

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

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Schedule for Upcoming Services Nov – Dec – Jan, 2018-2019

**Sunday Dec 9 St. Innocent / Свят, Убийцтвтя
еп. Иркутскаго**



Saturday Dec 15 5:30 PM Vigil

**Sunday Dec 16 Prophet Sophonius (605 yrs before Christ)
8:15 AM Nocturns, Hours, Confessions
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия**

**Tuesday Dec 18 St. Nicholas / Свят. Николая
6:30 PM Vigil /**

**Wednesday Dec 19 St. Nicholas / Святителя Николая
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия**

❖ РОЖДЕСТВО ХРИСТОВО ❖
❖ CHRISTMAS SERVICES ❖

**Sunday - 6 Янв. Сочельник / Christmas Eve Day
Jan 6 Divine Liturgy / Литургия 9:00 AM**

Christmas Vigil / Празднич. Всенощная 6:00 PM

**Monday - 7 Янв. Рождество Христово / Xmas Day
Jan 7 Divine Liturgy / Литургия 9:00 AM**

Наш долг – делать добро

Мы дети Божии, и наш долг делать добро, потому что Бог весь есть любовь. Видишь вдову, которая приняла у себя пророка Илию? Она была язычницей, но какую имела любовь! Когда пророк пришел и попросил у нее хлеба, она

сказала «У нас есть немного масла и муки, это мы съедим с моими детьми и умрем».

Не сказала ему: «У нас ничего нет». И когда пророк, чтобы испытать ее произволение, сказал ей сделать хлеб сначала для него, а потом для себя и детей, то бедняга сразу согласилась.

Если бы в ней не было любви, у нее стали бы рождаться разные помыслы. «Мало ему, -- думала бы она, -- что я ему сказала, что у нас мало масла и муки, он еще хочет, чтобы я сначала испекла хлеб для него!».

Проявилось ее расположение, чтобы нам был добрый пример. Мы читаем Священное Писание, столько всего в нем находим, а на деле как примеряем его?

Помню, как на Синае дети бедуинов, которые не знали, что такое Евангелие, когда я им давал что-нибудь, то они делили это между собой, даже если я им давал совсем чуть-чуть.

Всем доставалось понемногу. А если последнему не хватало, то каждый уделял ему от своей части.

Все это пусть будет для вас примером. Рассматривайте себя, чтобы понять, где находитесь. Если человек так подвизается, то извлекает для себя пользу не только из примера святых и подвижников, но из жизни всех людей. Думает: «А во мне есть это хорошее качество? Как я приду на Суд?» (*Страсти и добродетели*)

**WHY THE NATIVITY FAST
HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED**

Holy Tradition tells us that shortly before the righteous Joseph and the Holy Virgin set off for Bethlehem, they were subjected to the following tribulation. A certain scribe by the name of

*Мироточива Чудотворная
Иверская Икона
Б.М.прибудет к нам на
Рождество, 6 и 7 Янв.*

*The Hawaiian Myrrh-Streaming
Icon of the Theotokos will visit us
at Nativity*



Ananias, entering their home and seeing the Virgin pregnant, was severely distressed and went to the High Priest and the entire Jewish council, saying: "Joseph the carpenter, who has been regarded as a righteous man, has committed an iniquity. He has secretly violated the Virgin Who was given to him from the temple of God for safekeeping. And now She is with child." Then the High Priest's servants went to Joseph's house, took Mary and Joseph, and brought them to the High Priest, who began to denounce and shame the Most-blessed Virgin Mary.

But the Holy Virgin, replied: "The Lord God is my witness that I am innocent and have known no man." Then the High Priest accused the righteous Joseph, but the latter swore on oath that he was not guilty of this sin. Yet the High Priest did not believe them and subjected them to the trial that was customary in those times: the woman was given bitter water to drink, water that had been cursed by the High Priest. However, the trial just served to confirm the innocence of the Holy Virgin and the righteous Joseph. After that, the High Priest allowed the holy couple to go home in peace.

But this was not the end of the Holy Theotokos' trials. It is well known that afterwards she shared with Joseph the toil of a three-day journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. And in

Bethlehem there was no place for the Holy Virgin either in an inn, or in some home, and since night was already approaching, She was forced to seek shelter in a cave which served as a resting place for cattle. In this humblest of shelters the Most-blessed Virgin remained in prayer and divine contemplation. It is here that she painlessly gave birth to our Lord Jesus Christ, Savior of the world.

We can see from all of the above that the days immediately preceding the Nativity were not days of rest and comfort for the Holy Mother of God. In those days she suffered various sorrows and trials, but did not leave off her prayers and contemplation. The Holy Church appeals to the faithful to participate, at least to some small degree, in the Holy Theotokos' spiritual labor, constraining one's flesh during the Nativity fast and nourishing one's soul with prayer. However, the Church warns us that external fasting only is not enough. We must also apply ourselves to internal fasting, which consists of shunning malice, deceit, wrath, worldly bustle, and other vices. During this fast, as at all times, we must show works of love and mercy to our fellow beings, doing all we can to help those in need and in sorrow. Only then will our fasting be genuine and not hypocritical, only then will it be God-pleasing, and only then will we know the true joy of the bright feast of Christ's Nativity.

(Reprinted from "Orthodox Russia", 1999.)

Christmas Flower Donation

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

From: *(om)*:

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