

## A WORD FOR THE DAY

Without repentance and the awareness of one's own sins, one is incapable of opening one's heart before God. Repentance is a necessary first step towards salvation. It is not a one-time step either, because repentance should accompany a person through his or her life from youth to old age. Ideally, our every day should begin and end with repentance.

### *Kirill, Patriarch of Moscow and All-Russia*

When we love Christ, we live the life of Christ. If, by the grace of God, we succeed in doing this, we find ourselves in a different state, we live in another, enviable state. For us there is no fear: neither of death, nor of the devil nor of hell. All these things exist for people who are far from Christ, for non-Christians. For us Christians who do His will, as the gospel says, these things do not exist. That is, they exist, but when one kills the old self *along with the passions and the desires* (Gal. 5. 24), one gives no importance to the devil or to evil. It doesn't concern us. What concerns us is love, service to Christ and to our fellow men. If we reach the point of joy, love, worship of God without any fear, we reach the point of saying, *It is no longer I who live; Christ lives in me* (Gal. 2.20). No one can prevent us from entering into this mystery.

*St. Porphyrios, from Wounded By Love: the Life and Wisdom of St. Prophyrios, pg. 90.*

## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

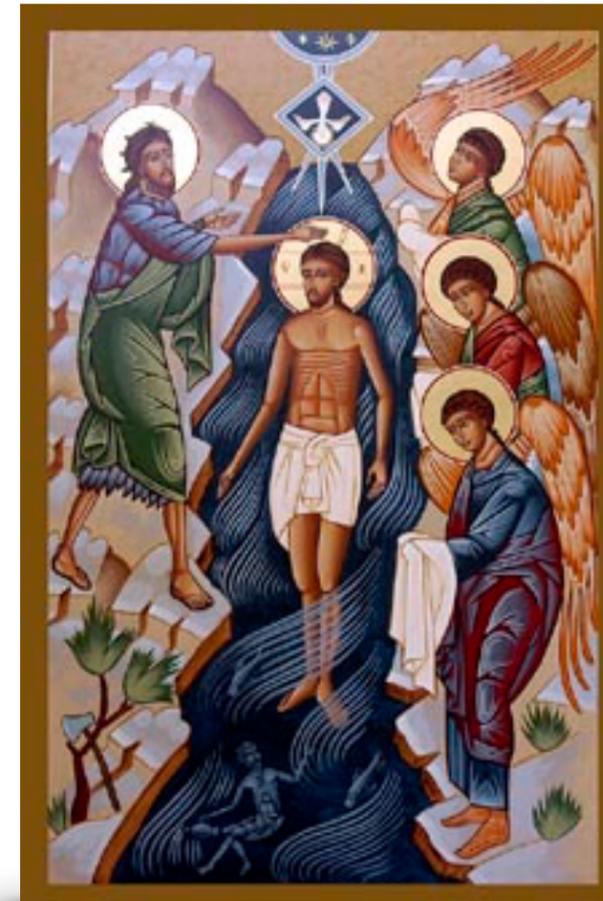
A Parish Of The New England Diocese ✙ Orthodox Church In America

Jan. 8, 2017

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Tone 4. Afterfeast of the Theophany. Sunday after Theophany.**

Ven. George the Chozebite, Abbot (6th c.). Ven. Domnica of Constantinople (474). St. Emilian the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzicus (9th c.). Ven. Gregory, Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—1093). Ven. Gregory the Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.). Hieromartyr Isidore and 72 others at Yuriev (Estonia—1472). St. Paisius of Uglich (1504). Hieromartyr Carterius of Cæsarea in Cappadocia (304). Martyrs Theophilus the Deacon, and Helladius, in Libya (4th c.). Martyrs Julian and his wife, Basilissa, and with them Marcionilla, her son Celsus, Anthony, Anastasius, 7 children and 20 soldiers, at Antinoë in Egypt (313). Ven. Elias the Hermit, of Egypt (4th c.). Martyr Abo the Perfumer, of Tiflis (Georgia—790).



Afterfeast of Theophany



Venerable George the Chozebite

## Divine Services

Saturday, Jan 14th .....Great Vespers .....6:00 pm  
(followed by Confessions)

Sunday Jan 15th .....Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom .....10:00 am  
(Hours 9:40 a.m.)

## Today's Readings

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

## For Next Week, Jan 15th

Hours and Thanksgiving Prayers .....Steven Nikitas

Epistle: .....Irene Vassos

Coffee Hour .....Alla Yefremova

**Memory Eternal: Marjorie Grinko** (Dec. 23)

**For the health and well-being** of Archpriest Joseph and Matushka Julia Petranin, David Patterson, Laurel Trahan, Tony Makdisi, Andrew Colestos, Stanislav, Valerie, Leonard, Timothy, Valerie Eagen, Ruth Eagen, Helen Metros, Fenaeda, Raya, Irina, Katia, Dennis, Svetlana, Konstantin, Al, Mercy Ptak, Vladislav, Galina, Nancy, Archpriest Vsevolod, Michael, Oliver

## January Birthdays | Anniversaries

**Birthdays:** Fadia Makdisi (01), Jordan Chamberlain(03), Marina Bobrovsky(06), David Patterson (08), Lucian Radulescu (09), Gabriella Goloman (17), Fred Feingold (22), Chloe Chamberlain (24). **Anniversaries:** Emilie and Rick Goydey (04), Barbara and Behzad Parhizgar (20)

## Announcements

**Welcome Fr. David!**

**Fr. Joseph is traveling** to New Jersey for the week following our celebration of Theophany. If there is an emergency, please call our parish president, Irene Vassos. (413) 441-4966.

**No Daily Vespers** and Study Group this Wednesday

**Fadia Makdisi will give the parish an update** on the upcoming fundraising banquet she is organizing for the suffering of Syria today at coffee hour.

## Upcoming Events

**Many Years to Joe Eshleman.** Two days ago, during the Vespers Liturgy Thursday night, Joe Eshleman was received into the Orthodox Church. We welcome and embrace Joe as the newest member of our parish. God grant you many blessed years!

**The waters have been blessed!** As part of our Holy Orthodox Tradition, we take the newly blessed Holy Water and bless our homes with it. This is a sacred act in the life of the Church. House blessings will begin next week after Fr. Joseph returns from New Jersey. In the meantime, please sign up for the best time for you and your family to receive a house blessing. There are "sign-up" sheets in the back of the church for you to place when that best time of day is for you.

**Annual Parish Assembly Meeting Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 2016.** The new year is approaching fast. Parishioners are reminded now of the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to attend this important meeting. Note on Voting Members: As stated in the amended Statutes of the Orthodox Church in America (Section 5. b. ii and iii), to be considered a voting member of the parish, parishioners must receive the **Sacrament of Confession and Holy Communion** at the very least, once per year. Please see Fr. Joseph if you have any questions or concerns.

**Banquet for the Christians of Syria February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.** Where? St. Joseph's banquet hall, where we had our Anniversary Banquet. Those of us who can help, please see Fadia Makdisi who is coordinating and organizing the event. Also, we will be collecting monies to go towards the rental of the facility and towards plates, forks, napkins, etc. There will be a collections box in the back to place our donations towards this cause.

Last Sunday's Collection .....671\$  
Budget 2017 (determined at Annual Mtg)  
Progress Towards Budget .....\$671