

# St. James Orthodox Church Bulletin

## December 29, 2019

### Our Holy Mother Melania the Younger of Rome (December 31)

"She was born in 383 in Rome, to a very wealthy family with large estates in Italy, Africa, Spain and even Britain. She was the grand- daughter of St Melania the Elder (June 8) and a pious disciple of Christ from a young age. She was married against her will at the age of fourteen, to a relative named Apinianus. They had two children, both of whom died in early childhood. Henceforth Melania and her husband dedicated themselves entirely to God. They had both dreamed of a high wall that they would have to climb before they could pass through the narrow gate that leads to life, and soon began to take measures to dispose of their wealth. This aroused opposition from some of the Senate, who were concerned that the selling off of such huge holdings would disrupt the economy of the State itself.

With the support of the Empress, though, Melania was able to free 8000 of her slaves and give each a gift of three gold pieces to begin life as freedmen. She employed agents to help fund the establishment of churches and monasteries throughout the Empire, donated many estates to the Church, and sold many more, giving the proceeds as alms. When Rome fell to the Goths under Alaric in 410, Melania and Apinianus moved to Sicily, then to Africa, where they completed the sale of their property, donating the proceeds to monasteries and to aiding victims of the barbarians.

In Africa Melania, now aged about thirty, took up a life of the strictest asceticism: she kept a total fast on weekdays, only eating on Saturday and Sunday; she slept two hours a night, giving the rest of the night to vigil and prayer. Her days were spent in charitable works, using the remainder of her wealth to relieve the poor and benefit the Church. After seven years in Africa, Melania, her mother and her husband left on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. There they founded a monastery on the Mount of Olives, which grew to a community of ninety nuns. Melania's mother died in 431, then her husband and spiritual brother Apinianus ; she buried them side by side.

Save for one visit to Constantinople, Melania continued to live in reclusion in a small cave on the Mount of Olives; she became an advisor to the Empress Eudocia, who sought her expert counsel on her gifts to churches and monasteries.

Melania fell ill keeping the Vigil of Nativity in 439, and fell asleep in the Lord six days later; her last words were 'As it has pleased the Lord, so it has come to pass.' Her monastery was destroyed in 614 by the Persians, but her cave hermitage on the Mount of Olives is still a place of pilgrimage and veneration." Abbamoses.com

#### **2020 House Blessings**

Fr. Timothy will be blessing parishioners' homes between Theophany (1/6) and Forgiveness Sunday (3/1). If you would like to have your house blessed, please detach this portion of the bulletin with your information, place it into the Offering Box or Offering Tray and Fr. Timothy will contact you to schedule the house blessing. He is available most evenings, and during the day on Friday and Saturday.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Dates and/or Times: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America*

*His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph*

*His Grace Bishop Thomas*

*Fr. Timothy Barkley - Pastor*

*"The love of Christ compels us ... "*

**St. James Orthodox Christian Church**

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## Welcome Visitors!

A warm welcome to our visitors! You may be new to us, but you are known and loved by God. So why not give us a chance to get to know you? If you belong to the Lord Jesus, we belong together. If you are a seeker, let us share with you what we have found in Him. Please join us in the parish hall for coffee hour following Liturgy.

## Church Rubrics: Sunday After the Nativity

<b>Sunday -</b>	<b>Epistle:</b> St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 1:11-19 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 2:13-23
<b>Monday -</b>	<b>Epistle:</b> St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 12:13-17
<b>Tuesday -</b>	<b>Epistle:</b> St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 4:1-13 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 12:18-27
<b>Wednesday -</b>	<b>Epistle:</b> St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 2:8-12 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 2:20-21, 40-52
<b>Thursday -</b>	<b>Epistle:</b> St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 5:4-10 <b>Gospel:</b> John 3:1-15
<b>Friday -</b>	<b>Epistle:</b> Acts of the Apostles 10:44-48; 11:1-10 <b>Gospel:</b> John 1:18-28
<b>Saturday -</b>	<b>Epistle:</b> St. Paul's 1 <sup>st</sup> Letter to Timothy 3:13-16; 4:1-5 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 3:1-6
<b>Sunday -</b>	<b>Epistle:</b> St. Paul's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Letter to Timothy 4:5-8 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 1:1-8

## This Week's Schedule:

<b>Wednesday:</b>	Bible Study @ 6:00 PM, Akathist @ 7:00 PM
<b>Saturday:</b>	Vespers @ 5:00 PM & Adult Ed/Catechism Class @ 6:00 PM
<b>Sunday:</b>	Matins @ 8:50 AM & Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM

**Confessions Heard During/Following Vespers, During Matins & By Appt.**

## Weekly Sponsors:

**Olive Oil for Lamps:** No Offering      **Bulletin Sponsor:** No Offering  
**Vigil Candle for our Patron Saint:** No Offering      **Altar Vigil Candle:** No Offering  
If you would like to sponsor an item, please contact Katie at [katiekadlec@gmail.com](mailto:katiekadlec@gmail.com) by Wednesday to be included in the next bulletin. Include intention, what you would like to offer. **All sponsor items are only \$5.00** and can be placed in an envelope marked with your name and the item you are sponsoring and place it in the Offering Box or Offering Plate.

## Save the Dates!

Annual Parish Meeting: January 26 after coffee hour  
Spring Lenten Retreat: April 3-4 @ Antiochian Village  
Parish Life Conference: June 25-28 @ Antiochian Village - hosted by Holy Cross!



**New Members Are Welcome & Crying Babies Are Loved  
Come & Join Us In Worship and Prayer!**



**Christ Is Born!      Glorify Him!**



## Much Appreciation & God's Blessings

Thanks to all who baked prosfora, provided our coffee hour meal and cleaned our home. May Our Lord bless you!

## Follow Our Church & Diocese On-Line At:

Parish Web Site: <https://www.stjamesorthodoxchurch.org/>  
Archdiocesan Website: <http://www.antiochian.org/>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St-James-Orthodox-Church-Westminster-MD-166347036771272/>

## Prosfora Rotation (Interested in offering Holy Bread? See Heidi)

Thank you for your time, efforts, and baking skills.      Dec 29 – Eleni

## Coffee Hour Rotation

If you would like to be added to this rotation please contact Leanne Kitsko at: [leanne.kitsko@gmail.com](mailto:leanne.kitsko@gmail.com). Remember that if you are assigned to Coffee Hour you are responsible for cleaning the Kitchen area and wiping down tables. Thank you for your participation!

**December 29:**      **Fr. & Kh. (Main, & Side), Jane (Side, Dessert & Drinks)**

January 5:      Potluck (Main, Side, Dessert & Drinks)

January 12:      Leanne (Main, & Side), Mel (Side, Dessert & Drinks)

## Cleaning Rotation

The following are responsible for overseeing the cleaning and lockup of the Church on their assigned day. We ask that our entire Church family pitch in and help clean after services. If you are scheduled to lock-up and are unavailable to do so please find someone to cover for you. Thank you in advance to all those who assist the designated families in cleaning "our home". **Dec 29 – Lund**      Jan 5 – Napier      Jan 12 – Pruzinsky

## Scrip Fundraising Program: Every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month

Earn money for St. James every day on the purchases you're already making just by paying with a gift card purchased from the church, or download the app and pay using your credit card! Gift cards can be **ordered from Heidi**; simply place your check (made out to St James with "scrip" in the memo) in the box located at the back of the church. The other option is to download the app and purchase items using your credit card information.

**Setting up an account is easy:**

1. Go to <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Login/Enroll>
2. St James enrollment code: 57A99L955213L

## St. James Prayer List

Metropolitan Joseph, Bishop Thomas, Fr. Tim/Kh. Anna Barkley, Sisters at St. Nina's, Fr. Thomas/Pani Linda Kadlec, Fr. Elias Bitar, Fr. John Dixon, Kh. Janet Shadid, Catherine, Gregory, Catechumens Christian and James, Jesse and Juanita, Stavros, Joseph, Thomas, Yvgenia, Cormany Family. Please see Fr. Timothy to make an addition to this list.