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**Sunday, January 11, 2026**

*Sunday After Theophany*

8:45am: Orthros

10am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

## Hymns of the Day

### Second Antiphon

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 βαπτισθεὶς,  
ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλοῦῖα.

## **Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode**

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You.

## **Apolytikion of Holy Theophany in the First Mode**

When You were baptized in the River Jordan, O Lord, it was revealed that God is worshiped in Trinity. For the voice of the Father, who had begotten You, also bore witness to You, calling You “beloved Son,” and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed that what was said is true. In Your epiphany, O Christ God, You appeared and illumined the world. Glory to You!

## **Apolytikion of Saint Theodosios in the Plagal Fourth Mode**

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O Theodosius, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

## **Apolytikion of Saint Nicholas in the Fourth Mode**

An example of the faith and a life of humility: \* as a teacher of abstinence you did inspire and lead your flock, \* and through the truthfulness of your deeds \* were exalted to greatness through your humility, \* uplifting all, and by poverty gaining

wealth. \* Father and hierarch Saint Nicholas, \* intercede with Christ our God \* that our souls may be saved.

## **Kontakion of Holy Theophany in the Fourth Mode**

You revealed yourself today on earth, O Master, \* and Your light was stamped on us, who in the knowledge of the truth, \* O Lord, extol Your epiphany. \* You came; You revealed yourself, O unapproachable Light.

## **Communion Verse**

Praise the Lord from the heavens. Alleluia.  
Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον ἐκ τῶν οὐρανῶν. Ἀλληλούϊα.

*And the following:*

The righteous will be remembered for ever. Alleluia.  
Εἰς μνημόσυνον αἰώνιον ἔσται δίκαιος. Ἀλληλούϊα.

## **Gospel and Epistle Readings**

### **Epistle Reading**

#### **Hebrews 13:7 – 16**

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their lives, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents.

We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice

for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come.

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Matthew 4:12 – 17**

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

## **Saints and Feasts**

### **Sunday After Holy Theophany**

About the beginning of our Lord’s thirtieth year, John the Forerunner, who was some six months older than Our Saviour according to the flesh, and had lived in the wilderness since his childhood, received a command from God and came into

the parts of the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins.

Then our Saviour also came from Galilee to the Jordan, and sought and received baptism though He was the Master and John was but a servant. Whereupon, there came to pass those marvellous deeds, great and beyond nature: the Heavens were opened, the Spirit descended in the form of a dove upon Him that was being baptized and the voice was heard from the Heavens bearing witness that this was the beloved Son of God, now baptized as a man.

From these events the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great mystery of the Trinity were demonstrated. It is also from this that the present feast is called "Theophany," that is, the divine manifestation, God's appearance among men. On this venerable day the sacred mystery of Christian baptism was inaugurated; henceforth also began the saving preaching of the Kingdom of the Heavens.

### **Theodosios the Cenobiarch**

This Saint had Cappadocia as his homeland. He lived during the years of Leo of Thrace, who reigned from 457 to 474. The Saint established in the Holy Land a great communal monastery, wherein he was the shepherd of many monks. While Saint Sabbas was the head of the hermits of Palestine, Saint Theodosius was governor of those living the cenobitic life, for which reason he is called the Cenobiarch.

Together with Saint Sabbas, towards whom he cherished a deep brotherly love in Christ, he defended the whole land of Palestine from the heresy of the Monophysites, which was championed by the Emperor Anastasius and might very well have triumphed in the Holy Land without the opposition of these two great monastic fathers and their zealous defense of the Holy Council of Chalcedon. Having lived for 103 years,

he reposed in peace.

## Wisdom of the Fathers

“Please make a mental effort, brethren, and focus your minds on what I am saying with the utmost care, that you may understand the power of the mystery of Christian baptism. For Christ’s going down into the water and His being underneath it, at the time of His baptism, foreshadowed His descent into Hades; and, accordingly, His coming up from under the water prefigured His resurrection from the dead. . . .

“Having a soul and body like ours, which He assumed from us for our sake, by means of this body He underwent the passion, death and burial for us, and showed forth the resurrection from the tomb that this same body might become immortal. He taught us to accomplish the bloodless sacrifice in remembrance of these events, that through it we might reap salvation. With His soul He went down to Hades and returned, making us all partakers in eternal light and life, and in token of this He handed on to us the practice of holy baptism, that through it we might harvest salvation; and indeed that through each of these two mysteries and through both elements, soul and body, we might be initiated into and receive the seeds of incorruptible life. For our whole salvation depends on these two sacraments, as the entire dispensation whereby God became man is summed up in them.”

- St. Gregory Palamas, *Homily* 60, §§5, 7.

## Parish Prayer List

Please remember in your God-pleasing prayers the servants of God:

Robert Tewis; Robert (Tikhon) Foster; Lance (Stylian) Schmitt

*If you would like for yourself or a loved one to be added to the prayer list, please contact Fr. Jeremy.*

## Parish Information

### House Blessings

Following the feast of Holy Theophany (January 6), we have the tradition of blessing homes. If you would like to schedule a house blessing for the days following Holy Theophany, please contact Fr. Jeremy.

### Church School

Church School for our children begins following Holy Communion. We have two classrooms: one for elementary-school ages, and one for middle school and up. Please allow our Church School kids and their teachers to come up for Communion first.

### Introduction to Orthodox Christianity

Our Adult Ed class meets on Sundays following coffee hour. We meet in the classrooms downstairs. Any who would like to learn more about our Orthodox Faith, whether a newcomer or a life-long member, are welcome to attend. Please contact Fr. Jeremy to be added to the distribution list for readings.

### Byzantine Chant Classes

Byzantine chant classes take place on **Saturdays at 4pm**. If you are interested in learning and helping out, please feel free

to attend!

### Men's Breakfast

Our next Men's Breakfast will take place on Saturday, **February 7 at 8am**. Feel free to invite a friend!

### Ladies' Potluck Luncheon

Our Ladies' Potluck Luncheon group meets on the second Thursday of each month! The next luncheon will take place in the Church hall on **Thursday, February 12** at 12pm.



### This Week at St. Nicholas

Fr. Jeremy will be out of town this week, and there will be no weekday events and services. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Fr. Gregory Matlak at (970) 874-5225.