

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK**Sunday After Theophany, January 7, 2024**

9:00 AM - Lit. + Maria and Stefan r/by Bobbie and Family

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

Tuesday, January 9, 20247:30 AM Lit. + Vira, Zoriana, Stepan, Bohdan, Orest
r/by Yuriy and Romana Matviyishyn**Wednesday, January 10, 2024**7:30 AM - Lit. + Philip, Anna, Helen, John, Nicholas,
Steve, Marie Romanko - Legate**Thursday, January 11, 2024**7:30 AM - Lit. + Vira, Stepan, Ivanna, Volodymyr, Petro,
Maria r/by Yulia Leshko**Friday, January 12, 2024**

8:45 AM - Lit. + Olga Yurechko

Saturday, January 13, 2024

8:00 AM - Lit + Special Intention

5:00 PM - Lit. + Deceased Members of Holy Name Society
r/by H.N.S.**Sunday of Zaccheus, January 14, 2024***Epistle - 1 Tim 4:9-15; Gospel - Lk 19:1-10*

9:00 AM - Lit. + Helen Duda r/by Randy Siluk

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

**The Vertep (Nativity Play).**

Last Sunday, parishioners and guests witnessed a beautiful production of "Ukrainian Traditional Vertep". Many parishioners and parish youth lent their theatrical, vocal and oratorical talents, and the Vertep Performance was beautifully enhanced with the singing of Christmas carols by the choir "Boyan" under the direction of Mrs. Alla Korostil. The Vertep was created and enthusiastically directed by Sister Veronica, the Superior of the parish convent and Sisters Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará SSVM, Sr. Trijtsi and Sr. Svitanku. We thank Sisters, parish "Boyan" members and all this year's participants and volunteers.

Thank you also for your donations, totaling \$1,156, that were placed into the contribution box at the back of the church, for our carolers.

Religious Education for the Parish Youth and Women in JANUARY.

- Sunday, January 7, young adults (18 and over) - Trip to New York with Father and Sisters to see a Christmas Tree and St. Patrick's Cathedral
- Friday, January 12, teenagers (8-13), 6:30-8:30 pm
- Saturday, January 13, teenagers (13-18), 6:30-8:30 pm
- Tuesday, January 16, women (Ukrainian), 6:30-8:30 pm
- Friday, January 19, children up to 7 years old, 2nd grade included, 6:30-8:30 pm
- Sunday, January 21, young adults (18 and over) meeting at the convent following 11:30 am Liturgy
- Tuesday, January 23, women (English), 6:30-8:30 pm
- Saturday, January 27, teenagers (13-18), 6:30-8:30 pm

Visit from Our Capital.

This week, our parish and a school enjoyed a visit from the Sisters Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará (SSVM) from Washington, DC. Twenty religious sisters of all ages and backgrounds came to spend an afternoon with our parish sisters, enjoying good spiritual time together, good homemade food and tons of laughter. They also were given a church tour by Fr. Ivan and visited all of our classes at ACS. They answered many curious students' questions about the many topics related to the faith, as well as, asking students questions about what they are learning.

Questions About Our Faith.

- **Why does John the Baptist have wings in some icons?**

In most Christian traditions, St. John the Baptist is also known as the "last prophet of the Old Testament," the "forerunner of Christ," or the "glorious prophet." Typologically related to the prophet Elijah, the Baptist is represented as having wings, presenting him as a divine messenger. In Greek, evangelos (from which we get the words "angel" and "evangelist") literally means "good messenger," "the bearer of good news."

The Baptist's life in the desert, according to tradition, was "angelic" for two main reasons. One of them is quite self-evident: as he proclaimed the coming of the Messiah, he became a messenger of God, a "herald," just like the angels. But also, the Baptist is the prototype of monastic life: he lived a life of prayer, abstinence and chastity, disregarding material needs. This has been often referred to as an "angelic" life, and that's the reason the Baptist is the patron saint of hermits.

Parish Donation Envelopes

Parish envelopes for 2024 are available in the church hall. Please check name and address. If you would like to register and have a box of envelopes, please pick up the blue REGISTRATION FORM in the back of the church, fill it out and drop it off in the collection basket or contact parish secretary Anna or Fr. Ivan. By using your envelopes, you indicate your attendance at Liturgy. What you put inside the envelope is between you and God.

Memorial Donation

\$250.00 - Joseph Britton, in memory of
+ BRITTON FAMILY

House Blessings by a Priest.

We invite you to adopt this custom in your family. The family gathers to ask God's blessing on their home and on those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and our goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

Fr. Ivan will start blessing homes, starting Tuesday January 9 until the end of January. Please understand that Father would like to visit as many homes in your area on the same day as time would allow. If you wish to have your home blessed, please sign the sheet in the church vestibule or phone Fr. Ivan directly (202 368 2408) or e-mail him at assumptionchurch@verizon.net should you have a preference of a day or time.

"May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is your Incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen. Loving God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and abiding in your will. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen."

Assumption School Open House

The largest elementary Ukrainian Catholic School in America, will host an Open House on Sunday January 28th from 12 noon to 3 p.m. as part of its Catholic Schools Week celebrations. Cognia accredited, the school provides a Christ-centered, Catholic environment to a diverse population of pre-kindergarten (age 4) through 8th-grade students. COME and ENROLL NOW. To receive more information about the school, call 732-826-8721 or visit www.assumptioncatholicschool.net

Sincere Sympathies

Our most sincere sympathies are extended to the family and friends of + JOHN REDUS who was recently called to his eternal reward.