

December 28, 2025
Sunday after the Nativity

Feast of the Relatives of the Lord: Joseph, James, and King David



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fighting the Good Fight with Faith

*Christ is Born! Glorify Him! ~ Christos Raždajetsja! Slavite Jeho!
Христос Рождается! Славите!*

Propers: Sunday after the Nativity: pp. 302 – 305, Resurrectional Tone 4: pg. 141

St. George Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., DEC. 28 SUNDAY after the NATIVITY

8:15 A.M. FIRST HOUR

8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom

Intention: + Anthony and Louise Battalini, requested by Prudence Peya

THUR., JAN. 1 CIRCUMCISION of our LORD **Solemn Holy Day**

11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil the Great

Intention: + Lori Foister, requested by Sr. Mary Virginia

SUN., JAN. 4 SUNDAY before THEOPHANY

8:15 A.M. FIRST HOUR

8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom

Intention: + Connie Hersh, requested by John & Darlene Simunick

Happy New Year!

Bless us, O Lord, and bless the time and seasons yet to come. Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart. And fill this New Year with Your kindness that we may be glad and rejoice all the days of our life.

Happy Birthday Greetings:

December 29: Louisa Hersh, January 2: Sandra Stewart, January 3: Bethhanne Cushin

Please Pray for Our Sick, Shut-ins, and those in need of prayer

Eileen Batcha, Mary Dickey, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan

Josephine Maruhnich – **Beaver Elder Care** (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001)

Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Way, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

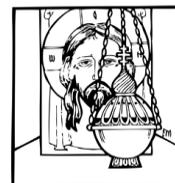
Epistle Readers – Dec. 28: JoAnn Hersh – Jan. 4: Dan Pinchot

Troica Holders – Dec. 28: F. Hersh – Jan. 4: R. Mudron

Pilgrim Vocation Icon

Dec. 28-Jan. 3: Open

Jan. 4-Jan.10: Open



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

December 28 – January 3, 2025

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Mary Mudron

(In Loving Memory)

Offered By:

Mudron Family

Circumcision of our Lord, January 1 - On the eighth day of the feast of the Nativity, which also happens to be the first day of the civil New Year, the Church celebrates the Lord's circumcision and His receiving the name Jesus, which means savior. And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb. (Lk 2:21) This day is also the anniversary of the death of St. Basil the Great, whose memory is part of the liturgical feast. *The Lord of all accepts to be circumcised; Thus in His mercy He circumcises the sins of mortal men. Today He grants the world salvation, While Basil, high priest of God our creator, Rejoices in Heaven as the radiant star of the Church.* According to the Church's liturgy, the Lord underwent circumcision in order to fulfill the Law of Moses, which no one had been able to fulfill before. In performing "everything according to the law" (Lk 2:39), the Messiah finds it fitting "to fulfill all righteousness" (Mt 3:15). In this sense He is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets; not only by doing what was written of Him, but also by doing all things that everyone should do if they truly fulfilled the Word of God.

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ADULT
TRIVIA
Night

Friday, January 16, 2026

6:00 pm – Great Vespers for

St. Anthony the Great

7:00 pm – Trivia in the Social Hall

**Snacks & drinks
provided!**

**21 and
over**

**Prizes for the
winners!**

St. George Byzantine Catholic Church
1001 Clinton St., Aliquippa

St. Mary Divine Services for the Week:

WED., DEC. 31 CIRCUMCISION of our LORD **Solemn Holy Day**
7:30 P.M. All Night Vigil (Great Vespers and Festal Matins)
9:45 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil the Great
11:00 P.M. NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

Intention: Private

SAT., JAN. 3 SUNDAY before THEOPHANY
7:00 P.M. GREAT VESPERS

SUN., JAN. 4 SUNDAY before THEOPHANY
10:45 A.M. THIRD HOUR

11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom

Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

St. Nicholas Chapel Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., JAN. 3 SUNDAY before THEOPHANY
5:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom

Intention: Private

Fr. Anthony will be away until December 31st. Please call Fr. Joseph Raptosh our Protospesbyter, at St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church in Canonsburg at 724-745-7117 in case of a sacramental emergency.

Fugitives with Christ

Even as He came in swaddling clothes we see a tyrant raging, a flight ensuing and a departure beyond the border. For it was because of no crime that his family was exiled into the land of Egypt. So do not be troubled if you are suffering countless dangers. Do not expect to be celebrated or crowned promptly for your troubles. Instead, you may keep in mind the long-suffering example of the mother of the Child, bearing all things nobly, knowing that such a fugitive life is consistent with the ordering of spiritual things. You are sharing the kind of labor Mary herself shared. So did the Magi. They both were willing to retire secretly in the humiliating role of fugitive.

(St. John Chrysostom)

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

Thank you for all the Christmas Cards and gifts, I am most touched by your generosity.

I'm worn out from all of our Christmas preparations and will be taking a couple days off (and will be taking a couple more off after Theophany).

There are a lot of wonderful Holy Days this time of year, so I encourage all of you to continue to come to our many services celebrating these mysteries of our faith.

January 1st, the Circumcision of our Lord and the Feast of St. Basil the Great, is a Solemn Holy Day. Please consider attending either our Vigil and/or Liturgy at St. Mary's on New Year's Eve (with a party after!) or at 11am at St. George on New Year's Day. To the best of my knowledge several Melkite monks who have a monastery in Rochester, PA will be joining us for our celebration at St. Mary's. It is totally okay to come halfway through the vigil or for Liturgy only. The idea is we want to pray as much as possible to bring in the New Year so come for what you can!

A reminder that January 1st is the last day to sign up for Theophany house blessings.

Please note our flyer for the complete schedule of Divine Services for Theophany, a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be no weekday services Jan. 7th to 9th.

In Christ,
Fr. Anthony

Heaven and earth are united today, for Christ is born! Today God has come upon earth, and man has gone up to heaven. Today, for the sake of man the invisible one is seen in the flesh. Let us glorify Him and cry aloud: "Glory to God in the highest! The peace of His Birth to the entire earth! O Savior, glory to You!"

- St. John the Monk

Christos Raždajetsja! ~ Slavite Jeho!

Sunday after the Nativity of Christ

LET US FOLLOW THE MAGI

In the nativity narrative of St. Matthew, we are introduced to the shadowy and mysterious figures known as the Magi, or Wise Men, "who studied the stars and came from the East to Jerusalem." (2:1). If we are willing to reflect for a moment, I think that we can catch glimpses of ourselves in the journey of these men. In a deep sense, they reflect the many dimensions of our own individual journeys of faith.

It is not difficult to imagine the many real dangers of their long journey. The resistance of their families, the efforts of colleagues to discourage them, the unbearable heat and freezing nights of the deserts they crossed, the danger of marauding thieves. And yet, they felt impelled to answer the call of the beckoning Star of Bethlehem, to worship the new-born King and lay their gifts at his feet. In this act of faith and obedience, "how happy they were, what joy was theirs!" (2:9). Finding the child "they knelt down and worshipped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, and presented them to him." (2:11).

In this same way, that Star calls each of us to begin a lifelong journey to meet Jesus Christ, to acknowledge Him and make Him a part of our lives. In doing so, however, we need to acknowledge with honesty and forthrightness the difficulty of following Christ. But as with the Magi, we must undertake the journey knowing of its difficulty.

In the Christian life, discouragement comes in many forms. There is discouragement when it seems our prayers are not answered; when we work with honesty and integrity, but see others, who cut corners, prosper and advance; when we endure personal separation and loss, and when we need compassion and affirmation, and they are not to be found.

But through the mystery of faithful obedience, the Magi offered themselves and their gifts to Christ, transcending at that moment the difficulties and discouragements of their journey. And having met Christ they were changed men, and went home by another route, symbolizing their confidence and trust in the new direction their lives had taken. And to the wise men and women of every age, this same opportunity is given each Christmas when the star returns again, to shine anew in the heart of each of us.



- Rev. Andrew Demotses

ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO

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PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org

Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

Holy Protection Convent, 1000 Clinton St. 724-378-0238

Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik, Dan Pinchot

Grounds Keepers: Rich Mudron, Rob Dzumba, Francis Hersh



Holy Mystery of Reconciliation Thursdays 4:45-5:45 P.M. & before Sunday Liturgy

Holy Mysteries of Initiation Contact the priest

Holy Mystery of Anointing Contact the priest prior to surgery or in the event of illness

Holy Mystery of Marriage Contact the pastor six months prior to wedding

Pirohi Sales 2nd Friday of each month, Oct. - May

St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club... All men & women are members and welcome to participate

Opportunities for StewardshipChurch and grounds cleaning and maintenance: Every Saturday, Pirohi making: 2nd week of each month, October – May, Flea Market and food sale: June

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