

**БОГОСЛУЖЕЊА у СПЦ Св. Архангела  
Михаила  
за ЈАНУАР 2013.**

Бадњи дан (недеља), 6. јануар..... Литургија и освећење гранчица  
бадњака у 10.00  
Вечерња и освећење бадњака у 18.30

Божјић (понедељак), 7. јануар.....Божјићно јутрење у 0.01  
.Божјићна Литургија и причешће верних у 10.00

Други дан Божића (уторак), 8. јануар.....Литургија у 10.00

Св. Архиђакон Стефан, (среда), 9. јануар.....Литургија у 10.00

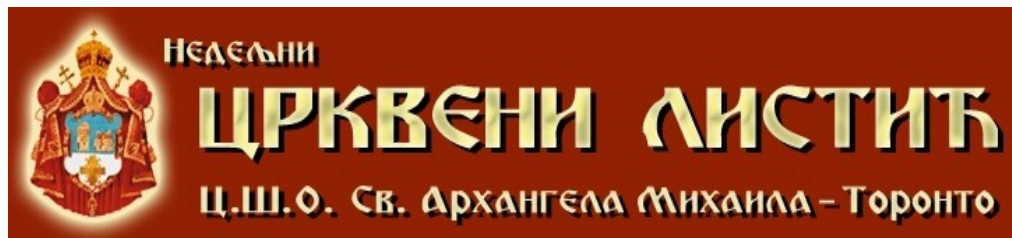
Обрезање Господње, Св. Василије В. и Нова година, (понедељак),  
14. јануар Литургија у 10.00

Богојављење (субота), 19. јануар.....Литургија и велико освећење  
воде у 10.00

Јовањдан (недеља), 20. јануар.....Литургија у 10.00

Св. Сава Српски (недеља), 27. јануар.....Литургија у 10.00

недеља, 27. јануар.....Литургија са освећењем славско жита  
и колача; након литургије Светосавска академија и програм



**SERBIAN EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ARCHANGEL MICHAEL  
CORPORATION**

Српска Православна Црква Св. Архангела Михаила Корпорација

212 Delaware Avenue, Toronto, Ont., Canada M6H 2T1 Tel. (416) 536-8565



**Your** Nativity, O Christ our  
God,  
Has shone to the world the  
Light of wisdom!  
For by it, those who wor-  
shipped the stars,  
Were taught by a Star to adore  
You,  
The Sun of Righteousness,  
And to know You, the Orient  
from on High.  
O Lord, glory to You!

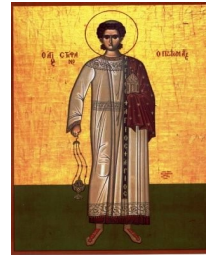
**Today** the Virgin gives birth  
to the Transcendent One,  
And the earth offers a cave to  
the Unapproachable One!  
Angels with shepherds glorify  
Him!  
The wise men journey with a  
star!  
Since for our sake the Eternal  
God was born as a Little  
Child!

**Sophrony Nikic, Abbot**  
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## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST

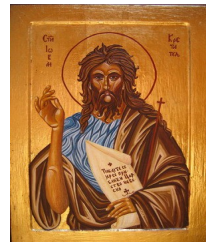
"And when the fullness of time was come, God sent His only-begotten Son" (Gal. 4:4), to save the human race. And when the ninth month had come after the archangel Gabriel appeared to the most holy Virgin in Nazareth, saying: "Hail) thou that art highly favoured... thou shalt conceive and bear a son" - 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 HOLY PROTOMARTYR STEPHEN THE ARCHDEACON



He was a kinsman of the Apostle Paul and one of those Jews who lived in a Hellenic milieu. Stephen was the first of the seven deacons whom the holy apostles ordained for the service of the poor in Jerusalem. This is why he is called the Archdeacon - the first, or chief, of them. By the power of his faith, Stephen worked many wonders among the people. The wicked Jews disputed with him, but were always confounded by his wisdom and the power of the Spirit who acted through him. Then the shameful Jews, adept at calumny and slander, stirred up the people and leaders against this innocent man. They slandered Stephen, saying that he had blasphemed against God and against Moses, and quickly found false witnesses who supported their assertion. Then Stephen stood before the people, and all saw his face "like the face of an angel": that is, his face was illumined by the light of grace as was the face of Moses when he talked with God. Stephen opened his mouth and spoke of God's manifold works and marvels, performed in the past for the People of Israel, and of the people's manifold transgressions and opposition to God. He especially denounced them for the slaying of Christ the Lord, calling them "betrayers and murderers" (Acts 7:52). While they ground their teeth, Stephen looked and saw the heavens open and the glory of God, and spoke to the Jews of what he saw: "Behold, I see the heavens open and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God" (7:56). Then the malicious men took him out of the city and stoned him to death. Among his murderers was his kinsman Saul, later the Apostle Paul. At that time, the most holy Mother of God was standing on a rock at a distance with St John the Theologian, and witnessed the martyrdom of this first martyr for the truth of her Son and God, and she prayed for Stephen. This happened exactly a year after the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles. St Stephen's body was taken secretly and buried by Gamaliel in his own ground. He was a Jewish prince and a secret Christian. Thus this first of Christ's martyrs made a glorious end and entered into the Kingdom of Christ our God.

### SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET, FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN



John's greatest role during his life was enacted on the day of the Theophany, and because of this the Church has, from the earliest times, dedicated the day following that feast to his memory. This day is also connected with an event involving the hand of the Forerunner. The Evangelist Luke desired to take John's body from Sebaste, where the great prophet had been beheaded by Herod, to Antioch, his own birthplace. He succeeded, though, in acquiring and taking only one hand, which was kept in Antioch till the tenth century. It was then moved to Constantinople, whence it disappeared during the Turkish occupation. St John is commemorated several times during the year, but his greatest feast is on this day, January 7th. Among the Gospel-figures surrounding the Saviour, the person of John the Baptist holds a very special place, by the manner of his birth in this world and of his earthly life, by his role of baptiser of men to repentance and his baptism of the Messiah, and, lastly, by the tragic manner of his departure from this world. He was of such moral purity that he indeed deserved the name 'angel\*', as he was named in the Scriptures, rather than being thought of as just a mortal man. John differs from all the other prophets in that he had the joy of showing forth to the world the One Whom he had foretold. About the hand of St John: it is related that each year, on his feast-day, the archbishop would bring it out before the people. Sometimes the hand appeared open, and sometimes clenched. In the first case it indicated that it would be a fertile year, and in the second that it would be a year of famine. (\*The word 'messenger' is, in Greek, 'angelos'. See Malachi 3:1, Matt. 11-10-Tr.)