

**All Saints Orthodox Christian Church**  
**210 Susquehanna Ave. PO Box 207 Olyphant, PA. 18447**

**Fr. Paul Schellbach, Rector**

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**Office Hours: 9 AM-4 PM, Monday thru Friday**

**[www.allsaintsolyphant.org](http://www.allsaintsolyphant.org)**

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December 28, 2014

Sunday After Nativity

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**Nativity of Christ Potluck Today.** The last Sunday of every month will be a potluck (Fasting seasons apply).

**A big Thank you to everyone** who helped make a successful basket raffle this year.

**Next Sunday.** New January calendar, coffee hour schedule, and Reader's schedule. Monday evening, 1/5: Compline and water blessing. Tuesday morning, 1/6: Divine Liturgy and water blessing.

### **Why homes are blessed on Theophany?**

1. Houses are traditionally blessed with "Theophany water" each year. A house can be blessed at any time, but the usual season for yearly blessings is from Theophany until the beginning of the Lenten Triodion, which begins four Sundays before Great Lent begins. This is not a hard and fast rule, but a good rule of thumb.

2. Some people place great importance on "Theophany water". This is just water that has been blessed with the Great Blessing of the Waters service on Theophany. Another name for this water is simply "Holy Water". We can bless water any time of the year that there is a need for it.

3. Water is blessed using the "Great Blessing of the Waters" service two distinct times during Theophany: after Vespers on the Eve of Theophany and after the Divine Liturgy on Theophany. The blessings are identical, and the water is identical.

d. Upon finishing blessing the house, the family gathers again at the table, and a short litany is said for the welfare of the family. The priest should have been provided a list of all family members, including those who are ill.

It is a pious custom among some to give the priest a donation at this time, but this should never be thought of as a requirement. The priest comes to the home because he wants God's blessing to be upon it, and to know those in his flock better and to be available to them.

Please bring a friend, relative or someone new to Church. Invite them to coffee hour as well. It is always good to see new people in Church!

**Parish directory and shut in list on back table.** Some changes have been brought forward and will be updated before Pascha.

Please consider singing in the choir or teaching church school. **Please help us out.** See Reader David for singing. See Fr. Paul on helping for church school.

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Month of December Education Prayer Corner: *Troparion to the Nativity of Christ.*

Saturday Vespers 4PM; Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:30AM. Confessions available upon request.

Peroghis available Friday 9-11:30 & Sunday 11-12.

**Donations for 12/21.** Weekly: \$983. Loose: \$22. Tithes: \$980. 2<sup>nd</sup> collection, Sunday school: \$49. Donation from Dorothy Senio: \$25. Donation IMO William Maday from Mr. & Mrs. Peter Frenchko: \$10. Rectory renovation donations IMO William Maday from Linda Stuchlak: \$25. Ann & Joseph Schlasta: \$10. Rectory renovation donations IMO Robert Zarnosky by Peter & Theresa Zarnosky: \$50.

**Prayers:** Please inform Fr. Paul if you want someone remembered throughout the month. Please pray for Ann Schlasta after recovery from surgery. Please keep the Maday family members in your prayers.

Memory Eternal for the newly departed William Maday.

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If anyone would like to sponsor a bulletin in memory of someone please let Fr. Paul know.

Bulletin for December in memory of John Naughton.