



O Hierarch,  
you are an  
icon of meekness  
and a teacher  
of temperance.

You have  
achieved the  
heights by  
humility  
and  
riches by  
poverty

## **Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin**

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### **HOLY MYSTERIES**

**VISITATIONS OF THE SICK AND INFIRM** – If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Father Stephen at the Rectory. Our hospitalization code for Christiana and Wilmington Hospitals is **UKR**.

**EMERGENCY CALLS** – Please call the Rectory anytime (day or night) in an Emergency!

**BAPTISMS** – Celebrated by appointment.

**CROWNING IN MARRIAGE** – Please discuss timing with Father prior to setting a date. At least six months notice is needed. There are three 2-hour courses that must be attended prior to the Wedding.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** – The deadline for getting information printed in the Weekly Bulletin is Wednesday.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS** – For the Needs of the Parish; 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Ministry

**January 15, 2023**  
**Volume 59: Number 03**  
**Schedule of Services and Activities**  
**Week of January 15 - 22, 2023**  
**Celebrating our 96<sup>th</sup> year of Service to the Lord**

Sunday, January 15 – Sunday before Theophany -Tone 6

8:30 AM - Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Coffee Hour

5:00 PM – Moleben to the Mother of God

Monday, January 16

8:00 AM -Butter and Onions

Wednesday, January 18 – Theophany Eve – Strict Fast Day

7:00 AM – Royal Hours

8:00 AM – Vespers/Liturgy of ST. Basil

Church opened to 12 Noon

6:00 PM – Great Compline and Water Blessing

Thursday, January 19 – Theophany

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Church opened until 12 Noon

7:00 PM – Akathist to the Mother of God

Friday, January 20 – Synaxis of St. John the Baptist

7:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

+Nicholas Hutnick (29 Yrs.)

8:00 AM – Peeling potatoes

10:00 AM – making sauerkraut balls

6:00 PM – Making potato balls

7:00 PM – Moleben to the Mother of God

Saturday, January 21

8:00 AM – Making pyrohy

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy (Holy Trinity, Whaleyville, MD)

Sunday, January 22 – Sunday after Theophany -Tone 7

8:30 AM - Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Coffee Hour

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### SCRIPTURAL READINGS

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday before the Theophany – Matins: John 20:19-31;

Liturgy: 2 Timothy 4:5-8; Mark 1:1-8

Monday – 2 Timothy 2:1-10; Matthew 10:16-22

Tuesday – Romans 8:8-14; Luke 10:1-15

Wednesday –**Theophany Eve - Royal Hours:** Psalms: 5; 2; 26-28; 41; 50-73; 76; 90-92; 113; 85;

**1<sup>st</sup> Hour:** Isaiah 35:1-10; Acts 13:25-32; Matthew 3:1-11

**3<sup>rd</sup> Hour:** Isaiah 1:16-20; Acts 19:1-18; Mark 1:1-8

**6<sup>th</sup> Hour:** Isaiah 12:3-6; Romans 6:3-11; Mark 1:9-15

**9<sup>th</sup> Hour:** Isaiah 49:8-15; Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Matthew 3:13-17

**Vespers:** 1) Genesis 1:1-13; 2) Exodus 14:15-18; 21-23; 27-29; 3) Exodus 15:22-27; 16:1; 4) Joshua 3:7-8; 15-17; 5) II Kings 2:6-14; 6) II Kings 5:9-14; 7) Isaiah 1:16-20; 8) Genesis 32:1-10; 9) Exodus 2:5-10; 10) Judges 6:36-40; 11) I Kings 18:320-39; 12) II Kings 2:12-22; 13) Isaiah 49:8-15; **Liturgy:** I Corinthians 9:19 - 10:4; Luke 3:1-18

**Blessing of Water:** 1) Isaiah 35:1-10; 2) Isaiah 55:1-13; 3) Isaiah 12:3-6; I Corinthians 10:1-4; Mark 1:9-11

**Thursday, Theophany:** Matins Mark 1:9-11; Liturgy: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Matthew 3:13-17

Friday – Synaxis St. John – Acts of the Apostles 19:1-8; John 1:29-34

Saturday after Theophany – Ephesians 6:10-17; Matthew 4:1-11

32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday after Theophany – Matins: John 21:1-14; Ephesians 4:7-13; Matthew 4:12-17

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### THEOPHANY - EPIPHANY –

#### THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

On January 19 (6), we celebrate one of the twelve major feasts of the Orthodox Church: the Theophany or the Epiphany; the Baptism of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is a special feast in which we commemorate Jesus being baptized in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist. You might ask, “Why do we call it Theophany”? The word Theophany means “a manifestation of God”. It is during this event that the Holy Trinity is revealed: we hear the Father’s voice; we see Christ the Son of God in the Jordan River; we see the Holy Spirit descending in the form of a dove. The Gospel of St. Mark tells the story: “It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by

John in the Jordan. And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. Then a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased". Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness." (Mark 1:9-12 see also Matthew 3:13ff.; Luke 3:21ff.; John 1:29ff.).

Why do we call it Epiphany? The word Epiphany means a manifestation or a revelation. It is with this event that we come to know that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Through this baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, St. John the Baptist testifies about Him: "I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining upon Him, this is He Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God" (John 1: 33-34).

By the names we use, we see the Holy Trinity being revealed to us; we see Jesus the Christ being made manifest to us. But there is another important aspect of Orthodoxy that is proclaimed. With the Baptism of Our Lord in the Jordan we see the refashioning the re-creation of nature to the way that it was supposed to be before the fall of mankind. Our Lord takes that which is fallen and raises it up - He takes what is infirm or lacking in us and heals our very nature.

When does all this take place? It all takes place **TODAY!** Have you ever noticed in all of our services that we don't commemorate a past event as if it has already been accomplished and that's it. No, we celebrate it as if it is still going on. We celebrate the reality **TODAY**. Let us listen to some of the prayers from the Great Blessing of Waters which is celebrated with the Feast: "For today the time of the Feast is at hand for us; the choir of Saints assembles today with us and angels join with men in keeping the festival. Today the grace of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descended upon the waters. Today the Sun that never sets has risen and the world is filled with the splendor by the Light of the Lord. Today the glittering stars make the inhabited earth fair with the radiance of their shining. Today the clouds drop down upon mankind the dew of righteousness from on high. Today the Uncreated of His own will accepts the laying on of hands from His own creature. Today the Prophet and Forerunner approaches the Master, but stands before Him with trembling seeing the condescension of God towards us. Today the waters of the Jordan are transformed into healing by the coming of the Lord. Today the whole of creation is watered by the mystical stream. Today the transgressions of men are washed away by the waters of the Jordan...." We see that we do not bless water just to commemorate the event of our Lord's baptism. We bless and participate in the water because **TODAY WE ARE THERE**; we are at the Jordan, we witness the baptism of our

Lord by John, we see the Spirit descending as a dove, we hear the voice of the Heavenly Father proclaiming that this IS His Son with whom He is well pleased!

Therefore, let us partake of the blessed water not as if it is just plain and ordinary. For with the coming of Christ it is transformed. Listen to the prayers to what it has become: "Confer upon it the grace of redemption, the blessing of the Jordan. Make it a source of incorruption, a gift of sanctification, a remission of sins, a protection against disease, a destruction to demons, inaccessible to the adverse powers and filled with angelic strength; that all who draw from it and partake of it may have it for the cleansing of their soul and body, for the healing of their passions, for the sanctification of their homes, and for every expedient purpose."

Let us celebrate the Feast in all faith and in all joy **TODAY!**

**For Christ is Baptized!**

**Let us Glorify Him!**

**TROPAR TONE 1** - At Your Baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, worship of the Trinity was revealed; for the Father's voice bore witness to You, calling You His beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words. O Christ God, who appeared and enlightened the world, glory be to You!

**KONDAK - TONE 4** - You have revealed Yourself to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has shined upon us. We recognize You and exclaim to You; You have come and revealed Yourself, O Inaccessible Light.

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**Saint George the Chozivite  
Commemorated on January 8(21)**

Saint George the Chozebite was born on the island of Cyprus toward the end of the sixth century. After the death of his parents, he went to Palestine to worship at the holy places. Here he entered into the monastic community of Chozeba between the River Jordan and Jerusalem, and he later became head of this monastery. St George presented the monks example in fasting, vigil and physical efforts. Having lived as an angel upon the earth, he died in peace.

**Troparion - Tone 5** - God-bearing Father George, \* you cultivated the word of grace \* and gathered the splendid fruits of righteousness, \* having chosen the way of godliness.\* Therefore, you partook of the glory of Christ; \* intercede with Him unceasingly \* that He may have mercy on our souls.

**Kontakion - Tone 4** - You have appeared as a brilliant light \* and have illumined with divine rays those who cry to you, \* O George. Pray for us to Christ the Master, \* Who appeared in the waters to illumine those born on earth.

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**GREGORY THE WONDERWORKER  
OF THE KIEV NEAR CAVES**

**Commemorated on January 8 (21)**

Saint Gregory was tonsured at the Kiev Caves monastery in the time of Saint Theodosius (May 3). The saint devoted much time to reading books, which were his sole possession. He had the ability to bring thieves to their senses. Several times robbers broke in on him in his cell or in the garden, but the saint reasoned with them, the thieves repented, and began to lead honest lives.

Once, when the monk went to the Dnieper River for water, some servants of Prince Rostislav caught sight of the Elder and rudely began making fun of him. The saint answered them, "Children, when you should be asking for everyone's prayers, you are displeasing God. Weep, for disaster approaches. Repent and ask God to be merciful to you on the Day of Judgment. All you will find death in the water with your prince." By orders of the enraged Prince Rostislav, the monk was bound hand and foot, and he was drowned in the Dnieper with a stone around his neck. Still, his prediction came true. Rostislav did not return from the campaign. In that same year of 1093 the twenty-year-old prince drowned in sight of his brother, Vladimir Monomakh, trying to save himself as he fled from the Polovetsians.

Saint Gregory the Wonderworker died in 1093 and was buried in the Near Caves. His memory is celebrated also on September 28 and on the second Sunday of Great Lent.

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**A TRUE PERSPECTIVE**

To obtain the proper perspective of God, we must seek Him in the Gospels. It is no accident that the Deacon or Priest solemnly takes the Gospel Book, Christ the Word, in procession and elevating it, intones: "Wisdom! Be Attentive!" The Gospels tell of the real Christ, our Way, Truth and Life. He is the God of mercy, compassion and forgiveness. He is the Light of the World and anyone who follows Him will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life - eternal life.

Here we find the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, motivated exclusively by love for weak and erring humans, become man to be like us in everything but sin. To bear witness to the priorities of life and to show in a social way His great love for the humble and the poor. He accepted birth from a humble Jewish maiden and was born in a cave on the outskirts of Bethlehem.

The Gospel narratives tell us Jesus “went around the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sicknesses among the people” (Matthew 4:23).

Jesus of the Gospels is a gentle and forgiving God who taught the way to God and holiness through the Beatitudes: “How blessed are those who know their need of God; the kingdom of God is theirs, etc.” Like Peter, who was called by Jesus to walk on the water to Him, we too are buffeted by the stormy sea of life. Christ the ever-vigilant and loving God, witnessing our predicament and the obstacles we face, invites us to come to Him and, extending His hand, supports and rescues us. This is the true Christ. This is the proper perspective.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NOTE OF THANKS**

I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to Father Stephen and Father Jerry for celebrating the beautiful Funeral Service for my father, +John Cramer. I would also like to thank Nancy Hlywiak and our Parish Choir for singing the beautiful responses and to all the faithful who offered words of sympathy and by their presence at the Service honored my Father. May God bless you all.

**Sandy Cramer**

**ENVELOPES FOR 2023** – The Church envelopes and Calendars for 2019 are ready and can be picked up in the back of the Church.

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES** – are expressed to Sandy Cramer on the falling asleep of the Lord of her father, +John Cramer. Services were celebrated this past Thursday. Please remember the soul of the newly departed servant of God, +John, asking God to place his soul in the abode of the Saints where there is no pain, sorrow nor mourning but only life everlasting. Please also remember to pray also for the family that God may give them His strength in this, their hour of need.

**DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON?** – Did you know that if you would get on Smile Amazon and choose our Parish as your beneficiary that Amazon would donate a percentage of your purchase to us? Search on Orthodox Wilmington and choose SS Peter & Paul Ukrainiaan (yes it is misspelled and we’ve tried to correct it). Try it and help our Parish Family benefit from your shopping experience!

## **MEETINGS**

**PARISH BOARD** – Wednesday, January 11 @ 6:30 PM



**SCHEDULING FOR THE PARISH** – Please remember that all events, work parties, use of the hall must be cleared through the calendar kept by Father Stephen so that dueling events may not occur.

### **READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

January 15 - Linda Hnatow  
January 22 - Thomas Sulpizi  
January 29 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick  
February 5 - Jean Roeth  
February 12 – John Plachuta  
February 19 - Andrew Duncan

### **GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

January 15 - David and Eve Lazaration  
January 22 – Zina Twardus and Nancy Tur  
January 30 - John and Sandy Cramer  
February 5 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik

### **PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPRING BAZAAR – MAKING PYROHY**

Saturday, January 21  
Saturday, February 4  
Saturday, February 25  
Saturday, March 11

**DONATIONS (CREDIT CARDS) ACCEPTED** – for those who are interested, we can accept donations to the Church through credit cards. See Mark Andreas or Lorraine Neff for details.

### **TENTATIVE CALENDER OF EVENTS**

Saturday, January 28 – Wine Tasting 6:00 PM  
Sunday, February 5 – ANNUAL MEETING  
Monday, February 27 – First Day of the Fast  
Saturday, April 1 – Spring Bazaar  
Sunday, April 16 – Paskha  
Sunday, April 23 – St. Thomas Sunday – Cemetery Visitations  
Sunday, May 14 – Mother's Day Dinner  
Sunday, June 18 – Father's Day Dinner  
Sunday, July 16 – Patronal Feastfay  
Saturday, August 5 – UOL Flea Market

**WINE TASTING** – Our Parish is sponsoring a wine tasting and pairing on Saturday, January 28 beginning at 6:00 PM. The wine will be paired with four courses of food: appetizers, a chicken, beef and pork, and seafood dishes, desserts. The donation will be \$35 per person, \$60 per couple. Please see Linda Hnatow or Father Stephen for advanced reservations.

### **CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

Week of January 16 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of January 23 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

Week of January 30 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

Week of February 6 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of February 13 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of February 20 - Mark & Laura Andreas

### **MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

(Please find a substitute if you cannot make a given week)

January 15 – Linda Hnatow and Matthew Andreas

January 22 - Linda Hnatow and Matthew Andreas

January 29 – Victor Kaliakin and Lorraine Neff

February 5 – Victor Kaliakin and Lorraine Neff



**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL** – Metropolitan Antony, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father George Bazylevsky, Father Vasyl Dovhan, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Mark Odell, Father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Matushka Andrejuk, Matushka Laura Odell, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Alicia, Nerry, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Galina, Dolores, Julian, Madison, Maria, Matt, Michele, Mykola, Penelope, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Irene Billon, Maria Borowski Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Peter DiVirgilio, James Dudrick, Kathleen Dugan, Margaret Durell, Mary Eagleton, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Archantula Fanjoy, James Garrett, Lisa Gee, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Richard Haslam, Rick Hastings, Celeste Heiser, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Alicia Hlywak, John Hlywak, John Hnatow, Michael Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Jennifer Huertes, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Michael Kapelus, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Walter Katolik, Diane Keyser, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Lorissa Kozakova, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Jeremy Madea, Andrew Makolynyk, Jean Marano, Frederick McCarthy, Beth McKirachan, Fred McKirachan, Stephen McNulty, Ronald Michel, Mary Ann Michalcewicz, Michelle Michalcewiz, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Linda Muldoon, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Lorraine Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Anthony Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Janylyn Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Daphne Pantelopulos, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Jeff Rozwadowski, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Isaac Schmidt, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Kimberly Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Natalia Stanford, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Noel Strobino, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczszyn, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Alexandra Sparco, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Mariel Trimble, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Stephen Wienkowitz, Laura Worley, Jack Ziegler & James Zook.

## THE IDEAL TIME FOR SPIRITUAL STRENGTH

**I**t took over three hundred years before Christianity became the official religion of the civilized world. Many lives were lost and many struggles were recorded. One guiding light during this critical point in Church history was SAINT SYLVESTER.

Sylvester was ordained Bishop of Rome at the age of 30. By his wise teachings and pious example, he led his flock to the pastures of salvation. Sylvester is remembered for the reformation of certain Christian customs. Among them, he is credited with abolishing fasting on Saturday. He decreed that only Holy Saturday and those Saturdays falling within fasting periods be observed.

Saint Sylvester's service occurred during the reign of Constantine the Great. The Emperor was not a Christian yet, but a pagan. Unlike the rulers before him, Constantine did not condone the brutal persecution of our Lord's followers. As time went on, he increased his interest in the Christian faith. Following a vision of Christ holding a banner with a cross and inscription reading, "In this sign conquer," Constantine was victorious in battle. It was Sylvester who was instrumental in the CONVERSION and BAPTISM of the Emperor and his mother, Helen.

Sylvester peacefully entered into the Heavenly Kingdom in the year 335. This was just 11 years after the founding of the Byzantine Empire. Thankfully, the triumph of our holy Faith was witnessed by this God-fearing servant.

*The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin* . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.