

*Parish established on January 29, 1993 - Church blessed in October 4, 2007*

# OUR LADY OF WISDOM

## ITALO-GREEK BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

2120 Lindell Road, Las Vegas, NV 89146 – (702) 873-5101

E-mail: [OLOWIS@embarqmail.com](mailto:OLOWIS@embarqmail.com) – Website: [www.OurLadyOfWisdom.net](http://www.OurLadyOfWisdom.net)

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00am - 4:30pm

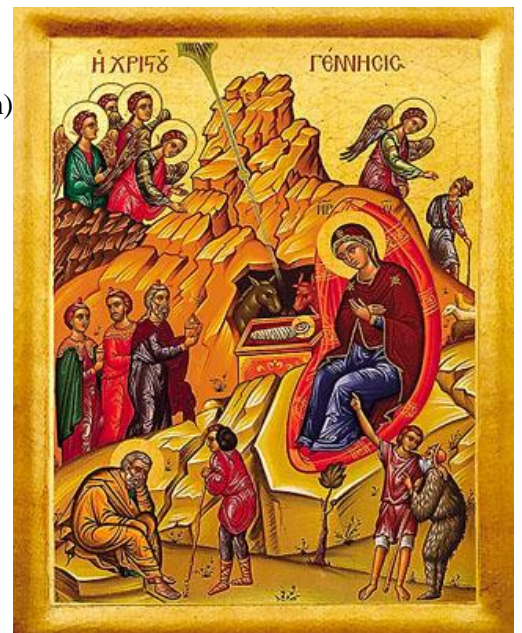
# December 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### **PARISH SERVED BY:**

Rt. Rev. Archimadrite Francis M. Vivona, S.T.M., J.C.L., Pastor  
Rev. Subdeacon Paul F. Kilroy (Contact for Parish Safe Environment Program)  
Rose Watkins, Christodoulah  
Toni Ritchey, Secretary – Claire Lynott, Finance Officer  
Mary Weishaar, ECF Director  
William St. George, Prayer Line Director (702-379-5268 / [Bill@lvac.com](mailto:Bill@lvac.com))  
Donna Logan, Prayer Line Assistant Director (702-236-4930)

### **LITURGIES AND SERVICES:**

Vesper Divine Liturgy: Saturday, 5:00 PM  
Third Hour – Sunday: 10:00 AM  
Divine Liturgy – Sunday 10:30 AM  
Third Hour and Communion – Mon, Tues, Thurs, and Fri: 9:00 AM  
Confessions: 15 minutes before each Liturgy or by appointment  
Supplicatsia: [Prayer of Supplication]  
    Last Thursday of every month: all day adoration 9AM-7PM  
    Closing with Divine Liturgy and Moleben to Saint Jude  
Myrrh-Bearers: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month: 7PM



The Nativity

### **Our Lady of Wisdom Mission Statement**

*Our mission is to foster a Catholic and Godly renewal with worship through the awe-inspiring Liturgy of the Byzantine Catholic Church; in order to bring the message of the Living Lord to the faithful and seekers of truth.*

### **Parish Membership**

The Family of Our Lady of Wisdom is open to any Catholic, and to anyone:

- who is interested in seeking the Lord Jesus Christ through His Word and Sacred Mysteries (Sacraments)
- who accepts the teachings of the Catholic Church
- who will help us form a community based on the Lord's love
- who is willing to grow as a Christian within the legitimate traditions of the Byzantine Catholic Church
- who acknowledges the authority of the Pope, Bishop and Pastor
- who will attend Liturgical Services on Saturday or Sunday, and on the Great Holy Days
- who is willing to support the growth of the Church by sharing their Time, Talent and Treasure (financial support)
- who will participate in the yearly Bishop's Appeal

**For registration information, please contact the Parish Office.**

## CHRIST IS AMONG US! HE IS AND ALWAYS WILL BE!

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday, December 26 – Synaxis of the Theotokos**

**5:00pm - Divine Liturgy: +Rick Campbell**

Readings: 1 Tim 6:11-16; Heb 2:11-18; Mt 12:15-21; Mt 2:13-23

**Sunday, December 27 – Sunday after Christmas / David, Joseph and James, Stephen-Protomartyr**

**10:00am - Third Hour**

**10:30am - Divine Liturgy: + Annie Smith**

Readings: Gal 1:11-19 & Acts 6:8-7:5.47-60; Mt 2:13-23; Mt 21:33-42

**Monday, December 28 – 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia**

**9:00am - Third Hour and Communion**

Readings: James 2:14-26; Mk 10:46-52

Readings for the Martyrs: Rom 8:3-9; Lk 10:19-21

**Tuesday, December 29 – Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

**9:00am - Third Hour and Communion**

Readings: James 3:1-10; Mk 11:11-23

Readings for the Innocents: 2 Cor 5:15-21; Mt 2:13-23

**Wednesday, December 30 – Anysia, Venerable Martyr**

Readings: James 3:11-4:6; Mk 11:23-26

**Thursday, December 31 – Melany, Venerable**

**9:00am - Third Hour and Communion**

**6:30pm - Vigil of Circumcision of our Lord: +Leo Kolar**

Readings: James 4:7-5:9; Mk 11:27-33

**Friday, January 1 – Circumcision of our Lord  
Basil the Great, Archbishop**

**9:00am - Third Hour and Communion**

Readings: Col 2:8-12; Heb 7:26-8:2; Lk 2:20-21.40-52; Lk 6:17-23

**Saturday, January 2 – Saturday before Theophany**

**5:00pm - Vesper Liturgy: +Nona McHugh**

Readings: 1 Tim 3:14-4:5; Mt 3:1-11

**Sunday, January 3 – Sunday Before Theophany**

**10:00am - Third Hour**

**10:30am - Divine Liturgy: +Pasquale Febraro**

Readings: 2 Tim 4:5-8; Mk 1:1-8

**Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God and St. Joseph her Spouse.**

The flight of the Holy Family into Egypt is commemorated this day. St. Joseph was the Foster-Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Beyond what we learn of him from Holy Scripture, the facts of his life are unknown to us. **St. Euthymius**, Priest-Martyr, Bishop of Sardis in Lydia. After repeated banishments for his opposition to the Iconoclasts, he was scourged to death A.D. 840, under the Emperor Theophilus.

**St. Stephen**, Protomartyr, Apostle and Archdeacon, was the first of the Seven Deacons, and also the first of the Christian Martyrs. He was stoned to death, A.D. 33, by the Jews (*Acts 7.58*). Our Venerable Father and Confessor, **Theodore**, brother of St. Theophanes, and composer of the Canons. For his opposition to the Iconoclasts, Theodore was imprisoned where he died A.D. 842.

**SS. 20,000 Martyrs in Nicomedia**, who were burned to death in church on Christmas Day, A.D. 286, during the reign of Diocletian and Maximian, Emperors.

**The Holy Innocents**, 14,000 in number, in Bethlehem and within the borders of Judea, put to death for Jesus Christ by the order of King Herod. Our Venerable Father, **Marcellus**, Hegumen-Abbot of the monastic order of the Acoemetes, so named because they recited their Divine office day and night without interruption. He died about A.D. 485.

**St. Anysia**, a Christian woman, was arrested at Thessalonica when she entered the city to attend the meeting of the Faithful and was put to death A.D. 304, in the reign of the Emperor Maximian Galerius. Venerable **Zoticus**, a Holy Priest of Rome, who went to Constantinople where he established hospitals and havens of refuge for poor A.D. 344.

Venerable, **Melany**, a Roman Lady, who went with her husband, sold her possessions, distributed the proceeds to the poor, and went into monasteries. She died A.D. 439.

**Feast of Circumcision of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.** The name of Jesus given to the child on this occasion, means "Saviour." **The Feast of St. Basil the Great**, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia, most famous of Byzantine Rite church and one of the four great Doctors: called also "Patriarch of the Eastern Monks." He died A.D. 379.

# CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

## ++++ *Parish Information and Important Dates* +++++

**FEAST OF THE CIRCUMSICISION OF OUR LORD** Vigil Liturgy will be celebrated on Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, at 6:30pm.

**SUPLICATSIA** will be celebrated on December 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00am until 6:30pm, with Divine Liturgy. There will not be a moleben to St. Jude that night.

**THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD** Vigil Liturgy and Blessing of Water will be celebrated on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm.

**BLESSED JORDAN WATER** – Please bring your own Holy Water bottles to fill with the Blessed Jordan Water of Our Lord’s Baptism to bless your homes.

### ***PROTOMARTYR AND ARCHDEACON STEPHEN***

The Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen was the eldest of the seven deacons, appointed by the Apostles themselves, and therefore he is called “Archdeacon.” He was the first Christian martyr, and he suffered for Christ when he was about thirty. In the words of Asterias, he was “the starting point of the martyrs, the instructor of suffering for Christ, the foundation of righteous confession, since Stephen was the first to shed his blood for the Gospel.”

Filled with the Holy Spirit, St Stephen preached Christianity and defeated Jewish teachers of the Law in debate. The Jews maligned St Stephen, saying that he had uttered blasphemy against God and against Moses. St Stephen came before the Sanhedrin and the High Priest to answer these charges. He gave a fiery speech, in which he recounted the history of the Jewish nation, and denounced the Jews for persecuting the prophets, and also for executing the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ (*Acts Ch. 7*).

During his speech, St Stephen suddenly saw the heavens opened and Jesus Christ standing at the right hand of God. The Jews shouted and covered their ears, and rushed at him. They dragged him out of the city and stoned him, but the holy martyr prayed for his murderers. Far off on the heights stood the Mother of God with the holy Apostle John, the Theologian, and She prayed fervently for the martyr. Before his death, St Stephen said, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. O Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.” Then he joyfully gave up his pure soul to Christ.

The body of the holy Protomartyr Stephen, left to be eaten by beasts, was secretly taken up by the Jewish teacher, Gamaliel, and his son, Habib, who buried Stephen on his estate. They both believed in Christ, and later received holy Baptism.



