

SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY, OF JOSEPH, DAVID AND JAMES



*Icon of the Nativity -- December 25th*

# December 30, 2012

## SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY – DAVID, JOSEPH AND JAMES

THE HOLY VIRGIN MARTYR ANYSIA; OUR VENERABLE FATHER ZOTICUS, PRESBYTER AND FRIEND OF ORPHANS

### TONE 6

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 31 – JANUARY 6

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1 – THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST; OUR HOLY FATHER BASIL THE GREAT, ARCHBISHOP OF CAESAREA IN CAPPADOCIA

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Special Intention

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4 – THE SYNAXIS OF THE SEVENTY HOLY APOSTLES; OUR VENERABLE FATHER THEOKTISTUS, HEGUMEN OF THE CUCUME MONASTERY IN SICILY

9:30 AM – Royal Hours of Theophany

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5 – VIGIL OF THEOPHANY; THE HOLY MARTYRS THEOPEMPTUS, BISHOP OF NICOMEDIA AND THEONAS; OUR VENERABLE MOTHER SYNCLETICA OF ALEXANDRIA

8:00 PM – 3 *Намъ Богъ!* Велике Повечір'я “God is with us” Great Complines with Lytia

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 – HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy with Great Blessing of Water

For All Parishioners

### ***Mark Your Calendars***

***Saturday, January 12:*** 5:00 PM – “Farewell to Kolyada” Celebration. Tickets are available in the church hall. See Olga Fedunyak to purchase.

***Saturday, January 19:*** 7:30 AM – East County Men’s Prayer Breakfast. Akathist Hymn followed by breakfast and a presentation. We need volunteers to help prepare and serve breakfast. All our men are encouraged to attend.

***Sunday, January 27:*** after Divine Liturgy. Potluck followed by “Popcorn and a Movie with the Sisters.” A presentation of “Women of Faith” about the 100th anniversary of the Basilian Sisters in North America.

### **Catechetical Video Series**

Today, after the Divine Liturgy we continue showing a series of catechetical videos. The first series to be shown will be “Catholicism” by Fr. Robert Barrons.

**Please attend! Будьмо Уважні!**

#### **Sunday offering for December 23**

Amount	Number
\$10.00	2
\$20.00	3
\$30.00	1
\$40.00	3
\$50.00	3
\$60.00	1
\$80.00	1
\$100.00	4
\$360.00	1
<hr/>	
\$1180.00	19 Parishioners

Parishioner Total: \$1180.00

Visitor Total: \$132.00

Average / parish household (40): \$28.10

Weekly Stewardship Goal: \$2125.00

Shortfall: **(\$945.00)**

Flowers: \$95.00

#### **Christmas offering for December 24/25**

Amount	Number
\$20.00	3
\$25.00	1
\$40.00	1
\$50.00	4
\$65.00	1 (loose)
\$80.00	1
\$100.00	5
\$200.00	1
<hr/>	
\$1040.00	17 Parishioners

Parishioner Total: 1040.00

Visitor Total: \$1075.00



## WHO WERE THE MAGI?

The Magi were Persian priestly scholars, known for their expertise in medicine, philosophy, science, astrology, and dreams. When the Prophet Daniel was taken to Babylon in 605 BC, Nebuchadnezzar recognized his God as the “God of gods and Lord of lords, Who reveals mysteries”. Daniel was renamed Baltasar and appointed the chief of this society. (Daniel 2:48; 4:6; 5:11). The prophetic and messianic writings of Daniel had a profound effect on these scholars, who also were familiar with Balaam’s prophecy about the star shining forth from Jacob (Num. 24:17).

At the time of Christ, the Magi composed the upper house of the Council of the Megistanes whose duties included the absolute choice and election of the king of the realm. Their sudden appearance in Judea caused Herod great fear as he sought to keep his fragile control over the region. However, it was in the hope a divinely-imposed dominion that the Magi had made their lengthy journey to Judea.

Since the Magi believed that there was a mystical influence of the stars, they would constantly study the heavens seeking extraordinary sign which might herald the “Expected One.” St. Theophylact explains how the Lord used the stars to draw the Magi to Him when he writes: “Because the Magi were astrologists, the Lord brought them in a manner natural to them, just as Peter, being a fisherman, came through the catch of a multitude of fish.”

The wise men, on behalf of the entire human race, brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh: gold because they were returning to the acknowledgment that God is the only true King, frankincense because they were returning to the worship of the Lord as the only true God,

and myrrh because Christ, as the bringer of the Resurrection, would abolish death and there would no longer be any more need for myrrh as a burial ointment.

What subsequently happened to these gifts is never mentioned in the Scriptures, but several traditions have developed. One story has the gold being stolen by the two thieves who were later crucified alongside Jesus. Another tale has it being entrusted to and then misappropriated by Judas.



The number and identity of the Magi is not known for sure. Since three gifts were offered, it is often assumed that there were three in their company; the traditional names being Melchior, Gaspar, and Balthazar. Sometimes they are depicted as old, middle-aged, and young. Some consider them to be from Persia, Arabia, and Egypt as the descendants of Shem, Japheth, and Ham.

St. John Chrysostom rebukes an unbelieving Jewish nation by comparing them to the Gentile Magi: “The faith of the Magi is the condemnation of the Jews. The Magi believed on the authority of their

one soothsayer Balaam and the Prophet Daniel; but the Jews, from the testimony of many prophets, refused to believe. Whereas the magi acknowledged that the coming of Christ would terminate their profane knowledge and magical arts, the Jews would not accept the Lawgiver’s doing away with their sacrifices and refused to accept the mysteries of the divine dispensation. The Magi confessed a Stranger; the Jews rejected their own.”



**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIZER UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**Pastor – Father James Bankston 619-905-5278**

## January 2013

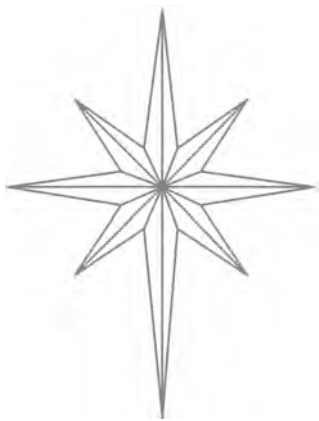
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b> 9:30am Divine Liturgy	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:30am Royal Hours	<b>5</b> 8:00 PM “God is With Us” Great Complines with Lytia.
<b>6</b> 9:30am Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water 11am Fellowship after Divine Liturgy 11:30am “Catholicism” video presentation	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:30am Divine Liturgy  5:00 PM “Проводи Коляди” Dinner
<b>13</b> 9:30am Divine Liturgy 11am Fellowship after Divine Liturgy 11:30am “Catholicism” video presentation	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:30am Divine Liturgy	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:30am Men’s Prayer Breakfast – Akathist Hymn, Breakfast and Presentation.  6:00 PM Great Vespers
<b>20</b> 9:30am Divine Liturgy 11am Fellowship after Divine Liturgy 11:30am “Catholicism” video presentation	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:30am Divine Liturgy  6:00 PM Great Vespers
<b>27</b> 9:30am Divine Liturgy 11am Potluck Luncheon 11:30am “Popcorn and a Movie with the Sisters” video presentation	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

**January Birthdays:**

Nicholas Hirniak: 1/7  
Michael Miller: 1/15  
Mark Hartman: 1/23  
Susie Boyko: 1/23  
Ephrem Tooma: 1/24  
Iryna Khanyk: 1/24  
Christian & Colin Hartman: 1/26  
Xenia Moore: 1/26  
Theresa Waldman: 1/27

**God’s Extended Hand:** 1625 Island Avenue, San Diego

 = Day of Obligation



Щиро запрошуємо усіх бажаючих на забаву

## *"Проводи Коляди"*

яка відбудеться 12 січня 2013 року  
о 5:00 годині вечора при українській католицькій парафії

Святого Йоана Хрестителя

4400 Palm Avenue

La Mesa , CA 91941

в програмі:

Різдвяний Вертеп, українські страви, вино, музика і танці,

Вартість квитка: \$30 дорослі, \$10 діти до 12 років.

до запитань: (619) 471-5675 Ольга Федуняк

You are cordially invited to

## *"Farewell to Kolyada"*

Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Play  
on January 12, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

St. John the Baptizer Parish Hall

4400 Palm Avenue

La Mesa , CA 91941

The evening program includes:

Vertep – Traditional Nativity Play, Ukrainian dinner, wine , music and dancing.

Tickets: \$30 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under.

for more information: (619) 471-5675 Olga Fedunyak







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

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

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

**Pastor:** Fr. James Bankston  
[frjames@mac.com](mailto:frjames@mac.com)

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

***She Bore in her Womb the Bread of Heaven***

A great mystery has been performed through Mary, a mystery that exceeds all understanding and knowledge.

The Mother of God has received tremendous powers, in virtue of which she is greater than all the saints we honor.

Christ conferred on some of his servants grace to heal the sick not only by touching them but even by just letting their shadow fall on them: in Jerusalem people laid their sick friends in the street so that the shadow of Peter might heal them. [Acts 5:15] That being so, what powers should he have conferred on His Mother?

And if Christ declared the Apostle Peter

blessed by entrusting the keys of the kingdom to him, is it conceivable that He should not have proclaimed Mary most blessed of all, since she was considered worthy to give birth to Him whom Peter recognized as the Son of the living God? [Matt. 16: 17]

And if Paul was marked out as 'a chosen instrument', [Acts 9:15] because by his preaching he had carried to every part of the world the name of Christ, what sort of instrument will the Mother of God be, she who carried in her womb the Bread of Heaven that would be distributed to the faithful to be their food and their strength?

*Basil of Seleucia*