



# NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY

## ORTHODOX CHURCH

### A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST



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WEEKLY BULLETIN 2/15/2026

Meatfare Sunday and the Last Judgement ([learn more](#))

#### Regular Schedule

- ◇ **Fr. Peter's Office Hours:** Tue-Thur 10-3 (parish office) or by appointment
- ◇ **Saturdays:** Great Vespers 5pm followed by confession
- ◇ **Sundays:** Hours & Divine Liturgy 9:30am followed by fellowship at the parish center. All are welcome.
- ◇ **Book study** every Tuesday 7pm (online only)

#### Announcements, Etc.

- "Gifts of love" IOCC fundraiser is this Sunday. Bring dollars!
- Click [here](#) to sign up to volunteer to help serve a FOCUS breakfast to the needy on Wednesdays.
- 2026 coffee hour sign up sheet in parish hall.

#### Volunteers Needed Sunday!

Matushka Christine of FOCUS needs volunteers this Sunday to provide dinner to the hungry. Please see Todd Sweet for more information.

#### [Mark 16:9-20](#)

Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept. And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe. After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country. And they went and told it to the rest, but they did not believe them either. Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

#### [1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2](#)

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.

But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

#### [Matthew 25:31-46](#)

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying,

‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

## Hymns from the Services of Sunday of the Last Judgement

### Great Vespers

#### Lord I call

The trumpets shall sound and the tombs shall be emptied, / and all mankind in trembling shall be raised. / Those that have done good shall rejoice in gladness, / awaiting their reward; / those that have sinned shall tremble and bitterly lament, / as they are sent to punishment / and parted from the chosen. / O Lord of glory, take pity on us in Thy goodness, // and count us worthy of a place with them that have loved Thee.

#### Litya

Knowing the commandments of the Lord, / let us conduct our lives in this way: / let us nourish the hungry, let us give drink to the thirsty; / let us clothe the naked, let us welcome the strangers; / let us visit the sick, the infirm, and those in prison, / so that He Who is coming to judge the whole earth may say to us: / “Come, O blessed of My Father, // inherit the Kingdom which has been prepared for you!”

### Matins

#### Ode 1

Unworthy though I be, may I also hear Thy voice, so greatly desired, that calls Thy saints to joy, and may

I attain the ineffable blessings of the Kingdom of Heaven.

#### Exapostilarion

The trial is without respect of persons, and fearful is the judgment on that day; nothing escapes the Judge, no favor can be won with bribes. But spare me, Master, and deliver me from all Thy fearful wrath.

#### Praises

Daniel the prophet, / a man greatly beloved, / when he saw the power of God, cried out: / 'The court sat for judgment, and the books were opened.' / Consider well, my soul: dost thou fast? / Then despise not thy neighbor. / Dost thou abstain from food? / Condemn not thy brother, / lest thou be sent away into the fire, / there to burn as wax. // But may Christ lead thee

#### Liturgy Kontakion

When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory, / and all things tremble, / and the river of fire floweth before the Judgment Seat / and the books are opened, and the hidden things made public, / then deliver me from the unquenchable fire // and deem me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O most righteous Judge.