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

#### Sunday of the Holy Fathers

The Sunday of the Fathers is the Sunday before the Nativity of the Lord (December 18-24). On this day the Church honors all those who were well-pleasing to God from all ages, from Adam to St Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, those who are mentioned in the genealogy of Matthew 1:1-25.

Genealogies don't mean the same to us as they did for ancient peoples, so the first part of this morning's reading may be tedious to modern ears. Most people will remember the list of strange names and forget the ending probably because a majority check out somewhere around "Amminadab" if not before. By the time we get to the story of Christmas at the end people are a little glassy-eyed. St. Matthew's genealogy emphasizes that Jesus is the Son of David. He begins with David and moves then to Abraham, a double whammy for Jewish identification and backward since Abraham came before David! His predominately Jewish audience would be looking for that connection. His aim was to convince the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah and Davidic sonship was essential to do so. Both genealogies are essential for our understanding of the Incarnation (Matthew 1:1-25 & Luke 3: ). They compliment one another. Jesus is the Son of God and the Son of David, both human and Divine. As a human being he was specifically Jewish. As God He was perfect God. The real story here is that the Son of God was born at all. If the Son of God had not been born in the flesh, then he could not have been the Son of David. The genealogy tells us that Jesus was a real, live human being with grandparents, uncles, aunts, and probably hundreds of cousins. Tradition tells us that Jesus had half-brothers and sisters since Joseph was a widower and had children from a previous marriage. Some of the Lord's relatives were righteous people, some were scoundrels. At least one of them was a prostitute. Just like our families! White sheep and black sheep. Jesus was a human being with an all-too-typical human family. I'll bet their Hanukkah dinners were a riot!



Weekly Liturgy Schedule				
	Weekend Week Day		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 to Holy Days throughout the year.				

Protection of the B.V.M. Ukrainian Catholic Church 560 Cambria Avenue PO Box 194 Revloc, PA 15948-0194 Rev. Fr Andriy Kelt, Pastor Fr. Deacon Christopher Bellock Fr. Deacon Anthony Dragani, PhD. 724.777.0572 or 814.948.9193

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 23 to 30, 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 23	Sunday of the Forefathers	▼ John Deskevich 40th Day Liturgy	
Dec 24	No Liturgy		
Dec 25	Divine Liturgy for the Birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ	11:00AM	
Dec 26	No Liturgy		
Dec 27	No Liturgy		
Dec 28	No Liturgy		
Dec 29	No Liturgy		
Sunday, Dec 30	Sunday after Christmas	₹ Timothy Powell 40th Day Liturgy	

www.protectionofthebvm.org www.facebook.com/protectionofthebvm/

#### **Sunday of the Holy Fathers**

Hebrews 11:9-10;17-23;32-40

Matthew 1:1-25

Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 6

Angelic powers were upon Your tomb and the guards became like dead men; Mary stood before Your tomb seeking Your most pure body. You captured Hades without being overcome by it. You met the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

Troparion of the Holy Fathers (Tone 2)

Great are the achievements of faith! In the fountain of flames, the three holy youths rejoiced as by the water of rest, and the prophet Daniel was revealed shepherding lions like sheep. Through their intercession, O Christ God, save our souls.

Kondakion of the Holy Fathers (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 Fathers

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have told us the work You did in their days.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

You saved us from our oppressors and put to shame those who hate us. Alleluia, Alleluia

#### **PARISH NEWS**

Weekly Collection - December 16, 2018 - \$362.00. Thank you for your generosity.

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

**Birthday Sunday** - Birthday Sunday is today.

Weekly Exercise - Thursday evenings at 6:30PM

Catechism - Sundays at 10:00AM

**Envelopes & Calendars** - The 2019 calendars & envelopes are ready for you to take home.

**Blessing of Homes** - Fr. Andriy will be blessing homes on January 6th following the Liturgy in the Ebensburg and Cambria Twp and Jackson Twp areas.

If this day does not work for you, please see Fr. Andriy with a date that works.

Christmas Dinner - Our annual parish Christmas dinner will be next Sunday.

Everyone is asked to bring a dessert.



#### 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

How much more can go wrong? One year when we finally stood back and flicked on the light switch to

light the Christmas tree, I noticed that a branch obscured our prized angel ornament. I grabbed the pruning shears, mounted a stool and snipped once. The lights on the tree went out. My husband quietly said, "You don't have your glasses on, do you?

"What are you going to give your little brother for Christmas this year?" "I haven't decided yet." What did you give him last year?" "The measles."