



*Welcome to St. Athanasius the Great
Byzantine Catholic Church*

**“Christ is Born! Glorify Him!”
“Christos Razdajetjsja! Slavite Jeho!”**

We welcome all to the Divine Services at our parish. Our restrooms are in the Dormition Hall behind the Rectory next door. On Sundays, after Divine Liturgy, our potluck luncheon is open to everyone, especially our guests. Come join us for fellowship.

Troparion - Tone 4:

**Your birth, O Christ our God,* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge;* for throu those who worshiped the stars* have learned from a star to worship you, the Sun of Justice,* to know you, the Dawn from on High.*
Glory to you, O Lord!**

Need to request an appointment with Father?

Father is available for confession or spiritual direction by app mointment, and he welcomes you to contact him whenever you need him.

Prayers for the sick or other intentions:

If you have a special intention for the sick, birthdays, or deceased, need to request a Liturgy or other service to be offered for someone please give a note, text, or call Father at 216-532-6364.

Opportunities to Help with Fundraising....we are called into service

Currently, our parish is unable to exist without fundraising initiatives. Our most successful venture over the years has proved to be the traditional pierogi and European baked goods made in our commercial kitchen and sold at the various local Farmers' Market venues. **Volunteers are always needed to help with the baking and selling.** Cleaning the work areas and equipment is also a welcome opportunity to serve (can be an evening after work). **You are always needed, even if it is for a couple of hours.**

The Winter Carmel Market started October 19 and continues every Saturday until March 29, 2025. Bakery activities continue Tuesday through Friday. **Please contact Father Mykhaylo, to schedule a workable day and time (Tuesday through Saturday) for you and/or your family.**

Opportunities For Service At St. Athanasius

- **This year's Winter Market (Oct 19 – March 29) has begun and requires at least one able-bodied volunteer every Saturday morning at 6:40 AM at the church hall to load the van with products, drive the van to the market, unload the van, reload the van with unsold products at market close (noon), drive the van back to the hall, unload the van, take product inventory and store products appropriately in the hall. Additional volunteers, at least 2, are needed to sell products (9:00-noon) at the market. Someone is needed to manage this.**
- **Pierogi pinchers and bakers are always needed (Tuesday through Friday with pierogi making typically on Wednesday).**
- **Our worship space needs to be kept maintained; plants watered, candles filled, carpet vacuumed.**
- **Our social space needs to be kept clean and organized, including bathrooms. Please clean up chairs as well as tables in the hall.**
- **Items for the food pantry are always needed; (food [cans with pop tops are appreciated], toiletries, cereal, carton milk, crackers, peanut butter)**
- **Bags for the food pantry need to be assembled every week.**
- **In the garden: soil preparation, fall planting of garlic, leaves for mulching**
- **Plastic grocery bags are needed for the food pantry and market sales.**

SCHEDULE FOR THEOPHANY			
Friday	<u>January 3</u> Pre-festive Day of Theophany	6:00 PM	Royal Hours
Saturday	<u>January 4</u> Saturday before Theophany	6:00 PM	Vespers
Sunday	<u>January 5</u> Sunday before Theophany	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 1:00PM	Matins Divine Liturgy <u>Great Compline than Great Blessing of water</u>
Monday	<u>January 6</u> The Theophany of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ	8:15 AM 10:00 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	<u>January 7</u> Synaxis of the Holy Forerunner, Prophet and Baptist John	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy

FUNDRAISING GRANTS TEAM

If you are interested in participating with the fundraising grant writing team contact Fr. Mykhaylo or Dawn Montague.

**BLESSING OF THE HOUSE DURING THE THEOPHANY PERIOD
THE DAY AND TIME CAN BE AGREED WITH FR. MYKHAYLO.
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WORK SO I CAN COME TO BLESS THE HOUSE AT
THE END OF THE DAY IF THAT WORKS WITH YOU.
PLEASE, SIGN YOUR NAME ON IN THE FORM IN THE CHURCH ON THE
TABLE WHERE WE TAKE THE BULLETINS.**

**IF DID NOT SIGN UP YOU CAN CALL TO FR. MYKHAYLO'S CELLPHONE:
(216) 532-6364**

**BIG THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO DONATED COOKES FOR
CHRISTMAS COOKES SAIL. MAY THE MIRCIFU LORD BLESS YOU AND
MULTIPLY YOUR KINDNESS AND GRANT A HAPPY AND LONG LIFE.**

UKRAINIAN DIVINE LITURGY IS PLACED AT JANUARY 12, 2025

Services for the Week of December 29– December – January 5, 2025				
Day	Time	Service	Readings	
Sunday	<u>December 29</u> Sunday after Christmas	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon	Jn 21:1-14 Galatians 1:11-19 Mt 2:13-23
Monday	December 30 Postfestive Day of Christmas		No service	2 Tim 2:20-26 Lk 19:37-44
Tuesday	December 31 Last day of the year	6:00 PM	Vespers	Gn 17:1-2.4-7.3.9-12.14; Prv 8:22-30 Prv 10:31-32; 11:2.4.3.5-12
Wednesday	<u>January 1</u> Circumcision of the Lord; Feast of St. Basil the Great; New Year	8:15 AM 10:00 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Mirovanije	Jn 10:9-16 Col 2:8-12 and Heb 7:26-8:2 Lk 2:20-21.40-52 and Lk 6:17-23
Thursday	January 2 Pre-festive Day of Theophany		No service	Tit1:5-2;1 Lk 20:9-18
Friday	January 3 Pre-festive Day of Theophany	6:00 PM	Royal Hours	
Saturday	January 4 Saturday before Theophany	5:00 PM	Vespers Confessions	Rom 8:8-14 Lk 10:1_15
Sunday	<u>January 5</u> Sunday before Theophany	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon <u>Great Compline Blessing of water</u>	Jn 21:15-25 2 Tim 4:5-8 Mk 1:1-8

Financial update:

Date	Bakery Sales	Building Fund	Candles	Holy Day	Sunday Tithes	Weekly Total
12/22	\$1865.80	\$490	\$120	\$1500	\$355.87	\$4,331.67

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

**"::FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN; UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN!" (Isaiah 9:6)
"I assure you, brothers, the gospel I preached to you...came by a revelation from Jesus Christ" (Gal. 1:11,12)**

"...the angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph with the command: 'Get up, take the child and His mother, and flee to Egypt...Herod is searching for the Child to destroy Him (Matt 2:13).

The attempt on the life of the child Jesus is as much a part of the gospel as the glorious account of His birth. We believers cannot be neutral about the Lord. Let us seek Him like the Wise Men - to give Him worship, honor and glory!

It is always a joy to celebrate this Holy Feast of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus. His coming has a way of making things seem right, of making us be right! And it is not the spirit of Christmas that makes it so. Rather, is the Spirit of Christ, the Holy Spirit! It is EMMANUEL - GOD-WITH-US! AND SO WE GIVE THANKS!

And before I forget...now, TODAY is a good time for me and all of our Parish Family to THANK! Those of our Parish Family who do that something extra for the rest of us. Day after day, week after week, we take the efforts of so many others for granted ... those who come daily to Liturgy to pray for all, the singers and the servers, the readers and the ushers, those who teach our children and those who clean our church, the caretakers of the cemetery and grounds, those who take care of our Social activities and those who visit the sick, the officers of the Council and those who help them...and all who do that little extra, that perhaps only God knows - to make our St. Stephen Church a holy place of faith, worship and love. Let us be known as the first Christians: "SEE HOW THEY LOVE ONE ANOTHER!"

"BEHOLD A VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON, AND HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED EMMANUEL •• GOD-WITH-US!"(Matt 1:23)

"Christ is Born!...Christ has come from the heavens, Receive Him!" Indeed Christ has come from heaven not to be born in a cave but rather, to be born in our hearts.

My prayer for You is that all of you would receive Him as your most precious gift at this Holy Time and Glorify Him Forever!

We welcome with great joy the Birth of Our Lord Jesus into our midst. The Eternal God becomes that which He was not - a man - to reveal Himself and the Father to us and to send upon us the Holy Spirit!

O LORD, WE THANK YOU THAT YOU ARE OUR GREAT GIFT"!

I behold a new and wondrous mystery. My ears resound to the Shepherd's song, piping no soft melody, but chanting full forth a heavenly hymn. The Angels sing...Bethlehem this day resembles heaven, hearing from the stars the singing of angelic voices; and in place of the sun, enfolds within itself on every side, the Sun of Justice. And ask not how: for where God wills, the order of nature yields...This day He Who is, is born; and He Who is, becomes what He was not. For when He was God, He became man; not departing from the Godhead that is His.

This day He Who was ineffably begotten of the Father, was for me born of the Virgin, in a way no tongue can tell...And His heavenly generation is true, and His generation here on earth is true. What shall I say! And how shall I describe this birth to you? For this wonder fills me with astonishment. The Ancient of Days has become an infant. For He assumed my body, that I may become capable of His Word; taking my flesh, He gives me His Spirit...He takes my flesh, to sanctify me; He gives me His Spirit, that He may save me.

Come then let us observe the Feast...For this day the ancient slavery is ended, the devil confounded, the demons take to flight, the power of death is broken, paradise is unlocked, the curse is taken away, sin is removed from us, error driven out, truth has been brought back, the speech of kindness is diffused and spreads on every side, a heavenly way of life has been implanted on the earth, angels communicate with men without fear, and men speak with angels.

And why is this? Because God is now on earth, and man in heaven; on every side all things join together. Though He was God, He became Man; not denying Himself to be God. He did not become God. He was God. He became flesh so that He Whom haven did not contain, a manger this day would receive.

From a Christmas Morning Homily of St. John Chrysostom



Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers

Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins
10 AM Divine Liturgy

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