



**PARISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**  
**SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**Ukrainian-Byzantine Rite**




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**"Catholic" means "Universal"**

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**"Rite" means "One of the twenty-one Eastern Catholic Sister Churches, who are simultaneously in Communion with the Church and Pope in Rome, while living their own distinctly non-Roman (non-Latin), and yet equally Apostolic Tradition (i.e. Theological, Spiritual, Liturgical and Canonical Heritage)."**

**Continued from the cover PAGE**



## January 6

**Icon of the Theophany of: our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, together with His beginningless Father and His All-Holy, Good and Life-Giving Spirit, which occurred during his baptism in the River Jordan.**

ABOUT THE FEAST: The name of the feast, **Theophany-Boho-Iavlinnia**, comes from the Greek words, *theo* (God), and *phainein* (to show forth). It means the "showing forth of God", the Trinity, to mankind, or the divine disclosure. The variant name of the feast, **Epiphany-Iavlinnia-Na-Nas**, also comes from two Greek words, *epi* (on, upon), and *phainein* (to show forth). This means "appearance" or "manifestation" of Jesus, the Son of God, upon mankind. The observance of this feast had its origins in the fourth century in the Eastern Christian Churches, and was originally a general celebration of the fulfillment of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, and included the commemoration of his birth; of the visit of the Magi or "Wise Men", who arrived in Bethlehem; of all of Jesus' childhood events, up to and including his baptism in the Jordan by John the Baptist; and even of the miracle at the Wedding of Cana in Galilee. By the year AD 534 the Western Church had separated out the celebration of the Nativity of Christ into a separate feastday of Christmas and set that date as December 25, reserving January 6 as a commemoration of the coming of the Magi, alone. Thus in the West, this feastday is not only known as **Epiphany** but also as the **Twelfth Day of Christmas** or **Three Kings Day**. The East continued the ancient practice of celebrating January 6 as a composite feast, only later adopting December 25 to commemorate both Jesus' birth and the coming of the Magi, but leaving January 6 as a commemoration of the manifestation of the Trinity at Jesus' Baptism. However, in both cases the essence of the feast is the same: the manifestation of Christ to the world (whether as an infant in Bethlehem or as an adult in the Jordan), and the celebration that the Mystery of the Incarnation begun at the Annunciation is brought to completion in His birth. **In the East, the Feast of Theophany is followed by an eight-day festival on which the normal penitential and fasting laws of Wednesdays and Fridays are all suspended.** The Saturday and Sunday after Theophany (if Easter Sunday does not occur too early) have special Epistle and Gospel Readings assigned to them,

which relate to the Temptation of Christ and to penance and perseverance in the Christian struggle. There is thus a liturgical continuum between the Feast of Theophany and the Great Fast (Lent).

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*ЧИТАННЯ ІЗ СВЯТОГО ПИСЬМА:*

*НИНІ: 6 СІЧНЯ, 2008 Р.Б.: БОГОЯВЛІННЯ. На Першій Євхаристійній (Божественній) Літургії: (1) Буття 1:1-13, (2) Вихід 14:15-18, 21-23, 27-29, (3) Вихід 15:22-16:1, (4) Ісус Навин 3:7-8, 15-17, (5) 2 [4] Царів 2:6-14, (6) 2 [4] Царів 5:9-14, (7) Ісаїя 1:16-20, (8) Буття 32:1-10, (9) Вихід 2:5-10, (10) Суддів 6:36-40, (11) 1 [3] Царів 18:30-39, (12) 2 [4] Царів 2:19-22, (13) Ісаїя 49:8-15, (14) 1 до Корінтян 9:19-27, (15) від Луки 3:1-18, За-амвонна Молитва: Богоявління: # 55, або 56. На Утренній Літургії: (16) від Марка 1:9-11. На Другій Євхаристійній (Божественній) Літургії, неділі: (17) до Тита 2:11-14 і 3:4-7; (18) від Матея 3:13-17; За-амвонна Молитва: Богоявління: # 55, або 56.*

*НАСТУПНОЇ НЕДІЛІ: 13 СІЧНЯ, 2008 Р.Б.: На Вечірній Літургії: (1) Вихід 13:17-14:4; (2) Сирах 7:29-36; (3) Ісаїя 1:16-20. На Утренній Літургії: (4) від Івана 21:15-25. На Євхаристійній (Божественній) Літургії: (5) до Ефесян 4:7-13; (6) 2 до Тимотея 3:10-15; (7) від Матея 4:12-17; (8) від Луки 18:10-14. За-амвонна Молитва: # 15*

*SCRIPTURE READINGS*

**TODAY: January 6, 2008: Theophany of our Lord: At the First Divine Liturgy: (1) Genesis 1:1-13, (2) Exodus 14:15-18.21-23.27-29, (3) Exodus 15:22-16:1, (4) Joshua 3:7-8.15-17, (5) 2 [4] Kings 2:6-14, (6) 2 [4] Kings 5:9-14, (7) Isaiah 1:16-20, (8) Genesis 32:1-10, (9) Exodus 2:5-10, (10) Judges 6:36-40, (11) 1 [3] Kings 18:30-39, (12) 2 [4] Kings 2:19-22, (13) Isaiah 49:8-15, (14) 1 Corinthians 9:19-27, (15) Luke 3:1-18, Amvon Prayer: Theophany, # 55 or 56; At the Matinal Liturgy: (16) Mark 1:9-11. At the Second Divine Liturgy: (17) Titus 2:11-14 and 3:4-7; (18) Matthew 3:13-17. Amvon Prayer: Theophany, # 55 or 56.**

**NEXT SUNDAY: January 13, 2008: the Second Sunday in Preparation for the Great Fast, popularly called the "Sunday of the Publican (Tax Collec-**

tor) and the Pharisee" i.e. the 33<sup>d</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; The propers for this Sunday are from the Lenten Triodion and they take precedence over the propers for the Sunday after Theophany; meanwhile, the offices for the saints of the day are omitted entirely. **At Vespertal Liturgy:** (1) 2 MOSES (EXODUS) 13:17-14:4; (2) (JESUS, SON OF) SIRACH 7:29-36; (3) ISAIAH 1:16-20; **At Matinal Liturgy:** (4) JOHN 21:15-25; **At Divine Liturgy:** (5) EPHESIANS 4:7-13; (6) 2 TIMOTHY 3:10-15; and (7) MATTHEW 4:12-17; (8) LUKE 18:10-14. **Amvon Prayer:** # 15.

**THE HOLY THEOPHANY (Богоявлення) OF OUR LORD, GOD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST** – popularly called "Jordan-Йордан", or "Baptism of our Lord-Хрещення Господнє". The ancient name for this feast was "Feast of Lights or Enlightenment – Світлий Празник Просвіщення"; **when it occurs on a weekday, this is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is the Second most important Feastday after Pascha-Resurrection of our Lord, which is on Easter Sunday. Bright vestments.**

**SATURDAY EVENING (mostly English, cantored) JANUARY 5<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 PM – Altar servers are asked to arrive.**

**7:15 PM – Segment of Great Compline.**

**7:30 PM – First Divine Liturgy of Theophany will be the Vigil Service** (first part of Vespers of Theophany with Epistle, Gospel and remainder of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great for Theophany ending with First (Great) Water Blessing.

**+Peter & Stephanie Fedyshin, Wedding Anniversary Remembrance.....(Family)**

**NOTE FOR ROMAN (LATIN) RITE CATHOLICS:** the vespers part of this service is not a "prelude to the Mass." The vespers at the beginning & the water blessing at end are both integral parts of this special "First Mass" of this very great feast day.

**SUNDAY MORNING (mostly Ukrainian, choral) JANUARY 6<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 AM – Altar servers are asked to arrive.**

**9:15 AM – Segment of Great Compline.**

**9:30 AM – Second Divine Liturgy of Theophany will be the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, with a Second (Lesser) Water Blessing.**

**This will be served for God's Blessings upon all of our Parishioners.**

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**WORSHIP SERVICES & PARISH EVENTS IN THIS COMING WEEK**

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**MONDAY – POST-FEAST of Theophany – bright vestments JAN. 7<sup>th</sup>**  
the Synaxis (Gathering-Co6op-Sobor) in honor of the Holy and Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.

**7:00 PM +Dorothy Jones.....(Ed Jones and Family)**

**TUESDAY – POST-FEAST of Theophany – bright vestments JAN. 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Our Venerable Father George the Chosebite (610-41); Our Venerable Mother Dominica (474-91); and Emilian the Confessor (9<sup>th</sup> century).

**7:15 AM +Nick Drapala.....(Anna Suchy)**

**WEDNESDAY – POST-FEAST, Theophany – bright vestments JAN. 9<sup>th</sup>**  
the Holy Martyr Polyeuctus (249-51).

**7:15 AM +Maria Szczerbiak.....(Stefania Krupa)**

**THURSDAY – POST-FEAST, Theophany – bright vestments JAN. 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Our Holy Father Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa (after 394); the Venerable Dometian, Bishop of Miletene (582-602); Our Venerable Father Marcian, Presbyter and Econome of the Great Church (450-57)

**There will be no Divine Liturgy on January 10.**

**FRIDAY – POST-FEAST of Theophany – bright vestments JAN. 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Our Venerable Father Theodosius, Founder of the Cenoebitic Monastic Life (529)

**There will be no Divine Liturgy on January 11.**

**SATURDAY AFTER THEOPHANY – bright vestments JAN. 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00 AM Sisterhood of St Nonna – Akathist and Spontaneous Prayers for Children and Grandchildren. Holy Martyr & Deaconess**

Tatiana (circa 222-235); Our holy fr. Sava, archb. of Serbia (1237). **There will be no Divine Liturgy on this morning.**

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### **SUNDAY MORNINGS: WEEKLY PRAYERS TO THE THEOTOKOS**

Do you pray at home, using the personal & devotional prayer form of the Latin/Roman Rite Marian Rosary? You may be interested in knowing that our parish has a group of parishioners who do the same at home. But we also gather for a Communal & Liturgical (Byzantine Rite) contemplation upon these same mysteries, in the Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God, our Heavenly Ladder of Mystical Height. We do this at about 7:15-7:50 on every Sunday morning. Everyone is welcome to join us.

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### **2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF PRE-LENT:**

#### **PUBLICAN & PHARISEE**

**JANUARY 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Tone 8. Matins Gospel 11. Bright vestments.** We prepare for Lent by calling to mind that we fully possess neither the Pharisee's religious piety, nor the Publican's repentance, through both of which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation. We transfer to another day or omit the memory of the saints of January 13: *the Holy Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonikus (313-24); the memory of Our Venerable Fathers Massacred in Sinai and Rhaithu (c. 370) and Repose of the Holy Equal-to-the Apostles Nina (345 or 347), Enlightener of Georgia.*

#### **SATURDAY EVENING (all English)**

**JAN. 12<sup>th</sup>**

**5:00 PM God's Blessings On Parishioners.....(Fr. Ivan Chirovsky)**

**6:30 PM Church Auxiliary Meeting**

#### **SUNDAY MORNING**

**JANUARY 13<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 AM**

**(50/50 English & Ukrainian / Sermon in English)**

**+Yurko (George) Chirovsky .....(Iwanna Chirovsky and Family)**

**10:30 AM**

**(50/50 Old Slavonic & Ukrainian / Sermon in Ukrainian)**

**+Mykola Durkacz (Birthday Remembrance).....(Family)**

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## *Water for Life*

*Fr. Deacon Michael Levy, Doctor of Chemistry – отець диякон, д-р Михайло Лівий*

### ***Theophany of our Lord***

It was a solemn moment in the life of our Lord when He left the seclusion and anonymity of the home in Nazareth and stepped into the light that marked the rest of His earthly journey. The event that launched this public life of Jesus Christ was His baptism in the waters of the River Jordan. The Church has always observed the feast of the Theophany with a solemnity that ranks it only below that of the Resurrection and above the feast of the Nativity of Christ. The Greek word "Theophany" means "God's appearance" or "God's manifestation". The prefix "Theo" means "God" and the suffix "phany" comes from "phaneia", which means "to show forth" or "to manifest, to reveal" from which we get the word "theophaneia". Some people refer to this Great Feast as the "Epiphany". The Greek word "Epiphany" has the same root as the suffix in the Greek word "Theophany", which is "phaneia," but the prefix "epi" means "On" or "Upon" and from this we get the word "epiphaneia". So the first word, ***Theophany***, emphasizes Who discloses Himself, or shows forth His light: the one God, in the Most-Holy Trinity. The second name of the feast, ***Epiphany***, emphasizes to whom this is done: upon us.

The great blessing of water takes place on this feast. From ancient times Christians at Jerusalem have gone to the banks of the Jordan River and there the clergy have conducted this solemn ritual. Why bless water? It is a vital substance for life. Blessed water is used for many of the ministrations of the Church. As a child is born again in baptism, it is water that is the medium of this regeneration. As articles are set aside and dedicated for the use of God and His Church, it is water and prayer that are

visible signs of the invisible grace of God. It is, in fact, the great symbol of the Holy Spirit and His action in the life of the believing Christian.

The ceremony of the solemn blessing of water points to the great meaning of water for life. In the litany we pray: "*that this water be sanctified by the power, action, and descent of the Holy Spirit... that it may become a gift for sanctification, redemption for sins, for the healing of soul and body... that it may be beneficial for eternal life... that it may drive away all evils of our visible and invisible enemies... that it may be for those who drink and receive it **in faith** a purification for their souls and bodies.*" It is no accident that this blessed water is used at the beginning of a Christian's journey in life and at its end!

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**On the Eleventh Sunday before Pascha (Easter Sunday) the Byzantine Churches commemorate what is known as the "Sunday of Zachaeus." Why?** The Paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of the Great Fast (Lent), which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of the Great Fast comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he "sought to see who Jesus was" (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation. Our lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12). The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions. We are also assured of God's mercy and compassion by Christ's words to Zacchaeus, "Today salvation is come to this house" (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is Tone 1, 3, 5, 7) we sing the Dismissal Hymn (apolytykion) of the Resurrection: "Today salvation has come to the world," which echoes the Lord's words to Zacchaeus. Maybe it is not by accident



that our Lord called Zachaeus while he still lived in Jericho for to get to Jerusalem one has to climb many miles above sea level. Maybe it was not by accident that our Lord called Zacchaeus who was short, and had climbed a sycamore tree in order to see the Lord, for all of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature; therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth. The holy Apostle Zacchaeus is also commemorated on April 20. The Synaxarion Reading at Orthros-Utrenia for this First Pre-Lenten Sunday tells us that after the Ascension of the Lord, St. Zacchaeus accompanied the holy Chief Apostle Peter on his travels. Tradition says he became the Bishop of Caesarea in Palestine, where he died in peace. In 2008, Easter, or the Pascha of our Lord, comes so early that the Feast of Theophany occurs exactly on the Sunday of Zacchaeus. This means that this year the propers for this Sunday are omitted; however, the lesson to be learned stays the same.

**On January 6, in the Latin Rite,** both the traditional pre-Vatican II calendar and the revised calendar of 1969 keep this day as the **Feast of Epiphany**, also known as the **Twelfth Day of Christmas** or **Three Kings Day**.

**ACOLYTE ASSIGNMENTS 5:00 PM — SATURDAYS**

**Joseph & Michael Levy; Richard Vargo; Richard Sawczak**

**ACOLYTE ASSIGNMENTS 8:00 AM — SUNDAYS**

**Abby & Drew Buckholt; Antony Chirovsky; Joseph & Michael Levy**

**ACOLYTE ASSIGNMENTS 10:30 AM — SUNDAYS**

**Alex & Andrew Hodowanec; Mark Rad**

**LECTOR ASSIGNMENTS FOR JANUARY**

***FEAST OF THEOPHANY***

***Saturday: eight readings; Sunday: Titus 2:11-14 and 3:4-7***

Saturday, January 5, 2008 – 7:30 PM – coordinated by Steve Zinski

Sunday, January 6, 2008 – 9:30 AM – Steve Zinski

***Sunday after Theophany and SECOND SUNDAY OF PRE-LENT:  
Sunday of Publican & Pharisee:***

***Ephesians 4:7-13 and 2 Timothy 3:10-15***

Saturday, January 12, 2008 – 5:00 PM – Stephanie Casey

Sunday, January 13, 2008 – 8:00 AM – Joan Hess

***THIRD SUNDAY OF PRE-LENT***

***Sunday of the Generous Father: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20***

Saturday, January 19, 2008 – 5:00 PM – Kathy Drapala

Sunday, January 20, 2008 – 8:00 AM – Irene Borodycia

***FOURTH SUNDAY OF PRE-LENT***

***Meatfare Sunday (Last Judgement): 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2***

Saturday, January 26, 2008 – 5:00 PM – Stephanie Vargo

Sunday, January 27, 2008 – 8:00 AM – Joan Hess

**LECTOR ASSIGNMENTS FOR FEBRUARY**

***FIFTH SUNDAY OF PRE-LENT***

***Cheesfare Sunday (Forgiveness): Romans 13:11b-14:4***

Saturday, February 2, 2008 – 5:00 PM – Joanne Giancola

Sunday, February 3, 2008 – 8:00 AM – Irene Borodycia

**NEW PARISH WEB SITE**

To see our new parish web site please go to <http://stjohnspittsburgh.com/>

**PRO-LIFE MESSAGES**

"The Old and New Testaments are filled with... passages extolling children as gift and blessing. It is disheartening, therefore, to see how far our culture has diverged from that view. .. There was no confusion [in the story of Mary and Elizabeth] as to what and who nested under their mothers' hearts. Yet, 2,000 years later, many well-educated people do not know—or claim they do not know—the truth about human life before birth." Cardinal Justin Kigali of Philadelphia, *Southern Cross*, 10/11/07.  
*"For all of those who recognize that human life is a gift, no matter one's*

*age or ability, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy."*

### **FROM NOW THRU FEBRUARY 2**

Our Church Auxiliary is still collecting clothing items for the homeless. These items will be delivered to Project Safety Net, which operates out of Mercy Hospital. This program was founded by Dr. Withers of Mercy Hospital who makes his rounds on the streets of Pittsburgh and provides medical care for the homeless. As he examines the people, the doctor and his staff deliver clean socks and other clothing items. We will be collecting new socks, hats, gloves and underwear. They also need warm coats, boots, sweatshirts, etc. Thermal clothing and unisex items are very useful since they provide items for men and women. Large sizes of clothing are needed.

### **JANUARY 5, 2008 - THEOPHANY EVE'S "GENEROUS" OR "BOUNTIFUL" MEAL**

On Saturday, January 5, 2008, we are planning to come together as a parish family to share a special meal in celebration of the Theophany of our Lord (Bohoiavlinnia), the second holiest feast of the church year. This will be a covered dish event, like it was last year. In the Bulletin for December 23, we published (see orange sheet) a list of items that are commonly shared at this holy meal, since most of the time this is a day of abstinence from meat products (when it occurs not on a Saturday or Sunday evening). **This year this Holy Day of Obligation occurs on a Saturday evening/Sunday morning. Please note that the usual 5:00 pm Saturday evening Divine Liturgy will not occur at that time. Rather, the meal should begin circa 5:00 pm, but we ask that you arrive no later than 5:30. We have to end at 6:30 so that the volunteers may clean up so as to also attend the church services. After the meal, circa 7:15 PM, a short segment from Great Compline will follow. At 7:30 PM the Vespereal Divine Liturgy for the FEAST, with the First Blessing of Holy Water will take place. On Sunday morning, we will not have the usual 8:00 am and 10:30 am services but only one FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY, at 9:30 am followed by a Second Blessing of Holy Water. Please attend. Everyone is welcome.**

**THE OBLIGATION TO GATHER FOR WORSHIP FOR THEOPHANY  
CAN BE FULFILLED BY ATTENDING EITHER  
THE SERVICE AT 7:30 PM ON SATURDAY (JAN. 5), OR  
THE SERVICE AT 9:30 AM ON SUNDAY (JAN. 6).**

**SATURDAY (THEOPHANY EVE) – JANUARY 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Altar servers are asked to arrive no later than 7:00 pm. At 7:15 pm, a short segment from Great Compline Service, known as the "God-is-with-us" song & verses from Prophecies of Isaiah will follow.** A VIGIL service will begin at 7:30 PM with the first part of VESPERS of Theophany (*which will be heavily shortened*) & continuing (*with no break between the two parts of this ONE service*) with the Small Ekteniya & Epistle & Gospel Readings & all the rest of the DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil the Great for Theophany, with the First Greater Blessing of Holy Water. **NOTE FOR ROMAN (LATIN) RITE CATHOLICS:** the vespers part of this service is not a "prelude to the Mass." That means that it is wrong to come later so as to try & skip it. Rather, the vespers part is an integral part of the Theophany Mass, or actually of the first part of this Mass, which is known in both Latin & Byzantine Rites of the Catholic Church as the "Liturgy of the Word". For Byzantine Catholics this is a special "First Mass of Theophany" to put it into Latin terms of comparison.

**SUNDAY MORNING (THEOPHANY DAY) – JANUARY 6<sup>th</sup>**

Altar servers are asked to arrive no later than 9:00 AM. At 9:15 AM we will take a short segment from Great Compline Service, known as the "God-is-with-us" song and verses from the Prophecy of Isaiah. **The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, with the Second Lesser Blessing of Holy Water, will begin at 9:30 AM** and will be served for God's Blessings upon all of our Parishioners. **NOTE FOR ROMAN (LATIN) RITE CATHOLICS:** For Byzantine Catholics this is a kind of "Second Mass of Theophany" to put it into Latin terms of comparison.

**THANK YOU**

In the last few years our Holy Water Font had one faucet that did not work and another one that constantly leaked. So, a special "Thank you"

goes out to Michael Vargo and those who helped him research, organize and replace both spigots of our Holy Water Font for use this year. May God grant them "Many happy and blessed years - *Monoyaha i Blahaya Lita!*"

### **THEOPHANY HOUSE BLESSINGS**

With the celebration of the Feast of Theophany of Our Lord those parishioners who wish to have their house blessed are asked to contact the parish office by calling 412-431-2531 on Monday or Friday between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. Each household that requests this blessing will be contacted by phone to schedule this pastoral visitation. In preparation for your house blessing please be aware: between the Feast of Theophany and the beginning of the Great Fast-Lent (February 3, 2008), it is customary in our Holy Church to have our homes blessed by the parish priest or parish deacon with the Holy Water sanctified on this glorious Feast Day. This is an ancient tradition of the Eastern Church and through it we extend the "blessing of Jordan" into our homes and private places. This blessing of our homes underscores and enhances the connection between our parish life and our "HOME CHURCH." It also gives us and our children an opportunity to see our priest or deacon in a more personal situation. All of this strengthens our relationship with God and His Holy Church.

Below are some guidelines for this House Blessing and pastoral visitation:

- In a main room, or at the Icon corner, place a candle, Cross and/or Icon on a clean linen cloth.
- You may make a list of all the family members you want prayed for during the Blessing Service, with the living and dead on separate columns.
- Turn on a light in every room, so that Father or Deacon can see where he is going.
- Turn off all stereos, TVs, computers, etc.
- Please have all pets confined or restrained.
- If you need to go to Confession or you have any Icons, Crosses, religious articles which you wish to have blessed, please inform the parish office as this requires that you be visited by a priest and not a deacon. When Father comes, place them on the table where the Service will take place.

Everyone present when Father or the Deacon arrives should join him

around the Icon corner or the kitchen or dining room table. The celebrant will designate one family member to lead him through the house; the rest should follow along and participate in the Blessing Service. Remember that participation is very important.

### **ATTENTION Eastern Catholic Formation STUDENTS**

There will be no ECF classes on Jan. 6 due to holidays. Classes resume on January 13, 2008.

### **JANUARY 6, 2008 - ANNUAL CEMETERY MAINTENANCE ENVELOPE**

Reminders to those parishioners who have a cemetery plot at our St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery: since 2003, the annual Cemetery Maintenance Fee is \$ 20.00 per year. Before 2003, it was less. If you are in arrears & are not sure of what you should pay, please phone the office, Mondays and Fridays between 9:00 and 1:00 and we will be more than happy to help you. Also, if you gave only 2.00 or 5.00 in the January 7, 2007 envelope, please be advised that you need to bring it up to 20.00 by the end of 2007. Thank you. If you were simply making a free will offering for our cemetery then a hearty "God bless" for that also.

The annual 2008 Cemetery Maintenance Fee is marked in your new 2008 envelopes as being due on January 6, 2008.

### **JANUARY 12-13, 2008 – COLLECTION FOR FIRST ALL SOUL'S SATURDAY**

This year Easter-Pascha comes early. **Please make sure that you remove and use your** beige "January 27" **envelope marked "Sorokousty" no later than January 12-13, 2008.** Otherwise your list of names may not be included in time for the First Parastas which will be held at 7:00 PM on Friday, January 25, 2008 and the First All Soul's Divine Liturgy which will be celebrated at 9:30 AM on Saturday, January 26, 2008.

### **ПРИГАДКА ПРО ЗАДУШНІ СУБОТИ:**

25-26 січня припадає перший раз в цьому році так звана «ЗАДУШНА СУБОТА». Наступного дня, це М'ясопусна Неділя, коли наш Господь застерігає нас, що на Останньому Суді говоритиме: «Усе, що ви зробили одному з моїх найменших братів, ви мені зробили.» Часами, зокрема

коли розходиться про здобуття признання й пошани, дуже легко нагодувати і напоїсти (не лише дарувати гроші), прийняти, одягнути, навідатися і відвідати звичайного незнанного, або когось в далекій країні, навіть на Україні. Але ж пословиця каже, « Любов починається з власного дому. » Отже, щоб остерегти нашу Великопосну аскезу від дволичності або гордості (наука неділі про митаря і фарисея), старовинна практика Візантійських Церков вказує, щоб ми доложили до молитов, пощення і милостині звичайного річного порядку, додаткову нашу відданість Великопосним Молитвам за Уснулих у Господі. Разом, ці зовнішні прояви свідчать про щирість нашого внутрішнього бажання (наука неділі про Закхея), щоб повернутися до прапорядку нашого життя, встановленого Богом Отцем (наука неділі про Блудного Сина). Наші моління за померлих не лише починаються від членів наших родин, але й включатимуть *кого небудь*, з тих, що ми віримо є все ще, своєю вірою, між живими в Христі Ісусі. Отже, буде Парастас у п'ятницю вечером (25 січня, 15 лютого, 22 лютого, 29 лютого, та 9 травня) і Божественна Літургія в послідну суботу ранком. Збірка списків імен, разом із належним Даром Любви, продовжуватиметься підчас всього Великого Посту. Просимо користуватися жовтою конвертою 27 січня за заголовком СОРОКОУСТИ, що знаходиться між конвертами Збірки 4-тої неділі, 27 січня, й Стрітінням, 2 лютого.

Діла Милосердя для Душі й Духа: (1) грішника повернути, (2) невіжу навчити, (3) у сумніві порадити, (4) сумного потішити, (5) кривду терпеливо зносити, (6) образу з серця прощати, (7) за живих і померлих молитися, наприклад, приймати участь у Парастасі, чи Бож. Літургії в Задусні Суботи. Діла Милосердя для Тіла: (1) голодного нагодувати, (2) спраглого напоути, (3) нагого зодягнути, (4) подорожнього в дім прийняти, (5) недужому послужити, (6) в'язня відвідати, (7) померлого похоронити. *Чи не Найкращий Подарунок це зложити прошення на Службу Божу за здоровля ваших рідних і друзів? Не треба чекати аж вони помруть.*

### **REMINDER RE: ALL SOULS' SATURDAYS ENVELOPES**

Whereas Roman (Latin) Rite Catholics celebrate All Souls' Day only once a year on October 31, the Byzantine Churches celebrate All Soul's Day five (or six) times each year. In 2008, January 25-26 will be the First such "All

Soul's Saturday". The next day, Jan 27, is Meat-fare Sunday, when Our Lord forewarns us that at the Last Judgement He will declare: "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." It seems easier to give food or drink (not just "money for"), or to welcome, clothe, care for or visit with a perfect stranger, or even someone in faraway Ukraine, especially if it gains acknowledgement and respect from others. But, as the saying goes, "Love begins at home." Thus, to protect our Lenten asceticism from hypocrisy or pride (Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee), the ancient custom of the Byzantine Churches is for us to add a commitment of a Lenten schedule of Prayers for the Fallen Asleep in the Lord, to our normal daily (personal and communal) prayers, fasting and almsgiving. During Lent, our daily work may suffer by our becoming inefficient and stressed out, but our holiness may very well be given a chance to progress. Together, these external expressions testify to the genuineness of our internal DESIRE (Sunday of Zacchaeus) to RETURN to God's (the Father's) designated order for our lives (Sunday of the Prodigal Son). Our prayers for the dead would not only begin with one's own family members, for the healing of our memories, but they ought not to exclude *anyone* whom we believe to be alive, in faith, in Christ Jesus. Thus, there will be a Parastas on Friday evenings (Jan 25, Feb. 15, Feb. 22, Feb 29, and May 9) and a Divine Liturgy on the following Saturday mornings (Jan. 26, Feb. 16, Feb 23, Mar. 1, and May 10). The collection of lists of names along with the customary donations for this year's Lenten Prayers, continues from now during all of Lent. Please use the beige-tan envelopes labeled: SOROKOUS-TY, dated January 27. You will find this envelope in your packets between the envelopes for the Fourth Sunday Collection for January 27 and the Feast of the Encounter of our Lord for February 2.

*Corporal Works of Mercy (in the Early Church, what deacons should model for us):* feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick and burying the dead. Why wait until someone dies? Why not "feed and clothe" them spiritually, as well as bodily, by requesting a Divine Liturgy for for the visitation of the Holy Spirit upon them for the sake of their health and salvation? *Spiritual Works of Mercy (in the Early Church, what priests should model for us):* counseling the doubtful, instructing the ignorant,



admonishing sinners, comforting the afflicted, forgiving offences, bearing wrongs patiently, praying for the living and the dead (e.g. attending the Parastas and/or Divine Liturgy for an All Soul's Saturday) !

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2008 – SISTERHOOD OF ST. NONNA**

The Women's Prayer Group will meet at 10:00 am on January 12 (because January 5 is eve of Theophany) in response to the need to intercede in prayer for the welfare of children & grandchildren, with Father Ivan leading the Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God in her miraculous icon, known as Vospitanie – Воспитание – Vikokhuvatel'ka Ditey – Викохувателька Дітей – Nurturer of Children (venerated on March 5) & also spontaneous prayers as necessary. If you are interested in joining, please call Irene Borodycia at 412-881-4635.

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2008 – CHURCH AUXILIARY MEETING**

The Church Auxiliary will have its next meeting on Saturday, January 12, 2008, after the Evening Divine Liturgy. This will be at about 6:30 pm.

### **JANUARY 13, 2008 - UKRAINIAN CULTURAL TRUST CHOIR**

The Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western PA is pleased to present its 16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL "Concerts for Christmas". The second concert will held at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Southside Pittsburgh, on Sunday, January 13th, 2008, 3:00 PM. Come and listen to the sounds of Ukrainian Christmas and Generous Eve Carols (koliady and shchedreevki), sung in traditional Ukrainian and Old Church Slavonic. It will bring back memories of carols, perhaps long forgotten, but always treasured. The choir is directed by Dorothy Waslo. There is no Admission Fee but a free will offerring will be accepted. For more information contact Dorothy Waslo at 412-487-0208.

### **JANUARY 17-20, 2008 – WRITING AN ICON**

A contemplative experience offered 4 days with overnite stay, Meals provided & materials included in cost. \$150.00 Materials - \$100.00 Meals & Lodging. Each retreat is limited to 8 people. Sr. Rosaire Kopczenski will offer a deep transformational experience that is expressed in your "Writing". No artistic talent needed. To register: send name and deposit (non-refund-

able) of \$50.00 to Tabor House of Prayer, 146 Hawthorne Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15209 or call 412-821-1149 for more info. This will also be offered on March 6-9 & May 1-4 in 2008.

### **JANUARY 19, 2008 - MALANKA – MELANIE'S EVE DINNER / DANCE**

Our community's 18th annual "Old Style" or "Julian Calendar" Malanka will be held on Saturday, January 19, 2008 from 7:30 PM to 1:00 AM at the Ukrainian-American Citizens' Club, on the corner of Mansfield Boulevard & Walnut Street in Carnegie. The best in American Top 40s and Ukrainian dance music will be provided by Fred Yasnowsky and his 'Musical Collection Band' from Youngstown, Ohio from 9:00 PM through 1:00 AM. Pre-paid tickets will be available through Sunday, January 13th. Tickets prices are just \$ 15 pre-paid, or \$ 20 at the door. Children and young people through college: just \$ 1 AT THE DOOR. (PLEASE NOTE: Tickets purchased or called in after Sunday, January 13th will be at the \$ 20 price). An *a la carte* kitchen serving Ukrainian foods will be open beginning at 7:30 PM. Noise-makers and New Year's Eve favors will be provided. As is their tradition, Mr. Michael Komichak and Mrs. Maria Bahmet will lead in caroling. The youth will lead in a rousing hopak. Ticket sellers: Halyna Lutsiv at Kolos Foods in Carnegie, 412-969-4149, Ukrainian Federal Credit Union at 412-481-1865, Kristina Szmul at 412-882-4465, and the Honchars at 412-429-1536. Table reservations are being handled by the Honchars at 412-429-1536. TABLE RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY FOR PAID TICKET HOLDERS, on a first called, first reserved basis.

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2008, AT 3:00 P.M.**

### **PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE SACREDNESS OF LIFE**

### **AND SUPPLICATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF ABORTION**

As we commemorate this year the sad 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe v Wade (Decided on January 22, 1973); the parish family of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church invites our parish family to a Prayer Service for the Sacredness of Life and Supplication for the Victims of Abortion, which will take place at their Holy Church on Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, starting at 3:00 p.m. Join us as we together raise our voices in an invocation for life against the culture of death. The Theme for 2008 is "Build Unity on Life Principles

throughout America. No Exception! No Compromise!" Let us come together to pray for the protection of life and to end the merciless shedding of innocent blood in our nation and throughout the world. Following the Prayer Service light refreshments will be served in our Church hall.

### **FEBRUARY 4 – MARCH 21, 2008 - PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING & DECEASED**

As we come to the beginning of this year's Great Fast (Lent), Father Ivan asks that if anyone has any special dates throughout the year on which they would like to have prayers offered for the living or for the blessed repose of their loved ones, then they should please contact the parish office now to reserve that day. Remember that during the Great Fast and Holy Week, the Divine Liturgy is not permitted to be celebrated on weekdays due to the fact that these are aliturgical days. The Pope of Rome and the Vatican insist and in obedience our Bishops have already mandated that we restore this ancient tradition of our Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic Church. We will be having the Presanctified Divine Liturgy on Wednesdays and Fridays and on the other days we will serve either a Parastas or a Matinal Liturgy with prayers for the repose which are appropriate to the penitential spirit of the Great Fast.

### **MARCH 2-4, 2008 – LENTEN MISSION**

Please mark your calendars for this year's Lenten Mission. His Grace Bishop Nicholas Samra will guide our reflections this year. Bishop Nicholas will arrive at our parish for services on March 2-4 and then he will continue speaking at another Lenten Mission at Northside (St George's) on March 5-6 and 9 and then again at St. John's (McKees Rocks) on March 7-8, 2008.

### **MARCH 30, 2008 – SVIACHENE – EASTER BREAKFAST**

Please mark your calendars for this year's Easter Dinner (Sviachene) which will take place on March 30, 2008.

### **APRIL 15-20, 2008 - POPE BENEDICT XVI TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES**

On the eve of his 81st birthday, Pope Benedict XVI will visit The White

House, Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, John Paul II Cultural Center, The United Nations, Yankee Stadium, St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Joseph Seminary in Yonkers and "Ground Zero".

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2008**

#### **THIRD "GENERATIONS OF FAITH" SESSION AT OUR PARISH**

On Sunday, October 7, 2007, our Parish held its first session within the Generations of Faith Program. The Second one was on December 9. Many thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers who made this a great benefit for the more than 40 parishioners who attended both times. The general reaction to the first one was, "I thought I already knew what I needed to know, but here I learned so much more about our Church Year and our Twelve Major Feastdays." **We look forward to having our third session on April 20, 2008. The topic will be the meaning of Pentecost and the Descent of the Holy Spirit. Don't miss it!!! OUR PARISH strongly encourages all members of our parish family of all walks of life, and anyone else who is interested from outside of our parish family, to take part in this event. This will be a time for learning, and a time for sharing. Please bring your family and friends (even if they no longer go to our church) as well as your memories. Our Parish will provide the food, the setting & the information, activities, & some special gifts for you to take home.**

#### **MAY 11, 2008 – Pentecost Sunday, Picnic, Mother's Day**

Please mark your calendars for this year's Pentecost Sunday. The summer schedule will begin on this day, meaning one Divine Liturgy on Sundays at 9:30 am starting on May 11. Also this is the day we are tentatively planning to have our Church Picnic at our parish cemetery. Finally, this year's Pentecost Sunday coincides with Mother's Day.

#### **MAY 18, 2008 – First Holy Confession**

Please mark your calendars for this year's First Holy Confession which will take place on May 18, 2008.

#### **CHURCH AUXILIARY FUNDRAISER**

The 2008 ENJOY Coupon book is now available. Our Church Auxiliary is selling the ENJOY coupon books as a fundraiser. Save money on restaurants, cleaners, Shop-n-Save, movies, etc. The cost is \$ 25.00. Call Margie Klimko at 412-431-0430, or Rose Breen at 412-655-9103 to buy your books.

### **PAINLESS FUNDRAISING FOR OUR CHURCH BY AUXILIARY**

As you purchase food, you can save money and help your church at the same time. **GFS Marketplace** is a store that offers a variety of food, cleaning products, paper items, etc. at prices comparable to the discount warehouses--except there is no membership fee and our church gets a rebate on the items that you purchase. There are flyers in the back of the church that describe the program. Also on this flyer is an application for a free membership card and a coupon for \$10.00 off a \$50.00 purchase. The closest GFS Marketplace store is on Route 51 (see map on the flyer). There is also a store in Robinson.

### **CHURCH AUXILIARY "Candy Sales"**

The Church Auxiliary is once again selling Sarris' chocolate bars and chocolate covered pretzels for only \$1.00 each. Normally sales are on Thursdays and Sundays after the Divine Liturgies. If you attend Saturday evening services, please see Margie Klimko or Diane Vargo if you wish to buy some of this delicious candy at a bargain price.

### **PYROHI**

Pyrohy sales are held on Thursdays of each week, starting again on Thursday, January 10th. Pyrohy making and ordering begins Tuesday and Wednesday, January 8 and 9. Spare time on your hands? We need dough makers and especially MEN to help. We thank all of our wonderful and hard-working volunteers. May you keep up the great work and may God richly reward all of you. **ATTENTION!!! – There will be NO ORDERS TAKEN FROM DECEMBER 11, 2007 UNTIL JANUARY 7, 2008.** Please keep this in mind and mark your calendars.

### **MEMORIAL FLOWERS**

If you would like to provide flowers in memory of a loved one, in

thanksgiving for blessings, or to celebrate an occasion, please contact Margie Klimko: 412-431-0430.

### **BYZANTINE CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM**

For those who have an Internet connection, you may now listen to Byzantine Catholic Radio Programs at home at your own convenience. Go to: <http://www.byzantinecatholic.com/radio.htm>

### **A NOTE REGARDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2007**

We only have accurate records of church donations from January through April of this year due to the birth to eternal of life of John Grimm. John was the person who faithfully recorded this information each week and we have not yet set up a new system in his absence. If you would like to have a statement, it will only include your donations from January – April; you will have to estimate the rest of your donations for the remainder of the year.

### **MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS**

*All donations collected in this fund will be used to purchase new Liturgical items necessary for services to occur. In the past two years, we acquired new sets of burgundy (Penitential-Lenten) and white (Pascha) vestments for priest, deacon and altar servers, as well as green (Palm Sunday, Pentecost, June and July & certain "venerable" saints like Theodosius, Antony, Sabbas and Apostles' Fast) for altar servers. We also received a set of gold (Ordinary Sundays and Major Feast Days) and blue vestments (Feasts of the Mother of God, August, & certain Polyeleos rank saints: Nicholas, Elijah, John Chrysostom, etc.). A new Chalice, Diskos, Star, Spoon and Lance and Epistle Book are on order as well. As we use these for the greater glory of God please remember that we are far from paying them off. Your generosity, as always, will be greatly appreciated.*

#### **IN MEMORY OF KATHERINE CHIZ: (Not with collection below)**

**\$50.00 – Jacky & Cindy Petrick**

#### **FOR HEALTH OF FAMILY AND IN THANKSGIVING (Not with collection below): \$2,500.00 – George and Joan Hess**

#### **IN MEMORY OF MYKOLA HODOWANEC:**

**\$5.00 – James C. and Olga Kaiser**

#### **IN MEMORY OF MY HUSBAND, JOSEPH AND PARENTS, CATHERINE & ANDREW PILIPZCAK: \$30.00 – Amelia Sears**

**ALSO:**

**\$200.00 – Stephen and Patricia Drechsler**

**\$100.00 – Kathy Lesyk**

**\$100.00 - Anonymous**

### **CANDLE SPONSORS**

*If you would like to sponsor a candle in front of the Mother of God Icon or in front of the Icon of the Cross of Our Lord, or four lamps at the iconostas icons, or seven lamps in the seven-branched candlestick behind our Altar (Holy Table), for whatever intention you desire, at \$5.00 per week, please see Fr. Ivan or Fr. Deacon Mike.*

**IN MEMORY OF MY PARENTS, HAZEL AND STANLEY BARONETT (Icon of Our Lord):** \$5.00 – Joyce Baronett

**IN MEMORY OF WASYL & JULIA KULAK (Holy Table-Altar Candles):**  
\$10.00 – Irene & Lee Grimm and Family

### **DONATIONS FOR ROOF & POINTING REPAIR FUND**

**Note:** *Not a few persons made very generous donations using the monthly "Improvements" envelope but without a specific notation that these funds are for Roof & Pointing Repairs. In the future, it will be presumed that such donors wish to remain anonymous.*

Parishioners are advised that major holes and leaks in our roof have been repaired. The missing downspout on the northeastern part of our church has already been replaced, so the leaks in the altar area (sanctuary) should stop. Upon the advice of the roofing companies we need to wait for some serious rain to see if these repairs were adequate or not. We are continuing to collect funds; the cheapest new roof will be circa \$ 250,000, guaranteed not to leak for about five years. Meanwhile, the most expensive roof, circa \$ 650,000, would have a fifty to one hundred year guarantee. We are still far away from making any final decisions.

**\$1,000.00 – Anonymous Donation**

***NOTE: FUNDS DONATED TO THE ROOF FUND WILL NOT BE USED FOR expenses having to do with the MEMORIAL, or any other, FUND.***  
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### **THE SUMMARY OF SUNDAY COLLECTIONS For DECEMBER 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, AD 2007**

NON-ENVELOPE WEEKLY SUNDAY OFFERINGS	7.00
ENVELOPE WEEKLY SUNDAY OFFERINGS	1,737.00
MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP DUES (Second Sunday)	60.00
MONTHLY FUND FOR REPAIRS, IMPROVEMENTS & REDEVELOPMENT (First Sunday of every month)	65.00
MONTHLY UTILITIES & INSURANCE (Third Sunday)	49.00
MONTHLY DIOCESAN COLLECTION (Fourth Sunday)	50.00
ROOF FUND (anonymous, see above)	1,000.00

WEEKLY CANDLES	85.63
MEMORIAL FUND (see above)	435.00
NEW ENGLISH GOSPEL BOOK (Kathleen Lesyk)	900.00
10/1 – FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS	5.00
10/7 – Missionary ROMAN CATHOLIC Parishes Fund of NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS in USA	10.00
11/4 – CANONIZATION OF UKR. SAINTS	10.00
11/21 – ENTRANCE INTO THE TEMPLE OF THE THEOTOKOS	5.00
11/22 – THANKSGIVING DAY	5.00
12/2 – ANDREW'S PENCE – Synodal Collection supporting missionary work of Ukr. Cath. Church in the whole world	65.00
12/2 – CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & DECORATIONS	85.00
12/9 – CONCEPTION OF THEOTOKOS BY ST ANNE	5.00
12/9 – DIOCESAN COLLECTION FOR RETIRED CLERGY	35.00
12/25 – NATIVITY OF OUR LORD ( <i>Christmas</i> )	390.00
12/25 – CHRISTMAS SEMINARY FUND	100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,103.63</b>

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**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
109 S. 7<sup>th</sup> STREET,  
PITTSBURGH, PA. 15203-1028**

**PASTORAL STAFF**

Fr. John (Ivan) Chirovsky, Pastor  
Fr. Deacon Michael Levy, PH D (Chemistry)  
Cathy Sawchak

**PASTOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Father John (Ivan) & Father Deacon Michael  
Irene Borodycia                      Michael Haritan

**Improvements and Redevelopment**

**Sub-Committee of the PAC**

Geoffrey Giancola                      Yaroslav Hodowanec  
Raymond Komichak                      Steve Sawczak

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** stjohnucc@comcast.net

**PARISH TELEPHONE NUMBERS**



Church Office 412-431-2531  
Press NINE, to leave a message  
To speak to an operator: Press ZERO,  
or, if you have a rotary phone, stay on the line  
Church Office Fax 412-431-6404  
Parish Hall & Pyrohi 412-481-5022  
Diocesan Pastoral Ministry Off. 412-481-9778

### **DIVINE LITURGIES**

Mondays (Outside of Lent): usually 7:00 PM  
Other Weekdays, except Saturdays  
(Outside of Lent): usually 7:15 AM  
Saturdays (*Anticipated*): 5:00 PM  
Sundays (Pentecost to Labor Day): 9:30 AM  
Sundays (Otherwise): 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM  
Holy Day of Obligation:  
*Evening before* 7:00 PM  
*Morning of* 9:30 AM

### **HOLY MYSTERY OF CONFESSION**

Saturdays: 4:00-4:30 PM & by appointment  
Lenten Weekdays: before or after services

### **MINISTRY TO SICK AND SHUT-INS**

Sr. Olga Faryna, OSBM (724) 266-5578

### **SPIR. DIR. OF BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

Fr. John (Ivan) Chirovsky

### **SPIR. DIR. OF JESUS FILES GROUP**

Fr. Deacon Michael Levy (724) 910-0352

### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**

Stephen H. Zinski

### **DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY**

Diane Vargo

### **BEAUTY OF THE HOUSE OF THE LORD**

Margie Klimko

### **CATECHISTS (2007-2008)**

Irene Borodycia Maria Chirovsky Motria Hodowanec

### **LECTORS**

Irene Borodycia	Robert Casey	Stephanie Casey
David Drapala	Kathleen Drapala	Joanne Giancola
Joan Hess	Mary Ann Kasofsky	Stephanie Vargo

**BAPTISMS** - Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation are normally administered on the Sunday nearest to the 40th day after the birth of the child. Please notify the parish rectory **as soon as you are aware that you are expecting a child**. Sister Ann from the Diocesan Pastoral Ministry Office will conduct special baptismal preparation sessions. **These two sessions are for all expectant parents, the Godparents and grand-parents**. Parents must be registered and active members of the parish. The two sessions will **help you prepare FOR BIRTH and baptism** of your child. It is normal that a saint's name be chosen for the child. **ELIGIBILITY FOR GODPARENT** - One sponsor must be a practi-

ing Catholic, attend Liturgy regularly, receive the Sacraments and fulfill all obligations and financial support to their parish, attested to by their pastor.

**MARRIAGES** - Arrangements for the Holy Mystery of Crowning are to be made at least six months in advance of the date of marriage by contacting the parish rectory. **Restating the obvious, clearly and loudly: under normal conditions, future Couples are expected to be active members of our parish for at least one year before the date of the marriage and must attend Pre-Marriage instructions with Fr. Deacon Michael Levy.** Marriages will not be celebrated until the normal spiritual requirements have been met to the Church's satisfaction. So, do not send out your invitations until you are absolutely sure of having done so !!! In fact, if the couple continues to choose to ignore the Church after being warned, then Father Pastor reserves the right to cancel the service even as late as 24 hours before the wedding.

**CREMATION** - Burial is the preferred and traditional Christian funeral practice. Although highly discouraged, cremation is permitted for economic reasons, esp. if it is NOT done for anti-Christian reasons. The cremation should occur after the funeral services are held in Church, since the presence of ashes in church is strongly discouraged. The ashes are to be buried, with the pastor, or a delegated priest or deacon, performing the usual rite of interment.