



Our Lady of Perpetual Help
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Paul Varchola West, MFA, M.Div., Administrator

Church: 1773 Woodbourne Rd. Levittown, PA 19057

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Rectory: 2 Coral Rock Rd. Levittown, PA 19057

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Rectory office is CLOSED on Mondays

*** (201) 543-1175 Emergencies Only ***

Christ is baptized! In the Jordan!

Contributions - Thank You, OLPH!

December 24, 25, & 26, 2021	
Candles	\$197.00
Candle Intentions	\$75.00
Christmas	\$5195.00
Special	\$100.00
Regular	\$900.00
Total	\$972.00
Attendance	
Christmas Eve	65
Christmas	30
Sunday 12/26	42
Total	137

*Do not neglect
good deeds
and
generosity,
God is pleased
by sacrifices
of that kind.*

- Hebrews 13:16

Liturgy Intentions - Available upon request. Please submit a request form with a suggested donation of \$15 per request.

Candle Intentions - Available by month. Please submit a request form and suggested donation of \$25 per request.

Hospital & Home Visitation - Available upon request.

General Information

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send submissions for the bulletin to Fr. Paul no later than 12:00PM the Wednesday before you wish for them to appear.

FACEBOOK & VIRTUAL DIVINE LITURGY

Visit www.facebook.com/OLPHLevittownPA to join us live or watch archived recordings. You DO NOT need a Facebook account to view the OLPH facebook page.

ONLINE TITHING - Interested in tithing online? Visit the parish website and click on the donate link to sign up on the tithe.ly..

Liturgical Schedule
Week of January 2, 2022

*Confession every Saturday from 4:30 to 5:00 or by appointment

Saturday January 1, 2022 - Circumcision of Our Lord/St. Basil the Great

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Col 2:8-12; Heb 7:26-8:2; Lk 2:20-21 & 40-52; Lk 6:17-23

❖ Blessings for OLPH in the year ahead by Fr. Paul & Family

NO Vigil Divine Liturgy on the 1st

NO Matins on the 2nd

Sunday January 2 - Sunday Before Theophany

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Tone 7)

2 Tim 4:5-8; Mk 1:1-8

❖ For the Parish Family of OLPH

Wednesday January 5 - Vigil of Theophany

7:00 PM Divine Liturgy w/ Blessing of Water

1 Cor 9:19-27; Lk 3:1-18

❖ +Rev. Myron M. Badnerosky by OLPH Parish Family

Thursday January 6 - Theophany of Our Lord

7:00 PM Divine Liturgy

Titus 2:11-14 & 3:4-7; Mt 3:13-17

❖ For the Parish Family of OLPH

Saturday January 8 - Sunday After Theophany

5:00 PM Divine Liturgy (Tone 8)

Eph 4:7-13; Mt 4:12-17

❖ For the Parish Family of OLPH

Sunday January 9 - Sunday After Theophany

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Tone 8)

Eph 4:7-13; Mt 4:12-17

❖ +Vilma Sims by OLPH Parish Family

Candle Intentions January 2022

Tetrapod - In memory of +John Zapko and the +Zapko and +Martis families requested by Margie Zapko

ATTENTION!

FEAST OF THEOPHANY

The Feast of Theophany is a day of obligation. Attending either the Vigil or Diving Liturgy the day of the feast will fulfill the obligation.

Wednesday the 5th is traditionally a day of STRICT FAST for the Feast. Minimum required fasting is abstaining from meat.

REMINDER: We will resume our regular weekend schedule the weekend of January 8th/9th.

2022 Envelopes & Calendars

Envelopes and Calendars for 2022 are now available in the back of the church. If you have not done so already, please be sure to take them after Divine Liturgy this weekend. Please be reminded that by being assigned an Envelope Number, this denotes active parishioner status. A parishioner is defined as one who:

- Attends divine services regularly on Sundays and Obligation Days **AT OLPH** (Remember, this is the **BARE MINIMUM**—*frequent attendance on other days is highly encouraged!*)
- Is actively engaged in the sacramental life of the Church **AT OLPH** (i.e. regular reception of Holy Eucharist/Reconciliation; participation in Holy Anointing; other sacramentals such as Blessing of Water, etc.), **ESPECIALLY** ensuring one's children are raised in the Byzantine Catholic Faith Tradition
- Contributes to the financial wellbeing of OLPH **WITHIN ONE'S MEANS** (*to ensure that we can provide access to the first two bullet points!*)

If you have relatives or friends who have envelopes but do not necessarily meet the above definition, please inform them and encourage them to become more active in the parish life of OLPH.

Parish Meeting January 8th/9th

Please be prepared to remain after services on **Saturday 1-8 and Sunday 1-9** for a brief (5-7 minute) meeting for the annual OLPH financial report and several important updates.

Christmas Clean-Up

We will be cleaning up the Christmas decorations in the church **THIS SATURDAY JANUARY 8, 2022 at 9am!** Please come on by and lend a hand. This should not take long at all, so please consider coming by and lugging a decoration or two!

House Blessings for 2022

It is that time of year again... THEOPHANY TIME! This means it is also time to have our houses blessed. Please contact Fr. Paul at the parish office to schedule your house blessing.

Weekly Offering Basket Move!

You will notice that the offertory basket has been moved to just in front of the Tetrapod. This not only keeps more eyes on your offerings to the Church, but also helps us in returning to the Byzantine custom of entering the church and venerating the icon on the Tetrapod.

2022 Candle Intentions

As the 2022 calendar year swiftly approaches Fr. Paul would like to remind you that, as part of our ongoing effort to align our liturgical life with a more authentically Byzantine praxis, **the only candle intentions that will be available are the *Vična Lamp* and the *Tetrapod***. Please keep in mind that the ***Vična Lamp* is for deceased intentions only**, whereas the *Tetrapod* can be for either living or deceased intentions.

Father Paul's ECF Corner

Is it Theophany or Epiphany?

This is a question I get asked quite often. I myself was even confused during the liturgical reforms of the late 1990's and early 2000's. Here is a brief explanation as to why Epiphany was "changed" to Theophany.

In actuality they are two completely different festal commemorations and are not at all interchangeable. It is not a matter of simply "some call January 6th Epiphany, and others call it Theophany." It goes far deeper.

The commemoration of Epiphany (the three kings, Magi, wise men, astrologers...whichever!) on January 6th is a Roman Catholic feast. This is not at all the "same" feast of Theophany that we Byzantine Catholics celebrate on January 6th. Theophany is the commemoration of the Baptism of Christ by John in the Jordan, which is why we also have the Great Blessing of Water on this feast.

So, what happened to Epiphany, why was it "taken away" from us? Well... it wasn't!!! If we look at the liturgical calendar, more specifically the Gospel readings for Christmas, we can gain a greater understanding regarding these feasts.

Christmas is one of the more ancient Great Feasts of the Church, which is made known to us by the fact that we celebrate two Divine Liturgies for this feast: a Vigil Divine Liturgy (Vespers & Liturgy of St. Basil) the evening prior and Divine Liturgy (of St. John Chrysostom) the morning of the feast. The same can be found for Theophany and Pascha, making them among the most ancient and greatest of feasts. At the vigil liturgy for Christmas, we hear Luke 2:1-20—the famous "Charlie Brown" reading with the shepherds, angels, the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, etc. On Christmas morning, however, we hear Matthew 2:1-12—the visit of the Magi to the Christ child... the "Epiphany"!!!

Therefore, "Epiphany" was never "taken away," it is simply being commemorated when it properly should be—on Christmas Day!

So on Theophany, let us not use this as a time to bemuse the fact that we "no longer do Epiphany," but rather let us turn our attention to the true reason we celebrate the Baptism of Christ by John in the Jordan—our very salvation!

God Be With You
Father Paul