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## Benevolent Fund

We are in need of funds to offer Christmas gifts to our fellow parishioners who are shut-ins and are unable to attend services. We will have a basket in the narthex following services. If you know of anyone in need from our community, please see Fr. Dennis.

## Saints of the Day

**Saint Sava [Sabas], Archbishop of Serbia:** *Sava was born in 1169 A.D. He was the son of Stefan Nemanja the Grand Župan of Serbia. As a young man, Sava yearned for the spiritual life, for which he fled to the Holy Mountain [Mt. Athos], where he was tonsured a monk and lived according to the ascetic rule with rare zeal. Stefan Nemanja followed the example of his son and came to the Holy Mountain, where he was tonsured a monk and eventually fell asleep in the Lord as the monk Simeon.*

*Sava obtained the independence of the Serbian Church from the Byzantine emperor and the patriarch, and became the first Archbishop of Serbia. Together with his father, he built Hilandar Monastery and, after that, many other monasteries, churches and schools throughout the Serbian lands. On two occasions he made pilgrimages to the sacred places in the Holy Land. He restored peace between his two brothers, who were estranged because of a struggle for power. He restored peace between the Serbs and their neighbors. In establishing the Serbian Church, he also established the Serbian state and culture. He instilled peace between all the Balkan peoples and worked for the benefit of all—for which he was loved and respected by all who lived in the Balkans. He gave a Christian soul to the Serbian people—a soul that did not perish with the eventual collapse of the Serbian state. Sava reposed in Trnovo, Bulgaria, during the reign of Emperor Asen, on January 12, 1236 A.D., after becoming ill following the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Theophany. King Vladislav translated his body to the Mileševo Monastery, from which Sinan Pasha removed St. Sava's relics, to burn them on Vračar hill in Belgrade on April 27, 1595 A.D.*

## Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

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## January 14, 2024

### Sunday Holy Scripture Reading

**Apostolic Reading:** Ephesians 4:7-13

**Gospel:** St. Matthew 4:12-17

**Services:** *Sunday*-8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy, *Weekdays* 8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy when scheduled.

**Saints of the Day: Leave Taking of Theophany.** The holy fathers slain at Sinai and Raithu; Virgin-martyr Agnes; Venerable Theodoulos and Neilos of Sinai; Nina, equal-to-the-Apostles and enlightener of Georgia.

### Order of Services

1. **First Antiphon: with Festal verses**

2. **Second Antiphon: with Festal verses**

Save us, O Son of God, who were baptized in the Jordan by John. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐν Ἰορδάνῃ ὑπὸ Ἰωάννου βαπτισθεῖς, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

### Third Antiphon with verses

As You were baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, then the worship of the Trinity became manifest, for the voice of the Father bore witness to You, naming You the Beloved Son; and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ God, who appeared and illumined the world, glory to You.

### Entrance Hymn—Instead of Come let us worship Tone 2

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

### After the Entrance

#### Apolytikion of the Resurrection Tone 7

You destroyed death by Your Cross, You opened Paradise to the Robber. You turned the Myrrh-bearing Women's lament into joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to preach that You rose, O Christ God, granting the world the great mercy.

## **Apolytikion: “As You were baptized . . .”**

### **Apolytikion of the Archangels Tone 4**

Supreme Commanders of the Hosts of the Heavens, we, the unworthy, implore and beseech You that by Your supplications You encircle us in the shelter of the wings of Your immaterial glory, guarding us who now fall down and cry to You with fervor: Deliver us from dangers of all kinds, as the great marshals of the heavenly hosts on high.

### **Kontakion for Theophany Tone 4**

You appeared today to us \* on earth, O Master, \* and Your light was signed on us \* who cry aloud to You and say \* with understanding, O Christ our God: You came and shone forth, O Light unapproachable.

### **Instead of “Axion Estin . . .” Tone 2**

*O my soul, magnify the ever-virgin Maid who from the curse has redeemed us.*

O all spotless Bride, surpassing comprehension \* are the wonders of your childbirth, blessed Mother! \* Through you obtaining comprehensive salvation, \* we bring you a gift in striking up this worthy \* hymn of gratitude to you our Benefactress.

### **Communion Hymn Psalm 111/112**

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men. Alleluia.

### **Instead of “Ἐἵδομεν τό φῶς . . .”**

As You were baptized . . .

## **Divine Services**

**Wed. Jan. 17:** Divine Liturgy 8am at Holy Theophany Orthodox Church. Paraklesis 5pm

**Thurs. Jan. 18:** Orthros 8am and Liturgy 9am for St. Athanasios and Cyril

**Sat. Jan. 20:** Great Vespers 5pm

## **Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church**

Holy Communion of the Orthodox Church is the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is *“With the fear of God, faith and love”* that we approach the Divine Mysteries. Therefore, Holy Communion is reserved only for those baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer and fasting, as prescribed by the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church. We ask that women, before approaching to receive from the Holy Cup, in respect of our Lord, to please remove lipstick.

## **Parish Council Elections**

Following services today, we will hold elections for our 2024 Parish Council. Candidates are Nathan Pesch, Stephanie Winther and Peter Kaloroumakis.

## **Bottle Filling Station**

We recently installed a new bottle filling station by the restrooms as approved at our December General Assembly. We are in the process of purchasing reusable plastic cups for the coffee hour. This alleviates the need to bring in water bottles and helps lower more plastic going into landfills.

## **Women’s Fellowship**

Please join us for another Women’s Fellowship on Saturday, **February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:00 pm** at Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church. No need to bring anything other than a smile!

## **Church Bookstore**

New books and various orthodox items were ordered last week. Some items have already arrived and others are on their way. The only way to know what’s on offer is to come down and browse our well-stocked bookstore. Look forward to seeing you there! *A little spiritual reading or study, when carried out prior to prayer, is very helpful because the soul is warmed and the mind is transported to the spiritual realm. ~ St. Paisios of Mount Athos*

## **Stewardship 2024**

Following services on Sunday, December 3, our Chairperson Ruxandra Georgescu offered some words of inspiration for us to be faithful stewards of the Church. Please see Ruxandra for a 2024 packet.

## **Adult Ed Catechism Class**

Following services and coffee hour on January 14, we will gather in the church for a half hour or so. *All are welcomed to attend!*

## **Coffee Hour Signup**

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour. Donations are welcome!

**Jan. 14:** Vasiliades Family

**Jan 21:** McDonald Family

**Jan. 28:** Sponsor Needed

**Feb. 4:** Sponsor Needed

## **Church School**

Church School will resumed on Sunday, Sept. 10. Please see Sara LaBrie for more information. Please allow the Church School students receive Holy Communion first as meets then.

## **Home Blessings**

It is a tradition to have our homes and/or our business blessed by the priest every year following the celebration of Theophany on January 6. This practice allows us to bring the feast to our homes and have them sanctified (made holy) with the sprinkling of the Great Blessing of Water. You may schedule a convenient time with Fr. Dennis after Jan. 6.

## **2024 Church Calendars**

The 2024 Church calendars are available on the candle stand. Please cross