

SAINT BASIL THE GREAT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1118 EAST UNION BOWER ROAD IRVING, TEXAS 75061 972-438-5644



Icon of Christ Emmanuel

Sunday of the Ancestors of Christ
December 18, 2011

Very Reverend Father Eugene P. Yackanich
Administrator of the Archeparchy
www.archeparchy.org

Fr. Daniel Forsythe
Pastor
fr.daniel@stbasilsinirving.org
www.stbasilsinirving.org

Schedule of Divine Services

Sunday, December 18, 2011

Sunday Before Christmas – Sunday of the Holy Ancestors of Christ

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Reader: Eden Whitley

Gospel Bearer: Jeremy Miller

Prospora Baker: Steve Banko

Friday, December 23, 2011

7:00 p.m. Royal Hours

Saturday, December 24, 2011

The Eve of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ

7:30 p.m. Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. Basil for the Feast of the Nativity

10:00 p.m. All Night Vigil for the Feast of the Nativity

Sunday, December 25, 2011

Feast of the Nativity of Our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

*Reader: **Please see Lead Cantor***

Gospel Bearer: Brian Norrell

Prospora Baker: Clare Ellis

Monday, December 26, 2011

Synaxis of the Theotokos and the Commemoration of David, Joseph and James

7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, December 27, 2011

Protomartyr and Apostle Stephen

7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 27, 2011

Eve of the Feast of St. Basil the Great and

the Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord in the Flesh

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Sunday, January 1, 2012

Feast of St. Basil the Great and

the Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord in the Flesh

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

*Reader: **Please see Lead Cantor***

Gospel Bearer: Victoria Robinson

Prospora Baker: Rita Miller

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

Pre-feast of the Theophany of Our Lord

7:00 p.m. Royal Hours of Theophany

Thursday, January 5, 2012

Eve of the Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

7:00 p.m. Vespertal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil and the

Great Blessing of Water

9:00 p.m. – ish All Night Vigil for the Feast of Theophany

Please pray for... the people of the drought and storm stricken states who have suffered loss of life, home and property, all of the priests who have served our parish, for the administrator of our Archeparchy Fr. Eugene, for any who are ailing in our parish, for all pregnant mothers in our parish, for Kristin Morgan, Jan Arnold, Diana Morgenstern, Robert Doucette, Kamila Sarsan, Margaret Heitzenrater, Jen Burgess-Thompson, Sr. Therese Gendron PSSF, Sissy Stuckey, Eloise Cox, Mary Hudson, Judy Sockwell, Alice Stafford, Patricia Waschka, Colette Johnstone, Fran Badger, for an increase in vocations to priesthood, the diaconate and religious life and for guidance and assistance in our efforts to promote dignity and value of all human life. Eternal Memory to +Bishop Andrew Pataki, retired Bishop of Passaic, +Fr. Francis Gabryl, +Archimandrite Fr. Serge Kelleher, +M. L. Cox, +Susan Loiselle, +Archbishop Dimitri (OCA), +Mark Deitz, +Earlene Sandefur, +Helen Koromaus, and prayers for their families. To add to these prayer requests, please e-mail Missy Norrell at secretary@stbasilsinirving.org .

TODAY is PIEROGI MAKING DAY for Holy Supper.

All hands are welcome!

Come join us in the Parish Hall to help prepare for one of our favorite holiday traditions.

Many thanks! Many thanks to those who prepared and baked the kolače and made the kolbasi for our parish Christmas fundraiser. We are grateful for all of your hard work! *If you have not yet picked up your order, please be sure to do so today! See Carol Roman or Alexis Whitley.*

Join Us this Friday Night for the Royal Hours of Christmas! This Friday night at 7:00 pm we will celebrate the Royal Hours of Christmas, a service of hymns and readings to prepare for the Feast of the Nativity. Come enjoy this scriptural feast! All are welcome!

"Today God who holds creation in the hollow of his hand is born of the virgin. God whose essence is untouchable is wrapped in swaddling clothes. In the beginning God founded the heavens and now lies in a manger. He rained manna down on the people in the wilderness and is now fed on milk from his mother's breast. The bridegroom of the Church calls the Magi. The Son of the virgin accepts their gifts. We worship your birth, O Christ! We worship your birth, O Christ! We worship your birth, O Christ! Show us also your Divine Theophany!"

-Sticheron from the Royal Hours

Our Gifts to God

	Collection	Candles	Poor Box	Building Fund	Other Donations	Total	Attendance
12/11/11	\$1,894.00	\$20.00	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	\$1,914.00	99
Necessary weekly budget for the operations of the parish						\$1,200.00	
Deficit of						- 0 -	

*Holy Supper - Vigil Liturgy - All Night Vigil.
The Celebrations of Christmas Eve*

We begin the celebrations of Christmas Eve with the 6:00 p.m. Holy Supper. The Holy Supper is the final "fasting" meal that we share together before the celebration of the Great Feast of Christmas. In the earliest days of the Church, the Eucharist was celebrated in the context of a bigger meal - the "Agape Feast." Agape is a Greek word for love. The sharing of food in the Christian community was considered the best way to symbolically express our love for each other as we look for the presence of Christ in our midst.

After sharing that meal together as a parish family, we will proceed into the church to begin the Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great. This is our parish's primary celebration of Christmas. If you can only come to one service, come to this one. In the dimly lit church, we will sing hymns praising the Birth of Christ and hear the prophetic readings concerning his coming to save the world. Then, after the dramatic singing of "O Joyful Light", the church is flooded with light and the Gospel account of the birth of Christ is proclaimed. After this, we present our gifts of bread and wine to God in the ancient and beautiful Anaphora of St. Basil, which recounts the entire drama of our salvation.

At the conclusion of the Vigil Liturgy of Saint Basil, we will all take a bit of a short break - especially the choir and servers! - before we gather again to pray the All Night Vigil. The Vigil begins with the psalms of Compline and the singing of the prophecy of Isaiah, with its triumphal assertion that "God is With Us!". Great Compline then transitions into Matins, which features the poetic masterpiece that is the Christmas Canon. The All Night Vigil is a long service, especially after all the prayers that have come before. Yet, there is something special which happens when we keep watch together in prayer long into the night. Everyone is welcome - even children. Feel free to bring pajamas, blankets and pillows for the little ones.