



St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

Very Reverend Michael J. Mandelas, Pastor

Liturgical Schedule

December 2021

<u>Liturgical Services</u>			
	Saturday	Divine Liturgy	9:00 a.m.
		Great Vespers with Divine Liturgy (Vigil for Sunday)	4:30 p.m. <i>Also ONLINE</i>
	Sunday	Orthros/Matins	8:00 a.m. <i>Also ONLINE</i>
		Divine Liturgy	10:00 a.m. <i>Also ONLINE</i>
	Monday	No services unless announced	
	Tuesday-Friday	Orthros/Matins with Divine Liturgy	8:00 a.m.
	Holy Days (Solemn Obligation)	Vespers, Orthros/Matins, Divine Liturgy	As indicated below <i>Also ONLINE</i>
<u>Holy Mystery of Repentance</u>			
	Saturday		3:30 – 4:15 p.m. <i>Or by appointment</i>
<u>Rosary</u>	Sunday		9:00 a.m.
<u>Skagit Valley Outreach located at St. Charles Catholic Church</u> Sundays 935 Peterson Rd Divine Liturgy at 4:30 pm Burlington, WA 98233			

Liturgical Notes: Aliturgical Days (Matins only): Dec. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 9th, 14th, 16th

December 6th
Monday

Feast of Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra

Festal Matins at 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy at 6:30 p.m.
With the Blessing of St. Nicholas Oil at the conclusion of Divine Liturgy

December 8th
Wednesday

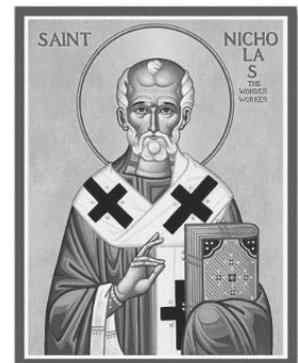
Feast of the Maternity of the Holy Anna

Festal Matins with Divine Liturgy at 8:00 a.m.

December 11 & 18
Saturdays

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Matins at 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. with Panachida



Emmanuel Moleben (*A Service of Prayer for the Christmas Fast*) will be held on consecutive Wednesday evenings: December 1st, 8th, 15th. Daily Vespers will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed immediately by the Emmanuel Moleben. *Let us come together, and as a community, and prepare for the Feast of the Nativity.*

Announcements

The **2021 Saint Nicholas Celebration** will be Sunday, **December 5th** following Divine Liturgy. This year we will have a smaller celebration gathering with our parish community in the hall.

The cost is \$7.00 per individual or \$15.00 per family. This is **NOT a potluck** as in past years, so please do not bring any food to this event.

- Team Doyle-Baklinski will prepare all foods for this event, which includes main dishes, salads, and dessert. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with this event (i.e. set up, service, as well as clean up). Sign-up sheets will soon be in the Narthex. Please contact Mike Corrigan to address questions regarding this event.
- Seating will be limited due to capacity, but hopefully we can have a cover erected outside the parish hall doors to aid in overflow.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to have our ECF play, HOWEVER, Fr. Michael has it on good authority that St. Nicholas is still planning to visit.

Phillip's Fast/Nativity Fast

According to the forty-day tradition, the Philip's Fast in preparation for Christmas begins Monday, November 15th. During this fast it was the custom to observe a strict abstinence on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and a lesser abstinence (mitigation for wine and oil) on Tuesday and Thursday. The fast is observed more strictly from December 10th (in some traditions) or from December 20th (in other traditions), with daily strict abstinence, and mitigated abstinence (wine and oil) on Saturday and Sunday. The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season (Canon 880.2). This fast may be observed voluntarily, or partially or in its entirety. –taken from the Typicon for our Metropolitan Ruthenian Church

Parish Envelopes & 2022 Liturgical Calendars

Parish contribution envelopes and Liturgical Calendars for the year 2022 will soon be available in the parish hall. Please try to have exact change/cash or a check when purchasing a calendar(s).

Weekly and Monthly Tithes As some families and individuals continue to be unable to attend services in person at this time, it has not removed the need for the parish to maintain its need for financial support. Bills continue to come in, and we are continually in need of our parishioner's support. It is possible to submit payments **online** with a credit card at **no fee to you**. If you would like to save the postage of mailing in your tithe envelope/donation, you may go to <https://stjohnchrysostom.org/one-time-donation/> to make either a *one-time donation*, or to set up a *recurring* weekly or monthly donation. If you have been assigned physical donation envelopes for yourself/your family, please include that information so that it may be properly documented for your household's tax purposes.

A Special Collection for the Retired Religious

There will be a second collection taken up the weekend of Saturday/Sunday December 11/12 at all services for the support of our Retired Religious. Please be generous to our faithful servants of the Church.



Sundays of December Vocation Themes:

Contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: vocations@ephx.org

Twenty-Eighth Sunday After Pentecost. Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Sabbas the Sanctifier. – December 5th, 2021

“Get up and go your way. Your faith has healed you!” The faith of the healed leper who returned to thank Jesus is a model of thanksgiving and love for God. Our Lord works through the faith of those who love him and serve His body, the Church. Is a life of service and faithfulness to God and His Church as a priest, deacon, monk or nun something that may be for you?

Sunday of the Forefathers, Our Venerable Father Spyridon the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Tremithus. Or: Feast of the Mother of God of Guadalupe. – December 12th, 2021

“Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.” Our gracious Lord seeks to bring all people who are willing to his heavenly banquet. His servants are called to reach out to the ends of the earth so that his house may be filled. While this is the calling of all Christians, those called to the priesthood, diaconate, minor orders, monastic and religious life do so in a special way. If this may be your calling, contact the Vocations Office.

Sunday before Christmas, of the Ancestors. The Holy Martyr Boniface. The commemoration of the Martyr is omitted – December 19th, 2021

“They shall call his name Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” The presence of God is seen through the salvation foretold in the Old Covenant, and is revealed through the Birth of Our Lord Jesus, Emmanuel. Our own lives can manifest the presence of God when we live according to our vocations. Are you being called to show God’s presence as a priest, deacon, monk or nun?

Sunday after Christmas. Memory of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, of David, the King, and of the Holy Apostle James, the Brother of God. Synaxis of the Mother of God. The holy Martyr Euthemius, Bishop of Sardis. The commemoration of the Martyr is omitted – December 26th, 2021

“Out of Egypt I have called my son.” The righteous Joseph the betrothed was faithful to his calling, protecting Jesus and the Theotokos by journeying to Egypt and returning to Nazareth. Our Lord calls each one of us out of the spiritual Egypt of our lives so that we may live in the promised land meant for our lives. Is he calling you to a life of holy orders or monasticism?

Safe Environment Information

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PHOENIX subscribes to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People adopted by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops. The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions and programs, is committed to assuring a safe environment in ministry for its children and young people that conforms to the Charter requirements. For information regarding the Eparchial Safe Environment Program, please contact:

Dcn. Michael Hanafin - Safe Environment Program Coordinator

Cell: (480) 387-5182 Email: dcnhanafin@ephx.org

Sbdcn. Paul F. Kilroy - Asst. Safe Environment Program Coordinator

Office: (602) 861-9778 - Cell: (702) 498-5972 Email: sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org

Dr. Caroline Bonham - Victim Assistance Coordinator

Cell: (505) 314-3943 Email: victimassistanceofphoenix@gmail.com

To report an allegation, please notify your pastor and then contact the Safe Environment Office.

For assistance and support of anyone who has been abused or victimized by anyone representing the Catholic Church, please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator.



The Parish Council will meet Monday January 10th at 7pm in the parish office.

The Altar Society will NOT meet during the month of December.

The **Holy Name Society** will NOT meet during the month of December.



Religious Education

Eastern Catholic Formation Classes are currently suspended.

Church Etiquette - St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

Like any house to which one is invited, there is always some sort of basic etiquette, and God's house is no exception. Below are some basics to help you be more at home and to allow others to worship as well.

We enter the church through the narthex, which symbolizes the passage from everyday cares to "the one thing necessary" (*see Lk 10:42*)-the kingdom of God. From the narthex, we enter the nave (the "temple of the faithful"), which is the image of the fullness of the Church: the community gathers around Christ, her Head, whose image is in the center of the dome. On the walls of the church are many icons of the saints, manifesting the communion of the Church on earth and the Church in heaven. The sanctuary, to which the entire liturgical assembly is oriented, is a symbol of heaven. The nave and the sanctuary are united by the iconostasis, on which the icons manifest the invisible presence of Christ and the saints. (*Adapted from "Christ-Our Pascha," pp 195-96, 2016*)

On Sundays, please be considerate and arrive in the Church by approximately 9:45-9:50 a.m. This will give you time to venerate icons and light candles, if you choose to do so, and to settle in before Liturgy begins at 10:00 a.m.

If you arrive late, please stay in the narthex until there is an appropriate opportunity to enter the nave. During Liturgy, if you need to leave and re-enter the nave, please do so as quietly as possible. Remember, the opening and closing of doors, the movement of people to their pews, and the disturbing of people to accommodate people arriving late or leaving/re-entering is very distracting. Instruct children there is no running in the church, and limit children from any unnecessary in and out movement from the Temple.

Please remember that there is a one-hour fasting discipline in the Catholic Church before receiving Holy Communion. This requirement is waived for babies, the elderly, the ill, and when required for medications. Please, no gum, food, or drink in the Church. Water is acceptable but please be mindful of metal or hard plastic water containers - the loud noise they make when they fall over is distracting.

While the Church never imposes a dress code, it is a sign of our interior disposition, and a sign of how important we consider coming to Liturgy and to God's house is. Please dress appropriately.

Quietness is most appreciated in the Church. The Church is a sacred space, so please keep talking to a minimum.

After receiving Holy Communion, please be respectful of worshippers who are still in the process of receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. This is a contemplative and prayerful time, so, again, quietness is appreciated.

Our Lord says, "Let the little children come to me." Children at Liturgy are a sign of God's love and promise that the Church will endure until the end of the ages. Patience is always afforded to crying infants, but parents are asked to be as courteous as you can be for others trying to pray and listen. You can step into the narthex for a minute to quiet things down, even during important times at Liturgy. God, the priest, and everyone else will understand. Most of us have been there!

Check that cellular phone! Is it off, on vibrate mode, or on airplane mode? As in most important moments, cell phones ringing, buzzing, or people texting is highly inappropriate.

Finally, Liturgy does not end until the final blessing.

