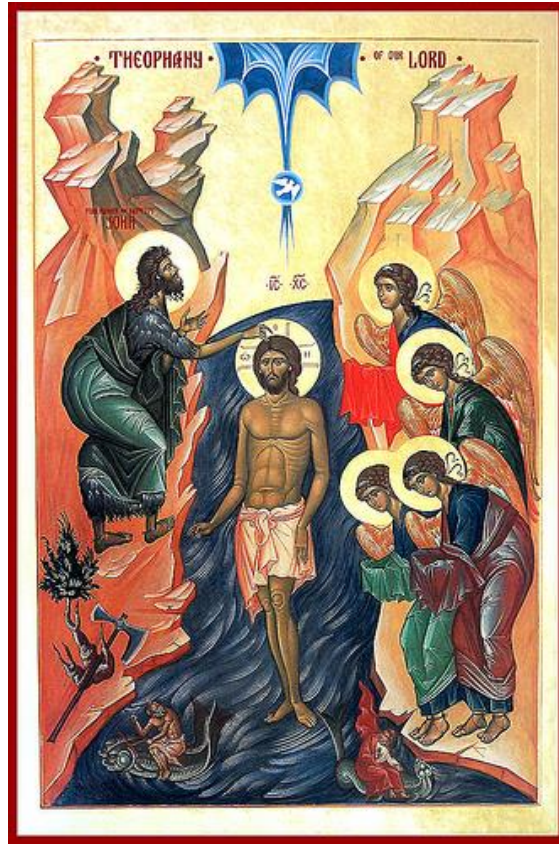


HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Elmira Heights, NY – 607-732-3980 – www.holytrinityorthodoxchurch.org



Sunday, January 5, 2020

Eve of the Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
Saint Micah the Prophet

THANK YOU ...

to all who participated in our New Year's Eve Fellowship on Tuesday, and those who came to AND those who sponsored the costs of our Teen Girls' Night Out on Friday! Stay tuned for more events. **Happy New Year!**

COMING UP IN THE PARISH AND THE DIOCESE...

- **Starting Monday, Jan. 6, After the Divine Liturgy, Home Blessings Begin!** Please contact Fr. David to schedule your home blessing, or be ready to set a date when Father contacts you. For more details, see the back page of the Bulletin.
- **Tuesday, January 14, 6:30 PM,** Parish Council Meeting, in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.
- **Monday, January 20, 7:00 PM,** Prayer Service for the Victims of Abortion
- **Sunday, January 26, After the Liturgy: Annual Parish Meeting.** Orthodox Christian adult members of Holy Trinity Church who are active in the Sacraments may participate in voting and discussion on matters affecting the life of the parish.
- **Saturday, February 15, 7-9 PM, Family Bowling Night.** Please speak with Steve Cheplick for details.
- **Friday – Sunday, May 15-17, Diocesan Altar Server Retreat,** at St. Basil Academy in Garrison NY. It'll be here before you know it, so families, please mark your calendars!
- **Saturday – Sunday, May 30-31, Archbishop Michael's Archpastoral Visit to Our Parish.** Plan to be here!

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Today – Eve of the Great Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour

6:00 PM Vigil (Compline & Blessing of Water) for the Great Feast of Theophany

Monday, January 6 – Great Feast of the Theophany (Baptism) of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

9:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy; Blessing of Homes Begins

Saturday, January 11

5:00 PM Great Vespers, with Private Confession Available Afterward

Sunday, January 12

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour

Monday, January 13

7:00 PM Akathist to Saint Nino of Georgia

Tuesday, January 14

6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

EPISTLE 2 Timothy 4:5-8 My son Timothy: You be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. **GOSPEL Mark 1:1-8** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight.'" John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



YOU CAN GO? GREAT!

See Fr. David. The Chemung Valley 4 Life Coalition runs buses to the March for \$60/person, leaving Thursday 1/23, 11:30 PM. Bus 1 leaves from St. Mary Our Mother Church and stops in Mansfield, PA.

Bus 2 leaves from NDHS in Southport (Elmira) and stops in Painted Post.

Here on Mon. 1/20 at 7 PM we'll serve the Prayer Service for the Victims of Abortion.

Visit Chemung Valley 4 Life at www.cv4life.org for many local Pro-Life events!

Prayer List

Memory Eternal: Elena, Sergei, Nicholas, Alexander, Zinaide, Ludmila, Rustem, Yuri, Igor, Yuri, Semyon, Lev, Yuri, the child Ephrem; Amelia; Frank; Taisia; George; Jack; Brian; Dn. Gregory Jewett

For Health: Archpriest Jason, Archpriest Nicholas, Archpriest Herman, Archpriest John, Archpriest Ken James, Dn. John Holoduek, Sdn. Thomas, Rdr. Thomas, Rdr. William & Matushka Anastasia (Mat. Tamara's mom), recovering from surgery; Susan (Kathryn Karney's mother), James & Jane Ann (Fr. David's parents), Mat. Anastasia, children Lydia, Patrick & Gabriel, Chloe, Mary Ann, Helen, Nadezhda, Kathleen, Child Hannah, Antonina, Ruth, Harriett, Elizabeth, Katherine, Kristen, Anastasia, Sierra, Maria, Michael, Kate, Rachel, Julie and the child to be born to her, Vera, Virginia, Ludmilla, Marilyn. **In the Diocese:** Diane, Peter, Brother John, Veronica, Judith, Matushka Elizabeth, Patricia, Marie, Tara, Mary Jo and her children Nathan, Matthew and Michael.

Parish Children:

Lucia	Hannah	Jeremiah	Andrew	Myra	Anthony	Anysia
Lydia	Natalie	Emilia	Patrick	Sophia	Dmitri	Jonah
Gabriel	Angelina	John	Thomas	Nikolai	Melania	Alexei
Larissa	Julianna	Nadia	Nathan	Justus	Gabriel	

College Students:

Anna McKane – Studying in China Katherine McKane – Sarah Lawrence College

Please give prayer requests to Fr. David or to a Subdeacon or Reader.

Typically, prayers for Newly Departed and Health remain on this list for 40 days, unless requested otherwise. Thank you. `

Fellowship Schedule:		Readers Schedule:	
Jan 5th	Dudek and Payzant	Jan. 4th, 5th, 6th	Sdcn. Shawn Michael
Fasting Day		Theophany	
Jan 12th	Cheplick Family	Jan. 11th & 12th:	Steve Cheplick
Jan. 19th	Urda, Cusick and Speen	Jan. 18th & 19th:	Alexander Charlanow
Jan. 26th	King Family	Jan. 25th & 26th:	Carol Haluszczak
Feb. 2nd	Charlanow Family	Feb. 1st & 2nd:	Sdcn. Shawn Michael
Feb. 9th	Karney Family	Feb. 8th & 9th:	Rdr. William
Feb.16th	Haluszczak Family	Feb 15th &16th:	Alexander Charlanow
Feb. 23rd	Dudek and Payzant	Feb. 22nd & 23rd:	Steve Cheplick

WISDOM FROM A MODERN ELDER

"The Lord is always waiting for us to unite ourselves with Him in love; but instead, we drift further and further away from Him. We know that there can be no life without love. This means that there is no life without God, for God is Love. But His love is not according to the understanding of the world. The love that the world gives us consists of suffering and enslavement, because the spirits of evil interfere with it. There is a little bit of love, but mostly it is just enslavement."

-- Elder Thaddeus of Serbia (+2003), *Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives*

RE-CLAIMING OUR HOMES FOR CHRIST: A NOTE ON HOUSE BLESSINGS

When our houses or apartments are blessed, we reclaim our homes, and everyone and everything in them, for Christ: our wives, our husbands, our marriages... our children... our working and studying... our worrying and our struggling... our decisions and our dilemmas... our successes and our rejoicing: we reclaim all of our lives for Christ, by inviting Him into our inner sanctum.



The custom of blessing homes during the Theophany season is of special beauty and significance. We show the Lord – and the devil – that we wish for God to physically expel every trace of sin, anger, bitterness, and worry that has invaded our homes and our families over the past year!

Plan your home blessing at a time when **all family members can be present**, if at all possible.

When Father comes to bless the home, these things should be prepared:

- A lit candle, an icon, and a wide bowl for Holy Water should be on the table.
- All present in the house should participate. If kids are present, an icon for each child to carry (who is big enough to carry one) should also be on the table.
- All radios, televisions, etc. should be turned off.
- Lists of Departed and Living family members and loved ones to be prayed for.



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