



## St. Michael the Archangel Serbian Orthodox Mission

Newsletter  
January 2012

Christ is in our midst!

Saturday's - Vespers  
6:00 P.M.

Sunday's - Divine Liturgy  
10:00 A.M.

“God became  
man, that  
man might  
become god.”

St. Athanasius the Great

### Important Upcoming Church Dates

Jan 6 – Christmas Eve - 9:00 a.m. Royal Hours; 6:00 p.m. Vespers followed by Holy Supper

Jan 7 – Nativity of Christ – 9:00 a.m. Proskomedia; 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Jan 18 – 6:00 p.m. Theophany Vespers followed by the blessing of the waters in the Church

Jan 19 – The Holy Theophany of Christ – 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by the outdoor blessing of the waters

Jan 28 – 4p.m. Special Guest Speaker Katheryn Saclarides

(Also – Please see Calendar on website:  
[www.easternorthodoxchurch.org](http://www.easternorthodoxchurch.org))

✠ Confessions are heard on Saturdays after Vespers; also on Sunday mornings before Divine Liturgy 9:40 am to 10 am.

### Attention Please:

Rick and Michelle Kaiser are hosting a Slava celebration on Friday, January 14 from 6-9 and everyone is invited

### Announcements:

We'd like to thank everyone who made the recent St. Nicholas Visit Possible: Thanks to Hal Pastrick for doing such a great job! Thanks to Bob Zarzaur for making the Bishop's mitre and bag; thanks to Angela Sage & Matushka Ann for the beautiful costume!

Fr. Gregory is available most Fridays if anyone has any needs. Please contact him at [frgregory1@gmail.com](mailto:frgregory1@gmail.com), or 256-325-4401.

### Coffee Hour:

Jan 1 – Buksa

Jan 8 – Ellis

Jan 15 – Gulas

Jan 22 – Jokich

Jan 29 - Kaiser

Feb 5 – Kioutas

Feb 12 - Lee

Feb 19 - Pastrick

Feb 26 - Platt

*If you will be unable to serve coffee hour on your Sunday, please make arrangements to switch with another family. Thanks!*

### Birthdays:

God Grant Them Many Years!

8<sup>th</sup> Elyse Jokich

19<sup>th</sup> Allina Hannig

### Anniversaries:

### Church Cleaning:

January – Bergantz

February - Ellis

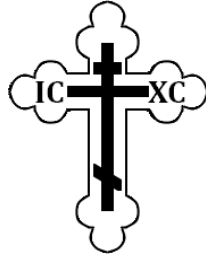
*This is your Church – help keep it clean!*

### Church Needs:

Communion Wine (Manischewitz Concord Wine)

[News Items?](#) Please send church news items to the Newsletter editor Ashley Zarzaur at: ashleyfanfic@yahoo.com

**Prayer Requests:** Please remember in your prayers: Child Jovana (2 years old – leukemia); Katarzyna Bazylewicz; Tatiana Kukhtareva; Mariam & Tom Calache; Mary Kochoff; Glenn Dengler (friend of Jokich family) and daughters Haley (7) and Nicole (3); Dessie Jokich (mother of Mike Jokich); Sandy & Roger Ellis; Daniel Ellis (brother of Roger); Markela Hatzakis; Brian Jokich; Elena Meagher and her son Igor; Anne Kobasa (mother of H. Bergantz); Rhonda Lovette; Tim & Ron Waskerwitz; Evangeline Pamfilis; Pat Darzy; Mary Zarzaur; Lola Gulas and for the repose of Fryni McCreary, Edythe Hales & Daniel Kobasa.



### **Homily on the birth of the Lord, the Son of God (by St. Nikolai Velimirovich)**

*'I came forth from the Father and am come into the world.'* (John 16:28)

The only-begotten Son of God, my brethren, begotten in eternity of the Father without a mother, was born in time of a Mother without a father. That first begetting is an unfathomable mystery of the Holy Trinity in eternity, and this second birth is an unfathomable mystery of God's power and love for mankind in time. The greatest mystery in time corresponds to the greatest mystery in eternity.

Without probing with the light of our small understanding into this greatest of mysteries, let us be content, my brethren, with the discovery that our salvation had its origin, not from men nor from the earth, but from the greatest heights of the invisible, divine world. Such is God's mercy and such is man's greatness, that God the Son Himself came down from eternity into time, from heaven to earth, from the throne of glory to the shepherd's cave, solely to save man, to cleanse him from sin and to lead him back to Paradise.

'I came forth from the Father,' where He had everything, 'and am come into the world,' that could give Him nothing. The Lord was born in a cave, to show that the whole world is a dark cave that only He can illumine. The Lord was born in Bethlehem—the House of Bread—to show that He is the only Bread of life worthy of true men.

O Lord Jesus, the pre-eternal Son of the living God and Son of the Virgin Mary, enlighten us and nourish us with Thyself. To Thee be glory and praise forever. Amen.