# In Preparation . . . A look at what is to Come

### Sunday of the Forefathers

The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers is the Sunday that falls between December 11-17, the second Sunday before the Nativity. The ancestors of Christ according to the flesh are remembered on this Sunday of the Nativity Fast. All the great Fathers and Mothers and Prophets of the Old Testament, starting with Adam, Abraham, the Righteous Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, including Holy Prophet Elias and Daniel, and concluding with Holy Prophet Zechariah and Elizabeth, Joachim and Anna, Holy Prophet and Forerunner John the Baptist and The Theotokos. They lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Genesis 12:3, 22:18).

Today is the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers, which is always celebrated two Sundays before the Nativity. Next Sunday is the Sunday of the Holy Fathers, and Nativity follows shortly thereafter on Tuesday. This is part of our preparation for the great feast of our Lord's incarnation. We have already been preparing by fasting. Now the pace is quickening. You can feel it.

Let us ask ourselves why is it that we have this particular reading, about the Great supper, two Sundays before the Nativity? What is it that the church is trying to teach us, and why do we remember the Holy Forefathers today? We cannot but scratch the surface of what this parable means in the Christian life, but it is here primarily because one cannot celebrate a feast without being morally prepared. This parable tells us sins to avoid, attitudes to avoid. It tells us to wake up! It tells us to be ready. We commemorate the Holy Forefathers today, because they indeed were part of the preparation for Christ. Without them, there would have been no God-man, Jesus Christ, because He was born of a woman, who was of their lineage, and, if this is not exactly so in a physical sense, their prophesies and piety prepared the way for the coming of Christ. That was part of God's plan.

As Eastern Christians, we never forget from whence we are come. We not only remember that we are from the dust of the earth, but we also remember those who have preceded us, and indeed, are joined to us, in piety, and in faith, and in struggle. We never feel disassociated from our history.



Weekend		Week Day	
Saturday	4:00PM Northern Cambria	Monday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
Sunday	9:00AM Northern Cambria	Tuesday	6:30PM Revloc
	11:00AM Revloc	Wednesday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
	5:00PM Northern Cambria	Thursday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
Liturgy	schedule may change due	e to Holy Days	s throughout the year.

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Anyone wishing to be a member of the parish, contact Fr. Andriy

Immaculate Conception -St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church 3711 Campbell Avenue Northern Cambria, PA 15714



# Our Weekly Bulletin

Week of December 16 to 23, 2018

# Welcome to our Parish

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! Christ is Among us! He is and always will be!

<b>Divine Liturgies and Services for the Week</b>			
Sunday, Dec 16	Sunday of the Forefathers	▼ James Tishok	
Dec 17	No Liturgy		
Dec 18	Divine Liturgy 6:30PM		
Dec 19	No Liturgy		
Dec 20	No Liturgy		
Dec 21	No Liturgy		
Dec 22	No Liturgy		
Sunday, Dec 23	Sunday of the Holy Fathers	■ John Deskevich     40th Day Liturgy	

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### **Sunday of the Holy Forefathers**

Colossians 3:4-11

Luke 14:16-24

Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 5

Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For he willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

*Troparion of the of the Holy Forefathers Tone 2* 

By faith you justified Your ancestors and through them in advance you betrothed the Church taken from the nations. The saints exult in glory; from their seed comes the blessed fruit, the one who bore You without seed. By their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Kondak of the Holy Forefathers Tone 6

Glory Be...

Armed by the Being that defies description, you defied the manmade idol, O thrice bless'd youth. In the midst of the unbearable flames you stood and cried out to God: "In Your mercy, O Gracious One, hasten and come to our aid," for You can do whatever You will.

Prokeimen of the Holy Forefathers

Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever.

For You are righteous in everything that You have done to us.

Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever.

Alleluia of the Holy Forefathers

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Moses and Aaron are among His priests and Samuel among those who call upon His name.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

They called on the Lord, and He heard them.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

# **PARISH NEWS**

Weekly Collection - December 9, 2018 - \$764.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**Confessions** - Father will hear confessions following Sunday Liturgies.

**Birthday Sunday** - Birthday Sunday will be December 23rd

Weekly Exercise - Thursday evenings at 6:30PM

Catechism - Sundays at 10:00AM

**Envelopes** - The 2019 envelopes are being prepared for distribution. If you currently do not have a box and would like one for 2019, please fill out the form in the vestibule and place it in the collection basket. Envelopes will be ready on December 23.

**Christmas Flowers** - Those wishing to donate flowers please use the envelope from your box. Anyone wishing donate in memory or in honor of someone please write their name on the back of the envelope.



# 2018 Christmas Schedule

December 24 - 10:00PM Northern Cambria December 25 - 9:00AM Northern Cambria 11:00AM Revloc

### **Prayer List**

**Parishioners:** Francis Charney, Carrie Chuff and her twin boys, Peter Datsko, Michael Lutak, Phyllis Weimer, Michael Yendzik, Kevin Rogers, Sarah Kelt, Jeremiah Hunt, Jessica Mizera

**Friends of the Parish:** Troy, Jennifer Maurer, George Datsko, Brian Smith, Breanna Borlie, Robin Wagner, Dan Ott, Mrs. Denny LuKatch, Mark Prewitt Fr. Wolodymyr Woloszczuk, Steve Helsel, Ryder McDermitt. *To add or remove a name, place your request in the collection basket.* 

## **Jokes of the Day**

A blond woman had been married for about a year when one day she came running up to her husband jumping for joy. Not knowing how to react, he started jumping up and down with her.

"Why are we so happy?" he asked. "Honey, I have some really good news for you!" she said. "Great," he said, "Tell me what you are so happy about." She stopped jumping, and breathlessly gasped, "I'm pregnant!". The husband was ecstatic as they had been trying for awhile. He grabbed her, kissed her, and started telling her how wonderful it was, and that he couldn't be happier. Then she said, "Oh, honey there's more." "What do you mean, more?" he asked. "Well, we are not having just one baby, we are going to have twins!" Amazed at how she could know so soon after getting pregnant, he asked her how she knew. "It was easy," she said, "I went to the pharmacy and bought the 2 pack home pregnancy test kit, and both tests came back positive!"