

**Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of Western and Central
Europe**

Archbishop: His Eminence Metropolitan John

The Antiochian Orthodox Community in the City of London

Worshipping in St Botolph's, Bishopsgate, London EC2

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The December Newsletter

His Eminence Metropolitan John

4 December 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are now approaching the great Feast of the Nativity, when we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ from the womb of Mary in Bethlehem. In the coming days we trust in God as we celebrate the birth of children of members of our community. Please remember them in your prayers. Very soon now Boniface and Sophia will be expecting to rejoice over their first born. Then early next year Harriet and Joseph will be receiving their first born. I can also share with you the news that Phil and Sarah Lytra are expecting their second child

We remember the Hungarian family – the Habanys' who worshipped with us until they returned to Hungary with two children. Sadly Susan has just had a miscarriage. Please pray. Last time the same thing happened and we prayed a lot for them and she quickly conceived.

There will be **Bring and Share** lunches during the fasting period up to Christmas. Sadly we cannot have a Christmas service because there is no public transport in London on that day. But there will be the Divine Liturgy at our Cathedral. Again we have been welcomed by our Anglican friends to the Carol Service in St Botolph's. on December 17th.

Plans are going ahead for another musical evening after the success of the last one. It will again be organised by Romanos Murphy. This time it will be on January 2nd. We shall end about 9 p.m.

Turn Over

With my loving greetings to you all

Father Michael

December Services

Saturday 5h	5.30 p.m. Great Vespers at St George's Cathedral
Sunday 6th	<i>26th Sunday after Pentecost - St Nicolas of Myra</i> 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy Bring and Share lunch
Saturday 12 th	5.30 p.m. Great Vespers at St George's Cathedral
Sunday 13 th	<i>27th Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday of the Forefathers</i> 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy Bring and Share lunch
Thursday 17 th	1.10 p.m. Welcome to the Anglican Carol Service
Saturday 19 th	5.30 p.m. Great Vespers at St George's Cathedral
Sunday 20th	<i>28th Sunday after Pentecost – Righteous from Adam to Joseph</i> 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy Bring and Share lunch
Thursday 25 th	<i>Feast of the Nativity of Christ</i> At St George's Cathedral 1030 a.m. Mattins 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Saturday 27 th	No Vespers at St George's Cathedral
Sunday 27 th	<i>29th Sunday after Pentecost.- St Joseph, King David, James brother of Christ, Proto-Martyr Stephen</i> 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy Bring and Share lunch

Fasting in December

Fast free	25-31
Fast days	2, 7, 11, 14, 16, 18, 21-24
Wine and oil	1, 3-4, 8-10, 14-15, 17
Fish, wine and oil	5-6, 12-13, 19-20