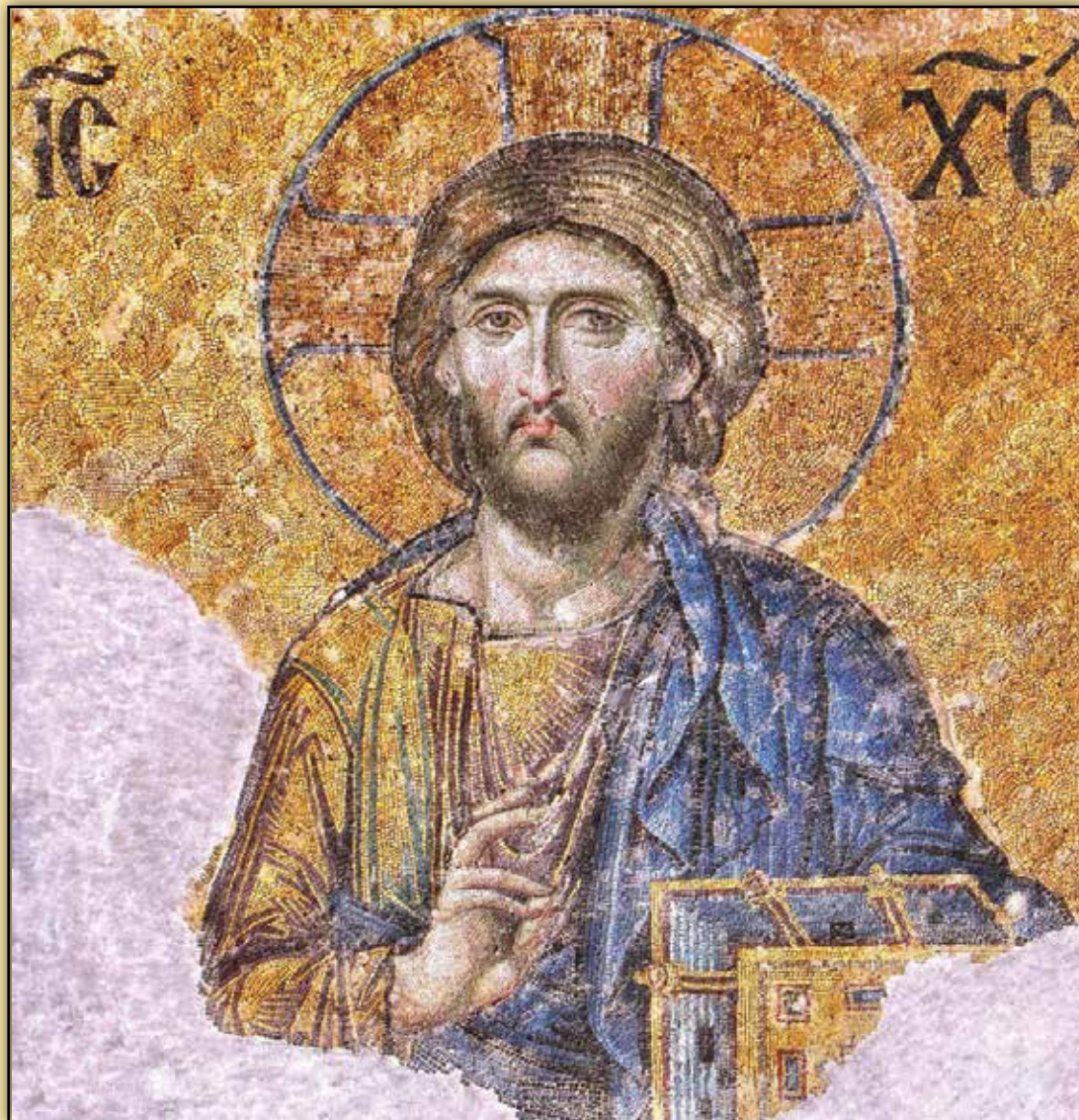


SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY



Christ the Teacher – Pantocrator of Hagia Sophia

January 9, 2022: Sunday After Theophany		
Epistle: Eph. 4: 7-13		Gospel: Mt. 4: 12-17
Mon., Jan. 10	9:00	+ John Elnitsky (Niece, Lauren Telep)
Tues., Jan. 11	9:00	+ Evelyn Klapatch (Gene & Andrea Hughes)
Wed., Jan. 12	9:00	+ Joe Berta (Gene & Andrea Hughes)
Thurs., Jan. 13	9:00	+ Susan Sestili (Jacqueline Hunt & Family)
Fri., Jan. 14	9:00	+ Baby Nancy Beggine (Family)
Sat., Jan. 15	No Morning Divine Liturgy. 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + Michael & Mildred Gazella (Family)	
Sun., Jan. 16	10:00	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.

THE NEW YEAR

At the end of a bad year, it is tempting to be pessimistic about life and even grow in despair. This is especially the case when we surround ourselves with negative news headlines every day, seeing all the death, destruction and deceit that happens in the world.

Yet, it is important to remember that “bad news” does not have the

final word. As conclude the previous calendar year and begin a new one, may we not let the news dictate our lives, but place our hope firmly in Jesus Christ, who alone is capable of conquering every obstacle.

May our Divine Savior, the Prince of Peace, bring you all the joys of this holy season, and bless you with health and prosperity in the New Year

2022. May we ask the newly born Babe of Bethlehem to put an end to this devastating Pandemic and bring

universal peace and renewed health to all nations.

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.

RELIGIOUS 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 incisions 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.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

"As rain is necessary that plants may live and be refreshed, so prayer is necessary for the nourishment of the life of the soul." -- St. John Chrysostom.

And yet, although prayer is so necessary, why do some people neglect it? A few reasons are: the weakness of human nature as a result of original sin; sloth; a personal attachment to the materialism of the world; failure

to cooperate with the actual grace of God, etc.

Each day **adore** your Creator, the one God in three Divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; **thank** God for the countless graces received; **make reparation** to God for your offenses; **petition** God for benefits for yourself and for others -- living and departed.

The Divine Liturgy includes the

above four purposes, and is the greatest form of prayer that a creature can give to the Creator. Consistently participate in this Sublime Sacrifice!

Say all the traditional prayers with fixed number of words. But also use your own words to tell God of your anxieties, problems, sufferings, intentions, etc.

Parents and children should pray together at least once a day. *“A family that prays together stays together.”*

In the words of St. Paul: *“pray without ceasing.”* Pray especially in time of spiritual and temporal danger. Never be a prayer-quitter; always persevere. Continue with your efforts to ward off distractions. Finally, as St. Alphonsus Liguori reminds us: *“One who prays will be saved, but one who does not pray will be lost.”*

-- by Msgr. John Squiller

2022 PARISH DUES

We remind our Parish Family Members that at a Parish Meeting in February 2020, it was decided that beginning

2021 Parish Dues will be \$50.00 per adult per year. This is less than \$1 per week.

DIVINE LITURGY ATTENDANCE ON SNOWY DAYS

It is very rare that the Divine Liturgy is canceled, especially on a Sunday. I want to encourage those of you who must walk further or more importantly, who drive to church, to PLEASE USE COMMON SENSE, when making a determination about attending the Divine Liturgy on the snowy, icy,

inclement weekend or even more so on the weekday. If attendance means putting yourself and others at risk, I am sure the Lord understands if you should decide to pray at home. Please use common sense and a well-informed conscience when making such a decision.

2022 CHURCH CALENDARS

The 2022 Church Calendars are available in the Vestibule of the

Church. The Calendars are free, but any donations will be appreciated.

PILGRIMAGE OF THE CROSS OF GRATITUDE TO ALL CAPITALS AND MAJOR CITIES OF THE WORLD

The Pilgrimage of Gratitude began in Lviv, Ukraine in November 2005 with a large oak cross and a figure of our crucified Savior upon it. Since then it has visited forty six (46) cities and currently is in the United States with future visits planned for South America, Asia, Africa, Indonesia and Australia. The aim of the pilgrimage is to unite all nations of the world into one family at the Cross of Jesus and that He gives us the gift of eternal life.

We are highly honored with the cross coming to Scranton's St.

Vladimir Church which will be open for veneration on the following days and hours:

- Sunday, January 9th - 12 noon to 2:00pm
- Monday, January 10th thru Wednesday, January 12th - 10:00am to 12 noon and 4:00pm to 6:00pm
- Final Day Thursday, January 13th - 10:00am to 12 noon

A warm invitation is extended to our brothers and sisters of parishes in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS

The annual Festival of Ukrainian Christmas Carols will be held on Sunday, January 16, 2022 at 3:00 pm at our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. All

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

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of January 2022 is Team #1: Jerry Sereditch,

Michaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski.

Sunday Collection for Jan. 1 & 2, 2022: \$

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

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Web Site: stcyrils.weconnect.com

E-Mail: sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net



Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

The True Light of Revelation to the Gentiles

The Evangelist commemorates in this passage [today's Gospel] the prophet's words: "Beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light." In what darkness? Certainly in the profound error of ignorance. What great light did they see? The light concerning which it is written: "He was the true light that illumines everyone who comes into this world." This was the light about which the just man Simeon in the Gospel declared, "A light of revelation to the Gentiles and a glory for your people Israel." That light had arisen according to what David had announced, saying a light has arisen in the darkness to the upright of heart." Also, Isaiah demonstrated that light about to come for the enlightenment of the

Church when he said, "Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." Concerning that light also Daniel noted, "It reveals the profound and hidden things, knowing those things which are in darkness and the light is with it," that is, the Son with the Father, for even as the Father is light, so too is the Son light. And David also speaks in the psalm: "In your light shall we see light," for the Father is seen in the Son, as the Lord tells us in the Gospel: "Who sees me, sees the Father." From the true light, indeed, the true light proceeded, and from the invisible the visible. "He is the image of the invisible God," as the apostle notes.

St. Chromatius