

## Welcome to The Well

*Whether you're just visiting or looking to stay, it is great to have you with us. During your time here please swing by the Connection table to pick up a gift, a message by Fr. Anthony and information about STSA and how to get connected into the church community. Complete our online connection card to receive all our news.*

**NEW TO ORTHODOXY?** Stop by the connection table and ask for our "What is the Orthodox Church" CD, a message from Fr. Anthony.

**KIDZ AT THE WELL** - Our aim is to make this time the best hour of your child's week and the most helpful hour of yours. We invite you to visit our kids programs (18 months through high school) on the third floor to find out more. Check in for children 18 months – 6th grade is located next to the coffee tables.

**THE THIRD FLOOR** – The Third Floor is an opportunity for jr. and high school students to grow in their relationship with the Lord and build Christ-centered friendships. This group meets...you guessed it... on the third floor during the Well from 11:30am-12:30pm.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

**RECOMMENDED CHRISTMAS READING** – As we prepare for the Nativity Feast on January 7<sup>th</sup> we encourage everyone to read [On the Incarnation](#) by St. Athanasius. You can purchase the book at the Connection table.

**IMPORTANT PARKING CHANGE** – The GMU parking garage will be closed Dec 22 and Dec 29. Please plan on street parking.

**New Year's Eve Celebration** – December 31

**Christmas Service** – January 6, 8pm at Central United Methodist Church

#### CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:

THE WELL- [theWellatSTSA.com](http://theWellatSTSA.com)

TWITTER - [twitter.com/stsachurch](http://twitter.com/stsachurch)

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/stsachurch](http://facebook.com/stsachurch)



# JOSEPH

## THE OBEDIENT

DECEMBER 15, 2013



***“Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.”***

***Proverbs 19:21***

***Who is Joseph?***

- A \_\_\_\_\_ man
- A \_\_\_\_\_ man
- A \_\_\_\_\_ man

**Matthew 1:18-25**

*Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.*

*<sup>20</sup> But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”*

*<sup>22</sup> So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: <sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”*

*<sup>24</sup> Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, <sup>25</sup> and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.*

Joseph's response to God 'messing up' his plan was

**GOD'S PLAN IS...**

**1) ALWAYS \_\_\_\_\_ THAN MY PLAN**

*“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us” Ephesians 3:20*

**2) USUALLY \_\_\_\_\_ THAN MY PLAN**

*“You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” 2 Timothy 2:3*

**3) INFINITELY \_\_\_\_\_ THAN MY PLAN**

*“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9*

***“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6***