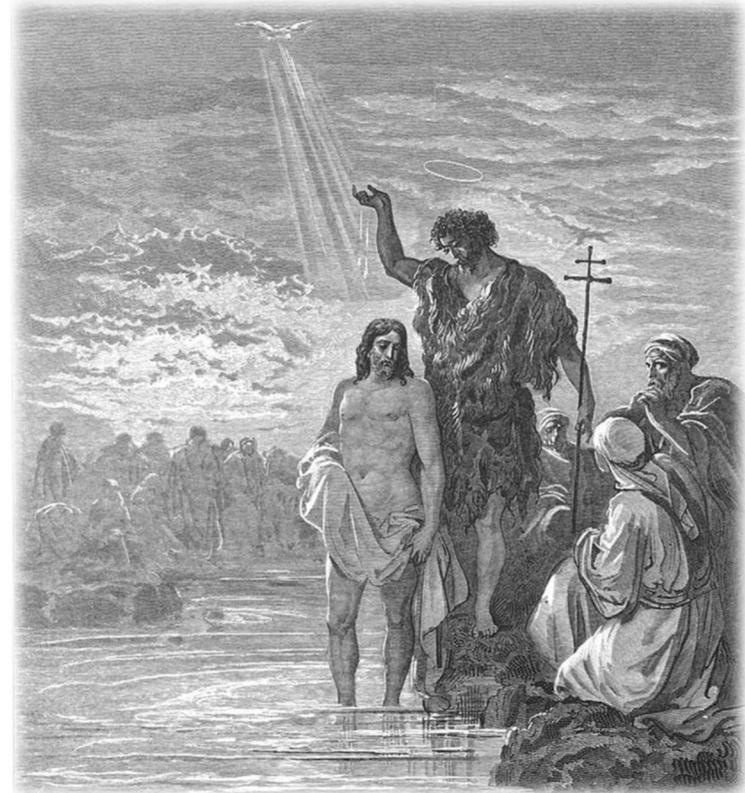


St. Nicholai of Zicha on Theophany

When our Lord reached thirty years from His physical birth, He began His teaching and salvific work. He Himself signified this "beginning of the beginning" by His baptism in the Jordan River. St. Cyril of Jerusalem says: "The beginning of the world is water; the beginning of the Gospel is the Jordan." At the time of the Baptism of the Lord in water, a mystery was declared to the world--the mystery that was prophesied in the Old Testament; the mystery that was known only in fables in ancient Egypt and India--the mystery of the Divine Holy Trinity. The Father was revealed to the sense of hearing, the Spirit was revealed to the sense of sight, and the Son was revealed to the sense of touch. The Father uttered His witness about the Son, the Son was baptized in the water, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove hovered above the water. When John the Baptist bore witness to Christ, saying: Behold, the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world (John 1:29), and when John immersed and baptized the Lord in the Jordan, the mission of Christ in the world and the path of our salvation were shown. That is to say, the Lord took upon Himself the sins of mankind and died under them (immersion) and rose again (the coming out of the water); and we must die to the old sinful man and rise again as cleansed, renewed, and regenerated. This is the Savior and this is the path of salvation. The Feast of the Theophany is also called the Feast of Illumination. The event in the Jordan River illuminates us by manifesting God to us as Trinity, consubstantial and undivided. That is one way that we are illumined. And the second way is that every one of us through baptism in water is illumined, in that we become adopted by the Father of Lights through the merits of the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit.

~ Words of St. Nicholai of Zicha, Former Rector of St. Tikhon's Seminary

"Let us Attend!"



"This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased ..."

A PARISH BULLETIN OF
ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Olyphant, Pennsylvania

9 January 2022 – Sunday After Theophany –

29th Sunday After Pentecost

Bulletin, Sunday, 9 January 2022

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 4. Afterfeast of Theophany. Sunday after Theophany. Martyr Polyuktos of Melitēnē in Armenia (259). Hieromartyr Philip, Metropolitan of Moscow and All Russia (1570). Prophet Shemaiah (Samaia, Semeias—3[4] Kings 12:22—10th c. B.C.). St. Peter, Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia (4th c.). St. Eustratius the Wonderworker (9th c.).

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7–13

Gospel: Matthew 4:12–17

Our souls and minds are strengthened and fortified by the regular reading of the Holy Scriptures. Daily readings can be found on the parish's wall calendar, or online by visiting the OCA's daily reading page <https://www.oca.org/readings>.

Schedule of Services:

Sunday, 9 January 2022: 30th Sunday After Pentecost. Sanctity of Life Sunday – Divine Liturgy, 9:30AM. Followed by Coffee Hour Agape.

Announcements ~We warmly welcome to back to All Saints Fr. Michael Shepherd, and we and thank Father for serving and preaching this morning. God grant you many blessed years.

~ A warm welcome as well to all visitors. Please join us for coffee hour Agape fellowship downstairs following the Liturgy.

~ On the Feast of Theophany we had the Great blessing of Waters. Please take a container of Holy Water to bring to your home. The Holy Water is given for the blessing of our homes, and for the health of our souls and bodies. St. Luke the Surgeon, a saint of the 20th Century, who was not only a bishop but a physician during the Soviet era told his flock:

“Drink Holy Water, the more often, the better. It is the best and most effective medicine. I'm not saying this as a priest, I'm saying it as a doctor, from my medical experience”.

~If you have not received a 2022 Calendar, copies are available at the Candle Desk.

~ Father Nicholas Solak will be blessing homes. To have your home blessed either sign-up on the sheet at the candle desk, or set up a time with Father Nicholas (570.350.1482).

~ Next Sunday is Sanctity of Life Sunday. Please see the Letter from His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon. As Orthodox Christians, we hold that all human life is sacred from the moment a child is conceived through the moment a soul departs from this life to be with the Lord.

Portion of the Prayer for the Great Blessing of Water

Grant this water the grace of redemption and the blessing of the Jordan. Make it a fount of incorruptibility, a gift of sanctification, a redemption of sins, a healing remedy for illness, and a destroyer of demons.

Make it immune to hostile powers, and fill it with angelic might so that all who drink and receive of it may be purified in soul and body, cured of ills, sanctified in their homes, and given every befitting grace...

Grant sanctification, blessing, cleansing, and health to all who touch it, are blessed with it, or who partake of it. O Lord, save your servants, our civil authorities. Keep them in peace within your protective shadow, granting them all their requests and eternal life. May your all-holy name be glorified by the elements, by men, by angels, by all that is visible or invisible, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.