

ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Dec. 31Saturday before Theophany/Melany, Venerable
Readings: 2 Tim. 45-8; Mk. 1:1-86:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Jan. 1Sunday before Theophany
Readings: 2 Tim. 45-8; Mk. 1:1-8
9:10 A.M. Third Hour
9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy/Panakhyda
Supplications will be offered for+Dolores Dedig, given by Char Rumsky & Bella
Supplications will be offered for+Yuriy Hordynskyj (killed in action in Western Ukraine),
given by mother Marta Schur

Thursday, Jan. 5Eve of the Theophany of Our LordReadings: Titus. 2:11-14 & 3:4-7; Mt. 3:13-17(North Side)7:00 P.M. Vesperal Divine Liturgy/Blessing of waterSupplications will be offered for+Fred Bilyk, given by Magdalena Cheresnowsky

Saturday, Jan. 7Saturday after Theophany
Readings: 1 Tim. 6:11:16; Mt. 12:15-216:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy/Blessing of water (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Jan. 8Sunday after Theophany
Readings: Eph. 4:7-13; Lk. 4:12-179:10 A.M. Third Hour;
9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+ Patty Della Ragione, by Michael & Vicky Senko God's blessing upon Motria & Olech Hodowanetc on their 30st wedding anniversary What was the message this messenger would deliver?

Write all of the 1's in order. Then return to the top and write all of the 2's in order. Then return to the top and write all of the 3's in order.

1	2	3	1	2
He	than	am	said	I –
3	1	2	3	1
not	After	the	worthy	me
2	3	1	2	3
thongs	to	will	of	stoop
1	2	3	1	2
come	Whose	down	one	sandals
3	1	2	3	1
and	more	I	untie	powerful





Theophany House Blessings

Between the Feast of the Theophany and the beginning of the Great Fast-Lent, it is customary in our Holy Church to have our homes blessed by the parish priest with the Holy Water sanctified on this glorious Feast Day. This is an ancient tradition of the Eastern Church and through it we extend the "blessing of Jordan" into our homes and

private places.

This blessing of our homes underscores and enhances the connection between our parish life and our "HOME CHURCH." It also gives us and our children an opportunity to see our priest in a more personal situation. All of this strengthens our relationship with God and His Holy Church.

*** Below are some guidelines for this House Blessing and pastoral visitation:

-In a main room or at the Icon corner place a candle, Cross and/or Icon on a clean linen cloth.

-You may make a list of all the family members you want prayed for during the Blessing Service, with the living and dead on separate columns.

-Turn on a light in every room so that Father can see where he is going.

-Turn off all stereos, TVs, computers, etc.

-Please have all pets confined or restrained.

-If you have any Icons, Crosses, religious articles you wish to have blessed, please place them on the table where the Service will take place.

Everyone present when Father arrives should join him around the Icon corner or the kitchen or dining room table. Father will designate one family member to lead him through the house; the rest should follow along and participate in the Blessing Service. Remember that participation is very important.



January 1, 2023

Sunday before the Theophany of our Lord. Octoechos, Tone 5. The Circumcision of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our Father Among the Saints Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia (379)

<u>Changeable Part:</u> Pages 12-15 In the Booklet of Changeable Parts (Small white book)

Announcements:

St. George's parish family expresses <u>deep sympathy</u> to the family and friends of Marta Shchur. Her son Yuriy died in action in Eastern Ukraine. He was born to eternal life on December 27, 2022. This Sunday Divine Liturgy will be celebrated for his repose. Panahida will follow in Ukrainian language. Heroes never die. Memory Eternal. Вічная память. Зі святими упокой Христе, раба Божого Юрія!

Feast of Theophany

On Friday, January 6th, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Divine Liturgy with the Great Blessing of Water will be celebrated on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at St. George's parish. Also, Divine Liturgy with a blessing of Water will be celebrated at St. John parish at 6:00pm on January 8, 2023. Please come!

Clean-up Decorations

Sunday, January 15th, following the Divine Liturgy we will have the clean-up of the Christmas decorations. I ask that you please remain in Church to help put away the decorations. The more of us stay behind, the faster it will go. Thanks

Envelopes 2023-Calendars 2023 (Attn.! Problem with a printing, will be delivered in January)

We start the distribution of the Church offering envelopes for the year 2023 and the Church Calendar for 2022. They are available in the hallway off the Church vestibule. Sincere thanks to Thomas P. Kunsak Funeral Home for sponsoring the calendars for 2023. Should you not see your envelopes (or a mistake, or address change), please let Father Igor or Ms. Olga Perkun know, following the Divine Liturgy. Thank you all for your support and generosity throughout the year 2022. *MHORDA Jima*!

House Blessing

With the upcoming celebration of the Feast of Theophany of Our Lord those parishioners who wish to have their house blessed are asked to fill out the form, which is available in the Church vestibule or contact the parish office. Each household that requests this blessing will be contacted by phone to schedule this pastoral visitation. In preparation for your house blessing, please follow the guidelines, which are published in today's bulletin.

Prayers for the Living & Deceased

As we slowly come to the beginning of the year 2023, I ask that if you have any special dates throughout the year on which you would like to have prayers offered for the living or for the blessed repose of your loved ones, you please contact the parish office now to reserve that day. Remember that during the Great Fast and Holy Week) the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated on weekdays due to the fact that these are aliturgical (without Divine Liturgy) days.

Prayer List:

Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have one, contact the office and we'll send you one. In a special way, at this time, remember the following members of our parish family: **Barbara Fedora, Helen Fedenko, Orysia Barshowski, Kate Wyko, Thomas Kunsak, Kathee Shabla and Rose Shedno.**

Collection- May God bless you...

The grand total for Sunday of December 25, 2022 was **\$1,833.00** (Collection: \$1,551.00, loose & candles: \$32.00, Online Donation: \$250.00)

Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy





The Holy Theophany of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

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 St. 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.

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 St. 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 St. 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. St. 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 Indivisible. 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).

- Translation by Fr. Stephen Janos from th Reference Book for Clergy – Server