



St. Moses the Black Orthodox Church
Rev. Paul Abernathy, Pastor
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Sunday, December 23, 2018
Forefeast of & Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (The Genealogy)
Ten Martyrs of Crete; New-martyr Nicholas; Venerable Nahum of Ochrid

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE (Spiral book page 118) - *Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.*

APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY IN TONE FOUR - *Be thou ready, Bethlehem, Eden hath opened unto all. * Ephratha, prepare thyself, for now, behold, the Tree of Life * hath blossomed forth in the cave from the holy Virgin. * Her womb hath proved a true spiritual Paradise, * wherein the divine and saving Tree is found, * and as we eat thereof we shall all live, * and shall not die as did Adam. * For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforetime.*

APOLYTIKION OF SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY IN TONE TWO - *Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.*

APOLYTIKION TO ST. MOSES THE BLACK - *Dweller of the desert and angel in the body, you were shown to be a wonder-worker, our God-bearing Father Moses. You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer: healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. Glory to Him who gave you strength! Glory to Him who granted you a crown! Glory to Him who through you grants healing to all!*

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE - *On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who *before the ages is God.*

THE EPISTLE

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers. For Thou art justified in all that Thou hast done for us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz,

and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Monday, December 24, 2018 - 8:30 AM - Royal Hours

Monday, December 24, 2018 - 7:00 PM - Matins & Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of our Lord, God & Savior Jesus Christ

Wednesday, December 26, 2018 - 6:00 PM - NO Vespers

Saturday, December 29, 2018 - 6:00 PM - Great Vespers

Sunday, December 30, 2018 - 9:30 AM - Matins and Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, January 2, 2019 - 6:00 PM - Weekly Vespers

Saturday, January 5, 2019 - 6:00 PM - Great Vespers

Sunday, January 6, 2019 - 9:30 AM - Matins and Divine Liturgy - Theophany

Sunday, January 6, 2019 - 6:00 PM - Children/Youth/Teen Gathering

***PRAYER LIST - Please contact Pres. Kristina Abernathy via email at Kristina.nicole@me.com or via text or call at 724.493.7213 to add living or departed names to the prayer list.**

LIVING— Metropolitan Boulous, Archbishop Johana, Archpriest Jason & Family, Archpriest Anthony & Family, Archpriest Elias, Archpriest John & Family, Archpriest James, Kh. Linda, Archpriest Patrick, Kh. Vanessa, Priest Joseph, Kh. Arleen, Justin, Christopher, Priest Samuel, Pres. Fotini, Hieromonk Michael, The Sisterhood of St. Nina Monastery, The Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black, The Parishioners of St. George, Deacon Joseph, Shimasee Rebecca, Unborn Child, The Seminarian Paul, Deacon John, Sister Janice, Sister Janice, The Painter Family, The Boozer Family, The Wells Family, The Horne Family, The Focus Family, Pearl, Brandon, Isabella, Ashley, Marcella, Tara, Louise, Peter, Julita, Marika, Mary, John, Akxanna, Nicholas, Stephen, David, Jerrel, Nathan, Brooklin, Dylan, Tracy, Joshua, Dustin, Amera, Adam, Moses, Ramey, Victoria, Tyra, Lamar, Blair, Bisrat, Ava, Aaryn, Michael, Emma, Deborah, Marianne, James, Haleigh, Cathy, Kathleen, Daniel, Rocco, Diane, Michael, Isiah, Jaquagh, Jay, Ryan, Sincere, Bleu, Angelo, April, Paul, Dawaan, Jayden, The students of the Pitt/CMU/Duquesne/Waynesburg OCF, Nadine, Elise, Katherine, Anthony, Steven, Tommy, Joanna, David, Esther, Juliana, Mary, Xenia, Thekla, Alexis, Juliana, Judah, Arbutus, Alexandra, Aaron, Madelyn, Rachel, William, James, Juliana, Isabel, Fidelia, Rhonda, Shawana, Michelle, Josh, Alexander, Jonathan, Jaden, Qradin, William, Joseph, Jacqueline, Diane, Edith, Chris, Caroline, Luke, Samuel, Hosanna, Alexander, Susan, Major, Barry, Linda, Lydia, Kristin, Katherine, Kammy

DEPARTED — Kh. Stephanie, Kh. Joanne, Bern, Helen, Timothy, Michael, M. Victoria, John, Ed, Lucille

****CONFESSIONS and HOUSE BLESSINGS By Appointment** - Please contact Rev. Paul Abernathy via calling at 412.254.6281 to schedule confession or a meeting.

*****DONATIONS**

Please make your offerings as follows: **Checks made payable to St. Moses the Black Orthodox Church.** Donations can be given to Pres. Kristina or Parish Treasurer Amera.
