

December 18, 2022 / T one 3  
Sunday Before Christmas— of the A ncestors  
Christ is Among Us! He Is and Always Shall Be!



**Dec 20: St Ignatius the God-bearer**

A God-bearer? How does this elderly bishop-martyr deserve such an auspicious title, given to no other saint? While he himself took on the spiritual name of Godbearer, or Theophorus, he earned it by his life. He was a disciple of both the Apostles Peter and John, and was the third bishop of Antioch, following St Peter himself, then St. Euodias who was one of the Seventy Apostles (January 4) and was martyred in 66 AD by Emperor Nero. Ignatius came to this see already revered as a priest and teacher. His fame was assured by the letters he wrote to six Churches in Asia Minor and the seventh to Rome's Church while he was being transported to die in the arena of Rome around the year 107 AD, having served as bishop for nearly 40 years. As Orthodoxwiki writes of him:

These letters proved to be influential in the development of Christian theology, since the number of extant writings from this period of Church history is very small. They bear signs of being written in great haste and without a proper plan, such as run-on sentences and an unsystematic succession of thought. Ignatius is the first known Christian writer to put great stress on loyalty to a single bishop in each city, who is assisted by both presbyters (priests) and deacons.

Earlier writings only mention either bishops or presbyters, and give the impression that there was usually more than one bishop per congregation. Ignatius also stresses the value of the Eucharist, calling it "a medicine to immortality." The very strong desire for bloody martyrdom in the arena, which Ignatius expresses rather graphically in places, may seem quite odd to the modern reader, but an examination of his theology of soteriology\* shows that he regarded salvation as being free from the power and fear of death. So, for him, to try to escape his martyrdom would be to fear death and place himself back under its power.

\*soteriology is the science of the doctrine of salvation. Ignatius is often depicted with lions, the animals who killed him in the arena and fulfilled his hope to die for Christ and thus to see God.

**Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix**  
**Most Reverend Thomas J Olmsted Apostolic Administrator**  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church**  
**1837 Alvarado Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 Parish office: (505) 256-1539**  
**www.olphnm.org**

**Father Artur Bubnevych, Pastor**

**Rectory (505) 268-2877**  
**abbaolph@gmail.com**

**Father Christopher Zuger**  
**pastor emeritus**  
**(505) 256-1787**  
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**www.frchriszuger.com**

**Father Tyler Strand**  
**(516) 661-0883**  
**tylerastrand@yahoo.co.uk**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday—Friday 10:00 am—4:00 pm  
Thursday OFF

**THEOSIS:** 2nd & 4th Thursday  
Bible Study 6:45 pm / Zoom

**Advisory Board**

Fr. Chris Zuger, Dan Riley, Rafael Plut,  
Jeff Brewer, Michael Grega, Alicia Wells

**Finance Council**

Matthew Blain, Maria Alden

**Confession (Mystery of Reconciliation):**

9:00—10:00 am on Sundays, before or after weekday Liturgies, or by appointment with Father

**Mysteries of Baptism/Chrismation/Eucharist:**

Must be arranged three months in advance.

(Pre-Jordan requirement)

**Mystery of Crowning:**

Must be arranged six months in advance

(Pre-Cana requirement)

**Sick and Shut-Ins:** It is the family's responsibility to notify the parish office when a parishioner is in the hospital or confined to home because of sickness or old age. Father will bring the confined person the Holy Mysteries on a regular basis. It is recommended that one receive the Anointing of the Sick before any major surgery. Please don't let the priest be last to know that someone is ill!

May the Lord Bless your kindness and generosity to His House!

**ONLINE GIVING / ONLINE TITHING**

is available on our website:

For those parishioners who can't attend in person or traveling or anyone who find this more convenient, we just set up a new way to tithe online using your credit card or debit card information. You can do a one-time donation or setup weekly donations!! You will receive a receipt and statement immediately after donating. The software takes a very small percentage of the donation, but its worth it for the ease of the system. You can donate using your computer / smartphone at: [ps://www.olphnm.org/giving](https://www.olphnm.org/giving).

**Welcome to our Church! If you are looking for a spiritual home, contact Father Artur/Fr Chris or the office staff for more information. God bless you!**

***Hebrews 11:9-10 & 17:23 & 32-40; Matthew 1:1-25***

**YouTube Live** 8:30 am Rosary; 9:00 am Festal Matins, Confessions  
10:00 am / Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors & Friends  
Eternal Lamp: Holy Protection of the Mother of God Over Ukraine

**Dec 19 Mon** ***Boniface Martyr / Heb 3:5-11& 17-19; Mk 8:11-21***



9:00 am +Michael Talamante by Talamante Family

**Dec 20 Tue** ***Ignatius Bishop Martyr / Heb 4:1-13; Mk 8:22-26***

9:00 am +Michael Padilla by Talamante Family

**Dec 21 Wed** ***Juliana Martyr / Heb 5:11-68; Mk 8:30-34***



5:30 pm OLPH Devotions  
6:00 pm +Steve Overton by Svenssons

**Dec 22 Thu** ***Anastasia Great Martyr / Heb 7:1-6; Mk 9:10-16***

**Dec 23 Fri** ***Ten Holy Martyrs of Crete / DAY OF STRICT FAST***



6:00 pm Great Compline with Litija

**Dec 24 Sat** ***Vigil of Christmas / Eugenia Martyr***  
***AM: Gal 3:8-12; Lk 13:18-29 PM: Heb 1:1-12; Lk 2:1-20***

9:00 am (masks required) Healing and Salvation of Lori by Irene Bradley

4:30 Holy Supper

6:30 pm Caroling

7:00 pm Vigil Liturgy of St. Basil

Healing and Salvation of Bishop Kurt Burnette by Debbie Sanchez

**Dec 25 Sun** ***Christmas / Birth of Our Lord / Gal 4:4-7; Mt 2:1-12***

4:00 pm Great Vespers YouTube LIVE

5:00 pm

Hebrew Scriptures for Sunday:

Genesis 1:1-13; Numbers 24:2-3.5-9.17-18; Micah 4:6-7; 5:2-4

8:30 am Rosary; 9:00 am Matins, Confessions

**YouTube Live** 10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors and Friends

Eternal Lamp: Holy Protection of the Mother of God Over Ukraine

**YOUTUBE LIVE-STREAMING:** OLPH Sunday / Holy Day Liturgies are available on YouTube. The link is <https://youtube.com/c/olpimedia>. Please click the "Subscribe" button to make it easier for you to find the channel in the future. Please, send your feedback about the quality of the live stream / comments / suggestions to Dan Riley: [riley.dan@gmail.com](mailto:riley.dan@gmail.com)

### **Remember Those Who Request Our Prayers:**

Physician and Help of Those in sickness, Redeemer and Savior of the infirm; O Master and Lord of all, grant healing to your servants. Be clement, show mercy to those who have sinned much, and deliver them, O Christ, from their Iniquities, that they

Sharif Rabadi	Buster Miscusi	Paola Terlaza
Jenny Ford	Barbara De Lap	Ruth Sousa
Priscilla Hughes	Irene Bradley	Linda Granci
Marilyn Fore	Sorlah Chavez	Vicki Frank
Sven & Barbara	Abraham Haddad	Christopher
Svensson	Marianne Gerace	Barlow
Laurie Bienz	Lori Medina	Jordan Smith
Brent Dodson-	Michael Baron	Janet Worthington
Sands	Gabriel Preisler	Patti Klinkovsky
Lara Davis	Jessica Pieniadz	Matt Williamson
Carol Donlin	Rhonda Glasscock	James Epstein
Marcie Dark	Amber Roybal	Katy Ford
Jesse Hebert	Eli Griegos	Jacob McTernan
Fr Chris Zuggger	Philip Leahy	Juanita Montoya
Fr Chris Andrews		



Vocation Icon

Today: Brewer Family  
Next Sunday:  
Davidson-Talley Family

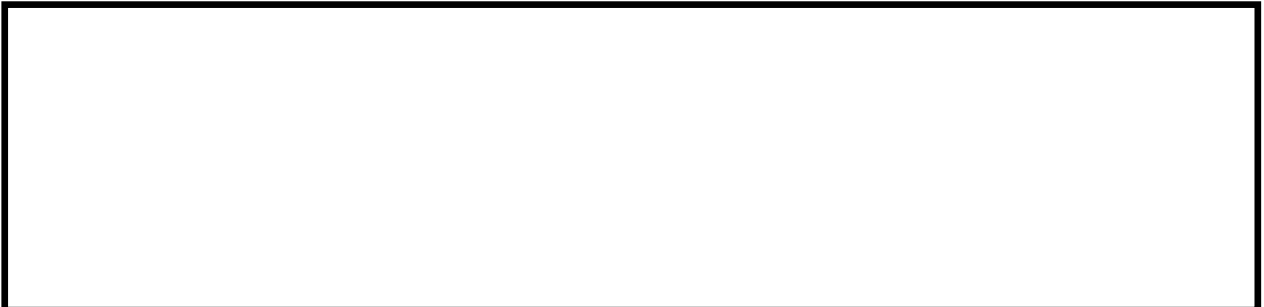
“They shall call his name Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” The presence of God is seen through the salvation foretold in the Old Covenant, and is revealed through the Birth of Our Lord Jesus, Emmanuel. Our own lives can manifest the presence of God when we live according to our vocations. Are you being called to show God’s presence as a priest, deacon, subdeacon monk or nun? Contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: [vocations@ephx.org](mailto:vocations@ephx.org)

### **Intentions of the Rosary:**

- 1st Decade: Help for persecuted Catholics, especially in communist and Islamic states
- 2nd Decade: Spiritual and physical growth of our parish and the Byzantine Catholic Church
- 3rd Decade: Increase in vocations to priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life to serve the Byzantine Catholic Church
- 4th Decade: Repose of the souls who have no one praying for them
- 5th Decade: Healing of the sick in body, mind and soul

### **Holy Fathers Intentions – December Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations**

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



**December 25, 2022**

Cantor: Andrea Riley  
Reader: Michael Wells  
Altar Server: Michael Grega  
Counters: Rita Montano &  
Miles Gloetzner

**Propers for 12/25/2022**  
**Nativity of Our Lord, God and and**  
**Savior Jesus Christ**  
**Tone 4**

**Antiphons & Entrance Hymn- 289-90**  
**Troparion - 290**  
**v. Glory... Now & Ever...**  
**Kontakion - 291**  
**Instead of 'Holy God' - 32 [B]**  
**Prokeimenon & Alleluia - 291**  
**Magnification & Irmos - 293**  
**Our Father- 74**  
**Communion - 294**

**OLPH Prayer Warriors**  
Sunday (Zoom). Send your  
prayer requests to  
Patricia at [pcb@unm.edu](mailto:pcb@unm.edu)

THE PRAYER WARRIORS IS  
OPEN TO EVERYONE--WOMEN,  
MEN, & CHILDREN (children who  
have their parents' permission)!  
Please join us!!

### **Alicia's Hall Report**

Last Sunday some good souls brought  
a pot of chili beans, rice, biscuits and  
homemade butter, and doughnuts!  
Thanks to Julia Wofford & all who  
contributed food, set up and cleaned  
up! God bless you all!

Please sign up to host or co-host a  
social on the sheet in the hall or on the  
signup genius: [https://  
www.signupgenius.com/](https://www.signupgenius.com/)

## **Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now**

Mon Dec 26	<b>Synaxis of the Theotokos</b> <b>Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Tue Dec 27	<b>Stephen Protomartyr / Simple Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Thurs Jan 5	<b>Vigil of Theophany</b> Noon— carpool to Rio Grande (parking lot of the National Hispanic Cultural Center on Avenida Chavez) Procession to the River 1:00pm Great Vespers with the Great Bless- ing of the Rio Grande
Fri Jan 6	<b>Feast of Theophany</b> 6:00 pm Liturgy followed by Great Blessing of Water
January 9-13	Eparchy of Phoenix Canon Law Conference in Las Vegas NV
Mon Jan 30	<b>Three Holy Hierarchs / Simple Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy/ Myrovanije
Wed Feb 1	<b>Meeting of Our Lord With Simeon and Anna</b> 6:00 pm Vigil Liturgy / Blessing of Candles
Sat Feb 11	<b>1st All Souls Saturday</b> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
Mon Feb 20	<b>Start of the Great Fast</b> 6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts with anointing on the forehead
Sat Mar 4	<b>2nd All Souls Saturday</b> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
Sat Mar 11	<b>3rd All Souls Saturday</b> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
Wed Mar 15	<b>Mid-Lent</b> 6:00pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Sat. Mar 18	<b>4th All Souls Saturday</b> 9:00 am Divine liturgy
Thurs March 23	<b>7:00 pm Matins with Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete / Reading Life story of St Mary of Egypt</b>
Sat March 25	<b>Annunciation of the Theotokos</b> <b>Solemn Holy Day / No Fasting</b> 9:00pm - Festive Liturgy of St John Chrysostom / Myrovanije

## **Retirement Fund for Religious**

**Religious give thanks. We collected \$340.00.** A sister writes, "We remember the many people who believe in the Retirement Fund for Religious, thanking them in prayer for their great generosity and compassion." God bless you for donating to last week's second collection.

**Year End Finances**— For those parishioners who use their tithe as a part of their income tax charitable deductions for 2022, all contributions must be received at the church by December 31.

**ATTENTION PARISH FAMILY TITHING ENVELOPE BOXES FOR 2022 WITH YOUR NAME ON IT ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOU ON THE FRONT PEW AT THE ENTRANCE. IF YOU CAN'T FIND YOUR NAME PLEASE SEE ANN**

***Byzantine Wall Calendars for 2023 are now available!***

**Please, sign up TODAY for the Traveling Pilgrim Vocation Icon in 2023**

Dear Parish Family, the Love of Christ presses us to respond generously to God's call in our lives. We are all called to pray for vocations to Saintly Christian Marriage, to the Priesthood, the Diaconate and the Religious Life. Prayer is an invisible but essential ministry in the Church. This is an important way to be involved in vocation ministry. Sign up to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon in your home. You will be greatly blessed

**!!WE NEED GREETERS!!** With the moving of our friends the Domsteads, we have a glaring hole in our schedule of greeters. If you would like to meet everyone in the parish, introduce newcomers to the beauty of the liturgy, and start everyone's Sunday with a warm welcome, then greeting might be the perfect way for you to serve the parish. If you're interested in being a greeter for one Sunday each month, please contact Dan Riley in person or email at [Riley.Dan@gmail.com](mailto:Riley.Dan@gmail.com).

**The Eparchy**, within all its parishes, institutions, and programs, is committed to assuring a Safe Environment in ministry for its children and vulnerable adults that conforms to the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. For additional information regarding the eparchial Safe Environment Program or to report any concerns, please contact:

Subdeacon Paul Kilroy, Safe Environment Program Coordinator

Cell: (702) 498-5972 -- Office: (602) 861-9778 ext. 203 -- Email: [sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org](mailto:sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org)  
Victim Assistance Coordinator, Dcn Michael Hanafin Cell: (480) 307-5182

**Due to Christmas Eve falling on a SATURDAY**, when there is no fasting, Friday of this week is a day of strict fast. If you are able to, please join us for the Great Compline with Litija at 6:00pm, a service of psalms, and prayers related to the Nativity of Our Lord.

**Great Compline** is a penitential office which is served on the following occasions: Tuesday and Thursday nights of Cheesefare Week (the week before Great Lent) Monday through Thursday nights of the first week of the Great Lent, and on the eves of a small number of great feasts (Christmas, Theophany, and the Annunciation). However, since many of the faithful only encounter it at the feast of the Nativity, it is sometimes thought of specifically as a "Christmas service." (continued on next page)

The service of Great Compline for the feast of the Nativity forms the first half of the nighttime service of the feast. It is held during the evening hours normally on December 24<sup>th</sup>, often preceded by the singing of Christmas carols, and (according to the liturgical books) followed by Matins. In North America, however, it is often followed by a celebration of the Divine Liturgy, to form a Byzantine Rite analog of the Western "Midnight Mass" of Christmas.

Great Compline actually consists of three separate services:

a vigil service imploring for and looking to God's saving help

a penitential service

a service of praise

On Christmas and Theophany, these are combined with a litija service - an intercessory procession with prayers for the whole world.

### **Sunday of the Ancestors of Christ**

Both the Eastern and Roman Churches have Jesse Trees, which depict the ancestors of Jesus through his foster-father St. Joseph. These Trees are based on the prophecy of Isaiah: "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." (Is 11:1), and thus will show Jesse as the base of the Tree.

More common among Western Christians, the image of Matthew's and Luke's genealogies first appeared in Byzantine icons from the 12th – 16th centuries in the Byzantine Empire itself. The Trees can often show Our Lady in the center of the Tree, holding the Infant Jesus in her lap, based on St. Irenaeus of Lyons who hailed Mary as the "rod" of Jesse, since it is she who conceived Christ through the Holy Spirit, and Jesus is the flower of the rod.

The Sunday of the Ancestors celebrates the men and women in Jesus' family tree. Just like ordinary families, there are some people of whom we know little, and some that we'd rather not know about at all! Matthew brings in the Gentile women who helped perpetuate the line of David with unusual actions which disturbed the Jews but which God blessed abundantly. This genealogy shows that Jesus is open to all people, of all backgrounds, just as His Church is!

The Gospel of Christmas Day is from Matthew, chapter 2, and includes the coming of the Magi, popularly known as the Three Kings (2:1-12). In the Roman rite, the Magi come on January 6, which is Epiphany as the revelation of the God-Man in Jesus to the Gentiles. In the Eastern Churches, Epiphany is the Baptism of the Lord, the revelation of the Holy Trinity, and so called Theophany: manifestation of God. Both traditions celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, December 25 – January 6. Plan now to keep Christmas joy alive in your home:

a. Keep up the tree until January 5 if possible. For your family prayers, read part of the Christmas story from the Gospel from St. Matthew or St. Luke in front of your Christmas icon or Nativity set. Did you put up Christmas lights? Try to keep those up too.

b. Encourage Christmas carols during the season. This is the last week for "Come O Jesus Our Savior" and "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." There are lots of traditional western and Byzantine carols that you can sing yourself or with your spouse or your family.

c. Everybody goes to see the infirm in nursing homes before Christmas, but after Christmas no one goes. Take children along - you'd be surprised what a difference it makes for the elderly infirm to have children around!

d. If you have children, be sure that they make phone calls or write notes to thank people who sent them presents for the holiday. Perhaps have them thank a special person in their life, just for being a gift of joy to them. Help them learn to appreciate others and what they do for them: teachers, neighbors, relatives, friends.

e. Let us all make a point of thanking Jesus for coming into the world to save us from sin and death, and to open the gates of heaven to us once more.



**CAFE group at UNM celebrates St Nicholas**

