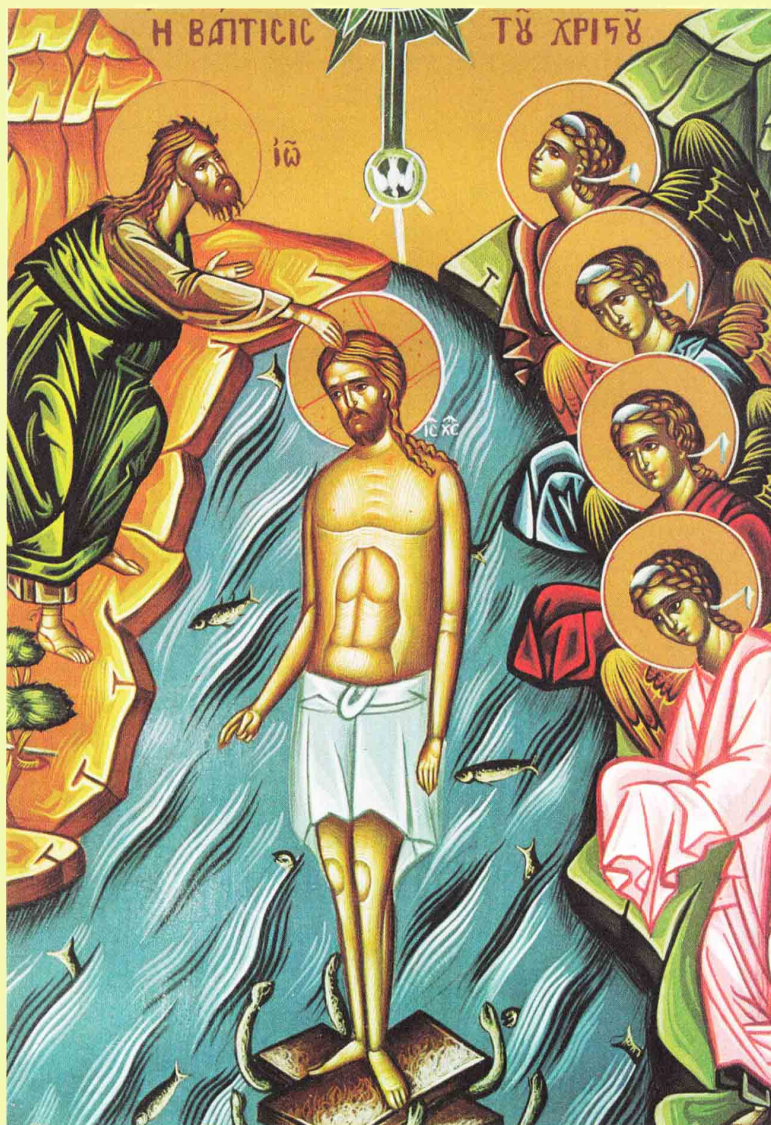


SUNDAY BEFORE EPIPHANY



Icon of Epiphany -- January 6th

January 2, 2011
Sunday before Theophany

Tone 7

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 3 – JANUARY 9

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2011 – EVE OF THEOPHANY

10:00 AM ROYAL HOURS

8:00 PM – “*3 HAMH BOR!*” ВЕЛИКЕ ПОВЕЧІР’Я – “GOD IS WITH US” GREAT COMPLINES WITH LYTIA

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5 – FEAST OF HOLY THEOPHANY

10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY WITH GREAT BLESSING OF WATER

✙ YAROSLAW SYSYN; REQ: MARIA SYSYN

6:00 PM DIVINE LITURGY WITH LESSER BLESSING OF WATER

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8 – SATURDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY

✙ LORENE LAGRONE (40TH DAY); REQ: FRANK & SUSAN AVANT

6:00 PM GREAT VESPERS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 – SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY

FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

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**Remember in your prayers**



Please remember in your prayers those members of our parish, our family and friends who are ailing, are in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join actively in their community. Remember especially the following: Katherine Andrus, Sr. Marie Arendes, Susan Avant, Walter & Isabella Bachynsky, Susie Boyko, Sonya Cronin, Helen Davis, Maria Hughes, Natalie, Maria Leskiw, Lesya Loznycky, John Pasichny, Nadia Popov, Orysia Rosul, Peter Rutman, Sonia Shashkewych, and Sophia Skop. Please let Fr. James know if there is anyone else who should be remembered.

**Remember Those In The Armed Forces**



Let us especially remember in our prayers those family members and friends who are actively serving their countries in the Armed Forces: Mark Belcher, Gratian Fredricks, Carl Haines, Jr., Adrian, Luke and Slavamira Haywas, Oksanna Hirniak, Andrew Hrynkiw, Zenon and Susan Keske, Michael Lopes, Vasyl Lylak, Thomas Orr, Paul Richelmi, Michael Stefanyszyn and Brian Tuthill. Please give any names of those you would like remembered in the Liturgies to Fr. James.

***Christ is born! Glorify Him!***

***Христос Раддається! Славіте Його!***

During the celebration of our Lord's Nativity, it is the custom of Eastern Christians to greet one another with the joyous exclamation, “*Христос Раддається!*” (*Khry-stos Razh-da-yet-sia*) “Christ is born!”, to which the one greeted responds, “*Славіте Його!*” (*Sla-vee-tey Yo-ho*) “Glorify Him!”

**Fast Free Period**

During the twelve days of Christmas, Dec. 25th, through Theophany, Jan. 6th, we do not fast, even on Wednesday and Fridays. A one day fast is observed on January 5th, the Eve of Theophany.



***Let's go Caroling!***

Between December 25 and February 2 we will be organizing visits to parishioners, shut-ins, and nursing homes. If you are interested in participating or you would like to be visited or you know of someone who would like to be visited, please contact Fr. James.

## House Blessings



It is our custom to have their homes blessed with the holy water sanctified on Theophany (the feast which commemorates the Baptism of the Lord in the Jordan River). If you would like your home blessed please let Fr. James know. If you have any questions about house blessings, what is involved, why we bless our homes, etc., please speak with Fr. James.



### THE FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD

The Baptism of our Lord in the Jordan River reveals wondrous salvific events:

- ❖ The Mystery of the Holy Trinity was revealed.
- ❖ Christ blessed the water, making it holy; water for our renewal and regeneration.
- ❖ A model of Baptism was established for the followers of Jesus Christ, so that they could have their sins washed away and be freed from the tyranny of demons.
- ❖ The Forerunner, St. John the Baptist was blessed by Christ.

The word **Theophany** (meaning manifestation of God) comes from the apostolic passage, "God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory" (1 Timothy 3:16). Another name for the Feast is **Epiphany** (meaning manifestation from above), "the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men" (Titus 2:11). A third name is the "Feast of Lights", as Christ reveals Himself as the "Light of the World" (John 8:12).

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**Our Parish Website** has photos from various events at the church including the Anniversary celebration. Check in the photo section. The website also has the current calendar. [stjohnthebaptizer.org](http://stjohnthebaptizer.org).

**2011 Liturgical Calendars** are available in the hall. Just a reminder, the calendar gives the appointed scriptures readings for each day of the year. Read the scriptures daily!

*The Ukrainian Culture Center of  
Los Angeles Presents*

An afternoon Concert of Traditional  
Ukrainian Christmas Carols performed by the  
Ukrainian National Choir of Los Angeles and  
San Diego – "KOBZAR"

Conducted by Gregory Hallick-Holutiak  
Saturday January 22, 2011  
3:00 P.M.

**St. John the Baptizer  
Ukrainian Catholic Church**

Join us for the afternoon  
to hear your favorite carols

*Suggested donation of \$15.00 at the door*

### *The Twelve Days of Christmas*

In Eastern Christianity (the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches) the Great Feast of Theophany (Epiphany) on 6 January is considered a higher-ranked feast than the Nativity (Christmas), and commemorates the Baptism of Jesus rather than the arrival of the Wise Men. The twelve days beginning on 25 December are observed as a fast-free period of celebration. The Armenian Apostolic Church and the Armenian Catholic Church, however, observe the Nativity of Christ on 6 January, and thus do not have a twelve day period between Christmas and 5 January.

In the Eastern Christian Churches, The Great Feast of the Nativity of our Lord begins on the Eve of 25 December (for those Eastern Christian churches which follow the Julian Calendar, 25 December falls on 7 January of the modern Gregorian Calendar).

The Twelve Days of Christmas are a festive period linking together two Great Feasts of the Lord: Nativity and Theophany.





***Українська Греко-Католицька Церква  
Святого Йоана Хрестителя  
St. John the Baptizer  
Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church***

**СВЯТКУЄМО 50-років!**

**Celebrating 50 Years!**

4400 Palm Avenue  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
Parish Office: (619) 697-5085

**Website:** [stjohnthebaptizer.org](http://stjohnthebaptizer.org)

**Pastor:** Fr. James Bankston

**Парох:** о. Яків Бенкстон

[frjames@mac.com](mailto:frjames@mac.com)

Fr. James' cell phone: (619) 905-5278

***For You Too Everything Begins with this Water***

Water makes the body clean, the Spirit makes the soul holy. It is in this way that we are able to draw near to God, since, while our body is being washed in the clean water, our heart is being purified by means of the Spirit. You who are about to go down into the baptismal water must not stop to consider the weakness of this visible element, since you will receive the strength of the Holy Spirit to enter into a new life. Without the two, the water and the Spirit, you would not be able to reach perfection. It is not I who am telling you this, but the Lord Jesus Christ who has power over these things. He says, in fact: "No one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit (John 3:51). Look closely: "Of water and the Spirit." Those who wash in the water but do not receive the Spirit do not have the grace that can make them holy. On the other hand they cannot enter the kingdom unless they receive the water, the visible sign, made rich also in good works. This assurance will appear daring, however it is not mine: it was Jesus who spoke in that way. Let me give you an illustration from Holy Scripture. Cornelius was a just man, proved so by his vision of angels, and he had won favor with God through his prayers and his alms. Peter came to him, and the Holy Spirit was poured out on the believers and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. After the gift of the Holy Spirit, according to the Scripture, Peter commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ so that while the soul was being born again through faith, the body might have its share of the gift through water (cf. Acts 10). If you want to know why it is by water and not by any other element that grace is given, consult the Scripture. Before the creation of the world "the Spirit of God moved upon the water" (Genesis 1:2). Thus at the beginning of the world we have water: at the beginning of the Gospels, the River Jordan.