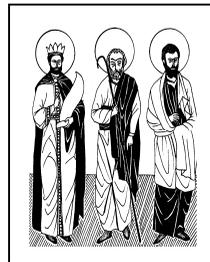


Wednesday, Dec. 12    **Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
 No Liturgy

Thursday, Dec. 13    **Eustratius and Others (Martyrs)**  
 8:00 a.m.      +Anita Kollar  
 (Chapel)      Req. by Betty Zentkovich

Friday, Dec. 14      **Thrysus and Others (Martyrs)      (Simple Abstinence)**  
 7:30 p.m.      +Mr. Arthur Dalzial  
 (Chapel)      Req. by Matthew and Courtney Miner

Saturday, Dec. 15    **Eleutherius (Bishop – Martyr)**  
 5:30 p.m.      +Mary Rush  
 (Church)      Req. by Margaret Hynek



Sunday, Dec. 16      **SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS**  
 9:00 a.m.      For the Parish Family  
 (Church)  
 4:30 p.m.      Emmanuel Moleben  
 (Church)

**PRO-LIFE PRAYER** - As we journey toward Christmas, may we more deeply appreciate the sacredness of life in the womb, we pray to the Lord.

**PRAYER LIST** – Debbie, Dan, Troy, Traci, Trevor, Tanner, Mary Ellen, Janet, George Jr., Diana, Emil, Margie, Curtis, Stephanie, James, Frank Sr., Frank Jr., Fr. Eugene, Ray, Debbie, Brittany, Sherry, Joe, Emily, Gabriel, Gina, Riley, Jenn, Mary Ellen, Tammy, James, Ashley, Chris, Patrick, Michelle, Olivia, Barbara, Nancy, Elaine, Kris, Michael, Judy, Barb, Frances, Tillie, Ken, Dave, Wally, Joe, Charlene, Rita, Patty, Mickie, Ted, Dave, Audrey, Clara, Trish, Mark, Dan, Georgia, Shirley, Janet, Monica, Jack, Cindy, Peggy, Brandon, Jamie, Blake, Connor, David, Sandy, Helen, Mary, George, Dorothy, Hannah, George, Michelle, Mike, Bernie, Ashley, George, Tammy, Bruce, Amy, Fr. Bob, Mark, Chuck, Kenny, Rita, Marilyn, Mason, Melanie, Jean, Melvin, Sharlene, Norma Jean, Louis, Seth, Doris, Jeff, Will, Michael, Janet, Robert, PJ, Nadine, Michael, Butch, Amelia, Bernard, Rita, Barbara, Kacy, Arlene, Bill, Josephine, Clara, Beatrice, Alice, Dorothy, Sr. Jozetta, Davey, Rita, Daniel Jr., Sandy, Barb, Dave, Patty, Bill, Bob, Tom, Thomas, Anne, Wilma, Irma, Ambrose, Chris, Linda, Mary, Marianne, Paul, Hadice, Angie, Ashley, Marianne, Matthew.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR 12/2/18**

<u>Offering</u>	<u>Candles</u>	<u>Holy Day</u>	<u>Pirohi</u>	<u>Christmas Flowers</u>	<u>Christmas</u>
\$1989.00	\$127.00	\$105.00	\$3010.50	\$50.00	\$60.00
<u>Loose Cash</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>R&amp;B</u>			
\$85.00	\$5426.50	\$660.00			

**SINGING AT THE MONASTERY** – On Sunday, December 16, at 10:30 AM, following the Sunday Divine Liturgy, the children of our ECF program will sing Christmas carols for the Sisters of St. Basil at the Monastery Chapel. All children of the Parish are invited to join us. We will practice on December 2 and December 9 during our regular ECF classes. Please join us.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE BASKET** – St. John Social Ministry has put together a Christmas theme basket to be awarded on Sun. Dec. 16. This basket includes many food and decorative items for the Christmas season. Ticket sales began Fri. Nov. 2 and will be available Sun. Nov. 11 at the November Coffee Social and at Pirohi Making (Thursdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 15, 29, Dec. 13) and Pirohi Sales (Fridays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 16, 30, Dec. 14). Tickets are \$1.00 each or 7 for \$5.00. To purchase tickets, please see a Social Ministry member. Proceeds benefit St. John Social Ministry. Thank you for your patronage.

**CHRISTMAS PREPARATION RETREAT** – December 16, 1:30 -5:30 p.m. Mt. St. Macrina, “The Time of Salvation is Near: Prepare by Prayer, Fasting, Repentance, and Almsgiving.” Offering = \$35.00. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered. Registration due December 12. Please register at 724-438-7149.

## ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE PHILLIPIAN FAST PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS** – We continue our 4<sup>th</sup> week of this minor penitential period and continue to follow Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem by preparing ourselves for the spiritual meaning of Christmas. Not only prior to Christmas but always through our earthly pilgrimage, we must carry Him reborn in our souls by sanctifying the temple of our Body. It is through prayer, abstinence, almsgivings, frequent confession of sins, works of virtue, and additional participation in the Divine Liturgies, we can accomplish this end. Together as a parish, let us collectively practice simple abstinence (no meat) or an equivalent penance on Wednesdays (recommended) and Fridays (required) for the intention for the return of our beloved back to Church. The color PURPLE is worn as a sign of ROYALTY of the One to be born in Bethlehem.

**COFFEE SOCIAL** – This Sunday after the Divine Liturgy.

**MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE** – will take place the weekend of December 15-16. Please contribute non-perishable items for this excellent cause. Your continued support is always appreciated.

**PARISH OFFERING ENVELOPES, CENSUS FORM AND CALENDARS** – will be available next Sunday in the Narthex of the Church.

### **POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS**

**The Year of Faith Pope's General Audience at St. Peter Square Nov. 14, 2018**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, In our continuing catechesis on the Ten Commandments, we now turn to the eighth commandment: “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor”. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that this commandment “forbids misrepresenting the truth in our relations with others” (No. 2464). We are called to be truthful not only in our words but in our entire way of acting towards others. Our ultimate model in this regard is Jesus himself. He is the truth in person (cf. Jn 14:6), who, at his trial before Pilate, revealed that he came into this world to testify to the truth (cf. Jn 18:37). In the mystery of his life, death and resurrection, he disclosed the deepest meaning of our life on earth, and invited us to share in his divine life. His gift of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, enables us to become adoptive sons and daughters of our heavenly Father and to dwell in his love as brothers and sisters. The eighth commandment bids us live this new life to the full, and thus to bear true witness to God's saving love, made incarnate in the humanity of Christ our Lord.

### **POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS**

**The Year of Faith Pope's General Audience at St. Peter Square Nov. 28, 2018**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, In this, our final catechesis on the Ten Commandments, we reflect on how, in the light of Christ, the Decalogue should be seen not as a series of rules, but rather the guide to an authentic human life that comes to fulfillment in the love, joy and peace born of obedience to the Father's will. Our Lord came not to abolish the Law but to fulfil it. The Holy Spirit, by enabling us to live a new life in Christ, takes away our hearts of flesh and opens them to the holy desire to abandon sin and to be conformed to Jesus' own heart, his love and his desires. The Ten Commandments invite us first to enter into a faithful and loving relationship with God our Father, to reject every false idol that enslaves us, and to find our authentic rest in the freedom of Christ and the Holy Spirit. They then teach us how to live redeemed lives, marked by fidelity, integrity and honesty towards our neighbor. The commandments show us the face of Christ and open the door to the new life of grace; by accepting God's offer of saving love, we find our true selves and the source of a joy that will never end.

**The Story of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Feast Day December 12)**

by [Christina Mead](https://lifeteen/ourladyofguadalupe) from <https://lifeteen/ourladyofguadalupe>

Juan Diego was from Mexico; but not the Mexico you and I know. He was from a Mexico that was mostly still Aztec and worshipped false gods. These false gods demanded human sacrifice, so their “priests” said. It's estimated that between 20,000 and 250,000 people – mostly children – were sacrificed to the gods every year.

Juan, however, was swimming against the tide. He was Catholic, and one of only a few. He was a poor man and was taking care of his dying uncle, minding his own business... when low and behold, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him! She told him that she wanted a church to be built and he was to tell the Bishop. Easy mission right? Not when the Bishop won't believe you, and wants proof that you're seeing apparitions from Heaven.

Juan's uncle suddenly got more ill, and while Juan was rushing to get a doctor he purposefully avoided the hill where Mary appeared to him. She appeared anyway and told him his uncle would be cured. Mary also miraculously showed him where to pick roses (even though it was December) to take to the Bishop. Juan followed her instructions, and when he opened his cloak to show the Bishop the roses there was a beautiful picture of Our Lady on the inside, just as she had appeared to him. The Bishop was stunned at this miracle and had the church built.

What's so awesome about this story is that Juan Diego was obedient and faithful even when things weren't going well in his life. Because of his trials his virtue shone even brighter. Six million Mexicans converted to Catholicism because of the miraculous image of Our Lady, who pointed them toward the true God, her Son.

