



Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

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Office Hours: Mon-Thur: 10AM—5PM—For Sacramental Emergencies Call Fr. Lewis: (570) 573-1565

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— Schedule of Divine Services —

26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, FEAST OF THE MATERNITY OF THE HOLY ANNA—TONE 1

Saturday Dec. 7	4:30–5PM	Mystery of Repentance*
	5:30PM	Divine Liturgy for a special intention
Sunday Dec. 8	9–9:30AM	Mystery of Repentance*
	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy for the faithful of Epiphany Parish Epistle: Eph. 5:9-19 & Gal. 4:22-31; Luke 17:12-19 (29th Sun. Aft. Pent.) & Luke 8:16-21
	11:30AM	Saint Nicholas Party in the narthex

Tuesday Dec. 10 **The Holy Martyrs Hermogenes and Eucraphus**
7:30PM Mens Group Meeting in the Library/Cry Room

Wednesday Dec. 11 **Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite**
7:30PM Emmanuel Moleben for the Phillips Fast

Thursday Dec. 12 **Our Lady of Guadalupe** (Mitigation of Fasting)
7:30PM Divine Liturgy for the repose of +Claire Marie Reichard

Saturday Dec. 14 **The Holy Martyrs Thyrus, Leucas, Philemon, Appolonius, and Callinicus**
10:00AM Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with the Ordination of Subdeacon John Reed to the Order of the Diaconate by His Grace, Bishop Kurt Burnette
12:00NOON Luncheon for those who replied to follow at Bambinelli's Italian Restaurant
—NO EVENING DIVINE LITURGY—

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS—TONE 2

Sunday Dec. 8	9–9:30AM	Mystery of Repentance*
	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy for the faithful of Epiphany Parish Epistle: Col. 3:4-11; Luke 14:16-24 (28th Sun. Aft. Pent.)

*Mystery of Repentance also available by appointment or before and after weekday services

Welcome to our parish! We are glad that you have chosen to participate in the Divine Liturgy with us today and we pray that it has been a spiritually nourishing experience. If you would like to register as a parishioner or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

The Mysteries (Sacraments) of the Church are available for all Baptized Catholics in Good Standing. This means that a

Catholic attends Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation, utilizes the Mystery of Repentance at least once a year, receives the Eucharist at least once a year, observes the church's penitential seasons and fasting regulations to include abstaining from meat or an equivalent penance on all Fridays except when mitigated, supports the Church in Her temporal needs through offering of time, talent, and treasure, and believes the Church's teachings on faith and morals.

Stewardship 12/01/2019	Off. Total:	\$1,976.00
Offertory \$1,976.00	Cap. Imp. Total:	\$175
Capital Imp. \$175	Dec. Operating Budget	\$8,830

CHURCH CLEANING AND CHRISTMAS DECORATING:
Thank you very much to all who participated in our church cleanup and decorating day! May God bless you for your wonderful efforts!

CONGRATULATIONS TO SUBDEACON JOHN REED!
His Grace, Bishop Kurt Burnette will ordain Subdeacon John Reed to the order of the Diaconate on Saturday, December 14 at 10AM. The entire parish is invited to this joyous event, so please mark your calendars! Axios! He is worthy! —As a note, because of the ordination, **we will not be having the vigil liturgy on Saturday Dec. 14, at 5:30** as we usually do.

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Those who are ill or convalescing: Clara Vranich, Daniel Cunningham, James Murray, Patricia Rabayda, Catherine Garcia, Betty Yurchik, Patricia Anne Reidy, Juniper Whalen, and Jeff Lovall. May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies, grant them peace and good health for many blessed years.—Please let Fr. Lewis know if anyone should be added or taken away from this prayer list.

WE ENTER THE PHILLIPS FAST: On Friday, November 15th, we began the time of penance and preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ. Although this time of fasting is not obligatory to be a Catholic in good standing, we are encouraged to engage in it as much as we can, so that we can spiritually prepare ourselves to more fully celebrate the Feast of the Nativity. We usually make many other preparations for this Great Feast with decorations and food, but let us also decorate our souls with good works, alms giving, acts of penance, and fasting.

During the month of December, the Altar Lamp burns before our Lord in the tabernacle for a special intention, by Michael & Karen Madrigal

EVAGRIOS THE SOLITARY (345-399AD):

ON PRAYER

excerpts from the Philokalia, Vol. 1

112. When another monk was practicing inner prayer as he journeyed in the desert, two angels came and walked on either side of him. But he paid no heed to them, for he did not wish to lose what was better. He remembered the words of the Apostle: 'Neither angels, nor principalities, nor powers...shall be able to separate us from the love of Christ' (Rom. 8:38-39).

113. The Monk becomes equal to the angels through prayer, because of his longing to 'behold the face of the Father who is in heaven' (Matt. 18:10).

2019 BISHOP'S APPEAL: The 2019 Bishop's Appeal has begun on November 1, 2019. You may have received your appeal packet in the mail. For those who have not yet received one, there are some available in the narthex. This year, our parish goal is the same as last year's goal which is \$10,800. If we attain our goal, we will receive a rebate of 40%, which would be at least \$4,320! It is suggested that if each family contributes \$200, then we will meet our goal. **An anonymous parishioner has offered to donate an additional \$25 if a family gives a minimum of \$75 to the Bishop's Appeal.** Please note, the checks need to be made out to the "Eparchy of Passaic."

MANDATORY ALTAR SERVER MEETING: There will be a mandatory meeting for all altar servers on Sunday, Dec 15, after the Divine Liturgy with Dcn. James.

Nativity of Christ Greeting Cards for Sale: \$15 a pack

UPCOMING PARISH & EPARCHIAL EVENTS

- Dec. 10 Mens Group Meeting in the Library/Cry Room
- Dec. 14 Ordination of Subdcn. John Reed to the Order of the Diaconate
—No 5:30PM Liturgy
- Dec. 15 Mandatory Altar Server Meeting
- Dec. 17 Womens Group Meeting in the Library/Cry Room

Altar Lamp Memorials and Divine Liturgy Intentions can now be accepted for 2020. Altar Lamps suggested donation is \$50, and Divine Liturgy and Panachida suggested stipend is \$15.

**Changeable Parts of the Divine Liturgy
Dec. 7/8 for the Teal Pew Book**

Troparion, Kontakion, Prokeimenon, & Alleluia:
See Handout or p. 277-280

Hymn of the Incarnation: B p. 19

Thrice Holy Hymn: D p. 29

Cherubikon: St. Nicholas p. 275

Creed: B p. 53

“Holy Holy Holy”: C p. 57

Our Father: Tone 1 p. 66

“We Have Seen”: A p. 82

“May Our Mouths Be Filled”: A p. 84

“Blessed be the Name of the Lord”: C p. 88

—FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST—

Tuesday Dec. 24

THE VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY

9:00AM The Royal Hours for the Feast of the Nativity

7:30PM Great Compline for the Nativity and Vigil Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

Wednesday Dec. 25

THE FEAT OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

10:00AM Divine Liturgy for the faithful of Epiphany of Our Lord Parish

Thursday Dec. 26

SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS

9:00AM Divine Liturgy for a special intension

Friday Dec. 27

THE HOLY APOSTLE, FIRST MARTYR AND ARCHDEACON STEPHEN

7:30PM Divine Liturgy for a special intention

Fasting Regulations for the Phillips Fast

EPARCHIAL REGULATIONS: All who receive Communion in the Eparchy of Passaic are required to abstain from meat on Fridays of the Phillips Fast. This is the normal practice throughout the year.

FROM THE TYPICON (A GUIDEBOOK FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE LITURGY AND DIVINE OFFICE): “During this fast it was the custom to observe a strict abstinence on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and a lesser abstinence (mitigation for wine and oil) on Tuesday and Thursday. The fast is observed more strictly from December 10 (in some traditions) or from December 20 (in other traditions), with

daily strict abstinence, and a mitigated abstinence (wine and oil) on Saturday and Sunday. The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season. This fast may be observed voluntarily, partially, or in its entirety.”

POSSIBLE FASTING REGIMINES: Here are a variety of fasting possibilities for those who find the spiritual benefit of challenging themselves to a deeper participation in the Phillips Fast. One can start simple and increase the difficulty as the Fast progresses. **Either way, all are encouraged to do more than the minimum, except the elderly, pregnant, small children, and those with special medical issues.**