

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

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

The repose and salvation of –

Pauline (November 17)
Ann (December 6)

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

Contact Father to schedule your house blessing this month

Friday, January 5, 6:30 PM – Great Vespers & Litya

Saturday, January 6, 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

& Great Blessing of Water

**Don't be left high & dry! Get a premium 6 oz. holy
water bottle for only \$12! Buy now and get
complimentary free refills for life!**



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



Leavetaking of the Nativity



Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day
Other services as announced

Rev. Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

priest@sttikhonparker.org

(303) 305-8443

19035 East Plaza Drive, Parker, Colorado 80134

www.sttikhonparker.org

**Commemoration of the Holy Righteous David the King,
Joseph the Betrothed, and James the Brother of the Lord**

The Holy Prophet-King David was a forefather of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh. The youngest son of Jesse, David shepherded a flock of sheep belonging to his father. He was distinguished by his deep faith, and he zealously fulfilled the will of God.

During a battle with the Philistines, he vanquished the giant Goliath in single combat, which decided the outcome of the war in favor of the Israelites. He endured many things from King Saul, who saw him as a favorite of the people and his rival. David, however, showed his own decency and magnanimity. Twice, when he had the possibility of killing Saul, he did not do so. After Saul and his sons perished, David was proclaimed king of all Israel. He built a new capital, Jerusalem (“the City of Peace”), and a new tabernacle. His great wish to build a Temple was not realized. It was foretold to him that his son would build the Temple.

The life of the Prophet David was darkened by a grievous falling: he took Uriah’s wife for himself, and sent Uriah to his death in battle. He was also an example of great repentance, humbly and with faith bearing the sorrows sent in punishment for his sins. Saint David gave a model for repentance in Psalm 50. King David died in great old age with steadfast faith in the coming of the promised Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ. His divinely-inspired Psalter is widely used in the divine services and in personal prayers.

Saint Joseph the Betrothed was of the lineage of King David. In his first marriage, he had four sons and two daughters. After he became a widower, St Joseph led a life of strict temperance. He was chosen to be the husband and guardian of the Most Holy Theotokos, who had taken a vow of virginity. An angel told him of the Incarnation of the Son of God through her. Saint Joseph was present when the shepherds and the Magi worshiped the new-born divine Infant. On the orders of the angel, he fled into Egypt with the Mother of God and the Infant Jesus, saving them from the wrath of King Herod. He lived in Egypt with the Virgin Mary and the divine Child, working as a carpenter. St Joseph reputedly died at the age of one hundred.

The Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Lord, was the eldest son of St Joseph from his first marriage with Solomonia. The Apostle James is remembered after the Feast of the Nativity of Christ since he accompanied his family on the Flight into Egypt and lived there with the infant Jesus, the Mother of God and Joseph. Later, he returned to Israel with them. After the Ascension of the Lord, St James was the first Bishop of Jerusalem, gaining the great esteem not only of Christians, but also of Jews. He was thrown from the roof of the Temple because he had publicly preached to the people about the God-Manhood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Also this week: CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD; ST BASIL THE GREAT, ABP OF CAESAREA (January 1); REPOSE OF VEN. SERAPHIM, WONDERWORKER OF SAROV (January 2); Holy Prophet Malachi; Ven Genevieve of Paris (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).

** Fast-free all week through Thursday; Friday is a strict fast **

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 (Sunday after Nativity)

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23 (Sunday after Nativity)

Troparion – Tone 5 (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, /
Co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / Born for our salvation from the Virgin; /
For He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / To endure death, /
And to raise the dead /// By His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion – Tone 4 (Feast)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, / Has shone to the world the light of wisdom! /
For by it, those who worshipped the stars, / Were taught by a star to adore Thee, /
The Sun of righteousness, / And to know Thee, the Orient from on high. ///
O Lord, glory to Thee!

Troparion – Tone 2 (Righteous Ones)

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the ancestor of God, / The amazing wonders. /
For thou hast seen a Virgin great with child, / And with shepherds thou didst glory. /
With the Magi thou didst worship /
And by the angel the wonders were revealed to thee; ///
So now pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion – Tone 3 (Righteous Ones)

Today David the holy *king* is filled with joy; /
Joseph and James offer hymns of praise. /
They are adorned with relationship to Christ as a *crown* of glory; /
They sing to Him Who is born on earth in manner beyond understanding, ///
Crying out: Save those who adore Thee, O Merciful Lord!

Kontakion – Tone 3 (Feast)

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, /
And the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One! /
Angels with shepherds glorify Him; /
The Wise Men journey with the star, ///
Since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!