

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

*for December 2015.*

- 04.12. - **THE ENTRY INTO THE TEMPLE OF THE THEOTOKOS** (Friday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 06.12. - (Sunday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 13.12. - (Sunday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 19.12. - **ST. NICHOLAS** (Saturday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 20.12. - (Sunday) **Children's Day** - Divine Liturgy @ 10.00 am
- 27.12. - (Sunday) **Mother's Day** - Divine Liturgy @ 10.00 am

## **ОБАВЕШТЕЊА**

- Канцеларија ЦШО отворена уторком, четвртком и петком од 9 - 12 часова
- РЕДОВНА ГОДИШЊА СКУПШТИНА ЦРКВЕНЕ КОРПОРАЦИЈЕ одржаће се у недељу 13. децембра после Литургије.



НЕДЕЉНИ

# ЦРКВЕНИ ЛИСТИЋ

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

SERBIAN EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ARCHANGEL MICHAEL  
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## THE HOLY PROPHET DANIEL & THE THREE CHILDREN



All four of them were of the royal tribe of Judah. When Nebuchadnezzar destroyed and plundered Jerusalem, Daniel, as a boy, was taken off into slavery together with Jehoiachin, King of Judah, and many other Israelites. The account of his life, sufferings and prophecies can be found in detail in his book. Utterly given to God, Daniel from his early youth received from God the gift of great discernment. His fame among the Jews in Babylon began when he denounced two lecherous and unrighteous elders, and saved the chaste Susannah from an unjust death. But his fame among the Babylonians stemmed from the

day when he solved and interpreted the dream of King Nebuchadnezzar. For this, the king made him a prince at his court. When the king made a golden idol in the Plain of Dura, the Three Children refused to worship it, for which they were cast into the burning fiery furnace. But an angel of God appeared in the furnace and soothed the flames, so that the Children walked in the furnace untouched by the fire, and sang: 'Blessed art Thou, Lord God of our fathers!' The king saw this marvel, and was amazed. He then brought the Children out of the furnace and did them great honour. In the time of King Belshazzar, when the king was eating and drinking with his guests at a feast out of consecrated vessels taken from the Temple in Jerusalem, an invisible hand wrote these three words on the wall: 'Mene, Tekel, Upharsin'. No-one could interpret these words but Daniel. That night, King Belshazzar was killed. Daniel was thrice thrown into a den of lions for his faith in the one, living God, and both times God preserved him alive. Daniel saw God on His throne with the angelic powers, often saw angels, had insight into the future of certain people, of kingdoms and of the whole human race, and prophesied the time of the coming of the Saviour on earth. According to St Cyril of Alexandria, Daniel and the Three Children lived to great old age in Babylon, and were beheaded with the sword for the true Faith. When Ananias was beheaded, Azarias held out his robe and caught his head, then Misael caught Azarias's head and Daniel Misael's. An angel of God carried their bodies to Judea, to Mount Gebal, and placed them under a rock. According to tradition, these four men arose at the time of the death of the Lord Jesus and appeared to many, then fell asleep again. Daniel is counted as one of the four Great Prophets (with Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel). He lived and prophesied halfway through the thousand years before Christ.

## SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS

He was first a minister of Caliph Abdul-Malek, and then became a monk in the monastery of St Sava the Sanctified. For his ardent advocacy of the veneration of icons while still a courtier during the reign of the iconoclast Emperor Leo the Isaurian, he was slandered by the Emperor to the Caliph, who had his right hand cut off. John fell down in prayer before the icon of the most holy Mother of God, and his hand was re-joined to his arm and miraculously healed. When he beheld this wonder, the Caliph repented, but John no longer desired to remain at court as a nobleman, but to withdraw to a monastery. There, he was from the beginning a model of humility and obedience, and of all the works of asceticism prescribed for monks. He wrote the hymns for the Parting of the Soul from the Body, put together the Octoechos, the Irmologion, the Menologion and the Easter Canon, and wrote many theological works of an inspired profundity. A great monk, hymnographer and theologian, and a great warrior for the truth of Christ, Damascene is counted among the great Fathers of the Church. He entered peacefully into rest in about 749, being seventy-five years old.

