

*Sunday after Nativity
Holy Innocents*

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*Galatians 1:11-19  
Matthew 2:13-23*

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*Homily by
Dn. Kevin Dougherty*

*Epistle Reader:
Stan Snider*

*Coffee Hour Host:
Terrell / Clodfelter*

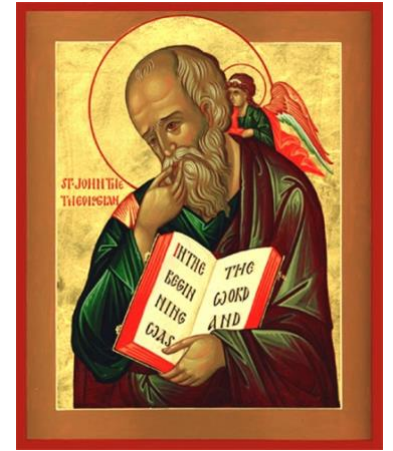
St. John Orthodox Cathedral

Weekly Bulletin



*Sunday, December 29, 2024
And the Days Following*

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*O Apostle John, speaker of Deity, the beloved of Christ our God, hasten to deliver your people powerless in speech, for He on Whose bosom you lean accepts you as an intercessor. Beseech Him, therefore, to disperse the darkness of ignorance and pray for peace and great mercies to be shown upon us.*

## *Feast Days and Services*



### *Great Feast of Epiphany the Baptism of Our Lord - January 6*

Services:

**Friday, January 3**

Royal Hours 1<sup>st</sup> 6:15am; 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:15am; 6<sup>th</sup> 12:15pm; 9<sup>th</sup> 3:15pm

**Sunday Evening, January 5 –Fast Day**

Great Vespers with Special Hymns and Readings - 6:15pm

**Monday Evening, January 6**

Blessing of Water and Divine Liturgy of Saint John –6:15pm

This Great Feast is important for all Orthodox Christians to celebrate. It is equal to Christmas and one of the oldest Feasts of the Church.

While Christmas celebrates our Lord's birth "in the secrecy of a cave," Epiphany celebrates, for the Orthodox, the public *appearance* of our Lord at His baptism and the *appearance* of God as Trinity: The Father speaking from heaven, the Son standing in the Jordan, the Holy Spirit descending as a dove. The word "epiphany" means *appearance*, and sometimes the Feast is also called "Theophany," meaning the appearance of God.

In the Great Blessing of Water, we pray for God to be present in the water and through it to give us healing and purification as we drink from it and with it bless our homes.

**It is important for all Orthodox Christians to celebrate this Feast Day.**

## Parish Events and News



### SHARE THE JOY - An Invitation to Celebrate New Year's Eve – 12/31/2024 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm in the Church Basement

- Bring your paintings, poetry, wood carvings, musical instruments, song lyrics, knitting needles, crochet hooks, crazy stories, life lessons, parenting hacks, color-coded organizational spreadsheets, card tricks, recipes (if accompanied by food, even better)! **Come share something that brings you joy - any skill, talent, habit, concept, or creative work -- and enjoy gifts shared by others!**
- Pizza will be provided; sides and desserts are welcome (*especially if your gift is baking or cooking!*). This event is for all ages; additional guests are welcome also!
- Please RSVP [here](#), or contact Allison Justus with any questions or offers to help: 931-265-4356.  
*“For every good and perfect gift is from above...” - James 1:17*

### Volunteer Drivers for Oksana to Church Needed

We need drivers for Oksana to attend church with us each Sunday and hope you could help. Please email Dn. Kevin or text me at 907-947-5345 for any Sunday that you could volunteer. Please see the list of needed rides below: Dec 29 \_\_\_\_\_ January 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Jan 12 \_\_\_\_\_ Jan 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan 26 \_\_\_\_\_ February 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Feb 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Feb 16 \_\_\_\_\_  
Feb 23 \_\_\_\_\_

**Even if you can do only one way please volunteer. Thank you.**



### Coffee Hour This Sunday - December 29, 2024 All Groups - Fifth Sunday of the Month

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month – December 29, 2024 – Terrell / Clodfelter  
Everyone Brings Snacks and Helps Clean Up

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Next Sunday – Group A – January 5, 2025 - Hosts: Alexander / A & J Temple

Snacks: Abel, Bower, Carrol, Cook, Davis, Dozier, Gillquist Families, Haley, Jenkins, Justus, Lindblom, Macalino, Mellor Families, Northeys, O'Fallon, Patras, Sorensens, Stallmans, Templeton, Tysver, VanDewater, Weaver, Wells

Notes and Pictures from Parishioners

“Checking In” with Each Other

Is there something you'd like to share? Please email cathedral@stjohnalaska.org

Dates to Remember

Birthdays This Week

December 30 - Steve Sparks

January 1 - Willard Dunaway

January 2 - Jenny Stogsdill

M A N Y Y E A R S !

January 2 - Derick Hanna

January 2 - Luke Cain

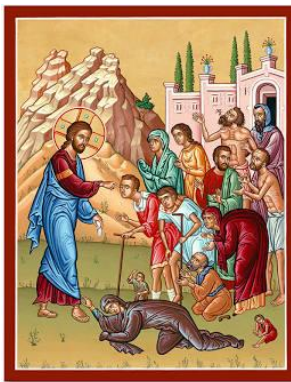


Anniversaries This Week

Daniel & Amy Jenkins - January 2, 1994

Andrew & Natasha Haines - January 3, 2010

Sean & Martha Fisher - January 3, 2014



Remembering in Prayer...

*Gwyn Jones
Joe Dunham
Sylvia Villafana
Helen Gillquist
Blake Dulillo
Kerry Jones*

*Chris Grasse
Josephine Hanna & her
family
Dwight Stallman
Elisa Betson*

*We continue to pray for all those suffering in Ukraine
and for all those suffering in Israel and Gaza, for a quick end to
war and for peace*

Remembering Those Who Have Fallen Asleep This Month



* Archpriest Harold Dunaway - January 3, 2012

* Kh. Barbara Ann Dunaway - January 23, 2011

* Infant Mark McIlrath - January 25, 1986

M E M O R Y E T E R N A L !

Clare House Meal - 4th Saturday of Each Month

For the Month of **January** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is:
Saturday, Jan 25. Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



THE SYNAXARION

Sunday after Nativity – December 29

Holy Innocents

David the King, Joseph the Betrothed, and
James the Brother of the Lord

On December 29, in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the fourteen thousand infants slain by Herod in Bethlehem; George, bishop of Nicomedia; Venerable Abbot Markellos of the “Unsleeping Ones” Monastery; and all Orthodox Christians who have died from hunger, thirst, the sword and freezing.



On the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate the holy and righteous Ancestors of God: Joseph the Betrothed of the Holy Virgin and Lady Theotokos; James the Brother of the Lord and First Bishop of Jerusalem; and David the Prophet and King.

Verses

*We honor Joseph, the Betrothed of the Virgin, who alone was chosen to be her protector.
And, the blessed James, who was a carpenter's son,
but was also the brother of the Lord Who built all with a word.
How can we express the honor given to David,
seeing that the Lord Himself testifies him as a man after His own heart.*

David committed adultery and murder, yet God forgave him and glorified him above all the kings of Israel. He gave him the great grace to compose the most beautiful penitential prayers (the Psalms) and to prophesy the coming of Christ. Thus, God was not ashamed to take upon Himself flesh from David's seed.

God designated Joseph to protect the Most-holy Virgin and imparted to him great honor in the plan of the salvation of mankind. Although Joseph was of the royal lineage of David, he was a humble carpenter in Nazareth. At the age of 80, Joseph took the Most-holy Virgin from the Temple in Jerusalem and into his home. He entered into rest at the age of 110.

The Apostle James is called the “Brother of the Lord” because he was the son of the righteous Joseph the Betrothed. James greatly loved Jesus and, according to tradition, he traveled to Egypt with the Most-holy Virgin and Joseph, when Herod sought to slay the newborn King.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.



Bulletin Announcement Guidelines

Send announcements to church email address: cathedral@stjohnalaska.org Have announcements submitted by Thursday or at very latest Friday 9am. If you have any questions regarding announcements – contact Maris Kelly at the church office. 907-696-2002.

Saint John Orthodox Cathedral

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• Diocesan Website: <http://www.antiochianladiocese.org>
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway • Assistant Priest: Fr. Robert Polson