



*Sunday January 01, 2017* 28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Cæsarea in Cappadocia (379). Sunday before Theophany. Martyr Basil of Ancyra (ca. 362).

**This Week's Schedule**

*Thursday 01/05 Theophany Eve Vigil 7:00 p.m.*

*Friday 01/06 **Blessed Theophany Liturgy 9:00 a.m.***

*Followed by the Great Blessing of Waters*

*Saturday 01/07 Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.*

*Sunday 01/08 Hours 8:40 a.m.*

***Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.***

*Followed by coffee hour*

**Reader Schedule**

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>3<sup>RD</sup> HOUR</u></b>	<b><u>6<sup>TH</sup> HOUR</u></b>	<b><u>EPISTLE</u></b>
Jan-1	LEWIS	SOUDER	BRASOWSKI
<b>Jan 6</b>	<b><i>THEOPHANY</i></b>		
Jan-8	BUNITSKY	BUNITSKY	CAREY
Jan-15	WALES	WALES	WALES
Jan-22	SULPIZI	SOUDER	FINCK

## **Hymns and Prayers**

### **Tone 3 Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

Let the heavens rejoice!  
Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.  
He has trampled down death by death.  
He has become the first born of the dead.  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
and has granted to the world//  
great mercy.

### **Tone 1 Troparion**      *(of the Feast)*

Enthroned on high with the Eternal Father and Your Divine Spirit,  
O Jesus, You willed to be born on earth of the unwedded handmaid,  
^your Mother.  
Therefore You were circumcised as an eight-day-old Child.  
Glory to Your most gracious counsel;  
glory to Your ^dispensation;//  
glory to Your condescension, O only Lover of mankind!

### **Tone 1 Troparion**      *(to St Basil)*

Your proclamation has gone out into all the earth,  
which was divinely taught by hearing your voice.  
You expounded the nature of creatures  
and ennobled the manners of men.  
O venerable Father of royal priesthood;//  
entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved!

### **Tone 4 Kontakion**      *(to St Basil)*

You were revealed as the sure foundation of the Church,  
granting all mankind a lordship which cannot be taken away,//  
sealing it with your precepts, O venerable Basil, revealer of heaven.

### **Tone 3 Kontakion**      *(of the Feast)*

The Lord of all accepts to be circumcised,  
thus, as He is good, He excises the sins of mortal men.  
Today He grants the world salvation,  
while light-bearing Basil, high priest of our Creator;//

rejoices in heaven as a divine initiate of Christ.

**Tone 6 Prokeimenon** (*Circumcision*)

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance! (*Ps 27/28:9*)

*v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps 27/28:1)*

**Tone 1 Prokeimenon** (*St Basil*)

*My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Ps 48/49:3)*

**Epistle 2 Timothy 4:5-8** (*Sunday before the Theophany*)

*But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

*For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.*

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

*Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

**Colossians 2:8-12** (*Circumcision*)

*Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.*

*For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.*

*In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.*

**Tone 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Your countenance upon us, and have mercy on us!. (Ps 66/67:1-2)*

v: *That we may know Your way upon the earth, and Your salvation among all nations. (Ps 66/67-3)*

**Tone 8**

v: *Give ear, O shepherd of Israel, You Who lead Joseph like a flock! (Ps 79/80:1)*

**Gospel Mark 1:1-8 (*Sunday before the Theophany*)**

*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.*

**Luke 2:20-21, 40-52 (*Circumcision*)**

*Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.*

*And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.*

*And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.*

*His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.*

*And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast.*

*When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances.*

*So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him.*

*Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.*

*And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.*

*So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously.*

*And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"*

*But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.*

*Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart.*

*And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.*

***(Instead of "It is truly meet ..." we sing the following)***

### **Hymn to the Theotokos**

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace:  
the assembly of Angels and the race of men.  
O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise,  
the glory of virgins,  
from whom God was incarnate and became a Child –  
our God before the ages.  
He made your body into a throne,  
and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens.  
All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace.//  
Glory to you!

### **Communion Hymns**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)  
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. (*Ps 111/112:6b-7a*)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### **This Week's Announcement**

***Theophany (Baptism) of our Lord*** The feast of Theophany, means the shining forth and manifestation of God, The emphasis in the present day celebration is on the appearance of Jesus as the human Messiah of Israel and the divine Son of God, One of the Holy Trinity with the Father and

the Holy Spirit. Thus, in the baptism by John in the Jordan, Jesus identifies himself with sinners as the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (Jn 1:29), the “Beloved” of the Father whose messianic task it is to redeem men from their sins (Lk 3:21, Mk 1:35). We will celebrate this blessed feast on the eve of Theophany, Thursday, Jan 5th at 7:00 p.m. Vigil then on Friday January 6th Theophany Divine liturgy at 9:00 a.m. followed by the Great Blessing of Waters.

***House Blessings Schedule*** Fr. Barnabas will be offering home blessings following the feast of Theophany. Please see the signup in the Narthex.

***Study Group Nativity Break*** Our Study group will be taking a break for Nativity and Theophany. We will meet again on Thursday January 12 at 10 a.m. All are welcome to join us.

***Parish Giving*** As we progress to the diocesan proportional giving of 10% of our operating budget to the National and Diocesan Church, our individual assessments for 2017 are changing. With the approval of our 2017 budget in October, we committed to a level 2 giving as a parish. Although we encourage all to give proportionally, the individual assessment equates to \$166 per adult for this year or \$41.50 per quarter. Envelopes are available in the Narthex if you wish to use them as a reminder. Thank you for your continued support.

### **St. Syncletica, Desert Mother & Abbess**

*We know that monastics practice poverty. They voluntarily give up possessing, owning, and striving to acquire. But on January 5 we remember a monastic saint who cautioned aspiring monastics against being too quick to embrace poverty.*

Saint Syncletica (called "Amma" just as the desert fathers were called "Abba") was born to a prominent family in Alexandria in the fourth century, and was one of the women who went to the desert to live a life free from distractions and close to God. Though such women were few in number, they faithfully followed the example of Abba Anthony (Saint Anthony the Great) and others in fasting strictly, praying intensely, and inspiring those who came to them for counsel or to join them in asceticism. Many, like Saint Syncletica, received spiritual gifts of discernment and healing.

Synclitica was approached by great numbers of women who hoped to become monastics. Because she had the gift of discernment she perceived that some of them, though they were full of enthusiasm, were not ready to take on the rigorous discipline of poverty. They had been comfortable and not at all deprived in their lives.

Synclitica knew that if they simply threw away their possessions without taking the "proper prerequisites" they would "be like one who squanders her goods without careful deliberation, only to repent of her rashness."

What were the "proper prerequisites" that Synclitica considered to be so important? They were things such as fasting, sleeping on the ground and other bodily hardships. These, she said, must come first. They would prepare a woman for the hard discipline of poverty, which should come last of all. She pointed out that Our Lord, in talking to the rich young man (Mark 10:21), did not ask him to take on poverty first, but instead recounted the commandments. Only when He was sure that the young man had been seriously observing those did He say that the one thing lacking, the next thing to be done, was to become poor. It was Christ who said that poverty was to come last.

Saint Synclitica recognized that poverty is a strong defense against the devil and his temptations, because the devil's great weapon is to make us fear the loss of something we value. Those who have given up everything, who have no attachments to things, can't be threatened with the loss of anything. At the same time, she warned that greed is a terrible sickness, because once we want a little bit of something, our desire grows and grows, so that we always want more. Desire can consume us just as much as the fear of loss can. Poverty and greed are not things that only monastics should consider, of course. The new year gives all of us a new chance to think about what we have and what we want, and to determine whether our priorities are in line with the teachings of Christ, so memorably reflected in the words of Saint Synclitica.

*This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America.*

*This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.*

**Prayers for the Departed:** Nabil Gouda, Dolores Kozak, Jesse Jones, Ardythe Hope, Joseph Wojceichowski, Sofia Puit

**Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need:**, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Lemlem Resat, Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, Agnes Timchak, Olga Riley, Anna Hotrovich, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Maria Current, Anna Herko, Zack Bajuyo, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, Maria and Doug Dozier, Mary Anne Farrell, Michael Vannello, Catalina(Mary) & Jeremy (John) Finck, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Carson, Stephen, Maria, Aiden, Peck Family, Walter Danchenka, Anne Peck

**For Women and the Child to be Born:** Tatyana Klimova

<b>Date</b>	<b><u>Coffee Hour</u></b>	<b><u>Service Duty</u></b>	<b><u>Church Cleaner</u></b>	<b><u>Library</u></b>
<b>1-Jan</b>	LaChance /Shatley /Hines	Hojnicki/Souder	Baldychev/Shatley/Sylvest	Skomorucha
<b>8-Jan</b>	Sulpizi /Skomorucha	Sheeler/Baldychev	Sulpizi	Maloney
<b>15-Jan</b>	Souder /Riley	Bunitsky/Lewis	Riley	Lewis
<b>22-Jan</b>	Peck/Wales	Elia/ Morjana	Bunitsky	Gundersen
<b>29-Jan</b>	Hojnicki/Flynn/Roberts	Riley	Farrell	Farrell

**ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>VESPERS and LITURGY</b>
Jan-1	Team George
Jan-6	THEOPHANY SHARED
Jan-8	Team Conover
Jan-15	Team Gabriel
Jan-22	Team George
Jan-29	Team Conover

Last Week's attendance

Dec. 24 Vespers:89 Dec. 25 Liturgy:96