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

2300 W. Huntington Dr.

Wilmington, DE 19808

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**Sunday January 6, 2019** 32nd SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST – *Tone 7. THE HOLY THEOPHANY  
OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.*  
*Ven. Macarius of Mt. Athos (1431).*

## **This Week's Schedule**

*Wednesday 1/9 Little Angels 9:30 a.m.*

*Thursday 1/10 Study Group 10 :00 a.m.*

*Saturday 1/12 Great Vesper 5:00 p.m.*

*Sunday 1/13 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-6	LEWIS	SOUDER	LEWIS
Jan-13	BUNITSKY	BUNITSKY	CAREY
Jan-20	WALES	WALES	WALES
Jan-27	SOUDER	PECK	PECK
Feb 2	MEETING OF THE LORD		

## **Hymns and Prayers**

### **The First Antiphon**

When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, (*Ps.113/114:1*)

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion. (*ibid.*, v. 2): *Refrain*

The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back. (*ibid.*, v. 3): *Refrain:*

What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou didst flee? Thou Jordan, that thou didst turn back? (*ibid.*, v. 5): *Refrain*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

### **The Second Antiphon**

I love the Lord because He has heard my voice and my supplication.  
(*Ps.114/116:1/1*)

*Refrain:* O Son of God, baptized in the Jordan, save us who sing to thee:  
Alleluia.

Because He inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live. (*ibid.*, v. 2) *Refrain:*

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish, then I called on the name of the Lord.  
(*ibid.*, vv. 3-4) *Refrain:*

Gracious and righteous is the Lord; our God is merciful. (*ibid.*, v. 5):  
*Refrain*

*Only Begotten Son...*

### **The Third Antiphon**

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.  
(Ps. 117/118:1)

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

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan,  
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.  
For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee,  
and called Thee His beloved Son;  
and the Spirit in the form of a dove  
confirmed the truthfulness of His word.  
O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself//  
and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Let the house of Israel now confess that the Lord is good; for His mercy endures forever. (*ibid.*, v. 2) *Troparion of the Feast*

Let the house of Aaron now confess that the Lord is good; for His mercy endures forever. (*ibid.*, v. 3) *Troparion of the Feast*

Let those who fear the Lord now confess that the Lord is good; for His mercy endures forever. (*ibid.*, v. 4) *Troparion of the Feast*

#### **Entrance Verse**

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord; God is the Lord and He has revealed Himself to us. (Ps. 117/118:26, 27)

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

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan,  
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.  
For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee,  
and called Thee His beloved Son;  
and the Spirit in the form of a dove  
confirmed the truthfulness of His word.  
O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself//  
and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

#### **Tone 4 Kontakion of the Feast**

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord,  
and the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us.

Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises.  
Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, //  
O unapproachable Light.

*(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)*

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

#### **Tone 4 Prokeimenon**

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. (Ps 117:26:27)

*v: O give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever. (Ps 117:1)*

#### **Epistle: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7**

*For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*

#### **Tone 4 Alleluia**

*v: Bring to the Lord, O ye sons of God, bring to the Lord young rams. (Ps 28:1)*

*v: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord upon many waters. (Ps 28:3)*

#### **Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17**

*Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.*

*And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"*

*But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.*

*When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.*

*And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*

### **Hymn to the Theotokos)**

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos,  
more honorable than the heavenly hosts.

No tongue knows how to praise thee worthily, O Theotokos;  
even Angels are overcome with awe praising thee.

But since thou art good, accept our faith;  
for thou knowest our love inspired by God.

Thou art the defender of Christians, and we magnify thee.

### **Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)**

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men. (*Titus 2:11*)  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

***Theophany (Baptism) of our Lord*** Epiphany means shining forth or manifestation. The feast is often called, as it is in the Orthodox service books, Theophany, which 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). Today's Liturgy will be followed by the Blessing of Water.

**Holy Water and Home Blessings** Holy water will be available following next week's liturgy. Fr. Barnabas will also be available for home blessings, please see Fr. Barnabas or Mat. Daria for scheduling.

**Study Group** Our study group will meet this Thursday, January 10 at 10 a.m. We will continue reading and discussing the Sermon on the Mount in the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of St. Matthew. All are welcome to join us.

**Family Promise** We'll be co-hosting Family Promise January 14, 15 and 17 at St Philips Lutheran Church, 5320 Limestone Rd, Wilmington 19808. Please sign up on the Family Promise board in narthex. We will serve home cooked meals and share fellowship with 4 homeless families in our community. Please see Ellen Gundersen or email her at puffins1000@gmail.com with questions.

**Cupola Work Begins** Our cupola renovation project is underway. Two weeks ago, the main cross was removed for duplication and in the coming weeks the main cupola will be removed, evaluated, and restored. We will also have some widows and siding replaced. Please see Jeff Kendall or Ed Hojnicky for any questions or updates on the progress.

**Parish Council Meeting** Parish Council will meet this Thursday Jan 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Please see Jeff Kendall if you are unable to attend.

### **Using the Gift of Speech**

*In his letter the Apostle James Writes about the gift of speech (3:1-4:6). He describes the power speech can have for good or evil, depending on how we use it. Though the tongue is a very small instrument, he writes, it is a fire, and even a huge forest can be set ablaze by a tiny fire.*

*James strikingly contrasts the two ways we can use our tongues to speak: "With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine yield figs? No more can salt water yield fresh" (3:9-12).*

*But it is not only the way we speak that's important. We also need to be sure that the particular words we choose are meaningful, and faithful to the truth. Empty words, meaningless chattering words, are a waste of the gift of speech, and lies of course are violations of the purpose of speech. One saint who wrote about the need for meaningful and truthful words is Hilary of Poitiers.*

*Born in Poitiers, France, Hilary had an excellent education which included Greek—unusual for a fourth-century Western European. Married and a father, he was so admired in Poitiers that he was elected bishop in about 353. But only three years later he was banished to Phrygia for several years. This was the result of his arguments against heretical Arian teachings. His writings, and his defense of Saint Athanasius, were so compelling that he is sometimes called the "Athanasius of the West." But the emperor was not pleased and allowed Hilary's enemies to banish him.*

*Even in exile, Hilary continued to govern his diocese in France. It was during this time that he studied some of the Eastern Fathers' writings and deepened his understanding of the Church's teachings about the Trinity. This enabled him to write about the importance of using the right words, both meaningful and true, to speak about the Three Divine Persons: "For one to attempt to speak of God in terms more precise than He Himself has used—to undertake such a thing is to embark upon the boundless, to dare the incomprehensible. He fixed the names of His nature: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Whatever is sought over and above this is beyond the limits of perception, beyond the embrace of understanding."*

*Saint Hilary would object to the modern effort to find words other than Father, Son and Holy Spirit to identify the Persons of the Trinity. He would agree with James that words and speech are important, because both have been given to us by God.*

From the feast of St. Hilary...

*"... that we should always and in all places give thanks, pay our vows, and consecrate our gifts to Thee, O Holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God. Who of old didst choose Thy blessed confessor Hilary for Thyself to be a prelate of sanctified confession, shining brightly with radiance vast, mighty in the meekness of his ways, burning with the fervour of his faith, flowing with the fountain of his speech. For the One in Whom his glory lay, is revealed by the multitudes thronging his sepulchre, the purification of those that hasten to it, the healing of the diseased there, the signs of astonishing miracles..."*

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:** Archpriest Joseph Martin, Virginia Sekerak Marie Holowatch, Maria Proch, Mark Gundersen, John Berket, George Sarmousakis, Alfred Mokhiber, Helen Bunitsky and Mary Varner.

**Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need:** Fr. John Zabinko, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Fr. John Nightingale, Fr. Deacon James Carpenter, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Lemlem Resat, Peter Melnik, Olga Riley, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Maria & Doug Dozier, Mona Elia, Mary Anne Farrell, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Benjamin, Patrica, Lubov Baldychev, Stephanie Hojnicky, Michael Sinovich, Laura Cristina Najemy, Harry Kutch, Dimitrios Jim Petrides, Catalina Mary Finck, Infant John David Finck

**Prayers for Catechumen:** Robert Jaquette

**Prayers for Women and the Child to be born:** Ruth Kendall

<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>6-Jan</b>	C. Peck/Sulpizi/ Skomorucha	Riley/Riley	Farrell	Gundersen
<b>13-Jan</b>	Whalen/Clause/Gabriel	Sulpizi/Finck	Clause/Whalen	Farrell
<b>20-Jan</b>	J. Peck/Sue Dorazio	Hojnicky/Souder	Skomorucha/Lewis Kiflemarian	Skomoruch
<b>27-Jan</b>	Hamwi/Morjana	Telep/Baldychev	S. Peck	Maloney
<b>3-Feb</b>	Najemy/Kendall	Bunitsky/Morjana	N. Carey	Gundersen