

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Pauline
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Ann
Archpriest Eugene	Stefan
Priest Kyrill & family	John
Priest James	Vivian
Priest John	Jung Sook
Reader Aleksei	Thomas
Reader Sergei	Cheyenne
Monk Philaret	Nancy
Matushka Mary	Randall
Matushka Mary Sara	Rose
Marie • Barbara • Kyra	Don
John • Euphrosynos	Norma
Virginia • Thomas	James
John • Luke	
Catechumen Rebecca	
Catechumen Jennifer	

The repose and salvation of –

Mitred-Archpriest Michael (Nov. 11)
Protodeacon Keith (October 26)
Pauline (November 17)

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

This Saturday, December 9, 4:00 PM – choir practice

This Saturday, December 9, 5:30 PM – Great Vespers & Confession

Next Sunday, December 10 – Parish Council

Sunday, December 17 – Nativity Play

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



**ST TIKHON ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Sunday, December 3, 2017

Holy Prophet Zephaniah



Winchester Cathedral, United Kingdom

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck

Wednesdays 6:30 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day

Other services as announced

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The Holy Prophet Zephaniah (Sophonias)

The Prophet Zephaniah (Sophonias) was a contemporary of the Prophet Jeremiah and the Prophetess Oldama. He was from the tribe of Simeon, and was the ninth of the Twelve Minor Prophets of the Old Testament. The prophet lived at the royal court, where he preached repentance and helped King Josiah eliminate idol-worship. He prophesied about the calamities that were to come for the people of Judea and the surrounding regions: Gaza, Ascalon, Crete, and against the Moabites, the Ammonites and the Ninevites.

St Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester-on-Thames and Apostle of Wessex

The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* tells us that he came to England in 634 and died around 650, but our best source for St Birinus' life is the Venerable Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*. He had come into Britain at the direction of Pope Honorius, to sow the seeds of the holy faith in the most inland and remote regions of the English, where no other teacher had been before him. But when he had reached Britain and entered the territory of the West Saxons, he found them completely heathen, and decided that it would be better to begin to preach the word of God among them rather than to seek more distant converts.

He therefore evangelized the province, and when he had instructed King Cynegils, he baptized him and his people. It happened at the time that St Oswald was present, and greeted the king as he came from the font, and taking him as his godson and his daughter as wife. The two kings gave Bishop Birinus the city of Dorchester-on-Thames for his episcopal see, and there he built several churches and brought many people to God by his holy labors. When he died, he was buried there, but his relics were translated to Winchester in 690. But despite his importance to Christianity in Wessex, he was always overshadowed by St Swithun.

Saint Birinus is still specially commemorated at Winchester Cathedral, where small fragments of his relics are preserved. In front, there is a row of nine Orthodox icons, painted by the Russian iconographer Sergei Fyodorov—the icon of St. Birinus is first on the left.

Also this week: *Glorification of the Priestmartyr Alexander Hotovitzky; Greatmartyr Barbara at Heliopolis, in Syria; Ven. John of Damascus (December 4); Ven. Sabbas the Sanctified (December 5); ST NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER, ABP OF MYRA IN LYCIA (December 6); St Ambrose, Bp of Milan (December 7); Ven Patapius of Thebes (December 8); CONCEPTION BY THE RIGHTEOUS ANNA OF THE MOST-HOLT THEOTOKOS (December 9).*

*** NATIVITY FAST THIS WEEK: fish, wine, and oil allowed on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday; wine and oil allowed on Thursday ***

Epistle: Ephesians 5:9-19 (Sunday)

Gospel: Luke 18:18-27 (Sunday)

Troparion – Tone 1 (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, /
While the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, /
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, /
Granting life to the world. /
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: /
“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! /
Glory to Thy Kingdom! ///
Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Troparion – Tone 2 (Prophet)

We celebrate today the memory /
Of Thy prophet Zephaniah; /
Through him, we implore Thee, O Lord, *to save* our souls.

Kontakion – Tone 1 (Resurrection)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, /
Raising the world with Thyself. /
Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished! /
Adam exults, O Master! /
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: ///
Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!

Kontakion – Tone 4 (Prophet)

Thou wast manifested by the Holy Spirit /
As one resplendent with bright rays of light /
For thou didst proclaim the Theophany of God, O prophet Zephaniah /
Having preached “Rejoice greatly, O daughters of Zion and Jerusalem; ///
For behold, your King comes to save you!”