

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY 1/5/25

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✨ John Hromyak

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✨ Mary Lenk (req. by Paul & Doris Pangratz)

11:00 AM (E) For the Parish Family

THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD 1/6/25 and Blessing of Water

Monday: 6:30 PM (E) Blessings for Glenn & Michele Galaida

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY 1/12/25

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✨ Martin M. Pushchak (req. by Anna Marie Dowd)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) Blessings for granddaughter Sarah Rose Ottum (req. by Ray & LeaAnne Luzier)

11:00 AM (E) Special Intention (req. by Duane and Kathy Adams)

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:

12/29/24

\$1507.00**CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD JANUARY COLLECTION – Facial Tissue***Proverbs 14:31 – “Anyone who oppresses the poor is insulting God who made them. To help the poor is to honor God.”***EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION**

God with Us Eastern Catholic Formation is the official catechetical apostolate of the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States. The website address is: www.godwithusonline.org This website now makes available radio podcasts, online lectures, a monthly newsletter, books and other education materials which serve to promote a better understanding of Eastern Catholics and their expression of the Catholic faith in the United States. The resource material on this website is constantly updated or changed to better meet the needs of its users.

THANK YOU FROM FATHER JOHN

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, gifts, and kind messages of support during this Christmas season. As we enter a new year, may your days be filled with God’s guidance and protection. May your faith grow stronger and your love for Christ deepen as we journey together on Our Lord’s path of salvation.

*JESUS PRAYER – Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner***CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!
CHRISTOS RAZDAJETSJA! SLAVITE JEHO!****FEAST OF THEOPHANY – January 6**

Theophany is a Greek word that means “manifestation.” This particular Theophany occurred at the Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan. It is special because of the Presence of all Three Persons of the Blessed Trinity – The Father, Whose Voice is heard saying, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased” (Luke 3:22); The Son (Jesus) in the waters of the Jordan; and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove above the Head of Jesus.

God manifests Himself to us in other, more common manifestations that are still important in our lives. The first of these ways is through miracles. Many of us know of miracles, perhaps of a medical nature, perhaps someone not being seriously injured in an accident that might have claimed a life, etc. These are God manifesting Himself to us.

The second way is through His church. When we read the Scriptures, receive the Sacraments, and worship with other believers, God reveals Himself to us in a powerful way. Through His Church, we come to know our Lord and Saviour more intimately.

The third way God manifests Himself is through others. Again, we all know people who came into our lives at just the right time for just the right reason. These are the people God has chosen to help us, and through whom He makes Himself known to us.

St. John the Baptist

John was a “voice of one crying in the desert.” As a prophet, John called people to repent and turn back to God. John’s ministry reminding the Israelites to turn back to God and was preaching along the same lines as Isaiah. Isaiah told the Israelites to stop worshipping false gods and turn to the one true living God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. However, the Israelites, like us, preferred to worship false gods and idols. Today many worship celebrities, sports, and money.

John appeared as a voice in the wilderness, as another Isaiah, to ultimately prepare the way for Jesus. However, John, like most of the prophets, was persecuted for his preaching.

THE HOLY TRINITY

How clearly we see the Trinity in God’s plan of salvation. “God (the Father) so loved the world that He gave His only Son (Jesus) that whoever believes in Him may not perish but have life everlasting” (John 3:16). Then Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to abide with us forever.

The doctrine of the Trinity then, is an expression of the three aspects of our experience of God. We think of Him as God the Creator or Father. We think of Him as revealed historically in the Person of Jesus, the Son of God. We experience Him as a pervading, continuing presence and power in our lives – as God the Holy Spirit.