

FEAST OF EPIPHANY (THEOPHANY) January 6th
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“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”
– Galatians 3:27

On January 6th, the Orthodox Church celebrates the Feast of Epiphany. This day commemorates the Baptism of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Jesus comes to the Jordan River and is baptized by St. John the Forerunner.

Also known as Theophany, this feast is important for all Orthodox Christians because the Holy Trinity is present. As Jesus was being baptized, God the Father proclaims to the masses: “This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased.”

Also, the Holy Spirit is present at Jesus’ Baptism as a dove. The Baptism of our Lord is also significant to us because it is this day that Jesus is presented to all as the Son of God and His ministry is made known to the world!

Here are some questions to discuss and reflect on about this important feast day:

- 1) The Holy Trinity was revealed the day of Epiphany, Jesus’ Baptism. In what ways is God revealed to us in our daily lives?
- 2) “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” What does this Scriptural quotation from Galatians mean to you? What does it mean to have “put on Christ?”
- 3) In what ways can you share the Feast of Epiphany with others? In other words, how can you reveal God to those who love us AND those who hate us?
- 4) What challenges do we face that make it difficult for us to share God with others?
- 5) What challenges do we face that make it difficult for us to LIVE a life in Christ?

To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread. *Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



January 7, 2018

Synaxis of St. John the Holy Glorious Prophet, Baptist & Forerunner

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January 7, 2018

Commemoration of:

Synaxis of St. John the Holy Glorious Prophet, Baptist & Forerunner

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

En Iorthani vaptizomenu (Feast of Epiphany) Tone 1

As You were baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, then the worship of the Trinity became manifest, for the voice of the Father bore witness to You, naming You the Beloved Son; and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ God, who appeared and illumined the world, glory to You. (Translation from AgesInitiatives.com)

Angelike thinamis (Resurrection Hymn) Tone 6

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, and those who guarded it became still as dead, and standing by Your grave was Mary seeking Your most pure and sacred Body. For You did vanquish Hades and uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the Virgin (woman), bestowing the gift of life. You who have risen from the dead, Lord glory to You. (Translation as sung by the Choir)

En Iorthani vaptizomenu (Feast of Epiphany) Tone 1

Mnimi thiheu (Forerunner) Tone 2

The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you suffices the testimony of the Lord, O Forerunner. You have proved to be truly more ven'erable than the Prophets, since you were granted to baptize in the river the One whom they proclaimed. Therefore, when for the truth you had contested, rejoicing, to those in Hades you preached the Gospel, that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sin of the world, and grants to us the great mercy. (Translation from AgesInitiatives.com)

Tu Stavru Su (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which forever you guard in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone are the lover mankind. (Translation as sung by the Choir)

Kontakion Tone 4

Epefanis simeron

*You appeared today to us * on earth, O Master, * and Your light was signed on us * who cry aloud to You and say * with understanding, O Christ our God: You came and shone forth, O Light unapproachable.* (Translation from AgesInitiatives.com)

Epistle Reading Acts 19:1-8

In those days, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve of them in all. And he entered the

synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, arguing and pleading about the kingdom of God.

Gospel Reading

John 1:29-34

At that time, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

Activities & Announcements

Today

SUN 1/7– St. John the Baptist; Epiphany Celebrations;
Kumarelas/Anast Wedding 5 p.m.

This Coming Week

MON, 1/8– Metropolitan Gerasimos and Bishop Apostolos depart HNL @ 2:10 p.m.

THU 1/11– Parish Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.?

SUN 1/14– Leave-taking of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ;
Parish Council Oath of Office; Vasilopita Celebration

Announcements

- ✘ **Visitation of His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, His Grace Bishop Apostolos & Mr. Alexander Eliades**– We are truly blessed to have in our midst, from the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco our Metropolitan, our Chancellor and Seminarian/Chanter.
- ✘ **Epiphany Celebration & Cross Throwing** - Today, January 7, 2018: Light lunch at Church followed by excursion to Magic Island for Cross Throwing. Men and boys 40 and under are encouraged to dive for the Cross. Also any of the children in our community may also participate in diving for the Cross. Please meet in the corner of the parking lot at Ala Moana Park Drive and Ala Wai Channel for the Procession and stay afterwards for a group photo. (See map posted upstairs on bulletin board.)
- ✘ **FDF– January 11th thru 14th in San Francisco, California:** Best wishes to our Nisiotes and Nisiopeda Dancers and Aloha Youth Choir!
- ✘ **FDF Fundraiser Glendi for Dance Group**– Saturday, January 20, 2018, 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Dinner and Entertainment in Church Hall. For tickets, contact Diana Graves or any dancer.