

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVII

Number 15

14 / 27 December 2015
THE SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS (*Tone 5*)

THIS WEEK AT ST ELIZABETH'S

SUNDAY of the HOLY FOREFATHERS (*Tone 5*)

Saturday, 26 December (13 December o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions

Sunday, 27 December (14 December o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)

12:30 PM Inquirers / Adult Study

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY (*Tone 6*)

Sunday of the Holy Fathers

Saturday, 2 January (20 December o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions

Sunday, 3 January (21 December o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)

12:30 PM Inquirers / Adult Study

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
<i>Sunday</i>	27 December (14 Dec, o.s.)	Martyr Thyrsus & Companions Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Monday</i>	28 December (15 Dec, o.s.)	St Eleutherius & Companions Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Tuesday</i>	29 December (16 Dec, o.s.)	Prophet Haggai Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Wednesday</i>	30 December (17 Dec, o.s.)	Prophet Daniel & the Three Youths Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Thursday</i>	31 December (18 Dec, o.s.)	Martyr Sebastian & Companions Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	1 January (19 Dec, o.s.)	Martyr Boniface of Tarsus Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Saturday</i>	2 January (20 Dec, o.s.)	St Ignatius; St John of Kronstadt Fast: wine & oil permitted
<i>Sunday</i>	3 January (21 Dec, o.s.)	Virgin-martyr Juliana Fast: wine & oil permitted



SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers	
<i>8th Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> John §64 (20:11-18)	
Col. §257 (3:4-11)	Luke §76 (14:16-24)
31ST WEEK after PENTECOST	
<i>M</i>	Heb. §329 (11:17-23, 27-31) Mark §33 (8:11-21)
<i>Tu</i>	Heb. §333 (12:25, 26, 13:22-25) Mark §34 (8:22-26)
<i>W</i>	James §50 (1:1-18) Mark §36 (8:30-34)
<i>Th</i>	James §51 (1:19-27) Mark §39 (9:10-16)
<i>F</i>	James §52 (2:1-13) Mark §41 (9:33-41)
Saturday before the Nativity of the Lord	
Gal. §205 (3:8-12)	Luke §72 (18:13-29)
Sunday before the Nativity: the Holy Fathers	
<i>Vespers Paramia:</i> (1) Genesis 14:14-20 • (2) Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17 • (3) Deuteronomy 10:14-21	
<i>9th Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> John §65 (20:19-31)	
Heb. §328 (11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40)	Matt. §1 (1:1-25)

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

LAST WEEK

Namedays – 22nd (Conception of St Anna): Anna Straut; 22nd (Righteous Hannah): Mat. Nancy Hannah Barker.

Birthdays – 22nd: Anna Straut.

THIS WEEK

Namedays – 27th (Holy Forefathers): Sarah Brangwynne; 30th (Prophet Daniel): Sbdcn Daniel Lieuwen, Daniel Palko, Daniel Yanovsky.

Birthdays – 29th: Elizabeth Lieuwen, Paul Schidlovsky; 30th: Sbdcn Philip Hotz, Tatiana Yanovsky.

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – Jan. 2nd: Beverly May Zimmerman (+2009).

JANUARY

Namedays – 9th (St Stephen the Protomartyr): Deacon Steven Barker, Deacon Stephanos Bibas, Stephen Skuratovskiy, Stefania Nagy; 10th (Prophet-King David): David Seneko, Fr David Straut; 14th (St Basil the Great): Vassili Golikov, Vasilissa Seneko, Vasily Yanovsky; 15th (St Seraphim of Sarov): Deacon Seraphim Komleski; 15th (St Juliana of Lazarevo): Juliana Bibas; 20th (St John the Baptist): Ivan Darenkov; 25th (Martyr Tatiana): Tanya Morrow,

Tatiana Yanovsky; 27th (St Nina of Georgia): (Mrs.) Nina Fitzgerald, (Miss) Nina Fitzgerald.

Birthdays – 6th: Hariton Bibas; 7th: Justin Whitacre; 8th: (Miss) Nina Fitzgerald; 17th: Theodore Darenkov; 27th: George Seneko.

Wedding Anniversaries – 25th: Ivan & Katya Darenkov.

Chrismation Anniversaries – 6th: Sbdcn Philip Hotz, Jennifer Mary Hotz, Noah George Hotz (2008); David Seneko (2013).

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are in the midst of the Nativity Fast, which began on 28 November (n.s.) and continues for forty days until the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord on 7 January (n.s.). We eat no animal products (meat, meat products, eggs, and dairy products) throughout the forty days. The general rules for this period are as follows: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are normal fast days; on Tuesdays and Thursdays, wine and oil are permitted; and on Saturdays and Sundays we may eat fish, wine, and oil. But since greater Saints' Days frequently brings a further mitigation of the fast from the general rules, it is important to consult an annual Orthodox calendar to find the correct fasting regimen for a particular weekday.

This is the final Sunday for the special collection for the St Herman's Youth Conference. If you have already donated may the Lord bless you. If you have not, please consider giving today.

The Parish still needs donations for flowers for the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord. Please mark flower donations clearly. You may include a Commemoration List with your donation and the names will be commemorated at the Proskomedie on the Holy Days.

Today at coffee hour we will continue our series of Adult Studies for both inquirers and other interested persons in the basic elements, beliefs, and practices of the Orthodox Christian Faith. Today we will take a small break from our ongoing study of *The Law of God* by Priest Daniel Sysoev. We have a friend of our parish, Tatiana Paley, who will give us a brief talk about the New Martyrs Grand Duke Paul Romanov and, his son, Prince Vladimir Paley, who were both relatives of St Elizabeth the New Martyr. In addition Tatiana will speak to us about Princess Natalia Paley, the daughter of Grand Duke Paul and sister of Vladimir Paley, who fled Russia to escape the Bolsheviks and had a rather tragic life in exile. Natalia died on 27 December 1981 and is buried near here in Ewing, New

Jersey. (These Adult Studies should meet two Sundays a month at about 12:30 p.m., after we've had something to eat at Trapeza.)

After our Adult Study today, Fr David will travel to the First Presbyterian Cemetery at 100 Scotch Road in Ewing Township to serve a pannykhida for Princess Natalia Paley on this 34th anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord.

During the last five days of the Nativity Fast, from the Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ (2 January, n.s.) through the Eve of the Feast (6 January, n.s.), the Fast becomes a bit stricter. Weekday fasting rules are the same as during the rest of the Nativity Fast, but Fish is no longer permitted on Saturdays and Sundays, only wine and oil.

If you have not gone to Confession and received Holy Communion during the course of the Nativity Fast, it is important to make the spiritual effort to participate in the Mysteries of Confession and Holy Communion during this Lenten season. The best time to go to Confession is during or following the Vigil Service on Saturday evenings and the Eve of Feasts. It is also always possible to make your Confession to a priest outside the time of the Divine Services by prior appointment. Going to Confession on a Sunday or Feast Day morning is difficult for the priest, who is very busy serving the Proskomedie, and inconsiderate of fellow parishioners, as it often delays the beginning of the Liturgy. Nevertheless there is usually time for one or two short Confessions during the Sixth Hour prior to Liturgy. Those with good reason to come to Confession in the morning rather than the evening before should arrange in advance with Father to come before Liturgy begins, but they need to remember that the Confession should be as concise as possible.

St Elizabeth's Annual Christmas Party will take place in two Sundays (the Sunday after the Nativity), after the Divine Liturgy at the home of the Morrow Family at 90 Somerville Road; Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920. All parishioners are urged to attend and bring dishes of food to share. We thank John and Tanya for opening their home to our Parish for the last several years.

The Parish Council will meet on the third Sunday of this month rather than the second Sunday, so as to conflict with our annual Parish Christmas Party.

