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## Divine Liturgy Schedule

January 5, 2020

*Khrystos Razhdayetsia! Slavyte Yeho!*

Saturday, January 4

6:00PM

**SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY**

God's Blessings, Protection, & Good Health for

Michael Hudak- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

Sunday, January 5

10:30AM

**SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY**

God's Blessings and Good Health for All Parishioners **\*\*6:30PM**

**THEOPHANY-VESPERAL LITURGY**

**Blessing of Holy Water - Myrovania**

†Kaminsky & Augustine Families- Denise Kaminsky

Saturday, January 11

6:00PM

**SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY**

God's Blessings and Good Health for All Parishioners

Sunday, January 12

10:30AM

**SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY**

God's Blessings & Good Health for David Beggs

-M/M Mike Sawczuk



**Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners:** Please pray for our Parishioners **Assisted**

**Living:** Olga Yurkowski, Anna Hopiak, Mary Hoolick **At Home:** Anna Kutsup, Helen Bogdan, Dolores Miller, Arlene Czarnecki, Mary Louise Bailey, Sophie Staronka, Andrew Kobela; MaryAnn Kelly **Away:** Leona Kobela **Prayer Request:** Mike Sawczuk; Michelle

Miller; Kerri; Ellen Kobela, Sister Martin Rodko; Fr. Uriy Markewych; Fr. Peter Waslo; Bishop John Bura Emeritus.

## SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY



**TROPAR:** Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

**TROPAR:** After Elijah had gone up to heaven, Elisha threw his mantle in the Jordan River which parted, opening a way, a dry path between two walls of water, where he could pass, a true symbol of our baptism by which we pass through this fleeting life. Christ has been

seen at the Jordan River to sanctify the waters.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

**KONTAKION:** O most compassionate Christ Who absolves our sins in the depth of your mercy, you came to be baptized with the water of the Jordan. You robed me in splendor replacing my ancient garment of evil.

**PROKEIMENON:** Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance. *verse:* Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence. Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

***A reading of the Second Letter from the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy 4:5-8:***  
*(1 Corinthians 9:19-27)*

Brethren, as for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

**ALLELUIA:** ALLELUIA (3). God, be merciful to us and bless us. Alleluia (3). Make the light of Your face shine upon us and have mercy on us. Alleluia (3).

### **Gospel of Mark 1:1-8**

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

### **Gospel of Luke 3:1-18**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the

Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with<sup>1</sup> the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**COMMUNION HYMN:** Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### **JANUARY CANDLES**

The **Eternal Light** is given by the Yanoshak Family in  
loving memory John Yanoshak.

The **Altar Candles** are given by the Slota Family  
In loving memory Pauline Slota.

The **Proscomedial Table** is given by Joan Cominsky  
in loving memory of her brother, John “Sonny” Petrochko.

The **St. Nicholas Candle** is given by Ellen Algrainy  
In loving memory of Mike & Helen Oresick.

### **Candle Intentions Before the Icon for the Month Of January**

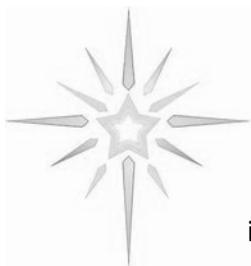
The **Candles on the Tetrapod** are given by Ann Zabroski & Donna Lee-Hischak  
For God’s Blessings & Continued Good Health for Caroline Dellaglio.

The **Candle Before Christ** is given by Donna Davis for  
all the deceased members of the Hvozda & Frankowski Families.

The **Candle Before the Theotokos** is given by Lisa Placek  
in loving memory of Russell & Anna Skordy and Pauline Slota.

The **Candle Before John the Baptist** is given  
By MaryAnn & Donna Kelley in loving memory of Joseph Boback.

**Time is like a river... You cannot touch the same water twice,  
because the flow that has passed will never pass again.  
Enjoy every moment of your life.**



**CHURCH NEWS ....**

***Christ is Born!- Glorify Him!***

***Khrystos Razhdayetsia! Slavyte Yeho!***

**BLESSING OF WATER:** On Sunday, January 5 in the evening, we will have the Vespereal Liturgy with the Blessing of Water in celebration of Theophany. Please remember to bring your containers in order to bring water home. Please note this is a Holy Day of Obligation.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SUNDAY (Eve of Theophany) is NOT a day of fast.**

**FESTIVAL OF THE CAROLS:** Festival of Ukrainian Christmas Carols to be held at the Cathedral on January 12, 2020, at 3:00pm.

**BLESSING OF HOMES:** If anyone wishes to have Father Walter bless their home, please use the envelope in your collection box or leave a note in the collection basket. Also please let Father know if a visit during daytime hours is possible. No donation is required- even though the envelope says requested amount.

**LITURGY INTENTIONS:** If you are offering a Divine Liturgy for a specific day for your beloved or other intentions for 2020, please make sure you turn it into the rectory.



**VISITING THE SICK:** Do you know a homebound Parishioner who can't make it to church and would like a visit? Please contact Father Walter at the rectory at 570-735-2262.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, January 16 at 6:30PM.

**CHURCH ENVELOPES & CALENDARS:** Church envelopes and Calendars are available in the basement of the church. If for some reason you did receive church envelopes, please contact Lisa at 570-574-1016.

**SAVE THE DATE MYASOPUSNA:** The next big fund-raising event for our Parish will be Myasopusna Dinner Celebration. Our Myasopusna Celebration is scheduled for February 16, 2020, the date of our Meat-fare Sunday. We are looking for help with our celebration. Can you help?

**NOTABLE DATES:** **Myasopusna** (February 16); **Lent Begins** (February 24); **Sviachenne** (April 26); **Foodfest:** September 2020.



**FOOD COLLECTION:** Transfiguration of Our Lord Parish is collecting non-perishable food products to donate to the St. Faustina Food Kitchen. There is a collection box in the church entryway. Please try to donate something for people who are less fortunate.

### **HOW TO PREPARE FOR A HOUSE BLESSING**

The place where we live is very important and special to us. During the feast of Theophany, we observe the custom of having our homes blessed to ask God for His protection and blessing upon all who live there or visit there.

**To prepare for a house blessing, please observe the following:**

- A) Have a candle, icon or cross on a clean linen in a main room.
- B) Have some holy water in a small container from the feast
- C) Have all radios, stereos, and televisions turned off for the blessing,
- D) Please have pets confined.
- E) If you have any religious articles you wished to be blessed, please place them by the cross and candle in the main room.

### **PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF HOMES**

O God, our True Light and Savior, You have deigned to be baptized in the Jordan by John the Baptist to renew all men by the cleansing water of regeneration (Tit. 3:5) and to enter under the roof of Zacchaeus, bringing salvation to him and his house (Lk. 19:9), now, You, O Lord, protect also all those who dwell in this house from all harm and injury; grant them Jordan's blessing, purification of soul and body, and good health; and hear all their supplications, which are for their salvation and life eternal. For blessed are You, O Lord, together with Your Eternal Father and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever. Amen.

### **PRAYER FOR ONE'S CHILDREN**

O God, our Heavenly Father, Who loves mankind, and are most merciful and compassionate, have mercy upon our children, Your servants, (*their names*), for whom I humbly pray to You, and commend them to Your gracious protection. Be their guide, O God, and Guardian in all their endeavours; lead them in the path of Thy truth, and draw them near to Thee, that they may lead a godly and righteous life in Thy love and fear; doing Your will. May they be full of Your grace that they may be temperate, industrious, diligent, devout and charitable. Defend them against the assaults of the enemy, and grant them wisdom and strength to resist all temptation and corruption of this life; and direct them in the way of salvation, for the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and the intercessions of His Holy Mother, and Thy blessed Saints. Amen.



**(Reprint of Last Year's Question.)**

**ASK FATHER A QUESTION? Father I have a question, what is the difference between Epiphany and Theophany? Are these one Feast or two Feasts? Where do the Three Kings come in? My mom always called it the Feast of the Three Kings? Is this Christmas? Interesting that you ask the question this way.....** The

early church did not celebrate Christmas, if you pay attention to the services and the prayers for the Feast of Theophany you will see that they are the source of the prayers for Christmas. The Feast of Theophany is older than Christmas. It should be noted that the early church did not celebrate the Nativity of Christ.

The Three Kings come on the Feast of Epiphany (Mankind recognizing God in the world). The Roman Catholic Church calls this Feast day, Epiphany because the western church puts the emphasis on the kings recognizing God in the world AND additionally, Christ being baptized in the Jordan River.

The Eastern Churches call this Feast Day Theophany (God revealing himself to the mankind), because the Eastern Church emphasizes Christ baptized in the Jordan River, the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descending over him, and God the Father saying "You are my beloved Son; With You, I am well pleased."

We as an Eastern Church recognize the Three Kings on this day also, but the emphasis is on Christ's Baptism in the Jordan, not because the Baptism changed Christ, who is God, but because, God changes the whole world through his Baptism. Jesus who is God is showing us the path to salvation, which begins with the Rite of Initiation, Baptism. We remember also that Matthew ends his Gospel with Christ's command to his Apostles to go out and Baptize the whole world in the Name of The Father and The Son and The Holy Spirit. Simply put, it is two Feasts on One day.

As you can see, both the Three Kings coming to the infant Jesus and the adult Jesus Christ baptized in the Jordan by John the Forerunner, are both celebrated this day and the western church merely emphasizes that mankind recognizes God entering the world in his infancy and the eastern church emphasizing the beginning of his missionary work in the world.

**The Greeting today is:**

**"Christ is Baptized"**

**Response:**

**"In the Jordan!"**