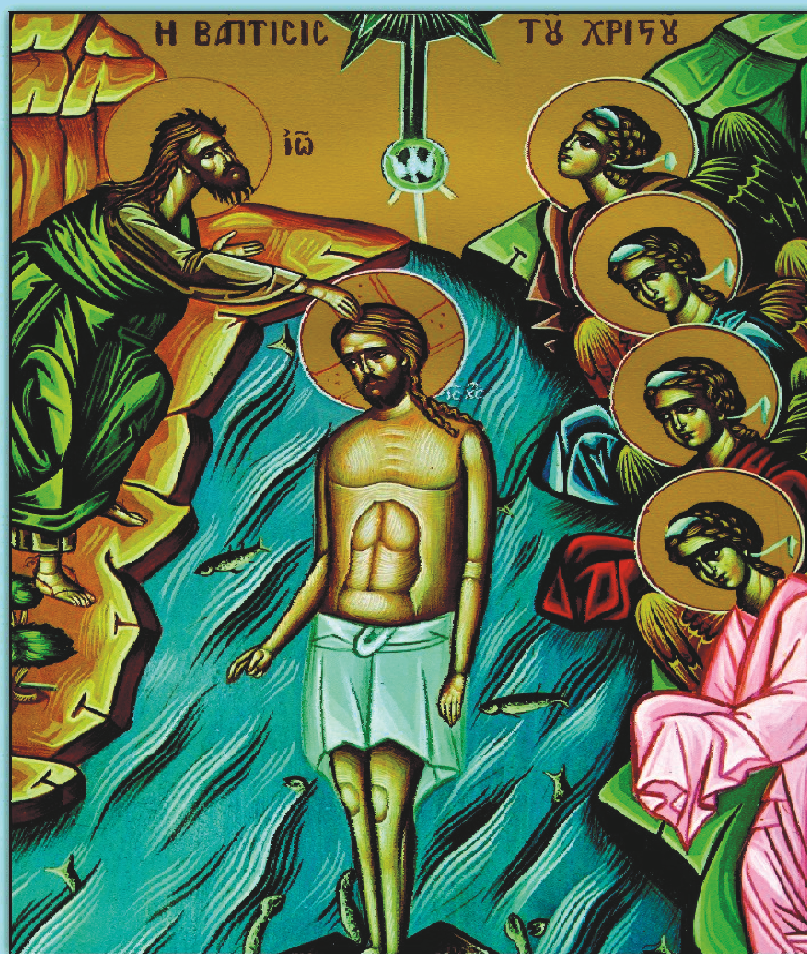


SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY



Icons of Theophany -- January 6th

The Christ

Now, in the mystery of Christ's Baptism in the Jordan River, we again encounter and represent the truth of the Lord's incarnation and His manifestation as the Christ. Jesus' Baptism is in fact His definitive manifestation as the Messiah or Christ to Israel, and as the Son of the Father to the entire world. Here we find the dimension of the Epiphany which was His manifestation to all nations. The Father's voice from heaven shows that Jesus of Nazareth is the eternal Son and the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove shows the Trinitarian nature of the Christian God. The true and unique God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, shows Himself in Christ, through Him, with Him and in Him.

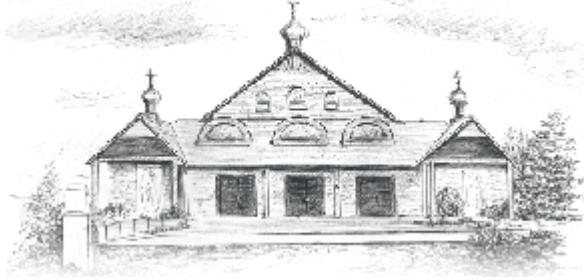
The Baptism in the Jordan returns to the great Christmas theme of "Christification", Jesus of Nazareth's spiritual anointing, His presentation

as the Anointed One par excellence, the Messiah or the One sent by the Father for the salvation of mankind. The Spirit that descended on Jesus shows and seals in an incontrovertible way the "Christification" of Jesus' humanity that the Word had already fulfilled from the first moment of His miraculous conception by Mary. Jesus, from the very beginning, was always the Lord's Christ, He was always God. Yet, His one, true humanity, that which is perfect in every way, as the Gospel records, constantly grew in natural and supernatural perfection. "And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and with men" (Lk2:52). In Israel at 30 years of age, one reached full maturity and therefore could become a master. Jesus came of age and the Spirit, descending and remaining on Him, definitively consecrated His whole being as the Christ.

St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church

8111 Brecksville Road ✪ Brecksville, Ohio 44141

"The Byzz Line"



"Living the Word of Christ Together"

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Deacon: Bill Fredrick

Office Administrator: Michele Wiltshire

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January 6: *Epiphany/Theophany (Baptism of Our Lord)*

Christ is bathed in light let us also be bathed in light. Christ is baptized; let us also go down with Him and rise with Him.

John is baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps He comes to sanctify his baptizer; certainly He comes to bury sinful humanity in the waters. He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake and in readiness for us; He Who is spirit and flesh comes to begin a new creation through spirit and water.

The Baptist protests; Jesus insists. Then John says: "I ought to be baptized by You." He is the lamp in the presence of the Sun, the voice in the presence of the Word, the friend in the presence of the Bridegroom, the greatest of all born of woman in the presence of the Firstborn of all creation, the one who leapt in his mother's womb in the presence of Him Who was adored in the womb, the forerunner in the Presence of Him Who has already come and is to come again. "I ought to be baptized by You!" We should add, "and for You," for John is to be baptized in blood, washed clean like Peter, not only by the washing of his feet.

Jesus rises from the waters and the world rises with Him. The heavens like Paradise with its flaming sword closed by Adam for himself and his descendants, are opened. The Spirit comes to Him as to an equal, bearing witness to His Godhead. A voice bears witness to Him from heaven, His place of origin. The spirit descends in bodily form like a dove that so long ago announced the ending of the flood and so gives honor to the body and that is one with God.

Thursday is a Holyday of Obligation. For your convenience liturgies will be offered at **8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.** Water will be solemnly blessed at each service. The mirovanije \$\$ from next weekend will be donated to the Lyceum School.

January 2, 2022

Christ is Born!

Liturgy Schedule

Monday	January 3	8:00 a.m.	Intention of Franz Hall by Macik Family
Tuesday	January 4	8:00 a.m.	† Benjamin Bernard by Dr. Bogomir Kuhar
Wednesday	January 5	8:00 a.m.	† Anna Matyas by Nick/Mary Lizanich
Thursday	January 6	Holyday of Obligation: Epiphany/Theophany	
		8:00 a.m.	† Al Holocker by Deacon Bill/Nancy Fredrick
		7:00 p.m.	Intention of the Parishioners —Water Blessed at Each Liturgy—
Friday	January 7	8:00 a.m.	† Maria Loya McCoskey by Loya Family
Saturday	January 8	4:00 p.m.	† Bill Chalfa by Norm/Pat Bickel
Sunday	January 9	10:30 a.m.	Intention of the Parishioners

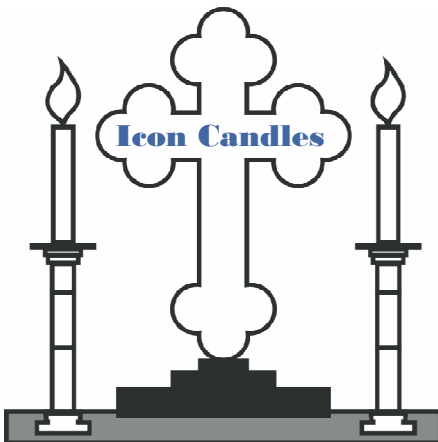
Altar Servers

Lectors

Greeters

January 6	8:00 a.m.	Volunteers Needed		
	7:00 p.m.	J. & W. Hallis, J. Tucholski & J. Cohn		
January 8	4:00 p.m.	J. Bremner & J. Cohn	N. Fredrick	J. Pinchot & L. Greb
January 9	10:30 a.m.	G. Lupia & J. Tucholski	N. Sabo	H. Pariza & J. Carrig

**Let's end this year with a thankful heart and start the new year with peace and faith.
Let us release the bitterness and frustrations of the past year.**



The candles in front of the major icons will burn in **2022** for the following intentions.

- St. Joseph...Special Intention of the **Donald/Shirley LaFleur**
- St. Nicholas...Intention of **Zemba/Kozak** Families
- Mother of God...Intention of **Ricco** Family
- Christ...Intention of the **Petruno** Family
- Tetrapod...In memory of **George Marchak** (1)
In memory of **Joan Sidor** (1)

The sanctuary lamp is available on a monthly basis for **2023**. Contact **Father**. The donation is \$20.

Please Pray

Please remember all the sick/suffering in your prayers, especially **Mike Prischak** (O'Neal's; Hospice); **Diane Balasz** (Villa St. Joseph; rehab); **Barbara Troyan** (Paramount; rehab); **Joe Popik** (home); **Mary Jo Keshock** (home) and **Debi Shirilla** (home).



No House Blessing This Year

As Father mentioned in last week's Byzz Line, because of the increased number of Covid cases, he will not be blessing homes this year. Hopefully he'll be able to resume this custom next year with parishioners living east of I-77.

Someone you know may need this information:
Alternatives to Abortion—1-800-712-HELP (4357)

Accessible 24 hours a day.

Serviced by a live person at all times.

ECF Classes

ECF classes resume **next Sunday** at a new starting time of **9:30**. Please be prompt in getting your child/children here.

Holiday Raffle Winners

GCU Lodge 302 would like to thank everyone who took part in the Holiday Raffle benefitting "Joel's Place for Children." The winners were:

\$500...**Anne Andrako**

\$100...**Linda Primuth**

\$75...**Laura Lynch**

Community News

- The **Cleveland Dance Club** is holding a dance in our hall on **January 9** starting at **6:00** featuring the well-known band La Flavour. There's a \$10 admission fee. For more info call Jackie at 440-546-7531.
- The **Garfield Hts. Knights of Columbus** is holding at "**Chicken Parmesan Dinner**" on **January 12**. The price is \$10. Take-out only from 4-6. Make your reservation by calling 216-662-2277 x2 by January 9.

New Year Blessing

Lord and Creator of space and time,

It is You who gifts us with
minutes, hours, days and years.

With this New Year, we ask for blessings on
each second of life that You give us.

For those people today
who take time for work and for play,
who take time for love and for praise,
who create time for rest,
we give thanks!

We who stand in the middle of the
Trinity of Time—past, present, and future,
do thank You, Creator of all seasons
for this New Year.

Blessed are You, Lord our God,
who gifts us with time.

Amen

Your Weekly Offering

December 16, 2021

Sunday:	\$3,465.00
e-giving:	200.00
Student Envelopes:	4.00
Cash:	95.00
Candles:	157.00
Holy Days:	240.00
Initial Offering:	5.00
Christmas Flowers:	153.00
Thanksgiving:	10.00
Christmas:	605.00
In Memory Anita Fadorsen :	300.00
Total:	\$5,234.00

December 26, 2021

Sunday:	\$5,522.00
e-giving:	270.00
Student Envelopes:	34.00
Cash:	385.00
Candles:	233.00
Holy Days:	220.00
Initial Offering:	11.00
Christmas Flowers:	60.00
Building Fund:	370.00
Thanksgiving:	25.00
Christmas:	13,875.00
Total:	\$21,005.00

Have you remembered St. Joseph Church
in your Will and/or Trust?

2021 Donations

Next weekend we close the books on 2021 donations. Any envelopes received after that time will be applied to your 2022 offering.



The money counters have asked those who write one check for several envelopes to indicate the dollar amount applied to each envelope. Thanks for your cooperation.

Acme Receipt Collection Ends Soon

The final day to turn in ACME receipts is **January 9**. This benefits the **Ladies' Auxiliary**. The box is located beneath the mail slots.

Introducing Father Vasyl Kupar and Family...

Fr. Vasyl Kupar was born in Vynohradiv, Zakarpattia region, on January 17, 1987. From 2004 to 2011 he studied at the Blessed Theodore Romzha Greek-Catholic Theological Academy of Uzhhorod. He was ordained a priest by Bishop Milan Šašik CM at the Dormition of the Mother of God Church in Vynohradiv, January 2, 2011.

From January 2011 till August 2017 he served as parish administrator at Verbiazh (Church of the Transfiguration of the Lord), Zavadka (Church of the Intercession of the Virgin Mary) and Roztoka (Church of The Encounter of our Lord), Volovetskyi region, Sub-Carpathia, Ukraine.

In August 2017 Bishop Milan Šašik CM appointed Fr. Vasyl parish administrator at Bedykivtsi (Church of St. Michael the Archangel) and Medvedivtsi (Church of St. Michael the Archangel), Mukachevo region, Sub-Carpathia, where he served till December, 2021.

On January 12, 2021, Bishop Nil Lushchak gave Fr. Vasyl the title Archpriest with the right to wear the golden cross.

Father Vasyl has been married to **Diana Kupar (Shcherbak)** since 2010. She was born in Poltava (Ukraine) on December 23, 1987. From 2004 till 2010, she studied at Transcarpathian State University and received a master's degree in international relations. In 2016 Diana received a PhD in World History at Uzhhorod National University.

From 2006 to 2010 she studied at the Catechetical Department of the Blessed Theodore Romzha Greek-Catholic Theological Academy of Uzhhorod. From September 2018 till December 2021 she worked as a senior lecturer at the Department of International Studies and Public Communications at Uzhhorod National University.

Together they are raising three children: **Davyd** (June 11, 2011), **Oleksii** (May 5, 2013) and **Konstantyn** (December 1, 2015).

Sidenote: Father enjoys fishing!



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PARISH INFORMATION

ACTIVITY CENTER/PAVILION/PARTY CENTER RESERVATIONS:

216-749-6232

CONFESSIONS: 45 minutes before liturgies for half an hour and by request

LADIES' AUXILIARY: 2nd Sunday of the month after liturgy

MEN'S CLUB: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

A-OK CLUB: 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

FOREVER YOUNG CLUB: 3rd Wednesday of the month (12-2)

COFFEE SOCIAL: Every Sunday after liturgy

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION (ECF) CLASSES:

Sundays 9:00 a.m.–10:20 a.m.

BULLETIN INFORMATION DEADLINE: Tuesday noon

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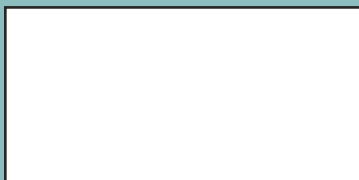
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