

Christ is Baptized! In the Jordan!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, January 7 5:00 PM +Clarence & +Irene Hornak by Sandy Hornak

Sunday, January 8 9:00 AM +Dolores Suchta by M/M Ronald Banderinko

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Pages 316 - 318

Web Liturgy for Week of January 8, 2023 sponsored by
Mary Ann Pesta

Sanctuary Candle is lit from January 1 – January 14
In Memory of +Alice & Anthony Lutka by Ronald & Arletta Lutka

32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Saturday, January 14 5:00 PM +Mary & +Michael Miskovitch by Robert, John,
Millie & Anne**

**Sunday, January 15 9:00 AM Deceased of the +Hornak Family by Margaret &
Vince Madden**

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN ME:

Regular Offertory	\$1,967.00
Maintenance Fund	662.00
Holy Day	409.00
Flowers	25.00
Christmas	3,489.00
Candles	206.00
Loose Cash	63.00
TOTAL	\$6,821.00

*During these challenging times we thank you for your kindness and generosity.
Please consider remembering St. John Cathedral in your will
as a lasting legacy for future generations!*

Please call the parish office if you would like your 2022 contribution statement.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS

AT HOME: Richard Lesko, *Ronald & Arletta Lutka*, Margie Seman, Teri Phares, Raymond Petro, Jr., Luke Pasternak, Marissa Stout, Tara Seman, Michael Matus, Patrick Singer, Joan Bodnar, Mary Ann Urban, Carole Srsic, Pauline Johnson, *Ann Havrilscak*, Aaron Spang, Janet Ducar, Mary Pavasko, Suzie (Wargo) Bodziach, Betty Martin, Teresa Sekel, Patty Schneider, Jeannie Pasternak, Janet Myers, Ethel Wahal, Joanne Smoley, Rich Scott

Italicized names indicate Parish Shut-ins. Other names are submitted prayer requests.

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Len Stagon, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 10 Daniel & Michele May (Anniversary)
- 11 Kathleen Wincko
- 11 Riley Munsie
- 11 Ian Munsie
- 12 Michael Matus
- 13 Evelyn Allan
- 13 Bernard E. & Janet Ducar (Anniversary)
- 13 Samuel Tima
- 14 Joyce Lesko

Live Stream Donations

\$25 Matthew Sabo Family (MD)

Special Donation

\$100 in Memory of +Marguerite Seigler by Staci, Ron & Jack

Special Christmas Donation

\$200 Kathleen Zavada

In person Attendance: *Saturday, December 31: 51; Sunday, January 1: 55*

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, December 31: 35 (WS); 62 (FB)*
Sunday, January 1: 63 (WS); 71(FB)

STOCKING STUFFER RAFFLE THANK YOU

Thank you to all who bought and/or sold tickets for our Christmas Raffle. Every ticket was sold and it was a success. Congratulations to our winners: John Olliff was the grand prize winner. The other winners included Renee Cavicchia, Susie Bodziach, Phil Conte, Michele Donohoe, Tiffany Ilnicki, Patricia Kutzfara, Bill Planchik and Maria Renzinger.

CHICKEN PAPRIKASH DINNER

Our parish will serve a take-out only Chicken Paprikash dinner on **Saturday, January 21 from 3 – 6 PM and on Sunday, January 22 from 10 AM – 1 PM. Price is \$12.00 per dinner.** The dinner includes: Chicken Paprikash served over dumplings, cucumber salad, bread and butter. In addition we will be selling quarts of haluski, quarts of soup, our kolache, and various baked goods.

COMMUNITY CHORUSES CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Mark your 2023 calendar **Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 3:00 pm**, for an uplifting inaugural event! Join your neighbors as they present a Community Choruses Christmas Concert on Sunday, January 8 at St. Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church in Upper St. Clair. St. Gregory's Chant Group will be joined by the Schola Cantorum of St. Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Parish (St. Bernard Church in Mount Lebanon) and the Holy Trinity Carolers (Koliadnyky) of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Carnegie for a program of seasonal choral and chant music in celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. Each group will sing selections and stage festive scenes from their respective traditions in Latin, Ukrainian, Ruthenian and English. This first-time affair will be presented at 3:00 pm at St Gregory Church, located at 2005 Mohawk Road in Upper St. Clair 15241. All are welcome to attend this gathering of joyous voices, which will be followed by a hospitality reception in the church hall. For more information/directions, visit www.stgregoryusc.org, or call 412-835-7800.

ALL SOULS SATURDAYS

The first All Souls Divine Liturgy is Saturday, February 11, 2023 at 9:00 AM. We come together to pray for our deceased loved ones. They are by no means forgotten nor a nameless mass of people, for by name we mention them, we perpetuate their memory and we pray that our loving and merciful God will be pleased to bring them into His saving presence.

PLEASE USE THE ALL SOULS ENVELOPE AND ATTEND THE DIVINE LITURGIES FOR YOUR DECEASED LOVED ONES.

"KATHEDRAL KITCHEN"

We have Stuffed Cabbage: ½ dozen for \$18 and 1 dozen for \$30; quarts of *Halushki, Chili & Wedding, Potato/Green Bean, Mushroom, Beef Vegetable, Creamy Potato, Pasta Fagioli (Ham & Bean) Turkey, Stuffed Pepper and Stuffed Cabbage soups* for \$7. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee or Fr. Andrew.



Attentive to the Word

Sunday after Theophany

Ephesians 4: 7-13

Matthew 4: 12-17

The feast of Theophany (also called Epiphany) is the second greatest feast (after Pascha) in the Christian Calendar. Theophany is even more important than Nativity. In fact, Theophany is the fulfillment of the Nativity. At Christ's birth, his revelation as the God-man begins. However, this revelation begins slowly, quietly (it had actually begun silently nine months earlier at the Annunciation).

At Christ's birth, only a few shepherds know what is going on—and an angel had to reveal it to them: “Go into the town” the angel told the shepherds, “and look for a tightly-wrapped baby lying in a feeding trough.” While Jesus was still an infant but after Joseph and Mary had settled in a house, three Wise Men from the East found them; but no one else did. And then the Holy Family left town and lived in Egypt for many years. The manifestation or coming (literally, the “epiphany”) of the Son of God as the Son of Man did not become fully revealed until thirty years later at the baptism of Christ by His cousin John in the Jordan River.

At His baptism, Christ not only fully identifies with our fallen humanity, but he even takes on our repentance. As St. Paul says, “He who knew no sin, became sin for us...” (2 Cor. 5: 21). Although Christ had no sin to repent of, He received the baptism of repentance on behalf of all human beings. So much did Christ identify with humanity, all humanity, that he took on the consequences of sin—himself being completely free from sin—for the sake of all men and women. In Christ everything is fulfilled on behalf of every human being: “all righteousness” is fulfilled, He says to John before His baptism (Matt. 3:15).

At His baptism, Christ not only identifies with our humanity, but He also reveals His divinity. And more than that, for the first time in all the Scriptures, in all of history, the Holy Trinity is clearly revealed: The voice of the Father speaks of the Beloved and

Well Pleasing Son while the Spirit descends in the form of a dove. Never before had the mystery of the One God in Three Persons been revealed so clearly. Here at Christ's baptism the mystery that began to be revealed at his birth is openly manifest to the universe and before the crowds who had come to be baptized by John: the Son of God is the Son of Man.

At His baptism, Christ not only identifies completely with our humanity, but He also begins the transformation of the entire created world. Instead of the water of the Jordan washing away His sin—for He had no sin—the brilliancy of Christ's divinity and the power of His sinless Humanity began the reversal of the ancient curse. The demonic forces that hid in the water (which in the Old Testament refer to death) and which manipulated the natural world to terrorize lost humanity, these demonic forces were crushed when Christ entered the water of baptism. No longer would the deep, the abyss, or Sheol hold power over mankind: having been baptized in the water, Christ would walk on the water, Christ would pull the sinking Peter from the water: even the watery depths could no longer control mankind, that is, mankind in Christ. At Christ's baptism the ancestral curse begins to reverse.

And after His baptism, having as a man been filled with the Holy Spirit, Christ begins to show the way to triumph over temptation, sin, sickness, religious hypocrisy, political oppression, demonic oppression and eventually even death itself. Christ as a man—without ceasing to be God, but laying aside his prerogatives as God—Christ as a man conquers all human enemies. Christ as a man shows the way for all mankind into the Kingdom of God, into Paradise, into the Resurrection and into Eternal Life.

This is why Theophany is so important. In remembering, in celebrating the baptism of Christ, we call to mind in the most profound way the revelation of the God-man, the washing away of sin through repentance, the reverse of the ancient curse, and the conquering of sin and all of its consequences, even death. The world was enlightened at Christ's baptism, and when we prayerfully remember it, we come to experience that enlightenment just a little more fully.

By Archpriest Michael Gillis

Mission Statement

Saint John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral is a member of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh who through the Holy Spirit is called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a community and family, we grow in faith and in the image and likeness of God by dedicating ourselves to welcoming, celebrating and caring for all of God's people.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist): Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Pre-baptism instructions are required. Contact Fr. Andrew to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Must meet with Fr. Andrew before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Fr. Andrew. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the prescription of the liturgical book of the Byzantine rite.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Celebrated Saturdays, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM and upon request.

Mystery of Anointing: Celebrated upon request. Ideally celebrated in Church the Sunday before undergoing any surgical or other medical procedure.

Visitation of the Sick: The parishioners confined to their homes or nursing homes due to health reasons are visited monthly. Also, persons who are hospitalized are visited when Fr. Andrew is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Fr. Andrew whenever a loved-one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Andrew before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of St. John the Baptist Cathedral Parish. Only those who are registered are considered members of the Parish. When one registers to become a parish member they assume the responsibility of rendering stewardship of time, talent and treasure to this parish family. Worship at this parish is always expected. Registration is done only through the pastor by appointment. The Parish Office should be notified as soon as possible of any change of address within the Parish as well as one's leaving.

Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Judy is in the parish office Monday – Friday from 9:00 AM – 2 PM. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.