## Kontakia

John the Baptist

### TONE 6

The river Jordan trembled and was driven back filled with fear at Thy coming in the flesh, while John drew back in awe as he fulfilled the ministry of a prophet. The ranks of angels stood amazed, when they beheld Thee in the flesh being baptized in the streams. And we, who were in darkness, are filled with light as we praise Thee, who have appeared to enlighten all.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theophany

## TONE 4

Today Thou hast appeared to the universe, and Thy light, O Lord, has shown on us who with understanding praise Thee. Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, O Light unapproachable.

### Prokeimenon

TONE 1 (Sunday After): Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee.

v: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just!

Another (Forerunner) TONE 7: The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord and shall set his hope on Him.

## Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Ephesians 4:7 – 13

Brethren: But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore He says:

"When He ascended on high,

He led captivity captive,

And gave gifts to men."

(Now this, "He ascended" – what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

### Alleluia

- v: I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.
- v: For Thou hast said: 'Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens.
- v: Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

## Matthew 4:12-17

Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet saying:

"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,

By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan,

Galilee of the Gentiles:

The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,

And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death

Light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."



Schedule Tuesday, January 9, 2024 6:00 P.M. Resume Book Group Walking With Moses Saturday, January 13, 2024 11:00 A.M. Parish Council Meeting 5:00 P.M. Vespers Sunday, January 14, 2024 9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy Saturday, January 20, 2024 Hierarchical Visit of His Eminence DANIEL of Chicago and the Midwest 5:00 P.M. Vespers Sunday, January 21, 2024 9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy Followed by Luncheon with His Eminence Archbishop DANIEL Saturday, January 27, 2024 5:00 P.M. Vespers Sunday, January 28, 2024 9:15 A.M. Church School 9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy Thursday, February 1, 2024 7:00 P.M. Vespers Friday, February 2, 2024 Saturday, February 3, 2024

Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, February 4, 2024 9:15 A.M. Church School

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

**Nativity of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church** 416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060 Sunday, January 7, 2024

31st Sunday After Pentecost; Sunday After the Theophany; Synaxis of Holy Prophet Forerunner and Baptist John

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

"Christian! Remember and always bear in your thoughts and heart the great words of the Lord's Prayer: "Our Father Which art in heaven [remember, who is our Father? - God is our Father, our love; who are we? We are the children of God and brothers amongst ourselves; in what love ought the children of such a Father to live amongst themselves? "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham (St. John 8:39)"; what works then, ought we to do?] Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done. Give us this day our daily bread [our bread, common to all and not for oneself alone: selflove must be banished from the hearts of God's children; we are one]. And forgive us our trespasses [you wish that God should forgive you trespasses, therefore look upon it as customary to forgive the sins of those who trespass against you, knowing that love is longsuffering and compassionate]. Lead us not into temptation [and you, yourself, must not give way to temptation: "He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; and He that keepeth thee will not sleep. The Lord is thy defense upon thy right"

## **Prayer Requests**

## Those in this earthly life

Subdeacon Andrew	Cyndi	Angela
	Diana	Elijah
Theresa	Barbara	Sophia
Lori Ann	Daivara	Sopina

Lainey Elaine Matushka Tanya

Reader Stephen Victor Mary

Shawn Wilma Archpriest Moses
Gabriella Michael Archpriest John
Catechumen Rebecca April Matushka Margaret

Catechumen Rebecca
Marie

Michael
Patricia

April

Matusinka Wargaret

Matthew

Matthew
Priest Joseph
Archpriest Michael

Alexandra Barbara Reader Peter

John Mark Patricia

Matushka Virginia

## Those in the life to come

Vanessa Archimandrite Innocent

Archpriest Michael
Matushka Olga
Francis
Archpriest Thomas
Metropolitan THEODOSIUS
Archpriest Vladimir
Archbishop PAUL
Magdalene

"hand (Psalm 121:3, 5)."], but deliver us from evil [do not willingly give yourself up to evil and the Lord will not give you up to it]: for Thine is the kingdom [acknowledge the one King, God, and serve Him alone], the power [trust in His almighty power] and the glory [be zealous for His glory with all your might and during all your life], for ever [He is the eternal King, whilst Satan's kingdom shall soon pass away, being rapacious and false]. Amen." This is all true. Remember this prayer above all, and repeat it oftener in your mind, thinking over the meaning of each word, of each expression, and each petition in it. Brothers and sisters! You were born again (after you were born of your parents) by water and the Spirit, you then became the children of God - say, do you live worthily of this high calling? Do you live as the children of God ought to live? Is it evident from your behavior and actions that your "conversation is in heaven (Philippians 3:20)? Is it evident that you await your Lord again from heaven, as He promised us in His holy Word? Do you despise earthly things, and do you aspire with your whole heart after heavenly things? Do you not love this adulterous and sinful world? "If any man love the world, the love of the Father, is not in him (1 John 2:18)." "The friendship of the world is enmity with God (St. James 4:4)." "for all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father (1 John 2:16)." This world has crucified and crucifies until now the Son of God, brothers and sisters! Watch over yourselves, do you live in accordance with the Gospel? Do you not live contrarily to it? Read oftener the first chapters of the Gospel according to St. Matthew." My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt

## **Troparia**

Resurrection

## TONE 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave; seeking Thy Most Pure Body, Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee!

# Theophany TONE 1

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son; and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

# John the Baptist **TONE 2**

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner. Thou hast been shown in truth to be the most honorable of the prophets, for thou wast deemed worthy to baptize in the streams of the Jordan Him whom they foretold. Therefore, having suffered for the truth with joy, thou didst proclaim to those in hell God who appeared in the flesh, who takes away the sin of the world, and grants us great mercy.

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