

**Russian Orthodox Church of the
Resurrection of Christ**

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РОЖДЕСТВО ХРИСТОВО

Субб. 6 Янв. 2018 Сочельник

Всенощная в 6 ч.в

Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018 Vigil 6:00 PM

Воскр. 7 Янв. 2018 Литургия в 9:30 ч.у.

Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018 Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM

Schedule for the Week of December 24 - 30, 2017

Sunday Holy Forefathers / Свв Праотец

Saturday 5:30 PM Vigil
Dec 30

Sunday Sunday of the Holy Fathers / Свв. Отец
Dec 31 8:15 AM Nocturns, Hours, Confessions
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия



On this Sunday the Church commemorates the Holy Forefathers, i.e. the earthly ancestors of our Lord Jesus Christ, beginning with the first man, Adam, and on through Seth, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, King David, and others. These ancient people, separated from us by millennia, nevertheless have a direct and close bearing upon us,

contemporary Orthodox Christians.

What connection is there between them and us? In general, the Church brings them to our attention now, right before Christmas, largely because of their faith -- their belief in the promise given by God to Adam during his expulsion from the garden of Eden, that in the end a Savior will come into the world and will redeem mankind from original sin. All the forefathers who lived on earth long before the birth of Christ lived and burned with this faith, never allowing it to be extinguished. They are a shining example to us, who are living on earth after the incarnation of our Lord. Those ancient people have never actually seen Christ: they only knew that He would come into the world, while we know that He did come into the world. But they firmly believed in His coming and their faith was justified.

We are expected to have even greater faith. We must believe that the Lord was, and is, and will be; that He lived on earth as a man; that through His Church He

remains with us constantly; and that He will again return to earth to judge mankind. But for such a faith the Lord Himself promises us eternal bliss.

But apart from faith there is something else that binds us closely with the ancient forefathers -- and that is their faithfulness to the awaited Messiah. They lived surrounded by a pagan world; a world which did not yet know Christ, but which had already rejected God. We too, dear brethren, live in a similar and even worse situation. For nineteen centuries after the birth of Christ the world lived with Christ and the Christian culture, but in the 20th century an abrupt change took place. We now live in a post-Christian era, in a world that has once again become totally immersed in paganism.

We often hear mention of the arrival of a "new age." However, there is nothing new in this "new age" except for its more modern form. It is the same old rejection of God and even negation of God, and moreover; a complete rejection of Christ and profanation of Christ.

And so, dear brethren, against the background of this horrifying world, let us remember not only the faith of the Holy Forefathers, but also their faithfulness to Christ the Savior; and as we prepare very soon to celebrate His Nativity, let us turn away from the paganism that surrounds us, and let us witness our total devotion and loyalty to the One Who said: "Lo, I am with you until the end of time." *(Fr. Rostislav Sheniloff)*

В этот праздник Церковь чествует лик святых праотцев – праведников живших в ветхозаветные времена, которые спасались верой в грядущего Мессию-Спасителя. Воспоминание святых праотцев предвдваряет встречу великого праздника Рождества Христова, когда совершилось чаемое ими пришествие Христа.

К праотцам относятся библейские патриархи, пророки, праведные Богоотцы Иоаким и Анна, родители Богородицы, и праведный Иосиф, обручник Богородицы.

По некоторым свидетельствам, перед Рождеством Христовым была в свое время установлена память лишь Авраама, Исаака и Иакова, но ныне имеется два особых празднования ветхозаветным святым – Неделя святых праотцев (всех ветхозаветных праведников) и Неделя святых отцов (предков Иисуса Христа по плоти).

Поминовение ветхозаветных святых в чине литургии засвидетельствовано уже в тайноводственных словах св. Кирилла

Иерусалимского, который писал: «Затем поминаем преждепочивших Патриархов, Пророков, Апостолов, Мучеников, чтобы Господь принял эту жертву по их молитвам и их предстательству». В нынешней практике Церкви оно имеется в ходатайственной молитве перед причастием в Литургии Василия Великого: «Да обрящем милость и благодать со всеми святыми, от века Тебе благоугодившими праотцы, отцы, патриархи, пророки...».

<i>January 7</i> <i>Sunday</i>	Рождество Христово The Nativity of Christ	2018
	<i>Nativity Eve / Сочельник (strict fast day)</i> <i>[Friday, Jan. 5: 9:00 AM Royal Hours / Царские Часы]</i>	
<i>Saturday</i> <i>January 6</i>	9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Nativity Vespers Литургия и Вечерней <i>После службы Кутья и взвор в трапезной</i>	
	<i>(note: the following services will be at:</i> St. Thomas University Seminary Chapel, 2110 Selby Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104)	
<i>Saturday</i> <i>January 6</i>	6:00 PM – Festal Vigil	
<i>Sunday</i> <i>January 7</i>	Nativity of Christ Рождество Христово 9 AM Confessions / Исповедь 10 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия	
	Welcome	

Christmas Flower Donation

Please consider a donation to beautify the church and services for the Nativity of our Lord:

From: *(от):*

In Memory/honor of: *(в честь, память):*

(additional donation forms at Candle Desk)