

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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Ambo Editor

Divine Services

Eve Sundays & Feast Days

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sundays and Feast Days

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hour

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Please check weekly schedule
for specific days (last page).

Previous Ambos on website.

Articles for publication
should be submitted to:

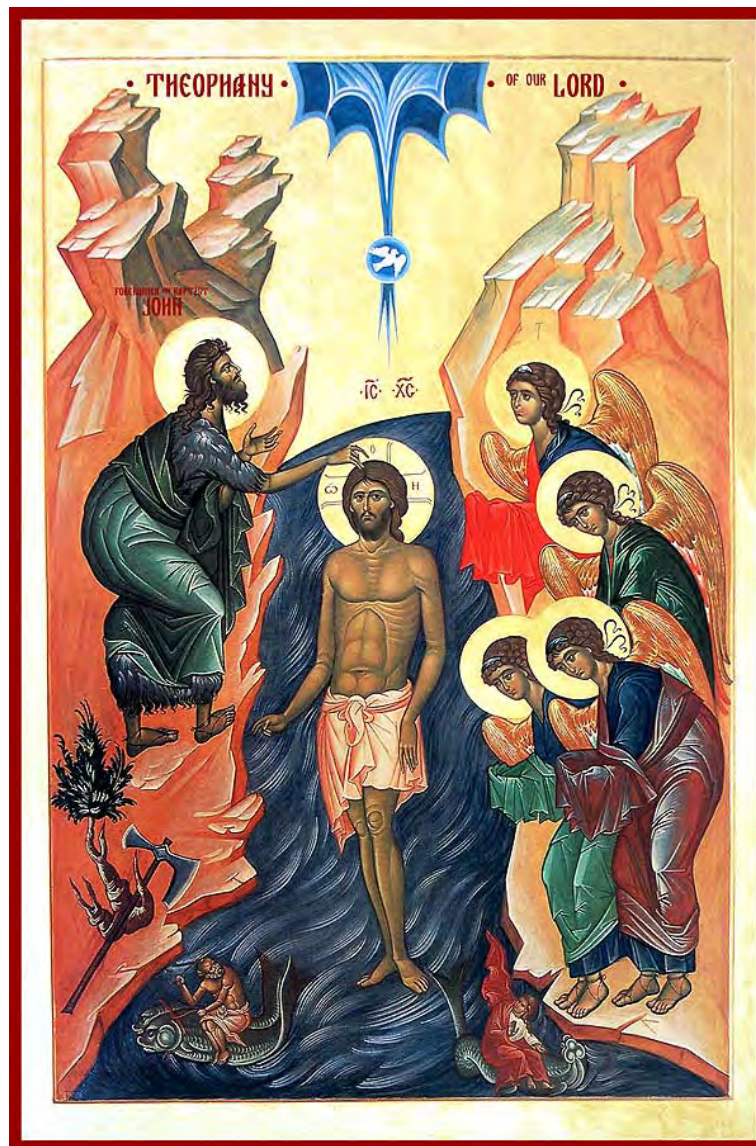
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JANUARY 5, 2025

28TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EVE OF THEOPHANY



Theophany is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (Mt.3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by Saint John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the form of a dove. From ancient times this Feast was called the Day of Illumination and the Feast of Lights, since God is Light and has appeared to illumine "those who sat in darkness," and "in the region of the shadow of death" (Mt.4:16), and to save the fallen

race of mankind by grace.

In the ancient Church it was the custom to baptize catechumens at the

Vespers of Theophany, so that Baptism also is revealed as the spiritual illumination of mankind.

The origin of the Feast of Theophany goes back to Apostolic times, and it is mentioned in The Apostolic Constitutions (Book V:13). From the second century we have the testimony of Saint Clement of Alexandria concerning the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, and the night vigil before this Feast.

There is a third century dialogue about the services for Theophany between the holy martyr Hippolytus and Saint Gregory the Wonderworker. In the following centuries, from the fourth to ninth century, all the great Fathers of the Church: Gregory the Theologian, John Chrysostom, Ambrose of Milan, John of Damascus, commented on the Feast of Theophany.

The monks Joseph the Studite, Theophanes and Byzantios composed much liturgical music for this Feast, which is sung at Orthodox services even today. Saint John of Damascus said that the Lord was baptized, not because He Himself had need for cleansing, but “to bury human sin by water,” to fulfill the Law, to reveal the mystery

of the Holy Trinity, and finally, to sanctify “the nature of water” and to offer us the form and example of Baptism.

On the Feast of the Baptism of Christ, the Holy Church proclaims our faith in the most sublime mystery, incomprehensible to human intellect, of one God in three Persons. It teaches us to confess and glorify the Holy Trinity, one in Essence and Undivided. It exposes and overthrows the errors of ancient teachings which attempted to explain the Creator of the world by reason, and in human terms.

The Church shows the necessity of Baptism for believers in Christ, and it inspires us with a sense of deep gratitude for the illumination and purification of our sinful nature. The Church teaches that our salvation and cleansing from sin is possible only by the power of the grace of the Holy Spirit, therefore it is necessary to preserve worthily these gifts of the grace of holy Baptism, keeping clean this priceless garb, for “As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ” (Gal 3:27).

On the day of Theophany, all foods are permitted, even if the Feast falls on a Wednesday or Friday.

Coffee Hour Quarter 1 2025

Questions/Concerns: Cathy Weber (412-215-1928)

January 5 Mary Swit	Mat. Jana, (sponsored by Una & John Alexandrovic)	TBA) March 9
January 12 Wayne Vidovich & Shawna Whitlock	February 9 Sarah & Mike Brennan	March 16 Georgi & Tsvetelina
January 19 Joyce Tabeling & Judy Schwind	February 16 Cathy & Tammy	Galevi (Sponsored by William Lynk)
January 26 Mat. Zdinak & Nikol Gammalo	February 23 (Meatfare) Shawna Whitlock	March 23 Joyce Tabeling & Judy Schwind
February 2	March 2 PARISH POTLUCK (details	March 30 Mat. Jana

PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 1/5/2025

Deceased

James Timko (*Lauren Eppel's uncle*)

Special Intentions:

Archpriest Jason Kappanadze

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Subdeacon Roger Pinta

Subdeacon Leon Felon

Reader Frank Tkacz

Reader Daniel Morris

Stephan Chwalyk

Horia Dascalescu (*Lavinia's brother*)

Janice Tkacz

Eleanor Wachovec (*friend of Karen Felon*)

Rachel Ohlin (*relative of Tatiana*)

Erin Zawolowycz

Jeffrey Parhamovich (*brother of Karen Felon*)

Margaret Parhamovich

(*sister-in-law of Karen Felon*)

Jean Woycitzky Thompson (*Frank's cousin*)

Anna Marie Luvison (*daughter of Matthew & Katie (Ellis) Luvison*)

Debra Parhamovich (*sister of Karen Felon*)

Grace Mary Parhamovich

(*mother of Karen Felon*)

Lonnie Ellis

(*Husband to Debra Ellis*)

Robert Martin Prock

Valentina Zawolowycz (*mother of Paul Z*)

Child McKenna Kranek

Elizabeth and **Michael** Prendergast and their **unborn child**

Betty Balasz

Jeremy, Yvonne, and Unborn Child

Herman Leslie Levin

Russell Schafer

Sonia Vorell

Ivan Lavrasiuk

Elisabeth Lavrasiuk

Elena Rich

Beth Carson

Gregory Jakubisin

Phyllis Gindlesperger

Daniela Raisovich

Alexander Medvec

Please submit names to the Prayer List by emailing them to Fr. Jan Cizmar
st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

Or calling at 1 (440) 732-8182

Names remain on the list for 30 days unless requested otherwise.

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ZOE for Life![®]

ZOE for Life! is once again offering an Akathist to our Sweet Lord Jesus with special prayers for the Unborn. This will

be held at **St Matthew Orthodox Church in North Royalton** on **January 26 at 6:00pm**. Fr. Andrew Harmon will be the speaker at the coffee hour immediately following the service. Please join us for this special event. Thank you.

+Very Rev. Fr. Fred Shaheen



THE LAMENT OF RACHEL

Sunday, January 5

28th Sunday after Pentecost

Eve of Theophany

Sunday before Theophany

Hieromartyr Theopemptus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and Martyr Theonas (303)

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

6:00 PM Great Vespers & Blessing of Water

Monday, January 6

THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Ven. Macarius of Mt. Athos (1431)

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, January 7

Afterfeast of the Theophany

Synaxis of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John

Wednesday, January 8

Afterfeast of the Theophany

Ven. George the Chozebite, Abbot (6th c.)

6:00 PM Akathist to St. Theodosius

Thursday, January 9

Afterfeast of the Theophany

Martyr Polyuktos of Melitene in Armenia (259)

Friday, January 10

Afterfeast of the Theophany

St. Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa (4th c.)

Saturday, January 11

Afterfeast of the Theophany

Saturday after Theophany

Ven. Theodosius the Great, the Cenobiarch (529)

6:00 PM Great Vespers

BIWEEKLY SCHEDULE 2025



There are thirteen readings at Vespers on the *Eve of Theophany*, and the entrance is made with the Gospel. **There is fasting to-day, whatever day of the week it may be.**

Sunday, January 12
29th Sunday after Pentecost
Afterfeast of the Theophany
Sunday after Theophany
Martyr Tatiana of Rome and those who suffered with her (226-235)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Monday, January 13
Afterfeast of the Theophany
Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonikus of Belgrade (ca. 315).

Tuesday, January 14
Leavetaking of the Theophany
St. Sava I, first Archbishop of Serbia (1237)

Wednesday, January 15
Ven. Paul of Thebes (341)
and John Calabytes ("the Hut-dweller"—5th c.)

Thursday, January 16
Veneration of the Precious Chains of the Holy and All-glorious Apostle Peter

Friday, January 17
Venerable and Godbearing Father Anthony the Great (356)

Saturday, January 18
Ss. Athanasius the Great (373) and Cyril (444),
Archbishops of Alexandria
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, January 19
30th Sunday after Pentecost
Ven. Macarius the Great of Egypt (390-391)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour