

about 50 minutes of court time, with each game lasting 10 minutes. If you haven't done so, please confirm with Nathan, if you are still planning on attending, so he has an accurate count.

2024 Church Calendars

The 2024 Church calendars are available on the candle stand. Please cross your name off the directory. If it is not on it, kindly right it on the last page.

Benevolent Fund

We are in need of funds to offer Christmas gifts to our fellow parishioners who are shut-ins and are unable to attend services. We will have a basket in the narthex following services. If you know of anyone in need from our community, please see Fr. Dennis.

Saints of the Day

Saint John the Baptist: *Because John's main role in his life was played out on the day of the Theophany (Epiphany), the Church has from earliest times dedicated the day following Theophany to his memory. An incident with the hand of the Forerunner is also linked to this feast. The Evangelist Luke desired to remove the body of John from Sebaste, where the great prophet was beheaded by Herod, to Antioch, his place of birth. He succeeded, though, in acquiring and translating only one hand, which was preserved in Antioch until the tenth century. After this it was transferred to Constantinople, where it disappeared during the time of the Turks.*

Feasts of St. John are celebrated several times throughout the year, but this day, January 7, Among the Gospel personalities who surround the Savior, John the Baptist occupies a totally unique place by the manner of his entry into the world, and by the manner of his life in this world; by his role in baptizing people for repentance; by his baptizing the Messiah; and, finally, by his tragic departure from this life. He was of such moral purity that, in truth, he could be called an angel—as Holy Scripture calls him—rather than a mortal man. St. John especially differs from all other prophets in that he had that privilege of being able, with his hand, to show the world Him about Whom he prophesied.

Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

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January 7, 2024

Sunday Holy Scripture Reading

Apostolic Reading: Acts 19:1-8

Gospel: St. John 1:29-34

Services: *Sunday*-8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy, *Weekdays* 8 a.m. Orthros and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy when scheduled.

Saints of the Day: Sunday After Theophany. The Synaxis of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; Julian the deacon; Hieromartyr Romanos; New-martyr Athanasios of Attalia; Venerable Brannock of Branton.

Order of Services

1. **First Antiphon: with Festal verses**

2. **Second Antiphon: with Festal verses**

Save us, O Son of God, who were baptized in the Jordan by John. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐν Ἰορδάνῃ ὑπὸ Ἰωάννου βαπτισθεῖς, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλοῦἰα.

Third Antiphon with verses

As You were baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, then the worship of the Trinity became manifest, for the voice of the Father bore witness to You, naming You the Beloved Son; and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ God, who appeared and illumined the world, glory to You.

After the Entrance

Apolytikion of the Resurrection Tone 6

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

Apolytikion: “As You were baptized . . .”

Apolytikion for St. John the Baptist Tone 2

The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you suffices the testimony of the Lord, O Forerunner. You have proved to be truly more venerable than the Prophets, since you were granted to baptize in the river the One whom they proclaimed. Therefore, when for the truth you had contested, rejoicing, to those in Hades you preached the Gospel, that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sin of the world, and grants to us the great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Archangels Tone 4

Supreme Commanders of the Hosts of the Heavens, we, the unworthy, implore and beseech You that by Your supplications You encircle us in the shelter of the wings of Your immaterial glory, guarding us who now fall down and cry to You with fervor: Deliver us from dangers of all kinds, as the great marshals of the heavenly hosts on high.

Kontakion for Theophany Tone 4

You appeared today to us * on earth, O Master, * and Your light was signed on us * who cry aloud to You and say * with understanding, O Christ our God: You came and shone forth, O Light unapproachable.

Instead of “Holy God . . .”

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Instead of “Axion Estin . . .” Tone 2

O my soul, magnify the ever-virgin Maid who from the curse has redeemed us.

O all spotless Bride, surpassing comprehension * are the wonders of your childbirth, blessed Mother! * Through you obtaining comprehensive salvation, * we bring you a gift in striking up this worthy * hymn of gratitude to you our Benefactress.

Communion Hymn Psalm 111/112

The righteous will be remembered for ever. Alleluia

Instead of “Ἐἶδομεν τό φῶς . . .

As You were baptized . . .

Divine Services

Wed. Jan. 10: Paraklesis 5pm

Sat. Jan. 13: Great Vespers 5pm

Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church

Holy Communion of the Orthodox Church is the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is “*With the fear of God, faith and love*” that we approach the Divine Mysteries. Therefore, Holy Communion is reserved only for those baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians who have prepared

themselves by prayer and fasting, as prescribed by the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church. We ask that women, before approaching to receive from the Holy Cup, in respect of our Lord, to please remove lipstick.

Church Bookstore

A special thank you to all those who purchased items from the bookstore this year. Your purchases help to procure more items and provide a well-stocked bookstore for our parishioners and guests. *A little spiritual reading or study, when carried out prior to prayer, is very helpful because the soul is warmed and the mind is transported to the spiritual realm. ~ St. Paisios of Mount Athos*

Stewardship 2024

Following services on Sunday, December 3, our Chairperson Ruxandra Georgescu offered some words of inspiration for us to be faithful stewards of the Church. Please see Ruxandra for a 2024 packet.

Adult Ed Catechism Class

Following services and coffee hour on January 14, we will gather in the church for a half hour or so. *All are welcomed to attend!*

Coffee Hour Signup

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour. Donations are welcome!

Jan. 7: Dabit Family

Jan. 14: Vasiliades Family

Jan 21: Anna Conkel

Jan. 28: Sponsor Needed

Memorial Service

This morning we remember in our prayers the departed servant of God +Andrew Dabit on the 6 month anniversary of his repose. *Everlasting be his memory!*

Church School

Church School will resumed on Sunday, Sept. 10. Please see Sara LaBrie for more information. Please allow the Church School students receive Holy Communion first as meets then. The Church School children will offer Christmas Carols following service next Sunday.

Home Blessings

It is a tradition to have our homes and/or our business blessed by the priest every year following the celebration of Theophany on January 6. This practice allows us to bring the feast to our homes and have them sanctified (made holy) with the sprinkling of the Great Blessing of Water. You may schedule a convenient time with Fr. Dennis after Jan. 6.

WhirlyBall Outing for 20-30-Somethings(ish)

We have a reservation for 12:00 (noon) on Saturday, January 13, at WhirlyBall (3971 Palmer Park Blvd). Please arrive as close to noon as you can, as we need to check in, sign our waivers, and be given the rules. We will then have