



16T. ANTHONY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
385 Ivy Lane, Bergenfield, NJ 07621
January 6, 2019

PARISH
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Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop

FEAST DAY OF HOLY THEOPHANY (EPIPHANY)

Epistle: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17
Tone: For the Feast Day

St. John the Baptist

Prokeimenon: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

THE EPISTLE

The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to Titus.

TITUS, my son, the grace of God had appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of the great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. Declare these things; exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

THE EUCHARISTIC OFFERINGS

The Holy Oblations are offered by the Maaya, Agouras and Pantel Families; for the health and welfare of those living members and for those departed this life in Christ.

The chair people of the International Festival offer the Coffee Reception: Melissa DeBenedetto, James Gakos, Dino Mavropoulos and Nicole Nasser. We ask our parishioners **NOT TO WAIT** to sign up for offering the Coffee Reception; this is a vital part of our parish life! The Chart is posted in the "Coffee Room" and the items needed are on our web site (see our web page address above). The Coffee Reception does not need to be "fancy;" just "Coffee'n." See Barbara DiNovi or Sandy Eliopoulos for information, but please take your turn, perhaps with another family.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **HOLY OBLATIONS (OFFERING) BOOK.** The new pages for the year 2019 are being prepared to receive the names of our family members. **NEW COMMEMORATIONS BEGIN**

TODAY JANUARY 6. Please print clearly, do not write! And remember: MEMORIAL SERVICES are scheduled only by speaking directly with Father or secretary Genny Mandalakis. (Do not write memorial services in the Holy Oblation Book; this list is for the Great Entrance Commemorations only!

2. TODAY IS THE FEAST DAY OF THEOPHANY! JANUARY 6th. We will bless the waters immediately after Liturgy. Church School this morning will begin at 10:00 AM and students will sit with their class in the front of the Church (near the Font). The Sanctified Water will then be distributed. You may bring a small container or bottle.
3. **Sunday, January 20th** is the celebration of our Patronal Feast Day of ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT! St. Anthony is recognized as the Father of Monasticism in both the Eastern and Western Churches.
4. After the Liturgy, we will bless the loaves, the Artoclasia, and in the spirit of this Family Day, we will then share a Patron Day Brunch. There is NO CHARGE for this day; we expect to see all our children present! This "identity day" is OUR day as a community united in love and faith; it is a day of celebrating "who we are and what we do!"
5. You will soon receive a letter from Father, sent to the entire parish regarding this day. It is our "Identity Day!" PLEASE READ THIS LETTER CAREFULLY! This letter includes the meaning OF THE DAY, AS WELL AS THE PROCEDURE. Please follow the instructions. When you receive my letter, please consider what I write to you seriously, and respond accordingly. Since this is "our" day, I pray that you will please ponder my words: then fill out the PLEDGE CARD you receive, place it in the accompanying envelope, and BRING IT TO CHURCH on the 20th; these will be collected and PLACED ON THE ALTAR as a sign of our pledge (our vow) to God. We look for a pledge from every person and family in our parish!
6. The first Parish Council Meeting for the year 2019 will be held on Wednesday, January 16th at 7:30 PM SHARP in the Jabara Media Room. Please be on Time!
7. **SAVE THE DATE, MARCH 8, 2019 6:30 PM. St. Anthony's Tricky Tray.** Please bring any baskets, decorative containers or recyclable shredding or bubble wrap in to church and place in bin. Also when holiday shopping for gift cards ask merchant to match the amount to donate to St Anthony's fundraiser. Donation letters will be available to solicit for our next important fundraiser. See Betty Gakos or Leslie Carter for further details.
8. Listed here are the additions to the Christmas Wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year: Lisa Fares, Alison Deeb, Angela Bogris, Rob and Pam Scarpa, Athena Lantz, Stratos and Suzanne Mandalakis, Nick and Debbie Nagorny, and Tessie Black.
9. There will be a tricky tray committee meeting TODAY, Sunday, January 6 at 12:15. Please attend and see how you can help.
10. Women's Guild meeting will be held Thursday, January 10 at 7:30 in the Jabara meeting room. Please attend to help plan the remainder of our year.
11. **HOW TO APPROACH THE CHALICE:** When you are approaching to receive the Holy Eucharist, please CROSS your arms over your chest, SAY your full baptized name, TILT your head slightly back, and OPEN your mouth wide. Please keep your arms folded until you are far from the Chalice, and of course, this is NOT a time for conversation anywhere in the Church. The rule is absolute silence during the distribution of the Eucharist. Only the Choir should be heard.