

**Russian Orthodox Church of the  
Resurrection of Christ**  
1201 Hathaway Lane NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55432-5720  
Phone: 763-574-1001 / Fax 763-574-7560  
web site: [www.skete.info/](http://www.skete.info/) email: [rusmnch@att.net](mailto:rusmnch@att.net)

<p><b>Nativity Services</b>  <b>Christmas Eve,</b>  <b>Tuesday, Jan. 6, 6:30 PM</b>  <b>Christmas Day</b>  <b>Wednesday, Jan. 7, 10 AM</b></p>
--

## Schedule for the Week of December 28, 2008 – January 3, 2009

Sunday Dec 28	Holy Forefathers / Святых Праотец
Friday Jan 2	Choir Rehearsal at Skete 7:30 PM
Saturday Jan 3	Choir Rehearsal at Skete 2:00 PM 5:30 PM Vigil
Sunday Jan 4	Holy Fathers / Свв. Отец Sunday before Nativity 8:30 AM Nocturns, Confessions 9:00 AM Liturgy / Литургия
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>Jan 6</b>	<i>This will take place at , 1201 Hathaway Lane:</i> Сочельник 9:00 AM Royal Hours / Часы Divine Liturgy / Литургия Lighting of Nativity Candle  <i>This will take place at St. Mary's Church, 1701 5<sup>th</sup> St NE, Mpls 55413:</i> <b>6:30 PM Vigil</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>Jan 7</b>	<b>Рождество Христово / The Nativity of Christ</b> <i>This will take place at St. Mary's Church, 1701 5<sup>th</sup> St NE, Mpls 55413:</i> <b>10:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия</b> General Brunch after Liturgy
Thursday Jan 8	Synaxis of the Theotokos 9:00 AM Liturgy / Литургия

### Притча о званых на вечерю (беседа на Лк. 14,16-24)

Кончается сегодняшнее евангельское чтение очень страшными словами: «Много призванных, а мало избранных». ... Господь, Который сотворил мир для того, чтобы поделиться с ним вечной, Божественной радостью, встречается, однако, в этом мире с

холодным отказом. Он призывает всех – но избрание зависит от нас. Он всех сотворил любовью для радости и Вечной жизни – но мы должны ответить любовью на любовь и войти в ту радость, которую нам предлагает Господь. И картина, которая нам дается в сегодняшнем Евангелии, такая простая и так точно описывает все состояния нашей души, все причины, по которым нам на Бога нет времени, к вечности нет интереса.

...Мало избранных не потому, что Бог строго выбирает, но потому, что Он мало кого находит достойным Себя, а потому, что мало кто находит Бога достойным того, чтобы поступиться клочком земли, часом труда, мгновением ласки. Много призванных... Все мы призваны! Кто же из нас отзовется? Достаточно на любовь ответить любовью, чтобы войти в пир вечности, в жизнь. Неужели мы не ответим на Божию любовь одним словом: Люблю Тебя, Господи!»? (Мит. Антоний Сурожский)

### SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS

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. Just like those ancient people we, too, 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. When Jesus Christ appeared before the doubting Apostle Thomas, who could not believe in the Lord's resurrection unless he actually touched Christ's wounds, and upon touching them cried out: "My Lord and my God!", then the Lord said to the apostle: "Because thou hast seen Me, thou hast believed; but blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

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. Most Christians do not even see how they are perverting their Christian faith in trying to modernize it, and how they are betraying Christ in attempting to unite with the religions of His persecutors and abusers.

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." Amen. *(Father Rostislav Sheniloff)*

**Русская Православная Церковь и Скит**  
**Воскресения**  
**Христова**  
1201 Hathaway Lane  
Minneapolis (Fridley)  
MN 55432  
**763 - 574 - 1001**  
Литургия каждое воскресенье с 9 до 11 час. утра

**ПРАЗДНИЧНЫЕ СЛУЖБЫ:**  
**Вторник, 6 января,**  
**На вечерие Рождества Христова -**  
**Сочельник**

9:00 а.м. - Царские часы  
10:00 а.м. - Литургия Василия Великого с Вечерней, после литургии зажигается свеча и певчие поют «Рождество твое Христе Боже наш»

6:30 р.м. - **РОЖДЕСТВЕНСКАЯ ВСЕНОЩНАЯ**  
(1701 5<sup>th</sup> NE Mpls MN)

8:00 р.м. - **ПОЛИЕЛЕЙ**

**Среда, 7 января - Рождество Христово:**  
9:00 а.м. - Исповедь (1701 5<sup>th</sup> NE Mpls MN)  
10:00 а.м. - **ПРАЗДНИЧНАЯ ЛИТУРГИЯ**  
после службы - общая трапеза

Все службы в монастырском храме:  
(1201 Hathaway Ln, Fridley)  
Кроме Вторника в 6:30 PM  
и Среда 10 AM которые будут  
в \*St Mary's OCA Cathedral,  
1701 5<sup>th</sup> St NE, Mpls MN

**Tel: 612 781-7667**



### *Christmas Donation*

*Please consider a donation ( ) for flowers to adorn the church for the Nativity celebration or ( ) for maintenance of the church building*

In memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_