

ST. ELIJAH SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ On the eighth day after His Nativity, our Lord Jesus Christ was circumcised in accordance with the Old Testament Law. All male infants underwent circumcision as a sign of God’s Covenant with the holy Forefather Abraham and his descendants [Genesis 17:10-14, Leviticus 12:3].

After this ritual, the Divine Infant was given the name Jesus, as the Archangel Gabriel declared on the day of the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos [Luke 1:31-33, 2:21]. The Fathers of the Church explain that the Lord, the Creator of the Law, underwent circumcision in order to give people an example of how faithfully the divine ordinances ought to be fulfilled. The Lord was circumcised so that later no one would doubt that He had truly assumed human flesh, and that His Incarnation was not merely an illusion, as certain heretics had taught.

In the New Testament, the ritual of circumcision gave way to the Mystery of Baptism, which it prefigured [Colossians 2:11-12]. Accounts of the Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord continue in the Eastern Church right up through the fourth century. The Canon of the Feast was written by Saint Stephen of the Saint Sava Monastery.

In addition to circumcision, which the Lord accepted as a sign of God’s Covenant with mankind, He also received the Name Jesus [Savior] on the eighth day after His Nativity as an indication of His service, the work of the salvation of the world [Matthew 1:21; Mark 9:38-39, 16:17; Luke 10:17; Acts 3:6, 16; Philippians 2:9-10]. These two events -- the Lord’s Circumcision and Naming -- remind Christians that they have entered into a New Covenant with God and “are circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ” [Colossians 2:11]. The very name “Christian” is a sign of mankind’s entrance into a New Covenant with God.

SCRIPTURE READING: Colossians 2:8-12 Luke 2:20-21, 40-52 Hebrews 7:26-28 81-2 Luke 6:17-23
2 Timothy 4: 5-8 Mark 1:1-8

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VISITS- Heritage Valley- Millie Yanuzzi **Franciscan Manor-**Nell Semick and Daniel Docinovich
Cambridge Village-Mary Ulinksi and Zora Vuich

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FUNERAL Give rest O Lord to they departed servant **OLGA IGNATOVICH** and make her memory to be eternal. Our deepest sympathies to her family, kumovi and friends. **VJECNAJA PAMJAT!**

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Srecna Nova Godina!
Happy New Year!

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IT’S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!
ST. ELIJAH CHOIR’S 16th ANNUAL BOWLING "BALL"



On **Saturday, February 10, 2018** the choir will host its **16th Annual Bowling “Ball”** fundraiser at Baden Bowl starting at 2:00 PM. Cost is \$25 per person. **ENTRY FORMS ARE BESIDE THE BULLETIN.** Not a bowler?? Please come and join us at 5:30 PM in the center for a delicious homemade meal. Donation for non-bowlers for the dinner and dance is \$15.00 if you cannot attend, donations are always welcomed!