



## Birthdays This Week

Dec. 17 - Jenny Gillquist      Dec. 21 - Katherine Hartman  
 Dec. 18 - Peter Lamb          Dec. 21 - Annie Stahley  
 Dec. 20 - Donnie Amundson      Dec. 23 - Sara Truelson  
 Dec. 20 - Nora Ray

**M A N Y   Y E A R S !**

## St. John's Reading Group

Wednesday Readers: 10am to 11:30am in Reading Room.



3rd Sunday (12/16) - 'L' through 'R'  
 Hosting - Subdn. Abraham & Anna Labrada & Janet Northey

4th Sunday (12/23) - 'S' through 'Z'  
 Hosting - Anna Sluz & Raymond & Cecilia Scherer



## Clare House Meal Fourth Saturday of Each Month

For the Month of DECEMBER our scheduled meal is 12/22. – Sign up on the Downstairs Bulletin Board.

# St. John's Sunday Bulletin

December 16, 2018 \* Sunday of the Forefathers

Colossians 3:4-11 \* Luke 14:16-24 \* Tone 4

Reader: Steve Templeton

Homily by: Fr. John Rogers

## Church Decoration Today at 12:30

This year the Youth Group, headed up by Eric Johnson, with the assistance of Rhonda Clodfelter, will be decorating the Nave and the Narthex. Please feel free if you would like to join in to help.

## Bring A Poinsettia to Church the Week Before Nativity

As a continuing tradition of our church decorating, you may bring a poinsettia plant the week before the Feast of the Nativity (Dec. 16-24) to be placed on the steps before our iconostasis.



## No Family Night for the Rest of the Season Wednesday Family Night will Resume in January 9

This Wednesday, December 19, The St. John Orthodox Christian School will have their Christmas Program at 7:00pm.



## St. Ignatius The Great - Thursday, December 20 - Divine Liturgy 8am

Ignatius was the Bishop of Antioch at the end of the 1st century. He was arrested by the emperor Trajan and taken to Rome to die in the arena for being a Christian. Along his journey he wrote 7 letters to the churches he passed, and we still have these letters to this day.

This day also marks the days that begin the Forefeast of Christmas, the winter "holy week" that brings us to celebrations of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

## Christmas Caroling on Monastery

A group of St. John's school children will be out caroling on Monastery Drive this coming Thursday, December 20, from 12:50-2pm. We plan on starting at the top of the cul-de-sac and working our way toward the Old Glenn Highway. If you have any questions please contact Deborah Stallman

### Saint John Orthodox Cathedral

P.O. Box 771108 • 18936 Monastery Drive • Eagle River, Alaska, 99577  
 (907) 696-2002 • Fax: (907) 696-5555 • Website: stjohنالaska.org  
 • Diocesan Website: <http://www.antiochianladiocese.org>

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese • Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway  
 Assistant Priests: Fr. John Downing / Fr. Robert Polson  
 Fr. Thomas Frizelle / Fr. John Rogers

**Schedule of Regular Services:** Saturdays: Great Vespers-7:15pm

Sundays: Matins-9am/Divine Liturgy-10am

Wednesdays: Vespers 7:15pm / Thursdays: Divine Liturgy 8:15am (On School Days)

Wednesdays and Fridays 6th Hour Prayers – 12:30pm (On School Days)

Confession Times: Fr. Marc, Fr. Robert & Fr. Thomas after Great Vespers on Saturdays

## *Out of the Office...*

Maris Kelly will be out of the office, traveling to Australia with Myles and daughter Catherine, from December 18 through January 13. (*Please keep them in your prayers for safe travels*). Debbie Stallman will be doing the Sunday Bulletins and Rhonda Clodfelter will be filling in at the office. Please contact Debbie if you have an announcement at [dbdgd@yahoo.com](mailto:dbdgd@yahoo.com) no later than **Friday 9am**. Contact Rhonda if you need a reimbursement for anything. She will be in the office on Mondays.

*The 2018 Donations Receipt will be handed out when Maris returns, as well as W2's and 1099Misc for employees.*

## *Comment about Fireworks on New Year's Eve*

At our last Parish Council meeting we discussed the issue of neighborhood fireworks. While this is not really a typical Parish Council kind of thing to address, we can, of course, always remind people that it is good to be thoughtful of other people in all circumstances. With respect to fireworks on New Year's Eve, it is clear some people enjoy shooting off fireworks on this day and this is becoming part of Alaskan culture on this day, since on July 4 it is too light to enjoy them. At the same time other people find fireworks, especially if they go on for a long time, distressing. Perhaps it is possible for both groups to be considerate of the others' desires. Perhaps one can practice tolerance and the other can practice moderation, especially in timing and duration. Of course, it is currently illegal in the Anchorage Municipality to shoot off personal fireworks. So officially such fireworks cannot be set off on Church property, and neighbors do have the option of calling the police if they want to report illegal fireworks. Saint Paul tells us this: *"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you"* (Col. 3:13). This is always a good exhortation. - Fr. Marc

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## *St. John's School News*

*School Program - Wednesday Evening, December 19 at 7pm  
In the Church Basement*

Come join us the Christmas Program for singing and cookies.

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## *Local Community News and Personal Notes*

### *Eagle River Elementary Donations Needed*

As many of you know, Eagle River Elementary is closed for the year and many of the teachers' materials were destroyed by the earthquake. The school is holding a "teacher shower" the 4th of January to help replace some of the damaged items. If you have any new or gently-used picture books (Kindergarten-2nd grade level), blocks, Lincoln logs, or coloring books, please drop them off anytime between now and January 2nd in the Church Basement. There will be a big box marked "Eagle River Elementary Donations". If you would like to make a small cash donation, give it to me by Jan 1 and I will use the funds to buy whatever else is on the school wish list. Thank you and please call or email with any questions! — Cara Fletes

## *Stress in Your Marriage?*

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on Feb. 22 to 24, 2019, call 907-863-8000 or email: [anchorage@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:anchorage@helpourmarriage.org) or visit the web site at [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org)

## *Debbie Stallman Still has Necklaces from Uganda*

If you are interested in purchasing one they are \$10 each and all proceeds will go to the Sisters of Mary and Martha for their Advent Charity.

## *Dan Kendall's 64 Earthquake Story on PBS*

Dan Kendall's 64 earthquake story as told to PBS will be on Channel 7 on Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00 PM.

Part of the interview was filmed at St. Sergius Chapel. There also may be some outdoor shots of the Cathedral.

<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/2018/12/02/good-friday-earthquake-survivors-reunited-for-upcoming-tv-documentary/>

<https://www.pbs.org/video/episode-3-preview-great-alaskan-earthquake-4vkaej/>

<https://www.pbssocal.org/programs/well-meet-again/day-earthquake-zilgpe/>

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## *"One Accord"*

*-Words from our Metropolitan Joseph*

"The Season of the Nativity is about nothing other than preparing a little room for the Lord Jesus Christ to come and shine in our souls."

"I need all of you to bring peace and joy and forgiveness to your homes, to your church, to your friends, to your children, and to all your loved ones during this holy season. Call your loved ones and tell them you love them."

"We don't reject God's banquet. We don't reject God's invitation. We don't reject God's loving-kindness. So let us open our hearts and our minds during these holy days to receive Him as He comes to bring peace and joy and every good thing into the world."

"We must become and manifest the icon of God, this restored beauty in our own lives, in our families, in our Churches in our communities and in our Nation."

## *Good Works Basket*



For over 45 years Alaska Youth Advocates, through its various programs and partnerships, has been offering young people the chance for a healthier and safe life. These youths, as young as 13 years old, have often quit school, have little or no family support, may suffer from abuse or addiction and have no place to go but the streets. AYA combines its youth center and clinic with its street outreach to assure whatever help is needed is within easy reach. During the next several weeks, the Sisters of Martha & Mary's Advent Project and the Good Works Basket are combining efforts to help AYA in their mission. The following is a list of "survival items" AYA distributes to youth at the drop-in center as well as on the street. You can also pick up a "most needed" items list at the GWB table. In the spirit of St. Nicholas – Thank you.

*Travel size Shampoo, Conditioner, Soap & Lotion, Mittens or Gloves, Hats, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Bars of soap, Nail clippers, Hairbrush / Comb, Deodorant, Gum, Chap stick, Small packs of handi-wipes, Small packs of band aides, Hair ties, Scrunchies, Socks (Men's and Women's), Sample size boxes of Q-tips*