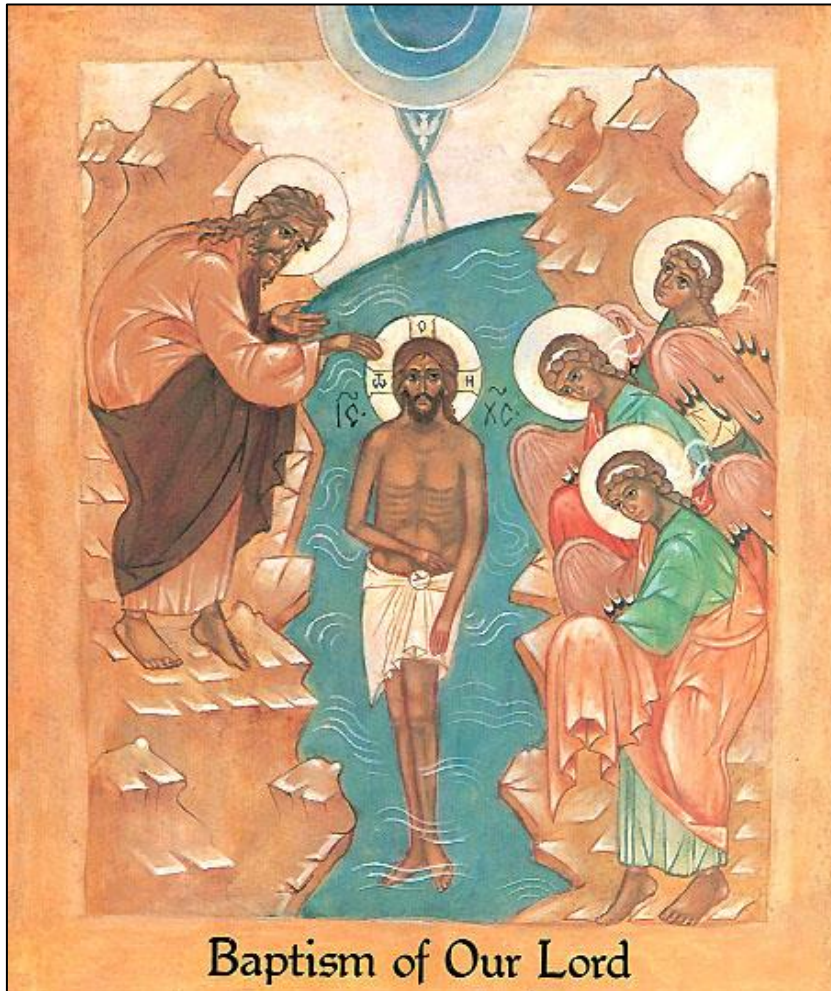


HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

140 Horseheads Blvd., Elmira Heights, NY • 607-732-3980

Rector: Fr. David Cowan • Deacon S. Michael Karney

Email: frdavidcowan@gmail.com • www.holytrinityorthodoxchurch.org



Sunday, January 5, 2025 – Tone 3

28th Sunday After Pentecost

Eve of the Theophany of our Lord

**THANK YOU to everyone who participated
in last Sunday's Nativity Showcase –
especially the young people who performed!**

WINTER CLOTHING NEEDED FOR LOCAL CHARITY

As our Father among the Saints, Basil the Great, teaches: *“The garment hanging in your wardrobe is the garment of the person who is naked. The shoes you do not wear are the shoes of the one who is barefoot.”*

Please bring any coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, or boots that you can spare, and put them in the containers in the vestibule. *Thank you!*

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Most Services May Be Joined by Live Stream at our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@holytrinitychurchelmira>

or go to www.YouTube.com and search for “Holy Trinity Church Elmira Heights NY”

Today – Sunday, January 5 – Eve of the Great Feast of Theophany, the Baptism of our Lord

8:40 AM *3rd and 6th Hours*

9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy, with Blessing of Water*, Followed by Fellowship Hour & Church School

6:30 PM *Vigil, with the Blessing of Water* – Theophany

Monday, January 6 – The Great Feast of Theophany, the Baptism of our Lord by Saint John the Forerunner

9:40 AM *3rd and 6th Hours*

10:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*, Great Feast of Theophany

Saturday, January 11

5:00 PM *Great Vespers*; Private Confession Available Afterward

Sunday, January 12

8:40 AM *3rd and 6th Hours*

9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*, Followed by Fellowship Hour & Church School

SCRIPTURE READINGS

EPISTLE 2 Timothy 4:5-8 My son Timothy: Always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me 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.”

Daily Readings: www.oca.org/readings

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

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 to happen 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.

**Home Blessings will begin on the Feast of Theophany, Monday, January 6,
and continue until at least the end of January.**

Contact Fr. David to schedule yours, at 732-3980 or frdavidcowan@gmail.com

Prayer List

Memory Eternal: James Woodruff (Shirley Cheplick's brother); Matushka Eugenia Nehrebecki; Pani Joan Mahler, Robert, Zoran, Dieter; Dorothy, Michael, Marie; Feodor, Seraphima, Luba; Rocco; Skylar, Rebecca; Jeannie Sura; Kathy, Travis; Chris; Michael, Lydia, Paul; Ann, Nicholas, Betty. Ever-memorable Rdr. Thomas Cheplick (birthday 1/6). All the departed named for St. John the Baptist (Synaxis of St. John the Baptist, 1/7). All those taken from us by sickness, violence, injury and disaster.

For Health: Recovering Shirley Cheplick & Fr. David Cowan; Michael Karney; Matushka Kathryn, Natalie, Emilia, Patrick & Sophia; Fr. Jason Kappanadze; Fr. Daniel & Mat. Myra Kovalak; Mat. Patricia Mason; Subdeacon Walter; Children Evita, Elliot and Jordyn; Janet; Christal; Olga; Cassidy; Joseph; Abigail; Christopher & David; Ricky & John; Matrona; Patricia, Michael & Jacob; James; Antonina; Brooke; Elena; Tyler; Dmitri; expecting mothers Amanda, Emily, Carrie and the children to be born of them; Mildred Cheplick; Mildred Urda; Deborah; Juliana; John; Scott & Casey, Child Hannah, Joshua, Ilsa, Erica, Caitlin, Helen, Ruth, Katherine, Sierra; Nicholas, Anna; Catechumens Raychel, Jason, Oliver, Madeline, Steven, Jeremiah, Sarah & Zachary.

Diocesan Prayer Requests: Archbp. NATHANIEL; Archbp. BENJAMIN; Fr. Samuel Kedala, Fr. John & Matushka Katherine Kowalczyk; Fr. John Klingel; Fr. Thomas Soroka, Fr. James & Matushka Lisa Weremedic; Deacon Michael Speck; Matushka Mary Shafran; Matushka Frances Vansuch; Paraskevi; Seham; Patricia, Andrew, Jeffrey, Sean; Andrey, Alonya & Ivan; Miguel, Maher, Nashwa, Thomas; Annie, Yuri, Patricia, Gail; Ludmilla, Stephen, Zinaida, Anastasia and her family, Michael, Maria; Joseph, Christine; Taisia; Jeremy, Veronica, Eugene; George, Maritza, Sam; Robert; Anna, Rose, Carrie and the child to be born of her, Apollos, child Rose. All the clergy, faithful, their families and those who are ill, of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey. **Name Days:** All those named for St. John the Baptist (Synaxis of St. John the Baptist, 1/7). **Birthdays:** Rdr. Nicholas Hojnicky (1/7). **Anniversary:** Archpriest Paul Kucynda (57th Anniversary of Ordination to the Holy Priesthood, 1/7).

Parish Children:

Lucia	Hannah	Jeremiah	Andrew	Myra	Ezekiel	Aalyiah	Sophia
Lydia	Natalie	Emilia	Patrick	Sophia	Rdr. Dmitri	Jonah	Gabriel
John	Nikolai	Melania	Alexei	Nadia	Justus	Elea	Samuel
Gabriel	Michael	Hannah	Raphael	Verity	Julie	Michelle	Aiden
Shea	Jack	Oliver	Elizabeth	Anthony	Evangeline	Alfred	Rosemary
James	Brigid	Dorothea	Josephine	Killian	Rory		

College Students: Thomas Cheplick – Niagara College • Gabriel Cowan – Corning Community College
Angeline McKane – West Point Academy • Nathan Devens – SUNY Cobleskill • Madeline Cieslak – Elmira College
Larissa Cheplick – Daemen College • Julianna Cheplick – SUNY Delhi
Mihaela Toader, Anastasia Shikula & Magdalena Botrous – LECOM Elmira
Please give prayer requests to Fr. David, Dn. Michael, Subdcn. Walter, or a Reader.
Typically, parish prayer requests remain on this list for 40 days.

READERS' SCHEDULE

Jan. 4th – Jan. 11th: Reader William (1/5 & 1/6: Theophany)

FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTING SCHEDULE

Jan 5 Cowan Family ♦ Jan 12 Memorial Meal In Memory of Paul Urda, Offered By His Family ♦
Jan 19 Haluszczak & Dudek Families ♦ Jan 26 Lamprinos Family

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

Jan 5 Mat. Katie ♦ Jan 12 Nina Dudek ♦ Jan 19 Sarah Harvey ♦ Jan 26 Amy Rinchack

COFFEE HOUR SUPPLIES – DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED FOR:

8-Oz. Cold Cups ♦ Bowls ♦ Napkins ♦ Spoons

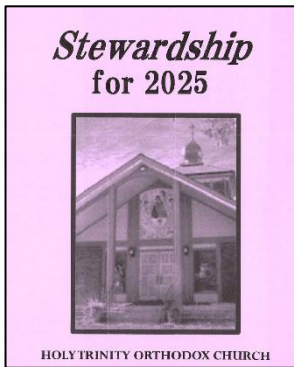
**JOIN US FOR THE
NATIONAL MARCH
FOR LIFE**

**Washington, DC
Friday, Jan. 24, 2025**



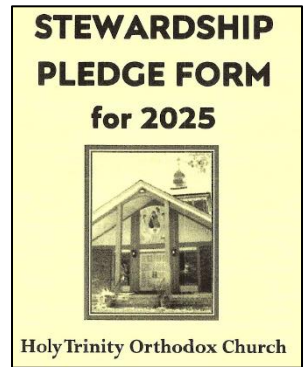
MARCH FOR LIFE

www.marchforlife.org



**PLEASE PICK UP YOUR
2025 STEWARDSHIP
PLEDGE FORM TODAY.**

Pledge forms will of course be gratefully received at any time, but turning in your pledge as soon as possible will greatly help the Parish Council to anticipate our parishioner support income in preparing the operating budget for 2025.



The purple **Stewardship Bulletin** offers information about what stewardship is (it is not just about money), our vision for what the parish can do in the short and long-term future with even stronger stewardship, and a “giving grid” to help calculate percentage giving.

Thank you!

Please consider your financial PLEDGE to the parish for 2025.

THE “GIVING GRID”

Ask yourself: **Where am I on the grid?**

If I’m not at 10%, can I move 1 square to the left and pledge that amount for 2025?

	Annual Income	Weekly Income	Weekly Beyond a Tithe		Weekly Tithe	Weekly Upper Range of Giving			Weekly Middle Range of Giving			Weekly Lower Range of Giving		
			15%	12%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
A	\$22,000	\$423	\$63	\$51	\$42	\$38	\$34	\$30	\$25	\$21	\$17	\$13	\$8	\$4
B	\$25,000	\$481	\$72	\$58	\$48	\$43	\$38	\$34	\$29	\$24	\$19	\$14	\$10	\$5
C	\$30,000	\$577	\$87	\$69	\$58	\$52	\$46	\$40	\$35	\$29	\$23	\$17	\$12	\$6
D	\$40,000	\$769	\$115	\$92	\$77	\$69	\$62	\$54	\$46	\$38	\$31	\$23	\$15	\$8
E	\$50,000	\$962	\$144	\$115	\$96	\$87	\$77	\$67	\$58	\$48	\$38	\$29	\$19	\$10
F	\$60,000	\$1,154	\$173	\$138	\$115	\$104	\$92	\$81	\$69	\$58	\$46	\$35	\$23	\$12
G	\$70,000	\$1,346	\$202	\$162	\$135	\$121	\$108	\$94	\$81	\$67	\$54	\$40	\$27	\$13
H	\$80,000	\$1,538	\$231	\$185	\$154	\$138	\$123	\$108	\$92	\$77	\$62	\$46	\$31	\$15

Pledge Forms are on the candle desk and on the tables downstairs.
You can put your completed form in the ANNUAL PLEDGE box, or give it to Fr. David or to Toni Weeks, our Parish Treasurer.

**Thank you for your generous stewardship
of the ministries of Holy Trinity Church!**
With love in Christ,
Fr. David