PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR …
The health and salvation of –

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Pauline
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Ann
Archpriest Ian	Stefan
Archpriest Eugene	John
Archpriest Seraphim	Vivian
Reader Aleksei	Jung Sook
Monk Philaret	Thomas
Matushka Mary	Cheyenne
Matushka Mary Sara	Nancy
Andrea	Randall
Virginia • Thomas	Rose
John • Jacqueline	Don
Euphrosynos	Norma
John • Samuel	
Catechumen Rebecca	

The repose and salvation of –

Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.

This Friday, January 6, 7:00 am – Divine Liturgy for Holy Theophany

Contact Father to schedule your house blessing this month

Sunday, January 8 – Parish Council
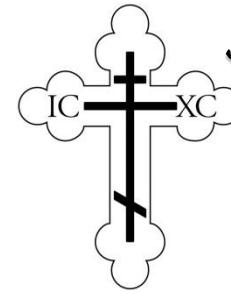## Be sure to complete 2017 pledge cards!

Saturday, January 28, 5:30 PM – Great Vespers

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Don't be left high & dry! Get a premium 6 oz. holy water bottle for only $12!

A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin, Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West, Orthodox Church in America

ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA

ST TIKHON ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
IC XC

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck
Other services as announced

Rev. Alexander Vallens, Rector
priest@sttikhonparker.org
(303) 305-8443
19035 East Plaza Drive, Parker, Colorado 80134
www.sttikhonparker.org

The Circumcision of Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ

The eighth day following His birth, the Divine Child was presented in the Temple and circumcised according to the Law existing in Israel since the time of Abraham. On this occasion, He was given the name Jesus, which the Archangel Gabriel announced to the All-Holy Virgin Mary. The Old Testament circumcision was the proto-type of the New Testament baptism. The circumcision of our Lord shows that He received upon Himself the true body of man and not just seemingly, as was later taught of Him by heretics. Our Lord was also circumcised because He wanted to fulfill the entire Law which He Himself gave through the prophets and forefathers. In fulfilling the written Law, He replaced it with Baptism in His Holy Church as was proclaimed by the Apostle Paul: "For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation" (Galatians 6:15). (In the cycle of the liturgical calendar of the Church, this Feast of the Lord's Circumcision has neither a Forefeast nor an Antefeast).

St Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea

Basil was born during the reign of Emperor Constantine. While still unbaptized, Basil spent fifteen years in Athens where he studied philosophy, rhetoric, astronomy and all other secular sciences of that time. His colleagues at that time were Gregory the Theologian and Julian, later the apostate emperor. In his mature years he was baptized in the river Jordan along with Euvlios his former teacher. He was Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia for almost ten years and completed his earthly life fifty years after his birth. He was a great defender of Orthodoxy, a great light of moral purity, a religious zealot, a great theological mind, a great builder and pillar of the Church of God. Basil fully deserved the title "Great." In liturgical services, he is referred to as the "bee of the Church of Christ which brings honey to the faithful and with its stinger pricks the heretics." Numerous works of this Father of the Church are preserved; they include theological, apologetical, ascetical and canonical writings as well as the Holy and Divine Liturgy named after him. This Divine Liturgy is celebrated ten times throughout the year: the First of January, his feast day; on the eve of the Nativity of our Lord; on the eve of the Theophany of our Lord; all Sundays of the Honorable Fast [Lenten Season], except Palm Sunday; on Great and Holy Thursday and on Great and Holy Saturday. St. Basil died peacefully on January 1, 379 A.D., and was translated into the Kingdom of Christ.

Also this week: REPOSE OF VEN. SERAPHIM, WONDERWORKER OF SAROV (January 2); Holy Prophet Malachi; St. Genevieve (January 3); Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles (January 4); EVE OF THEOPHANY (January 5); HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST (January 6); SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY, GLORIOUS PROPHET AND BAPTIST JOHN (January 7).

* FAST-FREE ALL WEEK EXCEPT THURSDAY, WHICH IS A STRICT FAST DAY *

Epistles: II Timothy 4:5-8 (Sunday Before Theophany) / Colossians 2:8-12 (Circumcision)

Gospels: Mark 1:1-8 (Sunday Before Theophany) / Luke 2:20-21, 40-52 (Circumcision)

Troparion – Tone 3 (Sunday)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! /
For the Lord has shown strength with his arm! /
He has trampled down death by death! /
He has become the first-born of the dead! /
He has delivered us from the depths of hell, /
And has granted to the world /// Great mercy!

Troparion – Tone 1 (Circumcision)

Seated upon a fiery throne in the heavens /
Together with the pre-eternal Father and the Holy Spirit, /
Thou wast pleased to be born on earth of a Mother /
A Maiden who knew not wedlock. /
Therefore, thou hast been circumcised on the eighth day like a man. /
Glory to Thine all-glorious counsel; /
Glory to Thy dispensation; ///
Glory to Thy condescension, O only Lover of mankind!

Troparion – Tone 1 (St. Basil)

Thy voice hath gone out into all the world /
And thy word hath been received.
Thou didst teach divinely concerning the nature of things /
And thou hast adorned the ways of mankind. /
O father Basil, of the royal priesthood, ///
Entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Kontakion – Tone 4 (St. Basil)

Thou didst become an unshakeable pillar of the Church, /
A harbor and refuge / Distributing to all mankind thy teachings /
O venerable father Basil, /// Who dost reveal mysteries of heaven.

Kontakion – Tone 3 (Circumcision)

The Lord of all endures circumcision; /
His [flesh is being cut] for the sins of mankind, /
For He is good and grants salvation to the world /
While Basil, the Creator's high-priest is clothed with light, ///
As he rejoices in the heavens.