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# **St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church**

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**Sunday January 3, 2020** 30th SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST – Tone 5. Forefeast of the Theophany.  
Sunday before Theophany. Holy Prophet Malachi (400  
B.C.). Martyr Gordius at Cæsarea in Cappadocia (4th c.).  
Ven. Genevieve of Paris (5th c.).

## **This Week's Schedule**

**Wednesday 1/6** Holy Theophany Streaming only

**Saturday 1/9** Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday 1/10** 31st Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

Followed by the Great Blessing of Water

*\*Please Note Services will also stream Online\**

## **Reader Schedule**

| <b>DATE</b> | <b>3<sup>RD</sup> HOUR</b> | <b>6<sup>th</sup> Hour</b> | <b>EPISTLE</b> |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Jan-3       | LEWIS                      | SKOMORUCHA                 | LEWIS          |
| Jan 6       | <b>HOLY THEOPHANY</b>      |                            |                |
| Jan-10      | DORAZIO                    | BUNITSKY                   | CAREY          |
| Jan-17      | PECK                       | PECK                       | PECK           |

## Hymns and Prayers

### **Tone 5 Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,  
to endure death,  
and to raise the dead//  
by His glorious Resurrection.

### **Tone 4 Troparion**      *(Forefeast)*

Prepare, O Zebulon,  
and adorn yourself, O Naphtali!  
River Jordan, cease flowing,  
and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized!  
Adam, rejoice with our first Mother,  
and do not hide yourselves as you did of old in Paradise;  
for having seen you naked,  
He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment//  
Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

### **Tone 5 Kontakion**      *(Resurrection)*

You descended into hell, O my Savior,  
shattering its gates as Almighty,  
resurrecting the dead as Creator,  
and destroying the sting of death.  
You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,//  
and we cry to You: “O Lord, save us!”

### **Tone 4 Kontakion**      *(Prophet Malachi)*

Endowed with the gift of prophecy, O Malachi,  
you clearly proclaimed the saving coming of Christ to the world.//  
His brightness has brought light to the whole universe.

### **Tone 4 Kontakion**      *(Forefeast)*

Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:

“Do not be afraid to baptize Me.//  
For I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

**Tone 6 Prokeimenon** (*Sunday before*)

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

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

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

*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 loved His appearing.*

**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. 66:1)*

*V. That we may know Your way upon the earth, and Your salvation among all the nations. (Ps. 66:2)*

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

*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."*

## **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### **This Week's Announcements**

*\*Fr. Barnabas has had close contact with a Covid-19 case and needs to observe another quarantine. As per the diocesan policy and procedures, Fr. Barnabas will quarantine for the next week to prevent any possible unknown spread. We will not be able to serve the Theophany services this week but plan to be back to services next weekend and will bless Holy Water next . We will still have in person services at St. Michael's January 4th with Fr. Deacon James Carpenter leading the Sunday Typika at 9:00 a.m. \**

***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). \*Due to Fr. Barnabas' quarantine we ask that everyone follow the online streaming services of one of our sister parishes on Jan. 6th (Theophany).\* We will offer the Great Blessing of Waters next Sunday Jan. 10 following Liturgy. We plan to have several bottles of Holy Water prepared ahead of time for the faithful to take home.

***Holy Synod of Bishops issues Encyclical of Hope*** On Thursday, December 31, 2020, the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America has issued an encyclical entitled, “We Rejoice Even in Tribulation”: An Encyclical of Hope. The Holy Synod offers this work out of love and gratitude to its faithful at the end of this year. The Synod also intends for the encyclical to be seen as an encouragement for the year to come. In the encyclical, the Synod seeks to find meaning in the year that has past, which has been marked by a pandemic, political polarization, economic anxiety, and civil unrest, and calls the faithful to a renewed faith and hope in Jesus Christ, and service to one another. Presently the encyclical is available as a PDF for download here <https://www.oca.org/holy-synod/encyclicals/encyclical-hope> . In January 2021, printed copies will be mailed to all parishes, monasteries, and institutions of the Orthodox Church in America. ***Please take the extra time and read this important document!***

***Gift Cards for Veterans*** We are now collecting money for Acme gift cards for the needy and homeless veterans. Please give or send your checks (marked VETS) to St. Michaels. We will buy gift cards to deliver to Veterans Hospital. Contact Ellen Gundersen (ellengundersen5@gmail.com). The last day to donate to Veterans gift card will be January 10<sup>th</sup>.

***Online Streaming Help*** We are currently look for help with our live streaming services. Please see Thaddeus (Scott) Lewis if you are willing to help.

***Study Group*** Our study group will be taking a break for Nativity and Theophany. We will resume on Thurs. Jan 14 with chapter 17 of St. Matthew.

***Sacraments for Those Staying Home*** Recognizing the need for many to quarantine due to the deadliness of the pandemic, Fr. Barnabas is available to meet individually on Wednesdays and Fridays to offer Confession and Communion for those still at home. Fr. Barnabas is also willing to meet in other creative ways , like on your porch, to assure everyone remains connected. Please email or call the office to set up a time for the Sacraments.

**Questions Everyone Should ask themselves Before coming to In-Person Worship:** Do you have a fever, cough, shortness of breath, and

or trouble breathing? Persistent pain, pressure or tightness in chest? Any recent loss of taste/smell or gastrointestinal upset? Any contact with anyone with C-19? **If you answer YES to any of these questions you should stay at home.**

### *Wisdom from the Holy Fathers*

*Saint Basil the Great On the Holy Tradition and Holy Mysteries:*

*“...For instance, to take the first and most general example, who is thence who has taught us in writing to sign with the sign of the cross those who have trusted in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ? What writing has taught us to turn to the East at the prayer? Which of the saints has left us in writing the words of the invocation at the displaying of the bread of the Eucharist and the cup of blessing? For we are not, as is well known, content with what the apostle or the Gospel has recorded, but both in preface and conclusion we add other words as being of great importance to the validity of the ministry, and these we derive from unwritten teaching.*

*Moreover we bless the water of baptism and the oil of the chrism, and besides this the catechumen who is being baptized. On what written authority do we do this? Is not our authority silent and mystical tradition? Nay, by what written word is the anointing of oil itself taught? And whence comes the custom of baptizing thrice? And as to the other customs of baptism from what Scripture do we derive the renunciation of Satan and his angels? Does not this come from that unpublished and secret teaching which our fathers guarded in a silence out of the reach of curious meddling and inquisitive investigation?*

*Well had they learnt the lesson that the awful dignity of the mysteries is best preserved by silence. What the uninitiated are not even allowed to look at was hardly likely to be publicly paraded about in written documents.”*

*Saint Basil the Great On charity:*

*“The bread which you do not use is the bread of the hungry; the garment hanging in your wardrobe is the garment of him who is naked; the shoes*

*that you do not wear are the shoes of the one who is barefoot; the money that you keep locked away is the money of the poor; the acts of charity that you do not perform are so many injustices that you commit.”*

*“When someone steals another's clothes, we call them a thief. Should we not give the same name to one who could clothe the naked and does not? The bread in your cupboard belongs to the hungry; the coat unused in your closet belongs to the one who needs it; the shoes rotting in your closet belong to the one who has no shoes; the money which you hoard up belongs to the poor.” “*

*“It is easier to measure the entire sea with a tiny cup than to grasp the ineffable greatness of God with the human mind”*

*Saint Basil the Great*

*“Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has and this requires transforming greed into gratitude.*

*St. John Chrysostom*

*“There would be no need for sermons if our lives were shining; there would be no need for words if we bore witness with our deeds; there would be no more pagans if we were true Christians.”*

*St John Chrysostom*

*“The Lord sometimes allows people who are devoted to Him to fall into such dreadful vices; and this is in order to prevent them from falling into a still greater sin-pride. Your temptation will pass, and you will spend the remaining days of your life in humility. Only do not forget your sin.”*

*St. Seraphim of Sarov*

*“In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possession and human success, but rather on how much we have loved.”*

*St. John of the Cross*

**Prayers for the Departed:** Metropolitan Theodosius, Archbishop David, Barbara Hicks

**Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need:** Fr. John Zabinko, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Myra Kovalak, Lemlem Resat, Olga Riley, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Luke Wales, Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Maria & Doug Dozier, Mona Elia, Mary Anne Farrell, Stephanie Hojnicky, Harry Kutch, Dimitrios Jim Petrides, Albert Shock, Elizabeth Melnik, Alexandra Grishin, Sam Sylvest, Paula Daubert, Elizabeth Clause, Jamie Clause, David Telep

**Prayers for Catechmens** Kristin Mackenzie,, Andrew Ashton

| <b>Date</b>   | <b><u>Service Duty</u></b> | <b><u>Church Cleaner</u></b> |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>3-Jan</b>  | Bunitsky/Morjana           | Sulpizi                      |
| <b>10-Jan</b> | Riley/Riley                | Riley                        |
| <b>17-Jan</b> | Sulpiz                     | Bunitsky/Finck               |

**Upcoming Dates to Keep in Mind**

**Theophany Jan. 6th**

**Entrance of our Lord into the Temple Feb. 2nd**

**Important Dates for 2021**

**Great Fast Begins.....March 15th**

**Holy Pascha..... May 2nd**

**Ascension.....June 10th**

**Pentecost.....June 20th**