

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.

Kontakia

TONE 4

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has Risen on the third day!

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

Forefeast of Theophany

TONE 2

O Christ, in Thy compassion and infinite mercy, Thou art coming as a man to be baptized in the Jordan, in order to take away the many transgressions of us all, clothing me in the garment of ancient glory of which I was cruelly stripped bare.

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!

Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Timothy 4:5 – 8

But you, *Brethren*, 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

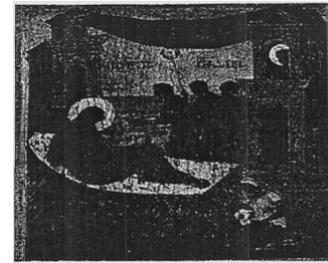
v: O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Thy countenance upon us, and have mercy on us!

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

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 of repentance for the 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

Sunday, January 5, 2020

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy
(following Coffee Hour) Vespers
& Great Blessing of Waters

7:00 P.M. Vigil (Compline &
Matins)

Monday, January 6, 2020

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

1:15 P.M. Blessing of Waters at
Wilmore Park, South City, St.
Louis, MO – Lake #1

Saturday, January 11, 2020

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, January 12, 2020

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 18, 2020

3:00 P.M. Parish Council Meeting

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, January 19, 2020

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 25, 2020

3:00 P.M. Parish Council Meeting

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, January 26, 2020

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 1, 2020

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, February 2, 2020

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, January 05, 2020

*29th Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday Before
Theophany; Eve of Theophany;*

STRICT FAST DAY

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"Do not breathe malice, vengeance, and murder even towards animals, lest your own soul should be given up to death by the spiritual enemy breathing wickedness in you even towards dumb animals, and lest you should become accustomed to breathe malice and vengeance against men also. Remember, that animals are called to life by God's mercy that they may enjoy their existence as much as they can during their short life. "The Lord is good to all (Psalm 145:9)." Do not beat them, if they are unreasonable, or if they play tricks, or if any of your property is damaged by them. "Blessed is the man who is merciful to his beast." When holy peace reigns in my soul, then surely the King of Peace dwells within me, the Lord Jesus Christ, with the Father, and the Holy Ghost, and then especially I ought to be full of feelings of gratitude to the Lord of Peace, and endeavor with all my strength to preserve this peace within me by means of fervent prayer and by abstaining from every sin, both inward and outward. The Comforter, the Holy Ghost, who fills the whole universe, passes through all believing, meek, humble, good, and simple human souls, dwelling in them, vivifying and strengthening them. He becomes one spirit with them and everything to them - light, strength, peace, joy, success in their undertakings, especially in a pious life, and everything good - "going through all understanding, pure, and most subtle spirits. (Wisdom of Solomon 7:23)." All pious people are filled with the Spirit of God similarly as a sponge is filled with water. When you walk in a forest, garden, or meadow, and see"

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

David	Betty	Sophia
Adina	Earnie	Mary
Elizaveta	Priest Joel and Matushka	Matushka Tanya
Michaela	Tarasia and all the faithful	Archpriest John
Terry	of Annunciation Mission in	Matushka Margaret
Mary	St. James, MO	Matthew
Don	Presbytera Aphtonomi	Protopresbyter Radomir
Theresa	Patricia	Archpriest Joseph
Maryanne	Reader Stephen	Archpriest Moses
Dennis	Nancy	Priest Josef
Heather	David	Matushka Virginia
Heather	Marie	Archpriest Vladimir
Mike	Reader George	Archprst Christopher <i>Phillips</i>
Jessica	George	Archpriest Gregory
Sandra	Catechumen Kristine	Archpriest Myron
Roger	Janet	Deacon Paul
Geraldine	Larissa	Matushka Snezana
Timothy	Zoe	Matushka Melania
Thomas	Archpriest John	Matushka Victoria
Irene	Victor	Deacon Mark
Subdeacon Paul	Wilma	Helen
Judith	Michael	Theodore
Peter	April	Paul
Rebecca	Joseph	Mary
Magdalene	Michael	Nicholas
Paul	Barb	Anne
Amy	Barbara	Andrew
Alexandra	Joyce	Anthony
Emily	Mark	Christopher
	Angela	Jackie
	Elijah	

Those in the life to come

Steven	Elder Ephraim
Archpriest John	Ephrosene
Adelia	Archpriest Thomas
Lynn	

"the young shoots of the plants, the fruits on the treed, and the variety of the flowers of the field, learn a lesson from God's plants - namely, the lesson that every tree each summer unfailingly puts forth at least one shoot of considerable size, and unfailingly grows in height and dimensions. It seems at though every tree endeavors each year to advance by the strength that God has given it; therefore, say to yourself, "I, too must each day, each year, absolutely grow higher and higher morally, better and better, more and more perfect; must advance on the road to the Kingdom of Heaven, or to the Father which is in Heaven, through the strength of our Lord Jesus Christ and His Spirit dwelling and working within me. As the field is adorned by a adorned by all the flowers of virtue; as the trees bring forth flowers and afterwards fruit, so must my soul bring forth the fruits of faith and good works." Do no passionately care for your flesh; do not cherish it; do not gratify it; and do not strengthen it against the spirit. Otherwise, when it is necessary to labor in spirit - for instance, to pray or write a spiritually moral work - you will find that the flesh has overpowered the spirit and has bound it hand and foot. The flesh overthrows all the impulses of the spirit, and will not let it rise and come to hits full power. The spirit will then be the slave of the flesh." *My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt*

Troparia

Resurrection

TONE 4

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection; they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: death is overthrown! Christ God is Risen, granting the world great mercy.