

THEOPHANY SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2012 — FOREFEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

MATINS- 9:00AM; ROYAL HOURS- 10:00AM
VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT AND
SERVICE OF THE BLESSING OF WATERS- 6:00PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2012

THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

ORTHROS- 9:00AM;
DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM- 10:00AM
FOLLOWED BY THE SERVICE OF THE
GREATER BLESSING OF THE WATERS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2012- THE SYNAXIS FEAST OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

ORTHROS- 9:00AM; DIVINE LITURGY - 10:00AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2012

ORTHROS— 8:45AM; DIVINE LITURGY - 10:00AM

BLESSING OF THE WATERS AND DIVING FOR THE CROSS

AT BARTON SPRINGS IN ZILKER PARK—1:00PM

Philoptochos News

Please mark your calendars for a very important date!

OUR VASILOPITA AUCTION IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 22ND

We are planning another “Multi-Cultural” Auction with Vasilopita and other types of breads and pastries from around the world.

This LIVE auction was so much fun last year, we definitely want to bring it back.

If you have a special holiday treat that you grew up with and would like to bring it for the auction, please do!

Stop by the Philoptochos table to let us know what you would like to bring;

or contact Dorothy Smith at 716-0699.

Please support our bakers with your generous bids!!

We have an “Open” Coffee hour today. Coffee is available and whatever refreshments that were brought by our parishioners. Thank you to everyone who brought some treats for us today!

Thank you to everyone who brought something to share during the coffee hour on Christmas day!

Thank you to today’s ushers:

Judy Eagle and Diann Dow

Thank you to last week’s usher:

John Chronis

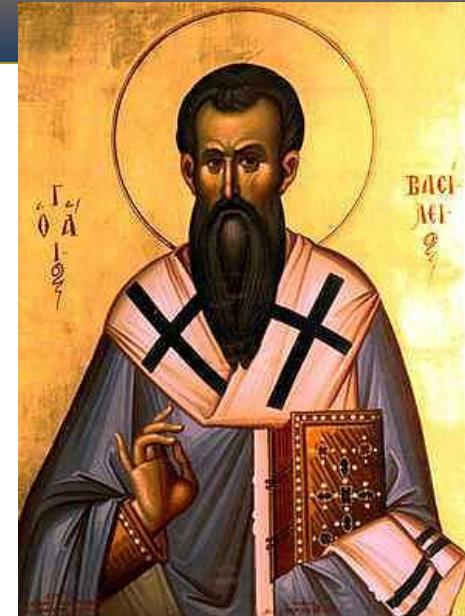
The Usher for next Sunday is:

Shelley Ebeling

SUNDAY BULLETIN

JANUARY 1, 2012

CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST & SUNDAY OF SAINT BASIL



TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

414 ST. STEPHEN’S SCHOOL ROAD

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746

(512) 329-6363 WEBSITE - WWW.TRANSFIGURATION.ORG

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

ORTHROS 8:45AM; DIVINE LITURGY 10:00AM

Reverend Fr. Vasileios Flegas, Proistamenos

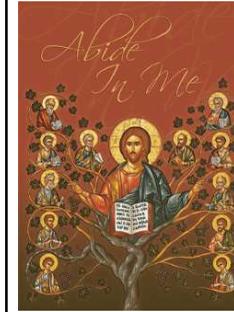
574-1972

Brethren, be wary lest there shall be anyone who leadeth you captive through philosophy and vain deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the divinity bodily, and ye are made full in Him, Who is the head of all principality and authority, in Whom also ye were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the putting off of the body of the sins of the flesh in the circumcision of the Christ, having been buried with Him in the baptism, in which also ye were raised with Him through faith in the energy of God, Who raised Him from the dead.



Ἀδελφοί, βλέπετε μή τις ὑμᾶς ἔσται ὁ συλαγωγῶν διὰ τῆς φιλοσοφίας καὶ κενῆς ἀπάτης, κατὰ τὴν παράδοσιν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, κατὰ τὰ στοιχεῖα τοῦ κόσμου, καὶ οὐ κατὰ χριστόν· ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ κατοικεῖ πᾶν τὸ πλήρωμα τῆς θεότητος σωματικῶς, καὶ ἐστε ἐν αὐτῷ πεπληρωμένοι, ὅς ἐστιν ἡ κεφαλὴ πάσης ἀρχῆς καὶ ἐξουσίας· ἐν ᾧ καὶ περιετμήθητε περιτομῇ ἀχειροποιήτῳ, ἐν τῇ ἀπεκδύσει τοῦ σώματος τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν τῆς σαρκός, ἐν τῇ περιτομῇ τοῦ χριστοῦ, συνταφέντες αὐτῷ ἐν τῷ βαπτίσματι, ἐν ᾧ καὶ συνηγέρθητε διὰ τῆς πίστεως τῆς ἐνεργείας τοῦ θεοῦ, τοῦ ἐγείραντος αὐτὸν ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sunday, January 1, 2012



Thank you to all who turned in your pledge cards for 2012!
If you have not had a chance to do so, there is still *plenty of time!*
You can always send your pledge card to the church office,
or place it in the collection plate on any Sunday.

Please prayerfully consider the commitment of your time, talents, and treasures
to support the work of the Church!
Thank you!

GOYA

GOYA is in the process of raising money to go to the annual diocese basketball tournament and we could really use your help! We have partnered with a company called CoupAide to sell Restaurant.com gift certificates, and they are a great deal! For \$20 you receive a \$50 gift certificate to use at Restaurant.com, which can be redeemed at over 18,000 participating restaurants all over the country. \$10 of every \$20 spent will go directly to the TGOC GOYA. Not only will you be helping send us to Dallas, but you will also be receiving a great deal for yourself or someone else!

To purchase one of these vouchers, please visit: <http://coupaide.com/deal/goya-austin/>
Also, if you would like to see which restaurants are participating in your area before you purchase, please visit:
http://www.restaurant.com/about_gcp.asp?pgn=gcp

Thanks again for your support and God bless!

Sunday School News
Classes will resume next Sunday

Greek School News
The Greek language classes will resume on
January 10th
We wish everyone a Happy New Year!

Encore!
SAVE THE DATE!
Some fun plans are being made for a fabulous time with the
Encore group!
Save the evening of **Sunday, January 22nd**

GOLF (Greek Orthodox Ladies Fellowship)
GOLF will meet this **Thursday, January 12** at 10:00am.
We will continue our study of I Corinthians
Contact Whitney Papadatos for more information:
wpapadatos@hotmail.com

Men's Bible Study
The next men's evening study will be on
Wednesday, January 11th.
They will meet for a pot-luck dinner at the home of
Stephen and Diann Dow –
3409 Lost Oasis Hollow, 78739
Please contact Fr. Vasileios for more information.

OCF (Orthodox College Fellowship)
OCF will begin their Spring semester by meeting for
Compline and dinner on Thursday, Jan. 12.
All college and university students are invited to join
OCF for great study and fellowship.
Contact Blagoje Djordjevic at bzdjordje@gmail.com.



The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

On the eighth day after His Nativity, our Lord Jesus Christ was circumcised in accordance with the Old Testament Law. All male infants underwent circumcision as a sign of God's Covenant with the holy Forefather Abraham and his descendants (Gen. 17:10-14, Lev. 12:3).

After this ritual the Divine Infant was given the name Jesus, as the Archangel Gabriel declared on the day of the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos (Luke 1:31-33, 2:21). The Fathers of the Church explain that the Lord, the Creator of the Law, underwent circumcision in order to give people an example of how faithfully the divine ordinances ought to be fulfilled. The Lord was circumcised so that later no one would doubt that He had truly assumed human flesh, and that His Incarnation was not merely an illusion, as certain heretics (Docetists) taught.



St Basil the Great

Saint Basil the Great was born about the end of the year 329 in Caesarea of Cappadocia, to a family renowned for their learning and holiness. His parents' names were Basil and Emily. His mother Emily (commemorated July 19) and his grandmother Macrina (Jan. 14) are Saints of the Church, together with all his brothers and sisters: Macrina, his elder sister (July 19), Gregory of Nyssa (Jan. 10), Peter of Sebastia (Jan. 9), and Naucratius. Basil studied in Constantinople under the sophist Libanius, then in Athens, where also he formed a friendship with the young Gregory, a fellow Cappadocian, later called "the Theologian." Through the good influence of his sister Macrina (see July 19), he chose to embrace the ascetical life, abandoning his worldly career. He visited the monks in Egypt, in Palestine, in Syria, and in Mesopotamia, and upon returning to Caesarea, he departed to a hermitage on the Iris River in Pontus, not far from Annesi, where his mother and his sister Macrina were already treading the path of the ascetical life; here he also wrote his ascetical homilies.

About the year 370, when the bishop of his country reposed, he was elected to succeed to his throne and was entrusted with the Church of Christ, which he tended for eight years, living in voluntary poverty and strict asceticism, having no other care than to defend holy Orthodoxy as a worthy successor of the Apostles. The Emperor Valens, and Modestus, the Eparch of the East, who were of one mind with the Arians, tried with threats of exile and of torments to bend the Saint to their own confession, because he was the bastion of Orthodoxy in all Cappadocia, and preserved it from heresy when Arianism was at its strongest. But he set all their malice at naught, and in his willingness to give himself up to every suffering for the sake of the Faith, showed himself to be a martyr by volition. Modestus, amazed at Basil's fearlessness in his presence, said that no one had ever so spoken to him. "Perhaps," answered the Saint, "you have never met a bishop before." The Emperor Valens himself was almost won over by Basil's dignity and wisdom. When Valens' son fell gravely sick, he asked Saint Basil to pray for him. The Saint promised that his son would be restored if Valens agreed to have him baptized by the Orthodox; Valens agreed, Basil prayed, and the son was restored. But afterwards the Emperor had him baptized by Arians, and the child died soon after. Later, Valens, persuaded by his counsellors, decided to send the Saint into exile because he would not accept the Arians into communion; but his pen broke when he was signing the edict of banishment. He tried a second time and a third, but the same thing happened, so that the Emperor was filled with dread, and tore up the document, and Basil was not banished. The truly great Basil, spent with extreme ascetical practices and continual labours, at the helm of the church, departed to the Lord on the 1st of January, in 379. at the age of forty-nine.

His writings are replete with wisdom and erudition, and rich are these gifts he set forth the doctrines concerning the mysteries both of the creation (see his Hexaemeron) and of the Holy Trinity (see On the Holy Spirit). Because of the majesty and keenness of his eloquence, he is honoured as "the revealer of heavenly things" and "the Great."

Saint Basil is also celebrated on January 30th with Saint Gregory the Theologian and Saint John Chrysostom.

January 1, 2012 - Sunday of Saint Basil

Gospel - Luke 2: 20-21, 40-52

At that time, the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days, they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκεῖνῳ, ὑπέστρεψαν οἱ ποιμένες δοξαζόντες καὶ αἰνοῦντες τὸν Θεὸν ἐπὶ πᾶσιν οἷς ἤκουσαν καὶ εἶδον καθὼς ἐλαλήθη πρὸς αὐτούς. Καὶ ὅτε ἐπλήσθησαν αἱ ἡμέραι ὀκτῶ τοῦ περιτεμεῖν τὸ παιδίον, καὶ ἐκλήθη τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦς, τὸ κληθὲν ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀγγέλου πρὸ τοῦ συλληφθῆναι αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ κοιλίᾳ. Τὸ δὲ παιδίον ἠῤῥξανε καὶ ἐκραταιοῦτο πνεύματι πληροῦμενον σοφίας, καὶ χάρις Θεοῦ ἦν ἐπ' αὐτό. Καὶ ἐπορεύοντο οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ κατ' ἔτος εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ τῇ ἐορτῇ τοῦ πάσχα. καὶ ὅτε ἐγένετο ἐτῶν δώδεκα, ἀναβάντων αὐτῶν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα κατὰ τὸ ἔθος τῆς ἐορτῆς καὶ τελειωσάντων τὰς ἡμέρας, ἐν τῷ ὑποστρέφειν αὐτοὺς ὑπέμεινε Ἰησοῦς ὁ παῖς ἐν Ἱερουσαλήμ, καὶ οὐκ ἔγνω Ἰωσήφ καὶ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ. νομίσαντες δὲ αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ συνουσίᾳ εἶναι ἤλθον ἡμέρας ὁδὸν καὶ ἀνεζήτησαν αὐτὸν ἐν τοῖς συγγενέσι καὶ ἐν τοῖς γνωστοῖς· καὶ μὴ εὐρόντες αὐτὸν ὑπέστρεψαν εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ ζητοῦντες αὐτόν. καὶ ἐγένετο μεθ' ἡμέρας τρεῖς εὗρον αὐτὸν ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ καθεζόμενον ἐν μέσῳ τῶν διδασκάλων καὶ ἀκούοντα αὐτῶν καὶ ἐπερωτῶντα αὐτούς· ἐξίσταντο δὲ πάντες οἱ ἀκούοντες αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τῇ συνέσει καὶ ταῖς ἀποκρίσεσιν αὐτοῦ. καὶ ἰδόντες αὐτὸν ἐξεπλάγησαν, καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ εἶπε· τέκνον, τί ἐποίησας ἡμῖν οὕτως; ἰδοὺ ὁ πατήρ σου καὶ γὰρ ὀδυνώμενοι ἐζητοῦμέν σε. καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτούς· τί ὅτι ἐζητεῖτέ με; οὐκ ἤδειτε ὅτι ἐν τοῖς τοῦ πατρὸς μου δεῖ εἶναι με; καὶ αὐτοὶ οὐκ συνήκαν τὸ ῥῆμα ὃ ἐλάλησεν αὐτοῖς. καὶ κατέβη μετ' αὐτῶν καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς Ναζαρέτ, καὶ ἦν ὑποτασσόμενος αὐτοῖς. καὶ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ διετήρει πάντα τὰ ῥήματα ταῦτα ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ αὐτῆς. Καὶ Ἰησοῦς προέκοπτε σοφία καὶ ἡλικία καὶ χάριτι παρὰ Θεῶ καὶ ἀνθρώπων.

Hymns for Today

Hymn for the Circumcision of Christ

Our human form hast Thou taken on Thyself without change, O greatly compassionate Master, though being God by nature; fulfilling the Law, Thou willingly receivest circumcision in the flesh that Thou mightest end the shadow and roll away the veil of our sinful passions.

Glory be to Thy goodness unto us. Glory be to Thy compassion.

Glory, O Word, to Thine inexpressible condescension.

Resurrection Hymn (Fourth Tone)

“To fedron tis anastaseos kirigma ek tu angelumathuse e tu Kiriumathitrie ke tin progonikin apofasin aporrripsase tis Apostolis kafhomena elegon eskilefte o thantos i gerthi Christos o Theos thorumenos to kosmo to mega eleos.”

“When the tidings of the resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished ever more and Christ our God has risen from the dead and granted to the world His great mercy.”

Hymn to Saint Basil the Great

Thy sound hath gone forth into all the earth, which hath received thy word.

Thereby thou hast divinely taught the Faith;

thou hast made manifest the nature of all things that be; Thou hast adorned the ways of man.

O namesake of the royal priesthood, our righteous Father Basil,

intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Hymn for the Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

“Metemorfothis en to ori, Christe o Theos,

dixas tis mathites Sou tin doxan Sou, kathos i dynando

Lampson ke imin tis amartolis to fos Sou to aidion,

presvies tis Theotokou Fotodota doxa Si.”

“When O Christ our God Thou wast Transfigured on the mountain

Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy disciples in proportion as they could bear it.

Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Bestower of light, glory to Thee.”

Kontakion

Now the Lord of all that is doth undergo circumcision, in His goodness cutting off the sins and failings of mortals.

He this day doth give salvation unto the whole world;

and the hierarch and bright day-star of the Creator now rejoiceth in the highest,

Basil the wise and divine initiate of Christ.

Megalinarion Hymn

“All of creation rejoices in you, O all full of grace; the assembly of angels and the human race.

You are a sanctified temple and a spiritual paradise, the glory from whom God was incarnate and became a child—our God, existing before all ages. He made your womb a throne, and your body more spacious

than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in you, O full of grace. Glory to you.”

WELCOME VISITORS!

We welcome all new visitors who worshipped with us this morning. We are pleased to have you with us! Please join us next door after service for coffee and fellowship.

There is material in the entrance of the church regarding ministries and events of Transfiguration.

You are invited to complete the information form below and either put it in the collection plate, or mail it back to us. We hope that you will return often to worship with us and grow in Christ!

NAME(S)- _____

ADDRESS- _____
(street, city, zip)

PHONE- _____; EMAIL- _____

Please check the following areas that apply:

I am visiting the area

I recently moved into the area

I would like to learn more about Orthodoxy

I am interested in becoming Orthodox

Please send me new member information

I would like to speak with a Priest

Place me/us on the parish mailing list

Other: _____

Receiving Holy Communion

The sacrament of Holy Communion is reserved for only baptized and/or Chrismated Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared by fasting, prayer and confession. The Orthodox Church is not in sacramental communion with any other church outside the Orthodox Christian Faith. If you are not Orthodox, you are invited with everyone to receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) at the end of service. If you would like information about the Orthodox Church and becoming an Orthodox Christian, please see Father Vasileios after services.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH

Dolly, Betty, Arlena, Sophie, Archie, Lou, Thomas, Kathy, Suzanne, Pat, Steve, Nina, Phyllis, Katheryn, Panayioti, Anna, Margaret, Sami, Ibrahim, Mary, George, Susan, Matthew, Ellen, Katina, Nelda, Nick, Elaine, Malone, Tracy, Richard, Lilly, Kimberly, Dion, Jamil, Dimitrios, Lisa, Maggie, Mindy, Joan, Nakis, Micky, Kiane, Lari, Ed, Sally, Mariana, Brian, Kaeley, Tristan, Matt, Jeff, Sophia, Angela, Jennifer, Konstandinos, Elia, Rose Marie, Bilyana, Maria, Susan, Jane, Romeo, Clara, Costa, Cindy, Philip, Trey, Barbara, Evangia, Michael, Jeffrey, Victoria, Nicole, Anastasia, Katie, Suzanne, Katie, Stella, Michael, Nicole, George, Katherine, Fr. Peter, Venton, Nick, Tatiana, Sandy, Caleb, Pete, Wendy, Lorraine, Tina, Anna, Michael, Anna, Pamela, Shawn, Anthoula, Megan, Leo, Lili, Christy, Glenn, Philip, Katelyn, Joshua, Jason, John, Julia, Nick, Maria, Carolyn, Betty, Ruth, Nicholas, Joyce, Connie, Deacon George, Ralph, Vana, Andreas, the Nun Elizabeth, Alexandra, Sonia, Sultana, Boyd, Argyre

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR ARMED FORCES:

Sgt. Jennifer D. Atkinson, Staff Sgt. John Atkinson, Lt. Col. Dave Romine, Capt. James Alfaro, Staff Sgt. Deane Anderson, Captain William Willett, Maj. Timothy Ullman, Major Chris Chase, Cadet Mindy Keys, Army Ranger Specialist Andrew Bentzel