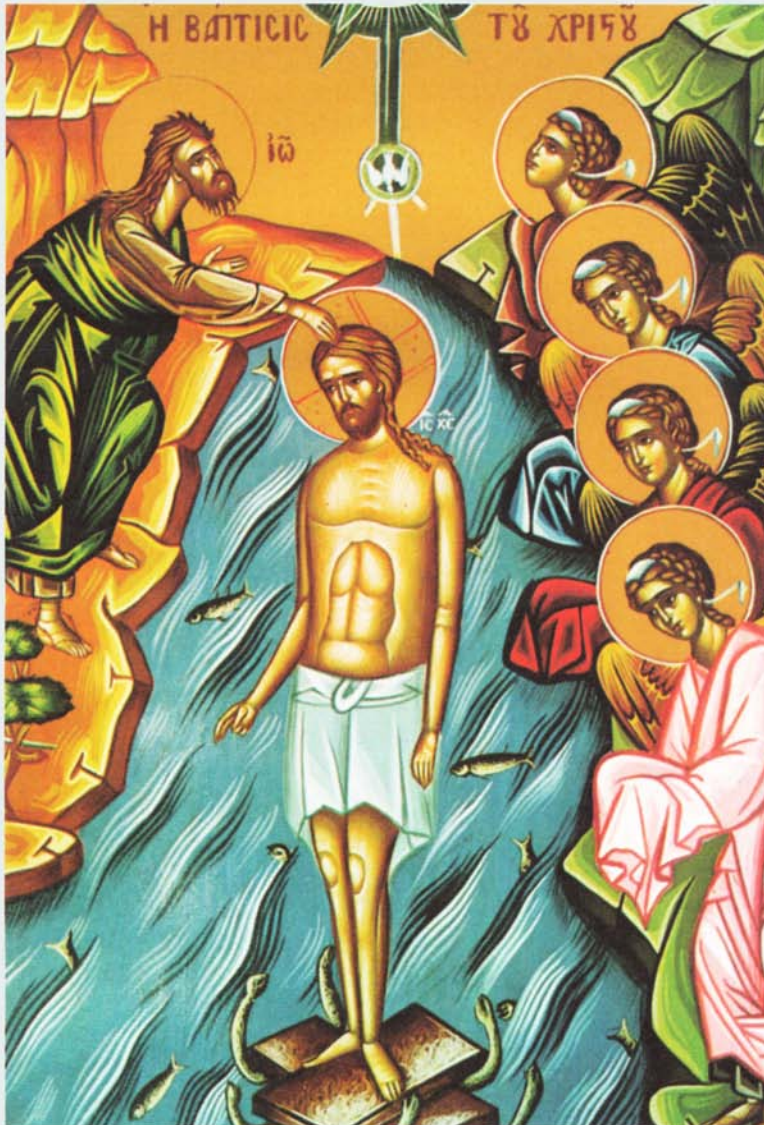


SUNDAY BEFORE THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR,  
JESUS CHRIST



*Icon of Theophany -- January 6th*

# January 3, 2010

## Sunday before Theophany

*Tone 6*

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 4 – JANUARY 10

#### **Tuesday, January 5, 2010 – Vigil of Theophany**

10:00 AM – Royal Hours

8:00 PM – «*3 Hani Bor!*» Great Complines with Lytia

#### **Wednesday, January 6, 2010 – Theophany of our Lord**

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy with Great Blessing of Water

✙ YAROSLAW SYSYN; REQ: MARIA SYSYN

6:00 PM – Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Water

Special Intention

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 10 – SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY**

9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY

*FOR ALL PARISHIONERS*

#### *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, Walter & Isabella Bachynsky, Susie Boyko, Sonya Cronin, Helen Davis, Stephen Hricko, Bohdanchik James, Lorene Lagrone, Maria Laszok, Lesya Loznycky, Alice Melnyk, Gregorio Ortiz Peña, Sophia Skop and Sonya Villa Señor. Please let Fr. James know if there is anyone else who should be remembered.

#### **“The Future Of Our Church Begins Today”**

We are in the midst of St. Nicholas Eparchy's Ukrainian Catholic Appeal 2009-2010. Please receive this appeal warmly and kindly consider Bishop Richard's request. Our parish goal is \$5000.00. If each household were to donate 1% of its annual income or even \$250.00 we will be well on our way to achieving this goal.

#### **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: Luke and Slavamira Haywas, Elizabeth Heltsley, Oksanna Hirniak, Andrew Hryniw, Zenon and Susan Keske, Michael Lopes, Vasyly and Volodymyr Lylak, Paul Richelmi and Brian Tuthill. Please give any names of those you would like remembered in the Liturgies to Fr. James.



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

Up until February 2 we will be organizing visits to our 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 Blessing: The Purpose

The blessing of homes is a custom of special beauty and significance. We ask Christ to bless and enter into our homes and our lives. We ask Him to be with us, as we desire to be with Him. We ask that by the sprinkling of blessed water, the Holy Spirit renew us, our families and our lives in our homes. As Christ brought salvation to the house of Zacchaeus; we ask for the same for all dwelling in our homes.

## House Blessing: The Order

The house being cleaned and ready, we dress in an honorable manner (as we would for church). When the priest arrives, we greet him at the door, having turned off any radio, TV, or other noise based element. Animals that may cause disruption should be placed out of the way. On a small table before icons, a small but wide-mouthed bowl full of newly blessed water is placed. Together with a list of names of those who re-side in the home, a lighted candle and censor (if you have one) are also placed on the table. These items are arranged prior to the arrival of the priest. At the beginning of the service for the blessing of the home, a family member leads the priest throughout the home, carrying the lighted candle. The rest of the household follows and then returns to the table for the final prayer and blessing with water upon those present.



## Theophany

Following the Divine Liturgies on Wednesday you will be able to partake of the Holy Water as well as take it to your homes in appropriate vessels (glass jars, holy water bottles, etc). The feast of Theophany is one of the Twelve Great Feasts, at which all Christians should strive to be present. As a reminder, Tuesday, Jan. 5, is kept as a strict fast day in preparation for our partaking of the blessed water. The Troparion and Kontakion for the Feast (see below) should be said or sung at mealtimes, morning/evening prayers, etc. throughout the feast which concludes on January 12th.

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### *Troparion, Tone 1*

When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity was revealed; the voice of the Father bore witness to You, naming You the "beloved Son," and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the Word's certainty. Glory to You, O Christ God, who appeared and enlightened the world.

### *Kontakion, Tone 4*

Today You have appeared to the world and Your light, O Lord, has been signed on us, who with knowledge sing Your praises. You have come, You have appeared, O unapproachable Light.

### *Тропар (г. 1):*

Коли в христиня ти, Господи, Троїчне з'явилося поклоніння: голос Отця свідчив про тебе, називаючи тебе улюбленим Сином, дух же у вигляді голуба потверджував ці слова. Господи, що з'явився і світ просвітив, – слава тобі!

### *Кондак (г. 4):*

З'явився ти сьогодні вселенній і світло твоє, Господи, опромінило нас. Пізнавши тебе, співаємо: ти прийшов і появився – Світло недоступне.

## ***Українська Католицька Церква Святого Йоана Хрестителя***

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

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

**Pastor:** Fr. James Bankston

**Парох:** о. Яків Бенькстон

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

#### ***Baptism – An Ancient Account***

All those who are convinced and believe that the things we teach and say are true, and who profess to be able to live in this manner, are taught to pray and to ask God in fasting the forgiveness of their sins while we pray and fast together with them. Then they are led by us to where there is water and are reborn in the same rebirth in which we ourselves were also reborn. They undergo the washing in water in the name of God the Father and Master of the universe, and of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit. For indeed Christ said, “unless you be reborn, you will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven.” Now it is clear to all that it is impossible for those who have already been born to return again into their mothers’ wombs. “Wash, make yourselves clean, remove the evils from your souls ... if your sins are like purple, I will make them white like wool; and if they are like scarlet, I will make them white as snow ... if you do not listen to me, a sword will devour you, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken these things” (Is 1:16-20).

In our first birth we were born unconscious, according to necessity, out of the seed of our parents, and we grew up in evil customs and bad habits. But in order that we may not remain children of necessity and ignorance, but of election and understanding and may obtain remission of sins previously committed, the name of God the Father and Master of the universe is invoked in the water over the one who has chosen to be reborn and who has repented of his sins. This washing is called “enlightenment,” since those who have learned these things are enlightened in their minds. The one illuminated is washed in the name of Jesus Christ, who was crucified under Pontius Pilate, and in the name of the Holy Spirit, who through the prophets foretold all these things regarding Jesus.

*From an Apology by St. Justin, Martyr*