

*Nativity of the Virgin Mary*

**-tone 4**

Thy Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from thee, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

**Kontakia**

*Resurrection*

**tone 3**

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

*St. Seraphim*

**tone 2**

Forsaking the beauty as well as the corruption of this world, thou didst settle in the monastery of Sarov, O Saint. There thou didst live an angelic life, becoming for many the way to salvation. Therefore, Christ has glorified thee, Father Seraphim, enriching thee with abundant healing and miracles. So we cry to thee: "Save us by thy prayers, venerable Seraphim, our father."

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*Forefeast of Theophany*

**tone 4**

Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John: "Do not be afraid to baptize me, for I come to save Adam, the first formed man."

***Prokeimenon***

**tone 6:** O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance!

*v: To Thee, O Lord will I call, O my God, be not silent to me!*

**The reading is from Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Timothy 4:5-8**

*My son Timothy:* be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

***Alleluia***

*v: O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, shine the light of Thy countenance upon us, and have mercy on us!*

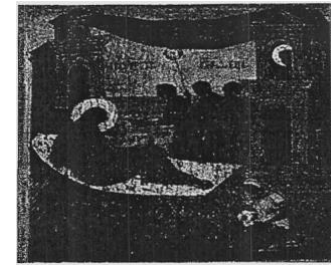
*v: That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all nations.*

**The Gospel of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Mark 1:1-8**

***Gospel***

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets:

*"Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight.'" John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*



***Schedule***

**Wednesday, January 5, 2022**

*Eve of the Feast of Theophany*

10:00 A.M. Royal Hours

1:00 P.M. Vespertal Liturgy of

St. Basil the Great with Great

Blessing of Waters

5:00 P.M. Vigil of Theophany

(Compline & Matins)

**Thursday, January 6, 2022**

*Theophany*

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

1:30 A.M. Blessing of Waters at

Wilmore Park, St. Louis

**Saturday, January 8, 2022**

3:00 P.M. Parish Council

Meeting

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, January 9, 2022**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, January 15, 2022**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, January 16, 2022**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, January 22, 2022**

3:30 P.M. Church School

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, January 23, 2022**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, January 29, 2022**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, January 30, 2022**

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

7:00 P.M. Vespers

**Nativity of the Virgin Mary**

**Orthodox Church**

**416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060**

**Sunday, January 2, 2022**

*28<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday Before  
Theophany; Repose of St. Seraphim of Sarov*

[www.nativityofthevirgin.com](http://www.nativityofthevirgin.com)

"Be kindly disposed in heart, word, and deed, ready at every time to serve others without the slightest vexation or irritability, remembering the words of the Savior: "Whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant (St. Matthew 20:26)." Firmly believe that the Lord is at all times everything to you. During prayer He is the power and the fulfilment in the Holy Ghost of each of your words. During pious conversation He is your living water, the ardent flow of your words at all times - He is everything to you. Be free from care in the presence of your Lord. He has enclosed you with Himself upon all sides. He penetrates you wholly and knows all your thoughts, all your needs and inclinations, and if you live in Him with faith and love, then no evil shall befall you. "The Lord is at hand; be careful for nothing (Philippians 4:6)." God, Who alone is, Who is omnipresent, incomplex, can create or transform everything in a single instant, as it was with the wonders of Egypt. The Almighty can do all things. Though masterful, or rather through mercenary pride and incomprehensible wickedness, we often do not deign to speak to those whom we feed and support often behaving inimically to them, instead of rather humbling ourselves before them as their servants, in accordance with the words of the Lord. "Whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant (St. Matthew 20:26)," so as to"

**Prayer Requests**

**Those in this earthly life**

Virginia	Lucy	Timothy Deacon Peter (BP)
Alexandra	Victoria	Amy Deacon Michael (BP)
Xenia	Austin	Michael M. Virginia (BP)
Nita	Tony	Joseph Mary (BP)
Michael	Jaylyn	Andrew Marie (BP)
Vera	Christina	Magdalene Paul
George	John	Sbdcn Charles Mary
Basil	Marshall	Deborah Nicholas
Chuck	Cecilia	Michael Andrew
Nicholas	Michael	Laverne Anthony
Diana	Margie	Victor Christopher
Elizabeth	Hope	Wilma Jackie
Kenneth	Justin	Michael
Alexandria	Dymphna	April
Julia	Nicholas	Joseph
Sarah	Theodora	Michael
Philip	Presbytera Rene	Barb
Nicholas	Priest Joseph	Barbara
Megan	Ioannis	Mark
Judith	Ioannis	Angela
Subdeacon Paul	Robert	Elijah
Peter	Bette	Sophia
Rebecca	Conrad Family	Matushka Tanya
David	Claudia	Mary
Carol	Karyn	Met. HERMAN (BP)
Patricia	Debbie	Archpriest Moses (BP)
Richard	Andrew	Archpriest John (BP)
Ava	Catechumen Peter	Matushka Margaret (BP)
Liliana	Natalia	Matthew (BP)
Alexander	Theresa	Priest Josef (BP)
Lauren	Subdeacon Andrew	Archpriest Michael (BP)
Sheila	Lori Ann	Archpriest Gregory (BP)
Christopher	Deborah	Deacon Paul (BP)

**Those in the life to come**

Cheryl	Paul	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS
Claudia	Antonio	Archpriest Vladimir
Archpriest Igor	Michael	Galina
John	Joyce	
Ethan	<u>Robert</u>	
Austin	Archpriest Thomas	

"redouble our recompense of the Lord by sincerely and unfeignedly serving Him in the person of the least of His brethren. O, meek and humble-hearted Creator, Giver of Life, Redeemer, our Nourisher, and Preserver - Lord Jesus! Teach us love, meekness, and humility through Thy Holy Spirit, and strengthen us in those virtues which are most pleasing to Thee, so that Thy rich gifts may not make our hearts proud, so that we may not deem that it is we ourselves who feed, provide, and support anyone. Thou art the universal Nourisher. Thou feedest, providest, supportest, and preservest all; under the wings of Thy mercy, bounty, and loving kindness all are provided for and are given rest - not under ours, for we ourselves have need of being covered with the shadow of Thy wings at every moment of our life. Our eyes are fixed upon Thee, our God, as "the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress: even so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God, until He have mercy upon us (Psalm 123:2)." Amen. Be firmly convinced that every word, especially those pronounced during prayer, is realizable, remembering that the author of the word is God the Word, that our God Himself, worshipped in the Holy Trinity, is expressed by the three words or names: The Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; that each word has a corresponding being, or that every word can become being and deed. Therefore reverence the word and value it. Remember that the Son of God, as the Personal Word of God, is always united with the Father and the Holy Ghost, in the same manner as the Father, as the Supreme Wisdom, participates, by His omnipresence, His creative Word, and the Holy Ghost the Accomplisher in the words of Holy Scripture, or in the prayers or in the writings of the most wise Fathers. This is why no word is vain, but has or should have power in itself. Woe to those who speak idly, for they will have to answer for their idle speaking! "For with God nothing shall be impossible (St. Luke 1:37)." Power and accomplishment are, in general, the properties of the word. Such should it also be in the mouths of men." *My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt*

**Troparia**

*Resurrection*

**TONE 3**

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the first-born of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy! *Forefeast of Theophany*

**TONE 4**

The river Jordan was turned back by the mantle of Elisha, after Elijah had been taken up to heaven. The waters were parted in two, and the stream became a dry path. This was truly a type of baptism, by which we pass over the stream of life. Christ has shone forth in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.