

# SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## *Clergy:*

*Rev. Father David Mastroberte*  
*Very Rev. Protopresbyter Michael Polanichka*  
*Rev. Deacon John Anderson*

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

## **Bulletin for December 25-January 7, 2017** *– Christmas & New Year's Edition –*



# CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

## *Joyous Christmas Greetings*

Best wishes to all for a merry Christmas  
and a happy and healthy New Year of 2017!

*Rev. David M. Mastroberte*

*Very Rev. Protopresbyter Michael Polanichka*

*Rev. Deacon John Anderson*

*&*

*Pres. Steven Lukac and Our Church Board Officers and Trustees*

As we remember Our Lord's Birth and celebrate this festive season, we express our thanks to many within our parish:

- We thank all who donated towards the **Christmas Flowers** that beautify our church for this festive time.
- We thank all those who gave of their time to help **decorate** the church on December 4th and on December 22nd.
- We thank all those who gave of their time and talent to staff our annual **Gift Wrapping** at the Shenango Valley Mall. We especially thank **Mary Ann Lavin** for organizing the calendar, and for **Dennis Burprich** for helping open and close on a daily basis.
- We thank **Shannon Baker and our PTO** for organizing the St. Nicholas Luncheon, and to "St. Nicholas" for visiting.
- We thank Cantor Professor **Joseph Jaeger**, Choir Director **Paula Kudelko**, our **Choir Members**, and **Dan Hromyak** for their offering of their singing at the divine services throughout the Nativity Fast and Christmas feast.
- We thank our **altar servers** for their assistance at the Holy Altar.
- And we thank **ALL of our parishioners and friends** who gave offerings and donations in honor of Christmas.

**May Our Lord, born in a manger for our salvation,  
bless and keep you now and in the coming new year!**

## CALENDAR OF SERVICES & EVENTS

<b>MON</b>	<b>12/26/2016</b>	<b>SECOND DAY OF CHRISTMAS (MOTHER OF GOD)</b>
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
<b>TUES</b>	<b>12/27/2016</b>	<b>THIRD DAY OF CHRISTMAS (ST. STEPHEN THE FIRST MARTYR)</b>
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
<b>FRI</b>	<b>12/30/2016</b>	<b>SIXTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS (FAST FREE)</b>
	5:00 PM	Baptism of Tatiana Amelia Mastroberte
<b>SAT</b>	<b>12/31/2016</b>	
	4:00 PM	Vespers
<b>SUN</b>	<b>1/1/2017</b>	<b>8TH DAY OF CHRISTMAS; ST. BASIL THE GREAT; NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy of St. Basil <i>With Special Prayers for the New Year and Cutting of the "St. Basil Bread"</i>
<b>THURS</b>	<b>1/5/2017</b>	<b>EVE OF THEOPHANY (STRICT FAST)</b>
	6:00 PM	Parish Theophany Eve "Holy Supper" followed by...
	7:00 PM	Great Compline Service
<b>FRI</b>	<b>1/6/2017</b>	<b>THEOPHANY; BAPTISM OF OUR LORD (FAST FREE)</b>
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water
<b>SAT</b>	<b>1/7/2017</b>	<b>SECOND DAY OF THEOPHANY (SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST)</b>
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
<b>SUN</b>	<b>1/8/2017</b>	<b>SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY</b>
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy <i>Panachida: ++Walko Family (Perpetual) &amp; +John Sekerak (Perpetual)</i>



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

¶ The “**Christian Greeting**” for the 12 Days of Christmas is “Christ is born” and the response “Glorify Him”! *Be sure to know the response when you come forward for mirovanije after services.*

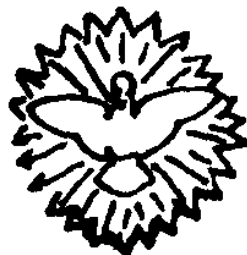
¶ **Christmas isn’t over yet!** December 25th isn’t the last day of Christmas—it is the *first* day! The festive, fast-free period goes from December 25th through January 4th. January 5th, as the eve of Theophany, is a strict fast day. January 6th, Theophany, commemorates the Baptism of Christ and is the close of the 12-day season; it is fast-free. Aside from coming to services to mark these joyful days, find ways of

celebrating at home as well. One simple way is to leave your decorations and lights up for the “12 Days of Christmas.” *Give glory to the newborn King!*

¶ **Schwans Fundraiser Reminder:** Through Schwans-Cares.com, you can order from Schwan’s Home Delivery and help our church! When you order by **December 29, 2016**, 20% of product and 40% of eGift Card sales go to Saint John’s! Order online at [schwans-cares.com/c/30390](http://schwans-cares.com/c/30390) and click “Shop to Give.” Or order by phone by calling 1-855-870-7208 and provide our ID 30390. *Great for the holidays!*

***Congratulations** to Paul McMahan who was received into the Holy Orthodox Church on Sunday, December 18th.*

*May God grant him many, blessed years!*



# Thoughts on Stewardship

## *by Dan Hromyak*

*"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." - John 1:14*

Jesus is God's ultimate gift of love to us. The countless other blessings that God showers upon us are nothing compared to the gift of His only Son. The only appropriate way for us to respond to such generous love is with our own generous love. When we dedicate our lives to sharing all the gifts God has placed in our hands, the peace of Christ truly will control our hearts and we will know Christmas joy every day.

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

Mary is the perfect role model for living a stewardship lifestyle. She listened to God and said "yes" to His invitation to be the Holy Mother of His son. She also trusted in God's providence on a daily basis. As we start a new year, take time every day to listen to how God is calling you; trust that He has a better plan for you than you could ever imagine.

**Stay up-to-date on happenings throughout our Diocese!**

Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>    Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>    Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>  
You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

**Don't forget to "like" our parish on Facebook: [facebook.com/SaintJohnHermitagePA](https://facebook.com/SaintJohnHermitagePA)**

# 2017 STEWARDS OF SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH (To Date!)

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Amos, Robert & Lorraine  
Andras, Robert  
Baronowsky, Steve & Kathy  
Bauer, John  
Bich, Karen & Ronald  
Blasko, Joseph & Mary  
Bobanick, Robert & Janice  
Burprich, Dennis  
Chupak, Jerry  
Chupak, Julie  
Chupak, Mary  
Cook, Helen  
Doyle, Debby  
Everett, Chester  
Fabian, Ed & Francine  
Fabian, Matthew & Dina  
Fabian, Natasha  
Hartley, Katie  
Hellman, Kelly & Tom  
Holmes, Margaret  
Hromyak, Daniel  
Hromyak, Margaret  
Hynes, Brent  
Hynes, Jim & Karen  
Hynes, Jimmy  
Hynes, Katie  
Jaeger, Joseph & Helen

Kapusta, Robert & Rebecca  
Kee, Helen  
Kroko, Melinda  
Kudelko, Anne  
Kupensky, Diane  
Long, Nancy  
Lukac, Steven & Natalie  
Lutz, Andy & Billie  
Mastroberte, Fr. David & Pani Vikkie  
Moon, John & Deborah  
Piston, Kathy  
Polanichka, Fr. Michael & Pani Eleanor  
Repasky, Mary Jane  
Ristvey, Dan & Carol  
Ristvey, Thomas & Melinda  
Roach, Marlene  
Saluga, David  
Saluga, Michael  
Saluga, Steve & Cynthia  
Slovesko, Edward  
Tatusko, Joseph & Germaine  
Tatusko, Peter  
Tofani, Gino & Mary Ann  
Waryanka, Michael & Deborah  
Yonchak, Gary & Katherine  
Yourema, Katherine

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We take this opportunity to thank all those who have made a pledge for 2017 to support the work and ministry of Saint John's!

If you have yet to submit your pledge card for 2017, please return your pledge card as soon as possible. Additional cards are available in the vestibule.

## Parish “Holy Supper” on January 5th

Like Christmas Eve, the Eve of Theophany (the Baptism of Christ) is a strict fast day. It is traditional to have a second “Holy Supper” on that evening. Keeping with parish custom, we will gather together on the evening of January 5th for a covered-dish Holy Supper.

**When:** Thursday, January 5th

**Start Time:** 6:00 PM

**What To Bring:** As the “Holy Supper” is a strict-fast meal, bring a **meatless** and **dairy-less** dish to share. While you can bring a food that is “traditional” for the Holy Supper, our menu is not limited to that! Sweet, savory—be creative! Please use the sign-up sheet in the hall so that we will not repeat any dishes.

The **Theophany Eve Compline service** will begin after the meal and clean up, approximately 7:00 PM.

## House Blessings 2017

*Notes from Fr. David*

House Blessings will begin on January 6th. This year, there is a change in the way you sign up for a blessing. **Rather than having individual forms to fill out, there is a “master schedule” in the hall, listing days and times I will be in different areas.** Just add your name to the schedule in a given time-slot.

I am always happy to sit and visit, but one request: **no food or snacks!** I appreciate the show of hospitality, but food and beverages are not necessary.

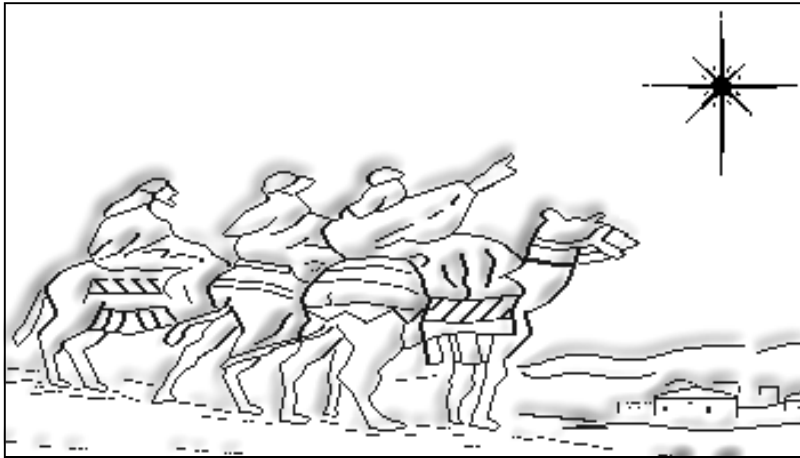
Please call me (724-813-3172) if you have any questions about scheduling a house blessing.

**Eternal Lamp ~ Sunday, December 25th**

In Loving Memory of Father and Grandfather, Joseph Chupak, from Jerry, Patti and Ryan Chupak

**Candelabrum ~ Sunday, December 25th**

In Loving Memory of Parents, John, Jr. and Irene Hromyak by Dan Hromyak



**BIRTHDAYS**

- Dec. 25 Stephen Bartko  
Dec. 28 Dr. Emil Maurer  
Dec. 30 Debby Doyle  
Jan. 3 Julie Chupak  
Taylor Moon  
Jan. 4 John Kolbrich  
Jan. 5 Andrew Waryanka  
Jan. 6 Julie Gordon  
Jan. 7 Gary Yonchak

**MEN TO  
HOLD CANDLES**

**Sunday, January 1**

Steve Lukac  
Andy Lutz  
Ken Maceyko  
Dr. Emil Maurer  
Fred Meiss

**Sunday, January 8th**

Robert Miller  
John Moon  
Nick Orras  
Alex Parimuha  
John Parimuha

**ANNIVERSARIES**

**December 27th**

*George & Marilyn Radu*

