
Bulletin for January 4-17, 2026



*"This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased."*

—Matthew 3:17—



SUN	1/4/2026 9:00 AM	SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY Divine Liturgy
<i>Perpetual Commemorations for the Week of January 4-10, 2026:</i>		
MON	1/5/2026 5:30 PM ~6:30 PM	THEOPHANY EVE (STRICT FAST DAY – NO MEAT OR DAIRY) Vigil Service with the Great Blessing of Water Parish “Holy Supper”
TUES	1/6/2026 9:00 AM	THEOPHANY – THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST Divine Liturgy
WED	1/7/2026 9:00 AM	2ND DAY OF THEOPHANY: ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST Divine Liturgy <i>With Weekly Perpetual Commemorations</i>
SUN	1/11/2026 9:00 AM	SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY Divine Liturgy
<i>Perpetual Commemorations for the Week of January 11-17, 2026:</i>		
MON	1/12/2026 6:00 PM	CHUPAK, Julie GULA, Peter & Helen
WED	1/14/2026 9:00 AM	SOROKA FAMILY: John Sr., Suzanna, John Jr, Michael, Irene, Mary, Ray, John & Ann Walko, John R. Hynes, Bob Couch, Margaret Hosick and Stan Hosick, Susan Walko, Mary Soroka, Helen Couch, Barbara Nunez <i>With Weekly Perpetual Commemorations</i>
SUN	1/18/2026 9:00 AM	32ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Divine Liturgy <i>Perpetual Commemorations for the Week of January 11-17, 2026:</i> MUDREY, John, Paraska, Marjorie, Joseph, Ann, Donald, Eric, John, Mary, Michael, Elva VUDMASKA, Frank, Helen, John, Frank Jr., Mary, Margaret, Helen, Eva, Julia, Michael, Elva GUZI, Andrew & Virginia

— ANNOUNCEMENTS —

■ Theophany Services on January 5 & 6

Theophany—the Baptism of Christ—is the third most important feast on the Church's calendar. It is the twelfth day of celebrating after the Nativity. Please note the special schedule of services and events both on the eve and on the day of the feast:

Monday, January 5, 2026

5:30 PM: Compline Service and Great Blessing of Water (~6:00 PM)

If you can't make it for 5:30 PM because of work, etc. then aim to arrive by 6:00 PM, since that is when the Blessing of Water will begin.

6:30 PM: Pot-Luck "Holy Supper"

*Please bring a **STRICT FAST** (no meat or dairy) item to share!*

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

9:00 AM: Divine Liturgy

■ House Blessings Begin January 6, 2026

Starting on the holyday of Theophany, Fr. David will be available to bless homes with the newly-sanctified water. As usual, house blessings will be *by request only*. An online form is available on our website stjohnacroc.org. Fr. David will communicate with you directly to set up a day and time—he will not simply show up. *This is a wonderful tradition and a great way to begin the year with faith in Christ!*

■ The **INSTALLATION OF THE 2026 CHURCH BOARD and 2026 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will take place on Sunday, January 25, 2026. All parishioners in good standing (*which includes both reception of Confession and Communion no less than once a year, and financial support of the parish*) are asked to attend. We look forward to your participation in this important annual meeting!

■ 2026 Traveling Icon Sign-Up Now Available

Each week, we ask one household in our parish to take this special icon home and offer daily prayers for our parish and community. Stop by the Information Table in the Hall to add your name to the list!

■ We are currently **collecting Can Tabs for the National Junior ACRY**. These will benefit Ronald McDonald House. A container is currently in the Hall. This collection will continue through the spring. *Please join in!*

■ **CAMP NAZARETH STAFF APPLICATIONS** are now available on the Camp Nazareth website: campnazareth.org! Anyone interested in being a part of the 2026 CN Staff is encouraged to apply for a Staff position. Applications are due February 1, 2026 so don't delay! Being on the CN Staff is a wonderful opportunity to get involved in a vital and meaningful Diocesan apostolate, form lasting friendships, help children grow in their faith, grow in your own faith and use your God-given talents for the benefit and up-building of His Church. We have worked with a number of students to design internship positions that help them earn credit in their program of study as well. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Stephen Loposky, Camp Nazareth Director - 724-662-4840 or campnazareth@acrod.org or fr.stephen.loposky@gmail.com.

■ **Some Important Dates in the Next Few Months...**

Tuesday, January 6:	Theophany – Baptism of Christ
Sunday, January 25:	Installation of Officers and Annual Parish Meeting
Sunday, February 22:	Pre-Lenten Breakfast & Vespers
Monday, February 23:	First Day of the Great Fast – Lent
Friday, March 6:	March Pirohi Sale
Friday, April 3:	April Pirohi Sale
Sunday, April 5:	Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 12:	PASCHA (Easter) – Resurrection of Christ

Liturgy “For Life” on January 23, 2026

As in past years, we will offer a service to bring special attention to the sanctity of human life in the womb and to pray for an end to the sin of abortion in conjunction with the “March for Life” in Washington DC. This year, we will celebrate **Divine Liturgy** at 9:00 AM on Friday, January 23, 2026.



Christmas Market 2025 Report

<u>Revenue Category</u>	<u>2025 Revenue</u>	<u>2024 Revenue</u>
Cookie Sales and Holiday Gifts & Decorator Items	\$11,858.87	\$8,829.74
Donations Received	\$3,935.00	\$850.00

Our gratitude to Renee Maceyko and Mary Ann Lavin for chairing this annual event and to ALL who helped in any way! God bless you all!

STEWARDSHIP *From Dan Hromyak*

"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." - Luke 2:19

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. She heard God's message and immediately said "yes." Mary teaches us to live with joy and gratitude for the many blessings God has given us. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world. We do this through lives of gratitude and generosity.

"John tried to prevent him saying, "I need to be baptized by you, yet you are coming to me?" - Matthew 3:14

Our Orthodox teachings states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Orthodox there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus - the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

2026 Stewardship Update: We have received 47 Pledge Cards for 2026 totaling \$71,553. Thank you for your generosity!

CAMP NAZARETH SUMMER CAMP 2026

The time for Summer Camp is Rapidly Approaching!!! The clock is ticking!!

***REGISTER ONLINE STARTING MARCH 1, 2026
@ 6PM (Eastern Time)!!!***

Dates for the Summer Camping Program

Week 1: Sunday, July 19 – Saturday, July 25, 2026 – Johnstown, Pocono, Southern Tier, Youngstown and Chicago Deaneries

Week 2: Sunday, July 26 – Saturday, August 1, 2026 – Pittsburgh, Mid-Atlantic, Washington D.C., and Tri-State Deaneries

Week 3: Sunday, August 2 – Saturday, August 8, 2026 – New England, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida and Canada Deaneries

Science and Nature Camp: **Sunday, August 9 - Wednesday, August 12, 2026**

Register Online Starting March 1, 2026 @ 6pm (EDT)
Register at – campnazareth.org

Registration for Camp will be on a **First-Come First-Serve Basis!!** Once capacity for a given week is filled, all other campers will be put on a waiting list.

Cost for Camp – Diocesan \$390/child, Non-Diocesan \$440/child

\$20 Early Bird Discount Per Child!!!!
(one-time only, not per week)

Must Register & pay by May 1, 2026!!!!

Online Registration MUST be complete AND payment must be submitted by May 1 in order to qualify for the Early Bird Discount.

Registration will close on June 15, 2026 @ 12pm!

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

3180 Morefield Road
Hermitage, PA 16148

*Church Office: 724-981-0571
To Reach Fr. David: 724-813-3172
E-mail: father.david@stjohnacroc.org
Website: www.stjohnacroc.org*

Rev. Father David Mastroberete, Pastor

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese – Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Sacramental and Membership Information

Sick Calls can be made at any time. Please phone the rectory (724-346-4457) when a family member is admitted to the hospital, or to request a home visit to receive Confession and Communion. Hospitals do *not* call to alert the parish when someone is admitted.

Marriages are solemnized on Saturdays or Sundays. Circumstances may require a dispensation from the diocesan bishop. Consult the pastor at least six months in advance and before any plans have been made for the wedding reception. Marriages cannot be celebrated during the fasting seasons of the church, or on Fridays.

Baptisms are usually scheduled on Saturdays or Sundays, but other days are possible as well. Consult the pastor. Two godparents (godfather and godmother) are required, at least one of whom must be a practicing Orthodox Christian in good standing at an Orthodox parish, and the other (at least) a practicing, baptized Christian.

Church Funerals are, under ordinary circumstances, provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual and material obligations to the parish; otherwise, the funeral service is conducted at the funeral home. **The Church does not permit cremation.**

Parishioners in “good standing” are those Orthodox Christians who, as members of Saint John’s Orthodox Church, strive to live according to the teachings of the Orthodox Church; participate in the life of the parish through regular church attendance, regular reception of Holy Communion and periodic Holy Confession (and receive these sacraments no less than once a year); if married, having been married in the Orthodox Church; and financially support the parish (especially through an annual “pledge”).

Prospective members and returning members are asked to fill out an application form, copies of which are available in the church office.

Our Church’s Website:

stjohnacroc.org

Our YouTube Live Stream:

youtube.com/user/saintjohnsharon

Our Facebook Page:

facebook.com/SaintJohnHermitagePA

Our Diocesan Website:

acrod.org

For Online Giving Options, please visit our website: stjohnacroc.org

■ Our Sponsors ■

January 4, 2026

Eternal Lamp
In Memory of +Julie Chupak
On Her Birthday
By Bob & Lorraine Amos



January 11, 2026

Eternal Lamp
For All Parishioners

Pray for Our Seminarians
Fr. Peter Sodini, Deacon Maximus Cannaverde, Fr. Alexander Hurtsellers, Bradley Shaffer, Nicholas Cizin, John Bonnewicz-Coffey, John Fedornock III, Spyridon Clay Raburn and Ignatius Leonardo

The following 2026 sponsorships are available:

Bulletin Sponsor: \$15.00
Eternal Lamp: \$10.00
St. John (Right Side) Candelabrum: \$5.00
St. Nicholas (Left Side) Candelabrum: \$5.00
Altar Flowers (Except Lent, Easter Sunday, Advent, and Christmas): \$60.00

**Schedule of
Men to Hold
Candles During
the Gospel**

January 4
Matt Ristvey
Tom Ristvey
Thomas Ristvey
Steve Saluga
Milan Shumkaroff

January 11
Gino Tofani
Aaron Van Zanten
Donald Yasnowsky
Kevin Yasnowsky
Gary Yonchak

January 18
Jason Baker
Dave Beight
Dennis Burprich
Ben Campbell
Evan Campbell