



**St George the Great Martyr
Orthodox Church - Weekly Bulletin**

Sunday, January 6, 2019

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**JANUARY 6: The Holy Theophany of Our Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ**

Tone 1 Troparion of the Feast

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 / con-
firmed the truthfulness of His word. / O Christ our God,
Who hast revealed Thyself / and hast enlightened the
world, glory to Thee.

Tone 4 Kontakion of the Feast

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord, / and
the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us. /
Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises. / Thou hast come
and revealed Thyself, // O unapproachable Light.

Hymn to the Theotokos)

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos,
more honorable than the heavenly hosts.
No tongue knows how to praise thee worthily,
O Theotokos;
even Angels are overcome with awe praising thee.
But since thou art good, accept our faith;
for thou knowest our love inspired by God.
Thou art the defender of Christians, and we magnify thee.

Matthew 3:13-17 (*Gospel*)

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Pledge Cards It's time once again for all of us to prayerfully, thoughtfully and intentionally spend some time to consider the gifts that God has placed in our care and to plan how we can offer it back to Him for his blessing and glory. Pledge cards are available on top of the display stand as you come into the narthex (the back of the Church). Please take one and put it in your prayer corner. Take time over the next few weeks to consider how you will fill it out. Then, return your pledge card to Deacon George no later than **January 20th**. This will give the Parish Council adequate time to create our budget for next year. It is important to remember that one must go to Confession, receive the Eucharist at least once a year, and offer a pledge (of any amount) in order to be considered a member in good standing at St George's.

House Blessings—House blessings are an annual Tradition for all Orthodox Christians, where we offer back to God the homes He's given us, through prayer and 'baptizing' them with holy water. Non-Orthodox homes may also be blessed. **A signup sheet is on the bulletin board. Please pick a date for your visit and a preferred time of day (morning, afternoon or evening). Father will schedule appointments on a first come, first served basis, using the signup sheet.** Here's what you'll need:

- A suitable location, such as your icon corner, for Father to set up a few liturgical items in. If your house doesn't have an icon corner, you might clear your dining room table and put an icon on it.
- A bowl for Holy Water. Father will bring some for backup, but first will use what you have brought home from church. Orthodox Christians should keep a supply of Holy Water at home, to reverently drink when they must miss Divine Liturgy due to sickness.
- A candle for you to carry during the procession through your home (and matches or a lighter).
- A slip of paper with the saint's names of those living in the home, so Father can sing them "Many Years." (A list of departed is also appropriate)
- The blessing begins and ends with a prayer in your icon corner, and in between it involves a procession through your home. You'll carry a candle and lead Father, who sprinkles the house with Holy Water as he sings the Theophany troparion, which you're welcome to join in:

***When Thou, O Lord wast baptized in the Jordan
The Worship of the Trinity was made manifest
For the voice of the Father bare 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!***

- After the short service of blessing has concluded, Fr. Michael would be happy to visit with you for a bit. When possible, he will bring Matushka.

Many times, Father Michael is busy after the Liturgy on Sunday and there never seems to be enough time to visit with everyone. This is an opportunity to visit one-on-one in your home with him and Matushka if you wish. There is no need to offer a meal or snack, but if you'd like Father and Matushka to stay for something, please indicate that on the sign up and he will try to accommodate.

If you have any questions about this service or scheduling it, please speak with Fr. Michael.

Calendar of Events – Starting today: January 06

Sunday	01/06	9:10am - Hours 9:30am - Divine Liturgy 12Noon - Blessing of Water - Theophany
Monday	01/07	
Tuesday	01/08	
Wednesday	01/09	2:00-5:00pm Office Hours
Thursday	01/10	
Friday	01/11	
Saturday	01/12	10:00am Church clean up day, Followed by Great Vespers and Lunch
Sunday	01/13	9:10am - Hours 9:30am - Divine Liturgy Church School following

Weekly announcements, looking ahead:

- ◆ Office Hours this Wednesday 2-5pm.
- ◆ **10:00am Church clean up day**, followed by Great Vespers, followed by Lunch - hosted by our own Deacon George.
- ◆ Sunday school resumes next Sunday, the 13th of January.
- ◆ PLEASE if you haven't done so, fill a pledge card, so we can complete a budget plan for **2019**. The forms are by the church door.
- ◆ Father will be blessing homes, beginning January 14th. Sign up sheet is upfront. Please reserve a time for your family ASAP.
- ◆ Parish council will meet after Vespers on January 19th. Please mark your calendars!
- ◆ Father is out of town January, Monday 21st - Friday 25th.
- ◆ Please come for confession before February 3rd so you are an active and voting parishioner, in our parish. Our **annual meeting** will be **Sunday February 3rd 2019**. The Parish Council will provide pizzas for lunch, so we can begin the meeting in a timely manner.

Please keep our brothers and sisters in your prayers this week:

For good health and healing: Souraya, Christina, Eddie, Ruth, Fred, Gloria, Nicholas, Mary, Dragosh, Sonia, Doreen, Gene, Peter, Janice, Eva, Nancy.

For a new Job: Mario, Jason, Janice, Jamileh, Timothy.

Memory Eternal: Newly Departed Fr Athanasius, George, Victoria.