



**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church
(St. Mary's)
6719 Token Valley Road
Manassas, VA 20112
(703) – 791 – 6635
www.stmarysbyz.com**

Reverend Alexander Dumenko — Pastor (301) – 421 – 1739

Mr. Ronald Bodnar — Cantor (703) – 670 – 6740

Sunday Divine Liturgies: 8:30 a.m. Holy Days as scheduled in the Bulletin

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 24-31, 2017

Sunday, December 24 Sunday before Christmas

EPISTLE HEB. 11:9-10&32-40; GOSPEL: MT.1:1-25 TONE 4

8:00 a.m. Confession 8:30 a.m. – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

Christmas Eve/ NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

7:30 PM – Great Compline 8:00 PM – Divine Liturgy

For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for **+Helen Berezuk** by Children, Grandchildren & Greatgrandchildren and for **+William Troy** by daughter Helen Troy

Epistle Gal. 4:4-7; Gospel: Mt. 2:1-12 Tone Festal

Sunday, December 31 Sunday after Christmas

EPISTLE GAL.1:11-19; GOSPEL: MT.2:13-23 TONE 5 & Festal

8:00 a.m. Confession 8:30 a.m. – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

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ON THE NATIVITY OF OUR

LORD



The Birth of Christ is a historical event, because it took place at a specific moment in history, when Caesar Augustus was Emperor in Rome and Herod was ruler of Judea. The Evangelists insist on emphasizing the historicity of the event, because they want to say that Christ is a historical person. This means that Christ assumed real human flesh, and the Incarnation was not merely seeming or imagined. In spite of its historicity, this event remains a mystery. We know that the Godman, perfect God and perfect man, exists, but it remains a mystery how the divine nature united with human nature in the person of the Logos. Moreover, what happened to the person of Christ, that the divine nature was united hypostatically with human

nature, happened just once. Therefore St. John of Damascus said that Christ is "the only new thing under the sun." This means that since the creation of the world and man, nothing new has happened in the world. Everything is repeated (according to the natural order and rules which govern the universe). The (successive) birth of human beings is a consequence and result of God's words: "Let us make man in our image and likeness", and "Be fruitful and multiple; fill the earth and subdue it" (Gen. 1:26-28). The only new thing is the Godman Christ. Thus the fact that the event is historical does not remove the mystery, but also the mystery does not do away with the historicity. At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Christ, but at the same time we experience mysteriously in our hearts all the events connected with it, for when we are alive in the Church, we are participating in and experiencing all the stages of the divine Incarnation. - By Metropolitan Hierotheos Vlachos

Myroslava Tkhoryk Helen Troy - In Memory of William Troy, the Troyanowksy and Katinowsky Families,
and In Honor of Dorothy Troy.

Weekly Income: Collection: 12/17- Donation
Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!