

30th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday after the Nativity
Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the
Betrothed, David the King and James the
Brother of the Lord

December 31st, 2023

Assigned Readings:

Galatians 1:11-19
Matthew 2:13-23

Saints of the Day:

The Holy Prophet-King David, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, and Saint James the Brother of the Lord are commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. In Jerusalem, there was a feast of the Jews of Hebron celebrated on December 25 or 26 in honor of the Old Testament Patriarch Jacob. Later on, the Christians substituted Saint James for Jacob, and then the commemoration of the Brother of the Lord became associated with his ancestor King David. St. James was the first-born son of Joseph the Betrothed, and after Our Lord's ascension became the first bishop of Jerusalem. He presided over the first council held there and recorded in Acts. Eventually, he would give his life for the faith as a martyr in approximately 63 AD. St. Joseph cared for the Theotokos and the Christ child until he reposed on natural causes before Our Lord began his earthly ministry. King David is the great king of Jewish tradition, a victorious military leader, prophet, and a psalmist.

In time, Saint Joseph was linked with Saints David and James. Obviously, James and Joseph being related are of the same lineage, and in time their descent from the Davidic line incorporated the King David in the commemoration of the family of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. They are now celebrated together on the Sunday following the Feast of Nativity and before January 1st. If no Sunday falls in this period, because both fall on Sunday themselves, this commemoration is celebrated on December the 26th.

Announcements

January Charity to be determined at the Parish Council meeting, if anyone has a suggestion please let a member of the parish council know.

Parish Council Meeting following Divine Liturgy on January 7th.

Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday February 4th, with an inclement weather back up date of February 11th.

Vespers for The feast tomorrow will be held at 12pm today following coffee hour.

Upcoming Services:

January 1st – Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am.

Circumcision of the Lord, Feast of St. Basil the Great

January 5th – Compline – 6pm

January 6th – Divine Liturgy – Feast of Theophany, Great Blessing of Waters – 930 am.

Great Vespers – 6pm

January 7th – Divine Liturgy – 930am.

Contact Information:

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Troparion and Kontakion

Tone 5 -Troparion *(Resurrection)*
Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death, and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 4 – Troparion *(Feast)*
Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee,
the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

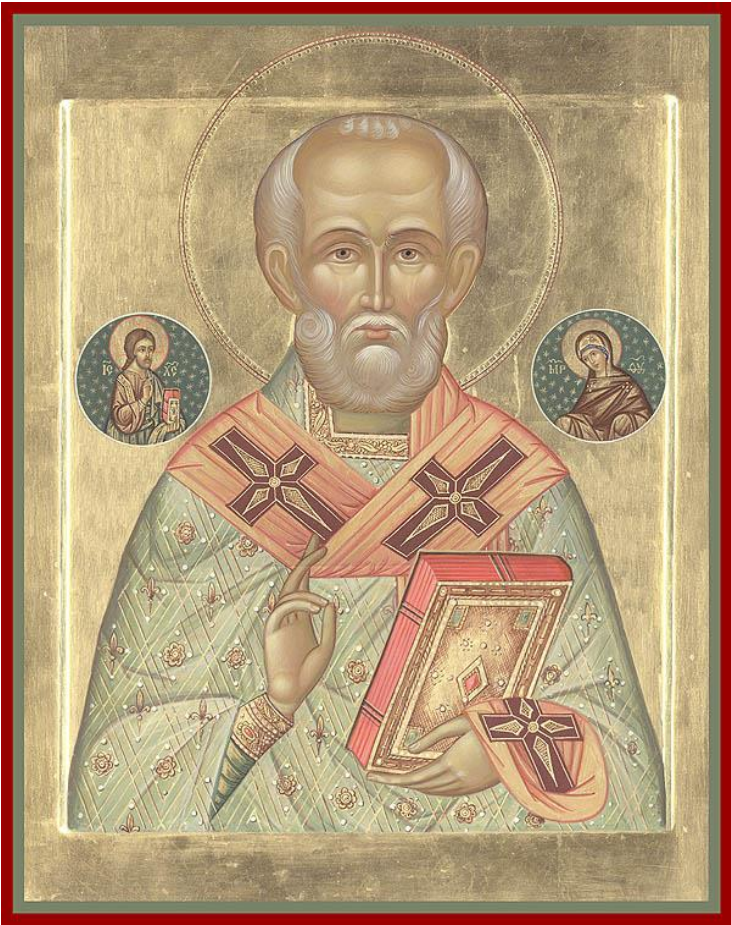
Tone 2 – Troparion *(Righteous Ones)*
Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph, to David, the ancestor of God;
thou hast seen a Virgin great with child;
and thou didst give glory with the shepherds; thou didst worship with the Magi,
and didst receive the news from the Angel. // Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Tone 3 – Kontakion *(Righteous Ones)*
Today godly David is filled with joy; Joseph and James offer praise.
The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy.
They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth,//
and they cry out: “O Compassionate One, save those who honor Thee!”

Tone 3 – Kontakion *(Feast)*
Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One!
Angels with shepherds glorify Him! The Wise Men journey with the star,//
since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

Prayers for the Sick:

Archpriest Vladimir	Joan
Priest John	Vera
Archpriest Michael	Marie
Matushka Gloria	James
Matushka Myra	James
Thom	Dimitrios
Julie	



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Archbishop Mark – Hierarch

Fr. Nathan Clausson – Acting Rector
Fr. Vladimir Fetcho – Attached
Fr. John Nightingale – Attached
Mark Howanetz – Choir Director
Rick Cesari – Parish President