



**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church
(St. Mary's)**

**6719 Token Valley Road
Manassas, VA 20112
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Reverend Alexander Dumenko — Pastor (301) – 421 – 1739

Sunday Divine Liturgies: 8:30 a.m.

Holy Days as scheduled in the Bulletin

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

January 02, 2022

Sunday, January 02, 2022 Sunday before Theophany

08:00 – Confession/Mattins; 08:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for healing of Bruce Witter from Martha & John Stine

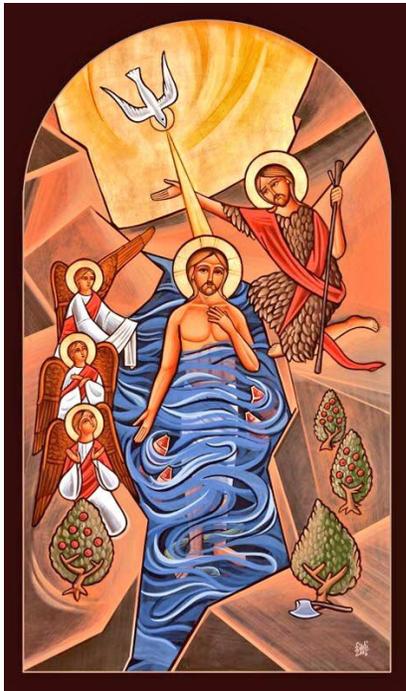
Sunday, January 09, 2022 Sunday after Theophany

08:00 – Confession/Mattins; 08:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for special intention of Fr. Deacon Orlando Barros from Martha & John Stine

Solemn Blessing of Water

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Sunday before Theophany



In order to begin his work, Christ prepares the ground with the preaching of St. John the Baptist. Without preparation, nothing that ought to happen is able to happen, in anything. The same occurs even with the work of Christ. St. John the Forerunner comes and urges men to prepare themselves, because the kingdom of God is approaching: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand". He calls them to repentance, and in this way prepares them to receive Christ the Saviour, to listen to his word, and to believe it.

If even for the work of Christ certain preparation is needed, how much more is needed for the spiritual work in our own souls? Many Christians seek to spiritually build up their souls, but do this without preparation. They prefer things a bit casual and superficial. And because of this they become tired and are not benefitted.

The hour in which you stand in the presence of God – either to pray or to confess or whatever else – you need to prepare yourself a little: you can read or listen to something, so as to warm, to sweeten, your soul and for you to be humbled a bit, to see yourself, to see your sin, and to repent. Then, you will talk to God differently, will communicate with him differently. God will hear you, differently. So why do we flee this preparation? Because it grieves the old man that we carry around within us. However, if we seriously consider this theme, the road of authentic life in Christ will open. *Source: orthodoxpath.org*

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY

Troparion (7): By Your cross You destroyed death; You opened Paradise to the thief; You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy, and charged the apostles to proclaim that You are risen, O Christ our God, offering great mercy to the world.

Troparion (4): Make ready, O Zabulon, and prepare yourself, O Nephtali; O river Jordan, stop and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized. O Adam, rejoice with the first mother, Eve, and do not hide yourselves as before in paradise. For, having seen you unclothed, Christ has appeared to clothe you with the first robe: He has appeared to renew all creation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever: Amen. Kontakion (4): Today the Lord stood in Jordan's current telling John: Do not be afraid to baptize Me, for I have come to save Adam, the first man.

Prokimenon:(6): Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance. **Verse:** To You, O Lord, I call; my God, be not deaf to me. **Prokimenon (6):** Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

Epistle: Reading of the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy. (2Tim 4,5-8) Timothy, my son, be self-possessed in all circumstances; put up with hardship; perform the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on, the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

Alleluia Verses: Verse: O God, be gracious to us and bless us. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Verse: May Your face shed its light upon us and have mercy on us. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel: (Mk 1,1-8) The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'" John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the holy Spirit."

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022

At the end of a bad year, it is tempting to be pessimistic about life and even grow in despair. This is especially the case when we surround ourselves with negative news headlines every day, seeing all the death, destruction and deceit that happens in the world. Yet, it is important to remember that “bad news” does not have the final word. As we conclude the calendar year, may we not let the news dictate our lives, but place our hope firmly in Jesus Christ, who alone is capable of conquering every obstacle. May our Divine Savior, the Prince of Peace, bring you all the joys of this holy season, and bless you with health and prosperity in the New Year 2022; and may we ask the newly born Babe of Bethlehem to put an end to this devastating Pandemic and bring universal peace and renewed health to all nations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! Our warmest greetings are extended once again to all visitors and guests who are participating in Divine Liturgy. It is always a joy to have you praying with us. After the service please do not hesitate to introduce yourself to Fr. Alexander and our parishioners and find out more about our faith and our parish.

The Feast of the Theophany (“manifestation as God”) of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ celebrates that, when our Lord was baptized in the Jordan, the Holy Spirit descended upon Him, and the Father proclaimed that Jesus was His Only Begotten Son. Though in America it is overshadowed by Christmas, the Theophany is at least as important to us as Christians. As part of the feast, we have the Great Blessing of Water, which recalls all the ways God has worked salvation through water, culminating in the Lord’s baptism—which points to his descent into death and rising on the third day. Water will be solemnly blessed next Sunday after service. Please bring jars/containers for Holy Water. Thank you!

Reminder: There is NO FASTING between Christmas and Theophany! Faithful are obliged to fast ONLY on the Eve of the Theophany on January 5th .

Sunday Coffee Hour! We invite everyone to come to the church hall for refreshment after the service, and we encourage you to participate by bringing pastries/sandwiches for coffee hour on Sunday. May God bless us all!

Support your Church You may send your donations to PO Box 2735, Manassas VA 20108

YOUR OFFERINGS Collection:

December 26, 2021 - 

Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!