

January 1, 2017

Sunday Before Theophany; T one 8
Circumcision of Our Lord / St Basil the Great

E pistle: 2 T imothy 4:5-8 / Colossians 2:8-12;

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8 / Luke 2:20-21 & 40-52

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!





**Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix
Bishop: His Grace John Pzak C.Ss.R**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church

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Finance Council

Matthew Blain, Tom Ellefson, Maria Alden

SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY: Rosary 8:30 am
Festal Matins 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Daily Liturgy (Schedule of Services, Page 3)

Saturday: Great Vespers 4:00 pm
Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday 10:00 am—4:00 pm
Thursday OFF

THEOSIS: 1st & 3rd Thursday
pot luck dinner 6:00 pm
Bible Study 7:00 pm

Eastern Christian Formation Program: All grades meet every Sunday after Liturgy for 45 minutes (September through May)

Confession (Mystery of Reconciliation):

9:15—10:00 am on Sundays, before or after week-day Liturgies, or by appointment with Father

Mysteries of Baptism/Chrismation/Eucharist:

Must be arranged three months in advance. (Pre-Jordan requirement)

Mystery of Crowning:

Must be arranged six months in advance (Pre-Cana requirement)

Sick and Shut-Ins: It is the family's responsibility to notify the parish office when a parishioner is in the hospital or confined to home because of sickness or old age. Father will bring the confined person the Holy Mysteries on a regular basis. It is recommended that one receive the Anointing of the Sick before any major surgery. Please don't let the priest be last to know that someone is ill!

Welcome to our Church! If you are looking for a spiritual home, contact Father Artur or the office staff for more information. God bless you.

Today 8:30 am Rosary
9:00 am Matins/Confessions
Canned Goods Collection for Friars 10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parishioners, Benefactors & Friends
Bethlehem Carolers Play
Fr. Chris: +Sr. Patricia Watkins GNSH by Zugger Family

January 2 Monday ***Pre-festive of Theophany/Sylvester Pope***
Epistle: 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Gospel: Matthew 3:1-11

9:00 am Blessing on Karen and Daniel by Demetrius Yackanich

January 3 Tuesday ***Pre-festive of Theophany/Malachy Prophet***
Epistle: Hebrews 4:1-13; Gospel: Luke 21:12-18

9:00 am +Fr. Wes Izer

January 4 Wednesday ***Pre-festive of Theophany/Synaxis of the 70 Apostles***
Epistle: Hebrews 5:11-6:8; Gospel: Luke 21:5-7.10-11.20-24

5:30 pm OLPH Devotions
6:00 pm Blessing on Tessa Pettit by Pam Pettit
Fr. Chris: Intention on Rene Baia

January 5 Thursday ***Vigil of Theophany***
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:19-27; Gospel: Luke 3:1-18



9:00 am Royal Hours
6:00 pm Vigil Liturgy +Jake Frederick by Jileks
Litija/Great Blessing of Water
Fr. Chris: Intention of Rebecca Baia

Strict abstinence

January 6 Friday ***Theophany of Our Lord / Holy Day of Obligation***
Epistle: Titus 2:11-14 & 3:4-7; Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

No fast/abstinence 9:00 am Matins
10:00 am Liturgy For the Parish Family, Benefactors and Friends
Great Blessing of Water/Myrovanije

January 7 Saturday ***Saturday after Theophany / Synaxis of John the Baptist***
Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17 & Acts 19:1-8
Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11 & John 1:29-34

January 8 Sunday ***Sunday after Theophany***
Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13; Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

4:00 pm Great Vespers
5:00 pm +Joseph J. Shumok by Mary E. O'Carroll
8:30 am Rosary
9:00 am Festive Matins/Confessions
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
ECF Classes

Physician and Help of Those in sickness, Redeemer and Savior of the infirm; O Master and Lord of all, grant healing to your servants. Be clement, show mercy to those who have sinned much, and deliver them, O Christ, from their Iniquities, that they may glorify Your might divine

Sharif Rabadi
 Stephen Horner
 Katrina Anderson
 Abraham Haddad
 Jenny Ford
 Threima Leech
 Priscilla Hughes
 Steve Jakymiw
 Lillian Murphy
 Marilyn Fore
 Demetrius Yackanich
 Sven & Barbara Svensson

Fr. Julian Gnall
 Henry Zuggger
 John & Margie Disque
 Phillip Fall
 Laura Dominquez
 Olga Bodnar
 Frances Brannan
 John Deflice
 Mary Ann Kosty
 Jordan Smith
 Maggie Batsel
 Jean Pesce
 Henry Burnette
 Tracy McTernan

William Frank
 Mary Nell Preisler
 Mike Harahuc
 Robert Zadel
 Jack & Lorraine Hubbell
 Quintin Santmaria & Family
 Heather Mattax
 Larry Bennett
 Paola Terlaza
 Ruth Sousa
 Frank Gerace
 Linda Granci
 Barbara Irving

Prayers in honor of and to the Blessed Virgin are a powerful weapon against sin, and for healing. If you recite the Rosary at home, please offer these intentions, and join us on Sunday at 8:30 am. Those who recite the Akathist to the Mother of God or the Rosary receive a partial indulgence when they do so in private, plenary indulgence when they do so as a group

Intentions of the Rosary

- 1st Decade: Help for persecuted Catholics, especially in communist and Islamic states
- 2nd Decade: Spiritual and physical growth of our parish and the Byzantine Catholic Church
- 3rd Decade: Increase in vocations to priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life to serve the Byzantine Catholic Church
- 4th Decade: Repose of the souls who have no one praying for them
- 5th Decade: Healing of the sick in body, mind and soul



Vocation Icon

Today: Gloetznner

Next Sunday: Riley

Holy Father's Intentions for January

Christian Unity.

That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

December 24 & 25, 2016/Attendance: 154

THANK YOU TO all who contributed to our Christmas celebrations: choir and servers at the Liturgies; those who decorated the church, the hall for Holy Supper, and the outdoor garden; those who participated in Holy Supper on Christmas Eve; all of those who attended the services; the families and individuals who went out on Dec. 26 to visit our parishioners in nursing homes and truly brought Christmas cheer to them.

THANK YOU FROM Fr. Artur and Fr. Chris to all who sent cards, offers of prayers, and gifts. Serving in this parish is a privilege - may we walk well together in 2017, and God bless you for your generosity to His Church. Our best wishes to all for a Blessed New Year!

Please pick up your 2017 envelopes from the pew by the church entrance. And please, everyone, consider tithing regularly so that your parish can count on your regular support in the new year - thank you!

Great Feast of Theophany!

This is the Holy Day of Obligation that we celebrate on January 6. It commemorates our Lord's Baptism in the River Jordan and the Manifestation of the Holy Trinity. On this feast we celebrate the Great Blessing of Water.

All parishioners are invited to bring a specially prepared container to the church on this feast in order to take home the newly blessed Water. The period following the Feast of Theophany is a very special time for our households to come together and celebrate the annual blessing of our homes with Jordan Water.

Father Artur is most eager to come to the parishioners for house blessings beginning January 7 through the start of February as requested by filling out sign up sheet on the greeting table by the Holy Water font or by calling the parish office. Thank you and God be with You!

DATE	READER	TROJCA	GREETER	COUNTER	HOST
Jan. 8	Brook Jilek	Olga Youssef	Samia Rabadi	Open	Open

Barbara's Hall Report

The kitchen and hall were closed for Christmas. I hope everyone had a Blessed Christmas. See you next year. We have a new schedule put up for the Sunday socials. Pick out your favorite Sunday and sign up!

Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now

January 12, 19 Thursday	6:30 pm Pot-luck dinner 7:00 pm THEOSIS: Mystery of the Byzantine Liturgy
January 24, 31 Tuesday	6:30 pm CAFE meeting at UNM
January 9, 23 Monday	5:45 pm Explorers meeting
	Three Holy Hierarchs/Simple Holy Day
January 30 Monday	6:00 pm Divine Liturgy

Today is the beginning of the Civil New Year. By tradition, it is a time when people take stock of last year and decide to make resolutions to change/ improve certain behaviors, or change entire lifestyles. So, let us consider this: what must I do in 2017 that will result in me being a better child of God, a better Christian, a better Byzantine Catholic? Attendance at church regularly; reading the daily Scriptures from the calendar; buying a prayer book and using it morning and evening; setting up an icon corner (or using the one I've neglected to be near much in 2016); charity towards others around me, especially those who need God's love which I can deliver.

St. John Bible Study Group

Know the Word... Mike Sena will be leading a 6-week Bible study for preteens (ages 10-13) starting Tuesday, Jan 10, 2017, and meeting every other week through Feb 21. Besides delving into the Sacred Scriptures, meetings will include prayer and dinner. For more information send an email to olphnm.youth@gmail.com

Rosario Cemetery in Santa Fe and Mt. Calvary and Gate of Heaven Cemeteries in Albuquerque are offering a 15% discount on all pre-need purchases of crypts during the months of January, February and March. This discount program is designed to help families plan now so that those left behind are not tasked with difficult decisions and costly expenses at a time of need. For more information, please call Rosario Cemetery at 505-983-2322, Mt Calvary Cemetery at 505-243-0218 or Gate of Heaven Cemetery at 505-821-0800.

Dear parishioners, families & friends of OLPH:

Thank you for your amazingly generous donations of food, time, talent, and money for our social! The Mothers group social fundraiser raised \$415 and were able to buy our last children's table and give \$365 to Project Defending Life! Thank you thank you thank you! We also donated the jungle animal table to PDL for their waiting room, since we were able to replace it with the new ta-

Stewardship Envelopes and Calendars for 2017

are now available in the church. Be sure to take yours home and use them well in the new calendar year. Regular giving of treasure, talent, and time is an important part of life in this parish for all our faithful of the age of reason and above. Likewise, regular attendance at holidays is part of being a parishioner as well. Be sure to look out for those shaded days on the calendar and plan ahead to sanctify them by attendance at the Liturgy of the church.

Observance of holydays maybe made the evening before, the morning of, or, when applicable, the evening of. Obligatory feasts are to be sanctified by attendance at the Divine Liturgy. Solemn feasts call the parish to "full liturgical attendance" and faithful are strongly encouraged to attend Vespers, Matins, and/or the Divine Liturgy. Simple Feasts are usually observed with the Divine Liturgy and Vespers or Matins.

It is the custom among many Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians to have their homes blessed every year with the Holy Theophany Water.

HOUSE BLESSING: THE PURPOSE

The annual blessing of homes is a custom of special beauty and significance. We again ask Christ to bless and enter into our homes and our lives. We ask Him to be with us, as we desire to be with Him. We ask that by the sprinkling of blessed water, the Holy Spirit renew us, our families and our lives in our homes. As Christ brought salvation to the house of Zacchaeus; we ask for the same for all dwelling in our homes.

HOUSE BLESSING: THE ORDER

The house being ready, we dress in an honorable manner (as we would for church). When the priest arrives, we greet him at the door, having turned off any radio, TV, or other noise based element. Animals that may cause disruption by being startled by the sprinkling water should be placed out of the way. On a small table before icons, a small but wide-mouthed bowl full of newly blessed water is placed (if you do not have newly blessed Jordan water a priest will bring one from the church). Together with a list of names of those who reside in the home, a lighted candle and censor (if you have one) are also placed on the table. These items are arranged prior to the arrival of the priest. At the beginning of the service for the blessing of the home, a family member leads the priest throughout the home, carrying the lighted candle. The rest of the household follows and then returns to the table for the final prayer and blessing with water upon those present.

CONTRIBUTION vs. COMMITMENT

A growing problem facing our world and the Church today is the increasing number of people who have given up commitment to become contributors. Contributions are much easier than commitments. The average person on the job contributes whatever is necessary to keep his paycheck coming in. He is not committed to his company. In most cases he does not even like his job. It is only a boring way to make money.

Most Churches have the same problem. Members contribute enough time, effort and money to be recognized as a member and to soothe their own conscience. They are not committed to the Church or to the Lord. They will contribute to just about anything as long as it does not cost them anything but they will sacrifice nothing, especially themselves.

Jesus succeeded in His mission because He was committed to the task before Him. He was willing to give up everything, even His life, for the cause He believed in. No one really succeeds in life until he reaches the point that he is willing to lay down his life. Jesus said, "Except a grain of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abides alone."

If your life as a Christian has not been as meaningful as you would like for it to be, you might check your total Stewardship Commitment. If your life is only a series of small contributions, that could be your problem. Paul says that we are to offer ourselves to God as a living sacrifice."

The difference in a contribution and total commitment is usually the difference in failure and success. "Here, Lord, I give myself to You, that is all I can do." That is all you can do, but you must do that much.

Does your Stewardship Commitment to reflect a contribution or a commitment? "Let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God"



Christmas Carolers visit shut-ins



We rejoice with Tom and Natalie Sullivan on birth of their second son Pedro Manuel at about 6:55 am on Wednesday December 7th 2016. He was 20 and 1/4 inches long and weighed 7 pounds and 13 ounces. Little Pedro Manuel received the Holy Mysteries of Christian Initiation on December 20th at the local parish in Florida. As you know Tom is currently a student of the Law School at the Ave Maria University in Florida. The family is doing very well though they miss OLPH very much, in their own words: " Let the parish know we miss and love them and are always praying for yall! Please keep us in your prayers also! God bless you all and Merry Christmas to everyone from the Sullivan's here in Florida!"



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Explorers!!