



DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday Before Theophany, January 1, 2017

Circumcision of Our Lord, Feast of St. Basil the Great

9:00 AM Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:30 AM Lit. + Anthony Kuzniak r/by Ana & Ron

Monday, January 2, 2017

No Liturgy Scheduled

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

7:30 AM Lit. + Loretta Suto r/by Palya Family

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

7:30 AM Lit. Special Intention Helena Kawanka
r/by Mrs. A. Melnyk

Thursday, January 5, 2017

VIGIL OF THEOPHANY (Strict Fast)

7:00 PM Lit. + William Adamshick r/by Dn. Paul & Anna
Solemn Blessing of Water

Friday, January 6, 2017

THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD

8:45 AM Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners
Great Blessing of Water

Saturday, January 7, 2017

UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS

9:00 AM Lit. + Rev. Joseph Szupa

5:00 PM Lit. + Glenys Romanko (25 Yrs.) r/by Children

Sunday After Theophany, January 8, 2017

Epistle - Eph 4:7-13; Gospel - Mt 4:12-17

9:00 AM Lit. + Oleks Kuzyszyn; Stefania & Mykola
Nahirnyj; Maria Podolsky; Olha & Emil Karas
r/by Oksana & Bohdan Kuzyszyn

11:30 AM Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

Prospora (Holy Supper)

On the evening of Friday, January 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM, we will hold a Prospora, Holy Supper, the traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve supper. Our Prospora will be sponsored and organized by the men of the Holy Name Society. The menu will consist of meatless dishes and the Holy Name members will prepare the food. St. Ann Society ladies will provide dessert and other dishes. There is no charge, but you must sign up by Sunday, January 1, 2017 so that we can set enough places for all.

2017 Church Envelopes

Parish envelopes for 2017 are in the church hall. If you used envelopes in 2016, the envelopes will be labeled with your name and address. Please advise the office of any corrections or changes.

2017 Church Liturgical Calendars are available for pick-up in the church hall.

Parish Christmas Concert

On Sunday, January 8, 2017 after the 9:00 a.m. Liturgy our parish children and choir "Boyan" will have a Christmas concert downstairs in our hall. Please plan to attend and to hear the old traditional Ukrainian Christmas Carols being sung and see our parishioners perform.

Annual Festival of Christmas Carols will be held on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. Choirs from different parishes will participate. Everyone is welcome.

Feast of Theophany

On Friday, January 6, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ. For the Vigil of Theophany on Thursday, January 5, Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great & Solemn Water Blessing will be at 7:00 PM. On the Feast itself, Friday, January 7 Divine Liturgy with the Great Blessing of Water will be celebrated at 8:45 AM. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Unless you are sick or shut-in, or you have an unavoidable conflict, such as work or school, you should make every effort to attend liturgy at one of these opportunities. Remember to prepare your Holy Water Bottle or Container. Pour out your old Holy Water into the earth, or against the foundation of your home. Then bring it to church for the newly blessed Jordan Water.

Pastor's Corner

My dear parishioners, I hope you were here for last weekend's Christmas liturgies. The choir sang wonderfully on Christmas Day and our cantors sang beautifully at all Christmas liturgies. Deacon Paul was in action on Christmas Day, helping me at the altar and distributing Holy Communion to many faithful!

I THANK all who prepared our Church for Christmas and helped to make our liturgical celebration of Christmas so beautiful and meaningful. Our Church once again looks magnificent due to the talents of men from the Holy Name Society and those who helped them with the inside and outside decorations. THANK YOU to our Ushers, Cantors, Altar Servers, and all of you who contributed in any way to make our Church's celebration of the Lord's Birth so beautiful and reverent. THANK YOU for all the Christmas cards and greetings sent to me this year.

As I am looking back at the past year, I am very humbled by all that God has been doing in and through us and we can't help but rejoice!

Throughout the year of 2016, I baptized 19 children; 18 children received First Holy Communion; 3 couples were married and we said farewell to 9 of our parishioners and friends who died. We as a Catholic people must stand firm in our faith and praise God weekly in the celebration of the Eucharist and thank Him for the many blessings that we do have. It is not only an obligation - but a privilege!

In 2016, we also had many successful events: a New Year's Eve Dance, the Ukrainian Festival, the Calendar Dinner Dance, Christmas concert, St. Nicholas celebration, the Lenten Mission, annual Easter Egg Hunt, Women's Day of Prayer, our first Children's Bible Summer Camp, the Rite of the opening of the Door of Mercy, etc. All were well attended and magnificent. We were able to maintain our beautiful property because of your generosity.

As you know I am passionately committed to providing Catholic Education for our children. The importance of Catholic Education at this time in our history cannot be emphasized enough. I humbly ask you to support and be proud of our Parish School, that this year for the 54th time has opened its door to 140 students from Pre-K (4-year-old) to grade 8.

The New Year, 2017, will be a very challenging year for us as Americans, and as followers of Jesus. May the birth of Jesus, who is Emmanuel, fill our hearts with wonder and praise, and give us the grace to proclaim Emmanuel, God with us, to a lonely and suffering world.

My prayer for all of us is that Jesus, God with us, will fill us with his joy and peace this Christmas, and give us renewed hope in the coming New Year.

A Blessed Christmas and New Year to you and your families
Fr. Ivan Turyk- Pastor

Theophany House Blessings

This year, the traditional home blessings are by request only, and will take place only from Tuesday January 10 till Sunday February 5. If you wish to have your home blessed, please sign the sheet in the church vestibule or call the rectory at 732-826-0767.

If you have been blessed enough to purchase a new home or an apartment it has to be blessed and sanctified.

A house is not just wood, cement, bricks and plaster - houses generally have personalities. Just as you have legal access to your house now, someone had legal access before you. What happened in your house or on your property that brought either blessings or curses? Who died there? Was there violence, abuse, anger, criminal activity, occult activity?

Remember that the best way to dispel darkness is to turn on a light. When the demon possessed Gadarene man encountered Jesus as he was stepping off the boat to visit that region, the demons could hardly stand it. They screamed and hollered and finally begged to be cast into a herd of swine. They recognized that the light was being turned on and they were not going to be able to stay. By blessing your house, property and possessions, the priest is consecrating them as holy unto the Lord and dispelling the darkness. Blessing a house (or an apartment or wherever you live) is simply taking the authority that belongs to you and dedicating it to the Lord. It is inviting the Spirit of God to come and dwell with you and fill your life with praise and constant thanksgiving.