

# ST. JOHN'S WEEKLY BULLETIN

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**December 18, 2016**  
**Sunday Before Nativity**  
**Sebastian & his Companions**  
**Michael Synkellos the Confessor**

**-EPISTLE READING - Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40**

**B**RETHREN, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.



## **- GOSPEL READING - Matthew 1:1-25**

**T**he book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel"(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

**ACOLYTES SERVING TODAY - TEAM A**

# RELIGIOUS SERVICES, MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18-24, 2016

**Sun. December 18, 2016**  
**Sunday before Nativity**  
**Orthros 9am, Divine Liturgy 10am**  
**CHRISMATION: Reception of**  
**Owen Shoemaker into the**  
**Orthodox Faith**  
**Sunday Church School**  
**Christmas Pageant**

**Mon. December 19, 2016**  
**Adult Catechism Class, 7pm**

**No Studies in the Faith on Tuesday,**  
**December 20 - Classes will resume**  
**on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 11am**

**No Greek Language School on Tuesday,**  
**December 20 - Classes will resume**  
**on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 4pm**

**Sat. December 24, 2016**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGY OF**  
**NATIVITY, 6PM**

**Sun. December 25, 2016**  
**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**  
**(CHRISTMAS)**  
**Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9am**

## PROSFORO

December 18	Lela Bonorris
December 24	Voula Kitsigianis
December 24	Katerina Tseherides
December 25	Fofa Panagakis
December 25	Fotini Pouloupoulos
December 25	Katerina Tseherides

## + MEMORIAL - +

Demetrios Kritikos 40 Days  
 Zoe Pilafas 6 Months  
 Michael Javaras 30 Years  
 Sylvia Javaras 23 Years  
 Thalia Zorzy - 41 Years  
 Jeanette Zorzy 38 Years  
 Vasilios Sklavounos 39 Years  
 Stavroula Sklavounos 20 Years  
 Yiorgos Futris 46 Years  
 Evangelia Futris 8 Years  
 Mary George 27 Years

*\*Coffee hour will be sponsored by the  
 Kritikos & Pilafas Families*

+May their memory be eternal+

## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to the new parish council members!! The NEWLY elected parish council members are as follows:

Dino Basdakis, Athanasios Foskaris  
 Cynthia Kezos, Raza Kitsigianis, Spiros Rados



## THE ORTHODOX BOOKMOBILE IS AVAILABLE EVERY SUNDAY



after service! We have beautiful icons, and a variety of religious articles & Christian books, as well as beautiful gifts for your loved ones and friends at Christmas!



Please join us for our annual

***Church School Christmas Program and Bake Sale  
TODAY! December 18, 2016***

The Students will put on a beautiful performance for everyone to enjoy!  
The festivities will take place in the Hall AFTER church services.

There will be delicious treats at the Bake Sale!  
Make sure you stay until the end for a special visitor from the North  
Pole....Santa!

We look forward to seeing our community there!  
Merry Christmas! Kala Christougena!

**2017 Humanitarian Award**

Each Year we honor one of our members who has shown exemplary dedication to  
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d g { q p f ö " h q t " q v j g t u " v j k u " { g c t " c p f " u w d o k v " { q w t " p c  
(714) 289-1884.

Nomination forms will be available at our December meeting and in our church office  
or contact Mary directly.

