

January 13, 2019
Sunday after Theophany



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Christ is Baptized – In the Jordan! Christos Krescajetsja! ~ Vo Jordani!
Propers for this Sunday: pp. 316 - 318, pg. 125, Tone 1

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., JAN. 13	SUNDAY after THEOPHANY
8:00 A.M.	<i>Holy Rosary</i>
8:30 A.M.	DIVINE LITURGY
	+ Anna George, offered by Ed & Isabel Maruhnich
SUN., JAN. 20	THIRTY-FIFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
8:00 A.M.	<i>Holy Rosary</i>
8:30 A.M.	DIVINE LITURGY
	+ Anna George, offered by Mary & Dwight Dickey

Holy Land Pilgrimage - Walk Where Jesus Walked!

With our former pastor Fr. Elias O'Brien, O. Carm - April 1 - 10, 2019

Make your way through the Holy Land to experience Him, follow in His footsteps, and see Him in the works He performed - your footsteps will become His. Celebrate votive Masses in the very places where these miraculous gifts became pages in the Gospel. See where He was back then and feel how He is still there today! Information can be found at <http://www.pilgrimages.com/obrien/>

Christ is Baptized ~ In the Jordan!
Christos Krescajetsja! ~ Vo Jordani!

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:

January 13: Quincy Sirko, January 17: Ann Trombulak, January 18: Bertha Gall,
January 19: Cheryl Ferrand

Wedding Anniversaries Last Week:

Jan. 13: Kenneth & Joanne Futato

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

HOME – Margaret Barilla, Eileen Batcha, Natalie Jugan-Diaz, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Alice Haber, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Neil Jugan, Marion Malackanich, Josephine Maruhnich, Carole Panella, Mary Salamon

Hunter's Care Home (1916 Main St, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Mary Poiarkoff

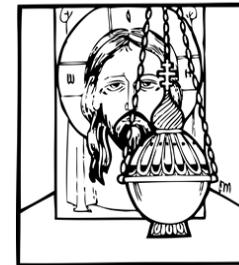
West Hills Health & Rehab Center (951 Brodhead Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108) – Margaret Klacik

Beaver Meadows (5130 Tuscarawas Rd, Beaver, PA 15009) - Paul Valiga, Angie Yuhasz

Epistle Readers – Jan. 13: Reaghan Cody – Jan. 20:

Ushers – Jan. 13: F. Hersh/T. Liller - Jan. 20: M. Bobanic/F. Hersh

Troica Holders – Jan. 13: R. Dzumba - Jan. 20: M. Mudron



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

January 13 - 19, 2019

Burns before the real presence of our Lord

In Loving Memory of:

Anna George

Offered By:

Anna Trombulak



“Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Cor 9:7)

Excerpts of a letter from Bishop Milan Lach (Eparchy of Parma)

In his letter commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Eparchy of Parma, Bishop Milan Lach calls for renewal of personal holiness.

“The anniversary year offers an occasion to acknowledge the negative events that weakened our eparchy and caused a loss of vitality and, at times, even a loss of hope for the future. We should approach the Lord with repentance in our hearts and ask forgiveness, individually and as an eparchy.

Above all, we need to look forward with hope. This is only possible with renewed faith and a firm decision to follow the Gospel that contains the commandments of Christ. If our hearts have abandoned this willingness, we should look into the reasons why. St. Theophan the Recluse says this happens when the grace given at baptism is not preserved. He provides the following causes:

- 1. Leaving the church and its grace-giving means, which starves the root of the Christian life, disconnecting it from its sources. In this way it wilts, just as a flower does when it is not watered.*
- 2. Failure to pay heed to one’s bodily nature, which opens the door for passions to take hold of the soul.*
- 3. Forgetting the main goal of life: People do not have direction and lack the means to achieve union with God.*
- 4. Neglecting the spiritual life: Prayer, the fear of God and conscience are overshadowed by earthly cares.*
- 5. Neglecting to put into practice Christian principles and God’s way of life.*

Could this point to the lack of vitality in our individual faith and lives, and in the eparchy as a whole? I would like you to join with the clergy at your parish and meditate on these causes. My hope is that this exercise will lead to spiritual activities in your parish that could renew the grace of baptism in our souls. We must first, however, be convinced that personal holiness, which leads to salvation, is a priority. This will take courage and conviction.”

He goes on to challenge all to make a pledge to begin the process that leads to this goal. He also challenges all priests to preach during their 50th-anniversary year about how to avoid the five points of St. Theophan the Recluse above and to teach the art of spiritual living, the importance of prayer and the sacraments, and of giving up small things for the sake of gaining everything.

We can all be encouraged by his call to a renewal of the grace given at baptism and pray that all the people of the eparchy and beyond (our Archeparchy, our Church) will accept this challenge.

Super Bowl LIII Pool Fundraiser

HOW IT WORKS: “Squares” can be purchased beginning today for \$10 each with prize giveaways based on the scores at the end of the first quarter, half-time, third quarter, and final score. Since this is a Fund Raiser, part of the proceeds will benefit our St. George Church, and part will be distributed among the people with the winning squares. Once all the squares have been selected, numbers will be randomly picked, 0-9, for each team in the Super Bowl; one row of numbers for the AFC team and one for the NFC team. For example: if the score is AFC 17 - NFC 14, then the winning square is the one with an AFC number of 7, and an NFC number of 4. The Super Bowl will be on Sunday, February 3. Grids will be passed out to each participant when completed.



Dollar amounts of prizes have been updated below to better reflect our ability to sell squares relative to the size of our parish. **If all 100 squares sell the prize amount will increase.** Ask family and friends to participate. *Thank you!*

If less than 100 sell

Q1\$50
Half\$100
Q3\$50
Final\$225

**Unsold squares will
be assigned to St.
George Church.**

If all 100 sell

Q1\$75
Half\$150
Q3\$75
Final\$300

*Purchase Super Bowl squares following Sunday Liturgy, in the Center
or from Francis Hersh anytime 724-407-8206.*

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to our parishioners, visitors, and friends. We are glad that you have come to worship with us today and pray that your participation in our parish will be enriching to you. Following every Sunday Divine Liturgy, Fellowship Coffee and doughnuts are served! We invite everyone to join us in our café.



ECF classes resume today

Sunday after the Holy Theophany of Our Lord

“The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”

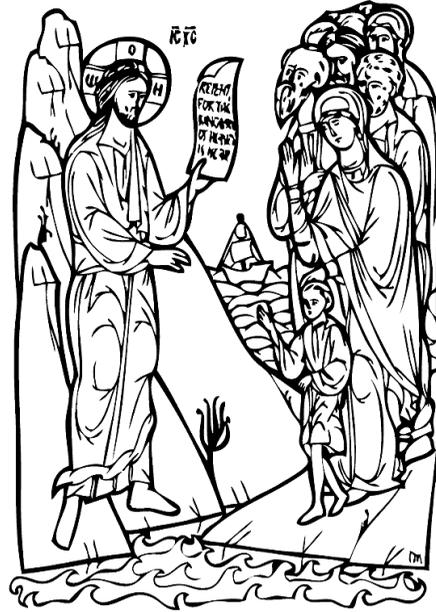
Our answer to the light: three candles, candles of faith, of hope and of love.

In the life of Jesus three lights were manifested: 1) the light of Nativity symbolized by the star that lead the Magi from the East to worship the Savior, it is the light of faith: we believe that Jesus is the Son of God; 2) the light of the Resurrection, which is the light of hope in eternal life; 3) the light of Pentecost, which is the light of Love; for the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Love.

The story of our Christian life is the story of our illumination by Jesus. Jesus comes as “a great light” to those who languish in the darkness of ignorance, despair, and hatred. 1) To those who sit in the darkness of ignorance, He lights the candle of knowledge; 2) to those who sit in the darkness of despair, He lights the candle of hope; 3) to those who sit in the darkness of hatred, He lights the candle of love. And with these three theological virtues He lights candles of joy, forgiveness, peace, and meaning in the lives of people today.

When we enter the Church we light a candle. The processions of the Gospel and of the offerings are accompanied by candles. This is to remind us that we have received light from Christ and that, like Him, we too, ought to be lighting candles in the lives of people. We have the mission to spread the light of Christ in the world. He said of himself: “I am the light of the world.” The same thing He said to us: “You are the light of the world.” Then He added explaining what does mean to be the light of the world: “A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” (Mat. 5:14-16).

-Archbishop Cyril (Bustros)



9 DAYS FOR LIFE

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual pro-life novena, 9 Days for Life, Monday, January 14 – Tuesday, January 22. Pray for the respect of all human life with daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Download a free mobile app or sign up to receive the novena through daily emails or text message. (A printable version is also available online.) Sign up at www.9daysforlife.com !



March for Life - Friday, January 18, 2019

Plan now to participate in the annual March for Life! Your witness is vitally important as Americans work to ensure the respect for life for everyone from the moment of conception until the moment of natural death. If you cannot participate in the March for Life in Washington, DC, then participate (even for an hour!) at the one in your town. And remember that even if you are elderly, disabled, or if circumstances make it not possible for you to participate in the March you can still participate by praying. Prayer is the most powerful weapon we have against the evils of abortion and euthanasia.

Ideas from fellow Byzantine Catholics

- Have an Open House with icons on display, food available in the Church Hall, and be there to answer questions. Welcome the community to “come and see”.
- Some of the best advice I have heard from a priest who grew a parish from just a few families to over 600 is that even though you are a small parish you should do everything as if you are a large parish. People can’t come to things you don’t have. This means having things like daily Liturgical prayer is very important, even if there is only a priest and one layperson present in the beginning. Things will grow if you put them in place from the get-go. Doing the opposite, saying “we’ll add more stuff when we get more people” doesn’t work. Also, be 100 % faithfully Catholic (in the Eastern tradition of course) and don’t apologize for it. People crave authenticity and want the Sacred Tradition of the Church. If you give it to them, they’ll come, and they’ll stay.
- One of the reasons why Byzantine Churches and her members are declining in numbers is because of a lack of evangelizing. Eastern Christianity is the best kept secret of Christendom. The reason it is a secret is because we do not wish to evangelize, nor do we make any real effort. St. Paul admonishes us in his First Letter to the Corinthians by writing: "Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel" [I Cor. 9:16]. Jesus Himself taught that "Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also confess him before My Father..."[Matthew 10:32]. Powerful words. Public sharing of Jesus is NOT an option. I pray for and challenge all laity who read this to open up their Bibles. Read it. Pray it. And share Jesus with those you work with, or family members who have left the faith... again, this is not an option.

SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org

**Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, David Klacik,
Bob Bartz, Louisa Hersh**

**E.C.F.coordinator: Jo Ann Hersh
Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff**

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation.....Fridays following 6:00 P.M. Liturgy.

Holy Mysteries of Initiation.....Contact the church office.

Holy Mystery of AnointingAsk prior to surgery or serious illness.

Holy Mystery of MarriageContact the church office eight months prior to wedding.

Religious Education Classes.....September through May, following Sunday Divine liturgy.

Pirohi Sales 2nd Friday of each month

St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club..... Everyone welcome to participate.

