

January 4, 2015



Theophany of Our Lord



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Byzantine Catholic Church**

1837 Alvarado Dr. NE

Albuquerque New Mexico 87110

Office: 256-1539 FAX: 256-1787 www.olphnm.org

Father Brian Escobedo, Pastor
Rectory: 268-2877
pastorolph@yahoo.com

Father Christopher Zugger (retired)
Phone: 256-1787
Frchris.zugger@gmail.com
www.frchriszugger.com

SCHEDULE:

Sunday: Rosary 9:00 am
Third Hour 9:30 am
Divine Liturgy 10 am

Saturday: Vesperal Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm

Weekday: Wednesday Divine Liturgy, 7 pm
Friday Divine Liturgy, 12 noon

Perpetual Help Moleben
Wednesday 6:30 pm

Holy Days of Obligation
Check the bulletin or call the office

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Friday: 10 am – 4 pm
Thursday & Evenings by appointment.

Parish Advisory Board Members:
Dorothy Curl, Dave Dark, Lubomyra Kmetyk,
Brian Fitzpatrick, Harry DeLap

Parish Finance Council Members:
Matthew Blain & Eva Schuler

Confession Schedule (Mystery of Reconciliation):

9:30-9:50 am on Sundays, after weekday Liturgies, or
by appointment with Father

Mysteries of Baptism/Chrismation/Eucharist:

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

Mystery of Crowning (Matrimony):

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

Anointing of the Sick on Sundays before
hospitalization

For emergencies, call immediately.

Eastern Christian Formation Program:

All grades meet every Sunday after Liturgy for
45 minutes

Theosis:

2nd & 4th Thursday
6 pm Potluck Dinner
7 pm Bible Study

Knights of Columbus meet the first Monday of the
month at 7:00 pm

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

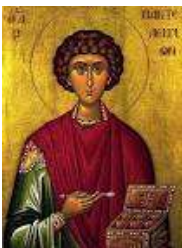
O Master and Lord of all, grant healing to your servants. Be clement, show mercy to those who have sinned much, and deliver them, O Christ, from their Iniquities, that they may glorify Your might divine!

Fr. George Reamulto
Fr. Julian Gnall
Fr. Alberto Villalobos
Fr. Anthony Romero
Fr. James Lane

Roy Smith
Sven & Barbara Svensson
Michele Koetter
Abraham Haddad
Lillian Murphy
Stephen Horner
Demetrius Yackanich
Jenny Ford
Marilyn Fore
Robert Hasaka
Frank & Martha Arden

Paola Terlaza
Henry Zegger
John & Margie Disque
Phillip Fall
Walter Jakymiw
Olga Bodnar
Frances Brannan
John Deflice
Kristoff Rajala
Jordan Smith
Marge Merrills

Carla Matthes
Laura Dominguez
Robert Zadel
Joseph Koetter
Mary Nell Preisler
Jackie De Paolis
Donny Terry
Mary Murphy
Lorraine Hubbell
Quintin Santamaria & Family
Heather Mattax
Larry Bennett



*Prayers in honor of and to the Blessed Virgin are a powerful weapon against sin, and for healing. **The Joyful Mysteries are said everyday until February 2.***

If you recite the Rosary at home, please offer these intentions, and join us on Sunday at 9 am.





Intentions of the Rosary

- 1st Decade:** Help for persecuted Catholics, especially in communist and Islamic countries
- 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 in the Byzantine Catholic Church
- 4th Decade:** Repose of the souls who have no one praying for them
- 5th Decade:** Peace in Ukraine and the Middle East

Holy Father's Intentions for January

Universal: Peace. That those from diverse religious traditions and all people of good will may work together for peace.

Evangelization: Consecrated life. That in this year dedicated to consecrated life, religious men and women may rediscover the joy of following Christ and strive to serve the poor with zeal.

Those who recite the Akathist to the Mother of God or the Rosary of the Virgin Mary receive a partial indulgence when they do so in private, plenary indulgence when they do so as a group

Today the Knights of Columbus are sitting in the front three pews on both sides of the church with their family members for Corporate Communion Sunday, in honor of our departing pastor Fr. Brian and our new pastor Fr. Artur. This practice is done periodically to remind the Knights of their important roles as men who are to be the leaders of faith at home, in the parish, and in the larger community.

Special Pancake Breakfast next Sunday: our famous blueberry and pecan pancakes return with bacon & eggs. The income from this breakfast, hosted by the Knights of Columbus, is to benefit Ashley Garcia's tuition to learn to become a Natural Family practitioner. She will work both at St. Joseph Fertility Clinic and right here with our own parishioners. We will be the first known Byzantine Catholic Church to have its own NFP practitioner! Per usual, donate what you want per plate, no minimum.



VOCATION ICON
Today: Riley
Next Sunday: Brewer



Date	Reader	Trojca	Greeter	Host
1/11	Christy MacMurchadha	Helen Blain	Reggie Garuti	Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

Barbara's Hall Report:

Well, out with the old year, but thanks to everyone who hosted the social during 2014. We had some real feasts and a few famines when Mr. Nobody brought no food! So in 2015 please sign up to host the social. We have most of 2015 available.
 Happy New Year to all!

Can you or someone you know:

- **run a modern video camera and download the film into an Apple computer system?**
- **Do you or someone you know how to upload to the internet?** We are going to tape the new semester's CAFE lectures and want to make a You Tube channel and post online for others to benefit.
-

Please contact Fr. Chris directly, 256-1787 or frchris.zugger@gmail.com.

CAFE will start again at UNM soon! If you know students or faculty at UNM who would like to be involved in our Catholic Apologetics Fellowship Evangelization club, please pass on the word. We're on Facebook!

**EWTN THIS WEEK:
THE SITE OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
OF JESUS - MOUNT TABOR**

Standing over the Jezreel Valley in the Lower Galilee region of Israel is Mount Tabor, a Christian site that pilgrims from all over the world visit because it is the place of the Transfiguration of Jesus mentioned in Mark 9:2-4.

Sunday
01/04/2015 1:00 PM

Monday
01/05/2015 2:30 PM

**POPE JOHN PAUL I - THE SMILE OF
GOD**

Pope John Paul's peasant origins, his years as a student and parish priest, and his sunny personality are some of the features in this movie. He succeeded Paul VI in 1978, serving as Supreme Pontiff for only 33 days before his death.

Saturday
01/10/2015 4:00 PM

Byzantine Book & Gift Shop

Image, Symbol and Mystery: an Eastern Christian View of the Sacraments \$15

Goes through the Seven Holy Mysteries, gives the theology, purpose of the ritual, and how we should respond to all of them.

Lights from the East, Pray For Us \$17

Short biographies of leading Eastern Saints, including our own Bl. Theodore Romzha and Methodius Trcka, with reflections and even the music of their feast days!

Liturgy: Model of Prayer, Model of Life

\$20 One of the best scholars of Byzantine Rite worship gives a readable, accurate study to use for your personal prayer and education alike.

Don't forget Eastern Christians and Their Churches: \$5 a pocket/ purse booklet that will answer all your friends' questions about "that little church you go to."

Your purchases support ministries of our parish, and help us to buy new stock that will continue to educate minds and lift up souls in prayer!

*Congratulations to
Dureid & Nahrein Houssef
on the Baptism & Chrismation
of their son, Lionel*

The Theophany at Home

January is the season for house blessings. The pastor is invited to come to the family home in order to celebrate this annual rite. **Jordan water from the Theophany service should be provided for Father to do the blessing**, which ideally starts in the family icon corner. Anything else which needs blessings should be placed there, on a white cloth. **The mother has a liturgical role, as she takes a lit candle and leads Father through the house**, turning on the electric lights as they go. The family joins in singing the Theophany troparion, either at the icon corner or the family table, or in a little procession. **Every room is blessed, and Father does not care whether or not the room is clean.** For protection of the family, **all exterior doors are blessed** "in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit" while Father sprinkles holy water

In this **home-based ritual**, the parish priest comes in his role as spiritual father, and is able to be welcomed by the family in their own domestic church, the extension of the parish community. It is not a time to worry about the house being spotless: more important is that the family's interior life is spotless! Invite Father Brian to come and offer this ritual, and enjoy the peace that comes into a well-blessed home. I know that this was one of the hardest things for me to give up when it became impossible to visit several homes in one day as my body changed and didn't allow for this to happen: I felt that both an important connection of the domestic church with the parish church was lost, and that parishioners lost out on an important sacred event. **Take advantage of the fact that we have a pastor who wants to come and pray with you at your own table!**

If Father is not able to come, then use the small white pamphlet placed on the announcement table by the front door of the church. The head of the household takes on the liturgical leadership as indeed should be done at family prayer.

Remember to bring bottles to collect holy water on January 5/ 6.

Sanctified water will be available at either service for you to take home and use. Old holy water should be poured out against a wall where no animal will walk. Use your holy water for house blessings, against sickness or bad dreams, to bless a room after a fight or an angry person has visited your space, to sanctify your own personal work space. Doing so, we invoke the Holy Spirit, Who sanctifies the water at all Blessing rituals, to visit, protect, and shelter us against all harm.

HOUSE BLESSING SIGN UP - If you want your home blessed, please sign up on the provided sheet by the front door of the church. Father Artur will put together a schedule once he has an idea of how many homes and where they are. It is a great privilege to have the priest bless your home - please consider having it done.

Theophany Icon

The **paradox** that Jesus Christ might be revealed as God through an act of submittal to a mere man, John, is shown well in the Icon. Though **John is baptizing Christ, it is the former who is shown bent over** in reverence to the latter. In other icons, John is shown with his face turned toward heaven and beholding the miracle of the Theophany; either way, despite being the baptizer, he is not central to the scene.

Near to John is a tree with an axe laid at the root, recalling John's own preaching to those who came to him: "And now also the ax is laid to the root of the trees: therefore every tree which brings not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." (Matt 3:10). Present in the icon, this shows that whilst the Baptizer must now "decrease so Christ may increase", John's teachings and role are not done away with now the Holy Trinity has been revealed. On the opposite bank to John the Baptist, **angels wait** invisibly to receive the newly baptized Christ and clothe Him. And so, on the left is the forerunner of Christ, John, with his sermon of repentance represented by the tree and axe; on the right, the angels wait with reverence to accept the newly revealed Son of God. In the middle – the moment of revelation itself.

In icons Christ's hands are not shown in prayer, but in a sign of blessing. Rather than the waters of Jordan cleansing Christ, it is **Christ Who cleans the waters**. This is why in the bottom of most Theophany Icons, little creatures appear to be fleeing from the feet of Christ. This is a reflection of the words of the Psalmist regarding the Messiah (Christ): "the sea saw and fled, the Jordan turned back" (Psalm 114:3).

Theophany in Public Life

In **public life**, the Church goes out to flowing water to sanctify creation. Countries with a large population following the Byzantine Rite, either Catholic or Orthodox, are treated to these popular events. **In colder climates, this calls for chopping a cross-shaped hole in the ice**, and the clergy go out onto the ice to celebrate the blessing ritual. This is always very impressive in Eastern Europe, where a whole town will descend to the river bank to take part in the blessing of the water. **In the warmer climates**, priests bless the harbors and throw in a special cross into the water, which young men dive after. He who retrieves the cross is expected to be blessed throughout the year.

Why do this? Processions are an integral part of Church life: notice the ones we have in our parish for the two Entrances in every Divine Liturgy, and the ones we do outside on Good Friday and Pascha. Processions led by a processional cross, with people carrying icons and singing hymns is a statement to the world that God is here, that He sanctifies His world, and that the Church presents Him to the world, which is longing for His love even if some people in the world can't define the hole they feel in their hearts as a hole which needs God's love to fill it. And **processions make a statement to those who would define separation of Church and State as shoving the Church into a locked closet: we are most definitely here!**