

# HOLY TRANSFIGURATION

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, January 10, 2021 - Orthros, 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

*Winter Weather Advice: It feels as though this winter has been a bit more harsh than we expected. We have nothing but wonder and admiration for those who brave cold mornings (and evenings) to stand and pray outside during the Divine Liturgy. It is also cold and drafty inside the church, and we recommend bundling up well even on Sundays when you are inside. Because our ventilation system is running constantly and the doors are open, there is a cold draft. ALSO VERY IMPORTANT—if you need to stay in your car with the motor running, please park well away from the front parking lots so that your exhaust fumes do not drift toward worshippers.*

*Roster of Indoor Participants for this Sunday:*  
Priest, Chanter, Host (Brandt), Media Person (Clay), Deborah, Julie, Aidan, Anna, Lucy, Helena

[IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE NEXT PAGE REGARDING THE-OPHANY WATER AND HOUSE BLESSINGS](#)

### Current Pandemic Protocols

- If you have any signs of the cold, flu, CoVid 19 or any other contagious illness or if you suspect that you have an illness, then it would be best to stay home.
- Due to infection rates, our indoor participants are limited to 10.
- The host will mark attendance for contact tracing purposes. Hand sanitizing is required upon arrival and departure, and highly recommended after touching anything, before touching your face.
- If any outdoor participants wish to light candles, they will not enter the church but ask the host at the main door to do so for them.
- Both indoor and outdoor participants will maintain at least 6 feet of distance between households at all times.
- Face coverings will be worn at all times, indoors and outdoors.
- Those who approach for Communion and/or Antidoron will come up the center aisle only, to minimize cross-traffic.



Good People, with regard to the Great Holy Water of Theophany and house blessings. The Water was blessed at the Feast amid a great number of health precautions. I personally am confident that not only does the Water have the power of Grace but is also free of any health risks. The Church encourages us to drink the water and to sprinkle our homes, our environment, our cars, etc. That said, we will continue to observe strict health protocols with regard to the distribution of the Water. The Water has been blessed in clean containers with clean hands, mask, clean Cross and utensils, and placed in clean bottles. The bottles can be taken after Liturgy, when receiving Antidoron. Just as we are instructed to touch candles only after sanitizing our hands or wearing gloves and mask, the same will apply to taking the Holy Water bottles after Liturgy. Furthermore, there will not be any distribution of Holy Water in cups for drinking after services. You may sip from your bottle after leaving the church and

taking off your mask. If you wish to take home Holy Water in your own bottle, then the bottle will be filled by me for you (or someone I designate) after everyone else has left the church. To some, these precautions will seem excessive and un-faith-ful. To others, they will not be enough. We will continue in the spirit of humility and charity with reasonable precautions at this time.

With regard to home blessings, they can still be arranged by request. I will not travel from one house to another on the same day, however. You are encouraged to take the Water and bless your own homes. If you can sing the troparion of Theophany while sprinkling your home, then do so. Otherwise, just say the Jesus Prayer.

Another small bit of advice. Don't put your lips on your Holy Water bottle when drinking from it. Many years ago in India, where water is vital and clean water is scarce, and water-born diseases are common, we learned to tilt our heads back and slowly pour the water into our mouths without putting our lips on the bottle. This will help keep your Holy Water free of contamination.

And lastly, for those who will read this far, regarding the possibility for Holy Water to be contaminated. Yes, it is still water and can be contaminated, but even if contaminated is still holy. It would not be advisable to drink contaminated water, but it can still be used to sanctify and bless things, even your house plants or landscaping, etc. So if you have concerns about the Water being contaminated and choose not to drink it, the Church does not condemn you.

Blessings of Theophany to all! O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance!

# Sunday's Liturgy

## *The Sunday after Theophany*

*St. Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa*

## The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

*The Antiphonal Psalm verses are for the Feast.*

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> Antiphon:* Save us, O Son of God, Who were baptized in the Jordan by John. We sing to you: Alleluia!

*3rd Antiphon: Theophany Apolytikion (p 209):* At Your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest, for the Father's voice bore You witness by calling You His beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of the Father's Word. O Christ our God, You have appeared to us and enlightened the world. Glory to You!

### *Hymns after the Gospel Entrance*

*Resurrectional Apolytikion 6 (p 119):* The angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it became as dead men, and Mary stood at Your grave seeking, seeking Your most pure body. But You made hell a captive; You were untouched by its might. You came to the virgin and granted life. O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!

*Parish Apolytikion:* You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing Your glory to the disciples as much as they could bear. Shine on us also, the sinners, shine Your everlasting light, through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Giver of Life; glory to You!

*Theophany Kontakion (p 249):* You have revealed Yourself to the world today, and Your light shines forth on us, who sing Your praise with full knowledge: You have come to us, O Lord; You are made manifest, O inaccessible Light.

*The Epistle Reading:* Ephesians 4:7-13. Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

*The Gospel Reading:* Matthew 4:12-17. At that time, 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."

## Library Corner

The winter and pandemic bring more time to read! We have many good books in our library. Browse the catalogue online link, available from our website under About Us/Ministries (<https://htoclibrary.libib.com>). We can have the books pulled for you and waiting at the start or end of Liturgy on Sundays.

### *Please pray for*

Priest Theodore	Glenn	Deborah	Raluca Maria	Amanda
Marius	Jennifer	Elizabeth	Anastasia	Emmelia
Brad	Andrew	Remmie Lynne	Joshua	Michael
April	Kenneth	Mark	John	Elizabeth
Jhameria & fam	Cera	Nectarios	Jonathon	Anthony
Kenner	Kim	Photini	Elizabeth	Helen
Harry	Tammy	George	Carolina	Anthony
Debra	Francis	Randy	Yianni	Peggy
Emily	Noel	Patrick	Ananias	Robin
Noah	Anna	Katherine	Michael	Eileen
James	Coy	Robert	Genevieve	Melody
Larissa	Richard	Mikayla	Elizabeth	Jean
Seraphina	Lonnie Paul	Gavin	Michael	Kevin
Anastasia	Stacy	Avery	Courtney	Beth
Lida	Jon	Stamatia	Benn	Geoff
Luminitza	Linda	Nicholas	Galina	April Marie
Charlene	James	Rebecca	Nadya	Gibb
Brian	Loralee	Macrina	Lubov	Evonne
Lauren	Ronnie	Gabriel	Penny	Lenuta
Wyatt	Betty	Julia	Sharyl	
Mariamne	Tyler	Shelley	April	+
Jane	Leigh Anna	Aurel	Ignatius	Daniel
Marie	Daniel	Nathan	Macrina	Judith