

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY



Icon of Saints Hermylaus, Maximus and Stratonicus -- January 13th

January 13, 2019: Sunday After the Theophany	
Epistle: Eph. 4: 7-13	Gospel: Mt. 4: 12-17
Mon., Jan. 14	8:00 + Joseph Chmil (Dorothy Zinsky)
Tues., Jan. 15	8:00 + Stephen Rusinyak (Marlene Nestrack)
Wed., Jan. 16	8:00 + Pearl Kostic (Cherry Family)
Thurs., Jan. 17	8:00 + Tom Matkosky (Hargreaves Family)
Fri., Jan. 18	8:00 + Michael Carrera (George & Kim Kofim)
Sat., Jan. 19	No Morning Divine Liturgy 10:30 Confessions 2:00 Confessions 4:00 pm + Peter & Nellie Nestor & Family (Family)
Sun., Jan. 20	9:00 + Kimberly Jacobs Mellow (Parents) 11:30 For Our Parishioners

Postfeast of The Holy Theophany of Our Lord

Antiphon 1

When Israel and Jacob's children came forth from Egypt, out from a barbarian people, * Judah became His sanctuary, Israel became His domain.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, * Savior, save us.*

The sea saw God's people coming and parted for them; *
when the Jordan saw them coming, its running waters ceased to flow.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, * Savior, save us.*

Why is it, O sea, that you parted, * and what caused you,
O Jordan, to turn back your flow?

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.

* * * * *

Third Antiphon

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Savior.
O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You Alleluia.

Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.
O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You Alleluia.
For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth.
O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You Alleluia.
* * * * *

Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.
O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You Alleluia.
* * * * *

Hymn to the Mother of God

Extol, my soul, Christ the King, who was baptized in the Jordan. No tongue can fittingly sing your praises. * Even superior intelligences far above your world appear feeble when they praise you, O Mother of God. * But in your goodness, accept our faith; * for you see that godly love we bear towards you, * as you are the Patroness of Christians.
* * * * *

Communion Verse

The grace of God has appeared * bringing salvation to all people.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Q & A

QUESTION: What is the symbolism of gold, frankincense, and myrrh that magi brought to Jesus?"

ANSWER: Gold is a precious metal and as such was a very valuable commodity. Its value could very well have financed Joseph and Mary's trip to Egypt. Gold is a symbol of divinity and is mentioned throughout the Bible. The gift of gold to the Christ child was symbolic of His divinity — God in the flesh.

Frankincense is a white resin or gum. It is obtained from a tree by making inci-

sions in the bark and allowing the gum to flow out. It is highly fragrant when burned and was therefore used in worship, where it was burned as a pleasant offering to God (Exodus 30:34). Frankincense is a symbol of holiness and righteousness. The gift of frankincense to the Christ-child was symbolic of His willingness to become a sacrifice, wholly giving Himself up, analogous to a burnt offering.

Myrrh was also a product of Arabia, and was obtained from a tree in the same manner as frankincense. It was a spice

and was used in embalming. It was also sometimes mingled with wine to form an article of drink. Such a drink was given to our Savior when He was about to be crucified, as a stupefying potion (Mark 15:23). Matthew 27:34 refers to it

as “gall.” Myrrh symbolizes bitterness, suffering, and affliction. The baby Jesus would grow to suffer greatly as a man and would pay the ultimate price when He gave His life on the cross for all who would believe in Him.

We Are the Church

So, why do we drag ourselves out of bed on Sunday mornings and make the trek to River Street? Habit? Obligation? Piety? Fulfillment? Our answers are often these and more, and may not be the same from week to week. It is also just as easy to do the contrary and stay home. Tired? Ill? Overcommitted? Angry? Newspaper and breakfast? There will always be a Liturgy again next week... These answers are equally varied and, at times, valid for those who are “absent with just cause,” but they are more often easily rebutted.

Do we come for the beauty of the edifice, the icons, the hymnody, the sermon? While these are often pleasant, what we tend to forget is they are only external aspects of the Liturgy. Our presence at Church should not be solely for our emotional support, or even for working on our salvation, important though they are, but the simple fact that without our presence the Church ceases to be. The essence of the Church is the

coming together of believers to partake of the Body and Blood of Christ our Savior, to join with Him, with the Saints, in communion with other believers, with all that have gone before and all that will come, in a singular point of time – outside of time. And we do that not simply by attending, but by active participation in the Divine Liturgy. The priests, the deacons, the choir and the people all contribute. The people say the word “I” in only two places in the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom – the Creed and the Communion Prayer, everything else said by the people is as a corporate act. To be Christian is to be in the Community, in the Church and of the Church.

We have a weekly opportunity to experience heaven on earth, to live momentarily in eternity “putting aside all earthly cares,” and to renew in ourselves a right spirit so that we may, by putting on Christ, be able to keep the faith, fight the good fight, and be the proper Christian example to our families, our

friends and our community. And maybe, take one more step on that long journey toward heaven.

My dear parishioners, in the New

Year of 2019, don't just come for the services out of habit, don't just come to Church – **Be a part of the Church!** God bless you!

Keep Greeting One Another

A reminder to all: just as we prepared for Christmas with a 40 day preparation and fasting period, so now we celebrate the bright days of Christmas, New Year's, and Theophany for 40 days. Please continue to sing our beautiful Christmas carols, and to greet one another with our traditional

Christos Razhdayetsia! Slavite Yeho!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

During the darkness of the Winter months, do all you can to keep the bright light of Christ burning brightly! Let Christ shine through you!

Note: according to tradition, we continue to sing Christmas carols up until the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord on February 2nd.

Stewards of Commitment

As infants our faith was given to us by our parents. They loved us enough to bring us to God and ask him to give us new life; and we were baptized. As we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, God is revealed to us. He shows us the way to salvation and like John the Baptizer, he calls to us "Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand." It may sound like dooms day prophets, but it's not. "Repent" simply means "turning back to God". This Sunday after

Theophany we have the opportunity to recommit ourselves to our saying yes to Jesus, saying yes to the cross, saying yes to committing ourselves to carry on the work of love, and mercy, kindness and tolerance that Jesus preached and lived. As we sing "we who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ" may we choose for ourselves the Way, the Truth, and the Life that Jesus offers us as the Son of God.

Parish Meeting

There will be a Parish Meeting following the 11:30 Divine Liturgy on Sunday,

January 27, 2019. All Parish Council and Finance Council members are requested

to attend. Anyone else that is interested is invited to attend. We need to discuss

several maintenance issues and plan our calendar for the upcoming year.

St. Cyril's Holy Name Society Raffle

Once again St. Cyril's Holy Name Society mailed raffle tickets to our Parishioners. Please support the work of St. Cyril's Holy Name Society by dropping

your returns into the Sunday Collection Basket as soon as possible. Additional tickets may be obtained from any Holy Name Society member.

Holy Name Society Meeting

St. Cyril's Holy Name Society will meet today (Sunday) following the 9:00

Divine Liturgy. All members invited and encouraged to attend this meeting.

Festival of Christmas Carols

The annual festival of Ukrainian Christmas Carols will be held today, January 13, 2019 at 3:00 pm at our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate

Conception in Philadelphia. All are invited to attend this annual celebration to praise our new-born King and our Lord Jesus Christ at this Christmas time.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, January 26, 2019 This is the day the Christmas decorations (inside and out) will be taken down and stored for Christmas 2019. We will start at 10:00 a.m. and should only take a few hours if enough of parishioners show up to lend a helping hand. It always seems easier to take down than put up. The men, woman,

teen-agers and altar boys of the parish, please plan on showing up at the Church the morning on Saturday, January 26th. We are organized and mark every item so we all know where everything goes for Christmas 2019. You have over 2 weeks to plan ahead and help out, on the 26th of January.

Pyrohy/Pierogy Sale

Scranton's St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church popular hand-

made potato and cheese pierogy sale will take place on Saturday, January 26,

2019 from 2:00pm to 6:00pm at the parish center, 428 North Seventh Avenue. Cost is \$7.00 per dozen. Advance orders must be placed no later than Tuesday, January 22 at 570 342-3749.

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of January 2019 is Team #1: Jerry Sereditch, Michaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski.

Sunday Collection for January 5 & 6, 2018: \$

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for January 19 & 20, 2019

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Samuel Szczesniak	Michael Shumek
9:00 am	Patrick Marcinko -- Nicholas Chylak	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Thomas Radle -- Brian Radle	Frank Lesnefsky

House Blessing Request

Fr. Nestor:

I (we) would like you to come and bless my (our) home, if possible, this year during the Theophany Season (2019).

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

Father Nestor will call to arrange a convenient time.

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Make Another Shot

So how many New Year's resolutions have you broken already? If you are like me, though you might be a little scared about even making a resolution. The experience of making resolutions, and failing to keep them again and again and again, can be somewhat off-putting: we have failed so much in the past that the prospect of another failure is more daunting than what we want to resolve to do or change in our lives. I ran into an expression from basketball the other day. It read, "You are 100% certain not to make the shots you don't attempt." How true that is! If you don't make the shot, you can't hit the basket! Similarly, if you don't make the effort, you never realize the success. This is such an ingrained part of human experience that it is no wonder that one of the central mysteries of our faith is repentance.

The New Testament word for "repentance" is, in Greek, metanoia, which literally means "change of mind" or "change of heart." St. John the Baptist's great message was "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" - a cry that was taken up by Our

Lord Himself as the first words of His public ministry.

The sacramental mystery of Holy Baptism means, first of all, the forgiveness of sins, becoming a new person, being born again. Likewise, the mystery of Confession recognizes that, even as committed, born-again, believing Christians, we continue to experience failure in our lives as we try to live out our baptismal commitments. Repentance, meaning that we recognize our failure and make a resolution to do better next time, is not something that happens once and for all, but something that becomes as natural and repetitive in our daily lives as breathing.

If you have not broken any of your New Year's resolutions, good for you! Give thanks to Almighty God for having preserved your good intention by His grace. If you have broken some, however, give thanks to Almighty God for giving you another chance, and make your shot one more time.

Bishop John Michael Botean