

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

733 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

www.sttheodosius.org

Father Jan Cizmar
1(440) 732-8182
st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

Office Hours TWTh
9AM-2PM, please call ahead

Subdeacon Michael Tabeling,
Sacristan

Subdeacon Igor Gajewsky
Sacristan

Reader Julius Kovach,
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

Denise "Nisi" Pozderac
dpozderac.tlc@gmail.com
Parish Council President

Mary Swit, Parish Secretary
1(216) 574-4886
StTheodosiusCathedral@protonmail.com

Office Hours MTWTh
10:00AM-2:00PM

Paul Zawolowycz
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:

ambo-theodosius@googlegroups.com

JANUARY 1, 2023

29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR
LORD AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST



On the eighth day after His Nativity, our Lord Jesus Christ was circumcised in accordance with the Old Testament Law. All male infants underwent circumcision as a sign of God's Covenant with the holy Forefather Abraham and his descendants [Genesis 17:10-14, Leviticus 12:3].

After this ritual, the Divine Infant was given the name Jesus, as the Archangel Gabriel declared on the day of the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos [Luke 1:31-33, 2:21]. The Fathers of the Church explain that the Lord, the Creator of the Law,

underwent circumcision in order to give people an example of how faithfully the divine ordinances ought to be fulfilled. The Lord was circumcised so that later no one would doubt that He had truly assumed human flesh, and that His Incarnation was not merely an illusion, as certain heretics had taught.

In the New Testament, the ritual of circumcision gave way to the Mystery of Baptism, which it pre-figured [Colossians 2:11-12]. Accounts of the Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord continue in the Eastern Church right up through the fourth century. The Canon of the Feast was written by Saint Stephen of the Saint Savva Monastery.

In addition to circumcision, which the Lord accepted as a sign of God's Covenant with mankind, He also received the Name Jesus [Savior] on the eighth day after His Nativity as an indication of

His service, the work of the salvation of the world [Matthew 1:21; Mark 9:38-39, 16:17; Luke 10:17; Acts 3:6, 16; Philippians 2:9-10]. These two events -- the Lord's Circumcision and Naming -- remind Christians that they have entered into a New Covenant with God and "are circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ" [Colossians 2:11]. The very name "Christian" is a sign of mankind's entrance into a New Covenant with God.

After January 6th, Fr. Jan will be blessing homes. He asks that anyone wishing to have their home blessed call him at (440) 732-8182 or email him at st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com to make the arrangement.

VISITATIONS

Fr. Cizmar would like to know who requires visitation. He is eager to visit those who might have gone a long time without visitation for any reason at all. A key duty of a priest's ministry is to visit the sick and confined, those unable to attend the holy services for any reason. His phone number and email address are printed on the front of every

FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

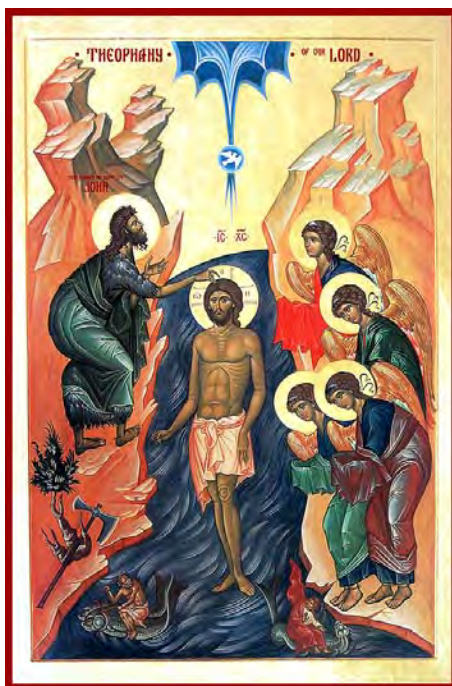
Theophany (Jan 6) is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (Mt.3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by Saint John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the 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.

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 1	Tuesday, January 3	29	Friday, January 6
Composite 1 - Genesis 17:1-2, 4, 5-7, 8, 9-10, 11-12, 14 Proverbs 8:22-30 Proverbs 10:31-11:12 John 20:1-10 Colossians 2:8-12 Luke 2:20-21,40-52 Hebrews 7:26-8:2 Luke 6:17-23 2 Timothy 4:5-8 Mark 1:1-8	Hebrews 9:8-10, 15-23 Luke 21:12-19	Exodus 15:22-16:1 Joshua 3:7-8, 15-17 4[2] Kings 2:6-14 4[2] Kings 5:9-14 Isaiah 1:16-20 Genesis 32:1-10 Exodus 2:5-10 Judges 6:36-40 3[1] Kings 18:30-39 4[2] Kings 2:19-22 Isaiah 49:8-15 Hebrews 10:35-11:7 Luke 21:28-33 1 Corinthians 9:19-27 Luke 3:1-18 Isaiah 35:1-10 Isaiah 55:1-13	Mark 1:9-11 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 Matthew 3:13-17 Isaiah 35:1-10 Isaiah 55:1-13 Isaiah 12:3-6 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 Mark 1:9-11
Monday, January 2 Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9 Wisdom of Solomon 5:15-6:3 Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15 Matthew 11:27-30 Galatians 5:22-6:2 Luke 6:17-23 Hebrews 8:7-13 Luke 20:27-44	Wednesday, January 4 Hebrews 10:1-18 Luke 21:5-7, 10-11, 20-24	Thursday, January 5 Isaiah 35:1-10 Acts 13:25-33 Matthew 3:1-11 Isaiah 1:16-20 Acts 19:1-8 Mark 1:1-8 Isaiah 12:3-6 Romans 6:3-11 Mark 1:9-15 Isaiah 49:8-15 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 Matthew 3:13-17 Genesis 1:1-13 Exodus 14:15-18, 21-23, 27-	Saturday, January 7 Ephesians 6:10-17 Matthew 4:1-11 Ephesians 5:1-8 Luke 13:18-29 Acts 19:1-8 John 1:29-34
			Sunday, January 8 John 20:11-18 Ephesians 4:7-13 Matthew 4:12-17

PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 1/1/2023

Deceased

Priest John Sykaluk

Gregory Ponomarenko

Irene Alisauskas

Martha Musil (*mother of Linda Kovach*)

Special Intentions:

Priest Andrew

Deacon Paul Mitchell (*Tom Mitchell's father*)

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Reader Paul Pangrace

Reader Frank Tkacz

Daniel Boerio

Jennifer Boerio

Horia Dascalescu (*Lavinia's brother*)

Diane Kearsey (*Janice Tkacz's Sister*)

Janice Tkacz

Eleanor Wachovec (*friend of Karen Felon*)

Rachel Ohlin (*relative of Tatiana*)

Erin Zawolowycz

Michael O'Brien (*friend of Arlene*)

Joseph Czajkowski (*son of Jerry*)

Carol Nielsen (*Paul Pangrace's sister*)

Matthew Ponomarenko

Virginia Medvec

Stephen Chwalyk

Jeffrey Parhamovich (*brother of Karen Felon*)

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

Margaret Peyton (*Cathy's aunt*)

Kristin Robinson (*friend of Nicholas Kozak*)

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*)

Peter

Gayle Vidovich

Emilia (*child of Jeremy & Yvonne*)

Elizabeth Balasz

Christina Hile (*Nisi & Cindy's sister*)

Lonnie Ellis (*Husband to Debra Ellis*)

Robert Martin Prock

Jennifer Humphrey

Anna-Marie

Andrew (*Nephew of Deborah Finley*)

Andrew Mytrohovich

Alexandra (*sister of Nicholas K.*)

Nicholas (*cousin of Fr. John Zdinak*)

John and Family

Frances

Tatjana

Please submit names to the Prayer List by emailing them to Fr. Jan

st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

Or calling at 1(440) 732-8182

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



EVENT COMMITTEE NEEDED

The *Parish Council* is asking for parishioners to form an **Event Committee**. This committee would be in charge picnics, potlucks, and any kind of other events associated with the church hall and the kitchen. They would plan, organize, and approach other parishioners for help as needed (this committee would be in charge of the *planning*, not all the *doing!*). Anyone interested should contact *Wayne Vidovich* at 440 989 6165

Thank you to all the those who helped make the Cookie Walk a great success!

With many generous donations and the sale of all the cookies we made **OVER \$4,000.00**. Again thank you to all the people that made donations, baked and helped with the sale.



Sunday January 8
Saturday February 4
Saturday March 4

Church School Calendar

Saturday April 8 (Lazarus Saturday)
Saturday May 6
Saturday June 3

ST. THEODOSIUS IS A SUBSCRIBER TO TITHE.LY

In response to requests to be able to donate electronically, we have set up a Tithe.ly account so people can donate either regularly or for special occasions online. Click here to see: <https://www.sttheodosius.org/donate>



Sunday, January 1

29th Sunday after Pentecost

The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior

Jesus Christ

St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Cæsarea in Cappadocia (379)

Sunday before Theophany

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

Monday, January 2

Forefeast of Theophany

Repose of Ven. Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov (1833)

Tuesday, January 3

Forefeast of Theophany

Holy Prophet Malachi (400 BC)

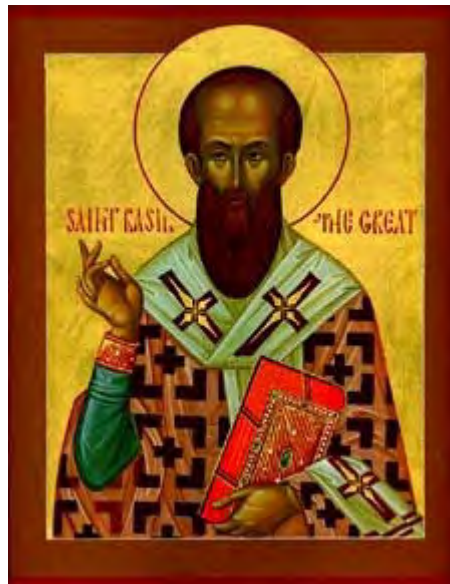
Wednesday, January 4

Forefeast of Theophany

NO FAST

Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles

WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2023



Thursday, January 5

Eve of Theophany

STRICT FAST

6:00 PM Vigil

Blessing of Water

Friday, January 6

The Holy Theophany of our

Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

NO FAST

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 7

Afterfeast of the Theophany

Synaxis of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Fore-

runner and Baptist John

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, January 8

30th Sunday after Pentecost

Afterfeast of the Theophany

Sunday after Theophany

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours read

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour