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Liturgical Schedule

Divine Liturgy  
Sunday: 8:30 am  
Holyday: 9:00 am

Confessions

One half hour before  
the divine liturgy or  
by appointment

Served By

*Father Vasyl Yakubych*

*Василь Якубич*

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The Divine Liturgy intention is for the parish family

If you would like to schedule a Liturgy please talk to Father Vasyl or use the sign up sheet in the vestibule.

**Reminder:**

There is a list for Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary Lamp intentions in the vestibule of the church.

*House Blessings* will begin after Theophany (January 6th) It's not too soon to start thinking about what day would be best to invite Father Vasyl for this annual blessing.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

*St Basil was born in the reign of the Emperor Constantine, in about 330. While still unbaptised, he spent fifteen years in Athens studying philosophy, rhetoric, astronomy and other contemporary secular disciplines. Among his fellow-students were Gregory the Theologian and Julian, later the apostate emperor. When already of mature years, he was in the Jordan together with his former tutor Evulios. He was Bishop of Caesarea in*

A great champion of Orthodoxy, a great torch of moral purity and zeal for the Faith, a great theological mind, a great builder and pillar of the Church of God, Basil fully deserved his title 'the Great'. In the Office for his Feast, he is referred to as a bee of the Church of Christ, bringing honey to the faithful but stinging those in heresy. Many of the writings of this Father of the Church have survived - theological, apologetic, on asceticism and on the Canons. There is also the Liturgy that bears his name. This Liturgy is celebrated ten

## Sunday after the Nativity

(Commemoration of the Holy Righteous David the King, Joseph the Betrothed, and James the Brother of the Lord)

Tone 7

### Menologion

The Holy Innocents killed by Herod in Bethlehem.

Our Venerable Father Marcellus, Hegumen of the Akimetes (486).

### Propers

Pages 156, 302-305

## Fasts & Feasts

### JANUARY

1 Great feast The Circumcision Of Our Lord, God And Savior Jesus Christ. Our Holy Father Basil The Great, Archbishop Of Caesarea In Cappadocia (379). 9 am

6 Theophany of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ 9 am

30 The Three Holy Hierarchs: Basil The Great, Gregory The Theologian And John Chrysostom. 9 am

### FEBRUARY

2 Encounter of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ with Simeon and Anna (Presentation of Our Lord Into the Temple) 9 am

times in the year: on January 1st, on the Eves of Christmas and the Theophany, on every Sunday in the Great Fast with the exception of Palm Sunday, and on the Thursday and Saturday in Great Week.

St Basil departed this life peacefully on January 1st, 379, and entered into the Kingdom of Christ.

*On this Sunday the Church commemorates three people who were close to Christ.*

First of all, His ancestor, the holy King and Prophet David, who foresaw the Coming of Christ in his Psalms.

Secondly, we recall the righteous Joseph the

**Betrothed, who protected the Mother of God and her Child before, during and after His birth.**

**Thirdly, we remember the son of Joseph, James, who accompanied the Mother of God, Christ and Joseph on the flight into Egypt, and later became one of the Apostles and indeed was martyred as James the Righteous, the first Bishop of Jerusalem.**

It is interesting to recall to Non-Believers the words of the Gospel regarding this Flight into Egypt, and how Joseph was commanded to 'take the young child and his mother into Egypt'. We note how the Scriptures clearly do not call Christ, 'Joseph's son', or his mother, 'your wife'. Again the Scriptures say that all this was to fulfil the words of the Scriptures: 'Out of Egypt have I called my son', and not, 'out of Egypt have I called Joseph's son'.

Let us on this Sunday after Christmas, look at what we give to Christ, to those in His Church, and to those in His world, and let us ask ourselves if we are Wise.

Father Vasyl would like to thank everyone for their generosity to the Parish with your Christmas offering. Thank you for the support so many have given to all of our fund-raising efforts during the year of 2024,

Also, Fathar and I would like to thank all who remembered us during this Holy Season of Christ's birth with Christmas greetings and the generous gifts. Your thoughtfulness and generosity were greatly appreciated. May God continue to bless us throughout the New Year as we journey together as a family of faith,

At this time, we have a wonderful opportunity to do more good deeds for our neighbors, for people who now especially need our help. Last year our parish family and other caring people helped make Christmas joy for orphan children in Ukraine. The funds we collected were used to buy necessary things, such as clothes, shoes and food for the children who lost their parents due to the war. Thanks to our donations, we were able to make many orphans happy. I am very grateful for your generosity. But, unfortunately, the war in Ukraine continues. Every day war takes hundreds of human lives. Many children lost their parents. For us Christians, there should be no other people's grief, other people's suffering, and other people's trouble. Therefore, this year we want to help people suffering from war, especially children. Donations to this cause would be greatly appreciated. It can be in cash or check. Checks can be written out to St. Mary's and in the memo: Ukraine orphans. We will send all collected funds to Ukraine for the needs of orphans. Our donation is not determined by the amount we donate, but by the desire of our heart. May the joy of Christmas be felt by those who have lost their relatives and parents. God Bless you!

*Keep Christmas joy alive in your home:*

- a. Keep up the tree until the Feast of the Holy Encounter February 2nd if possible. For your family prayers, read part of the Christmas story from the Gospel from St. Matthew or St. Luke in front of your Christmas icon or Nativity set. Did you put up Christmas lights? Try to keep those up too.
- b. Everybody goes to see the infirm in nursing homes before Christmas, but after Christmas no one goes. Take children along – you'd be surprised what a difference it makes for the elderly infirm to have children around!
- c. Make phone calls or write notes to thank people who sent them presents for the holiday. Perhaps thank a special person in your life, just for being a gift of joy to them. Help them learn to appreciate others and what they do for them: teachers, neighbors, relatives, friends.
- d. Let us all make a point of thanking Jesus for coming into the world to save us from sin and death, and to open the gates of heaven to us once more.

*The Baptism of the New Covenant was prefigured in the Circumcision of the old Covenant. The Lord's Circumcision shows that He took true human flesh upon Himself, not its semblance as heretics later taught of Him.*