

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

For January 2018.

- 06.01. - **CHRISTMAS EVE DAY** (Saturday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am

.....Vespers & blessing of the Badnjak/Christmas Tree @ 18:30 pm

- 07.01. - **CHRISTMAS DAY** (Sunday) - Christmas' Matins @ 0:01 am

.....Christmas' Liturgy @ 10:00 am

- 09.01. - **ST. PROTOMARTYR AND ARCHDEACON STEPHEN** (Tuesday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 14.01. - **THE CIRCUMCISION OF THE LORD; ST. BASIL THE GREAT; SERBIAN NEW YEAR** (Sunday)- Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 19.01. - **THE THEOPHANY/EPIPHANY** (Friday) - Divine Liturgy & the Great Blessing of the water @ 10:00 am
- 20.01. - **ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST** (Saturday)- Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 21.01. - (Sunday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 27.01. - **ST. SAVA'S DAY** (Saturday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 28.01. - (Sunday) - Divine Liturgy with the blessing of zito and kolac. Following the St. Sava's Day Banquet

**МИР БОЖИЈИ! - ХРИСТОС СЕ РОДИ!
СРЕЋНА И БЛАГОСЛОВЕНА НОВА ГОДИНА!**

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**CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



НЕДЕЉНИ

ЦРКВЕНИ ЛИСТИЋ

Ц.Ш.О. Св. Архангела Михаила - Торонто

SERBIAN EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ARCHANGEL MICHAEL
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THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVOUR JESUS CHRIST



"And when the fullness of time was come, God sent His only-begotten Son" (Gal. 4:4), to save the human race. And when the ninth month had come after the archangel Gabriel appeared to the most holy Virgin in Nazareth, saying: "Hail) thou that art highly favoured... thou shalt conceive and bear a son" - at that time a decree went forth from Caesar Augustus that all the inhabitants of the Roman Empire be taxed. In accordance with this decree, everyone had to go to his own town and there be inscribed. Therefore righteous Joseph

came with the most holy Virgin to Bethlehem, the city of David, for they were both of the royal House of David. But, there being a great many people in that small city for the census, Joseph and Mary could not find a lodging in any house, and found shelter in a cave which the shepherds used as a sheepfold. In this cave the most holy Virgin gave birth to the Saviour of the world, the Lord Jesus Christ. Bearing Him without pain, as He was conceived without sin of the Holy Spirit and not of man, she herself wrapped Him in swaddling bands, worshipped Him as God and laid Him in a manger. Then righteous Joseph drew near and worshipped Him as the divine Fruit of a virgin womb. Then the shepherds came in from the fields, directed by an angel of God, and worshipped Him as Messiah and Saviour. The shepherds had heard a multitude of angels singing: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill among men" (Luke 2:14). At that time there also came wise men from the East, led by a wonderful star, bearing their gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh, and worshipped Him as King of kings, offering Him their gifts (Matt. 2:11). Thus He came into the world Whose coming had been foretold by the prophets and Who was born in the way that they had prophesied: of the most holy Virgin, in the city of Bethlehem, of the lineage of David according to the flesh, at the time when there was no longer in Jerusalem a king of the tribe of Judah, but Herod the stranger was on the throne. After many types and prefigurings, messengers and heralds, prophets and righteous men, wise men and kings, finally He appeared, the Lord of the world and King of kings, to perform the work of the salvation of mankind that could not be performed by His servants. May His be eternal glory and praise! Amen.

THE THEOPHANY/EPIPHANY

When the Lord Jesus had lived for thirty years from His birth in the flesh, He began His teaching and saving work. He marked this very beginning of the beginning by His Baptism in the Jordan. St Cyril of Jerusalem says: "The beginning of the world - water; the beginning of the Gospel - the Jordan." At the Baptism of the Lord in the water, that mystery was revealed to the world that was predicted in the Old Testament and fabled in ancient Egypt and India - the mystery of the Holy Trinity of God. The Father revealed Himself to the sense of hearing, the Spirit to the sense of sight and the Son, further beyond these, to the sense of touch. The Father gave His testimony of the Son, the Son was baptized in the waters and the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, hovered over the waters. And when John the Baptist bore witness of Christ and said: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (Jn. 1:29), and when he immersed the Lord in the Jordan and baptized Him, there were thus revealed both the mission of Christ in the world and the path of our salvation. That is to say: Christ takes upon Himself the sin of the whole human race. He dies under it (the immersion) and rises again (the coming up out of the water), and we must die to the old, sinful man and rise again, cleansed, renewed and reborn. Here is the Saviour and here is the way of salvation. The Feast of the Theophany is also called the Illuminating, for in the Jordan there is given to us an illumining, revealing God to us as Trinity, consubstantial and undivided. That is one thing. And the other is that each of us baptized in the water is illumined by the Father of lights, through the merits of the Son and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

