



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church

Fr. Edward G. Cimbala, D.Min – Pastor

1773 Woodbourne Road * Levittown, PA 19057

Mailing Address - PO BOX 777 * Levittown, PA 19058-0777

Residence – 2 Coral Rock Road * Levittown, PA 19057-1721

(Cell) 908-872-2928 * (Residence) 215-968-8707 * (Rectory) 215-945-5122

fredcimbala@gmail.com * Website – olphbyz.com

Rev. Myron Badnerosky – Pastor Emeritus

Liturgical Schedule for the Week of December 31, 2017

Saturday, December 30 ~ Vigil

Sunday After Christmas-

5:30 PM For the Parish Family of OLPH

Sunday, December 31 ~ Sunday After Christmas

9:00 AM +Raul Stevens by wife Eleanor,
children and grandchildren

Festal Anointing Following the Divine Liturgies

Monday, January 1 ~ New Years Day

Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord

Feast of St. Basil

9:00 AM God's Blessings on the New Year

Friday, January 5 ~ Vigil of the Feast of Theophany

7:00 PM For the Parish Family of OLPH
Divine Liturgy
with the Great Sanctification of Water

Saturday, January 6 ~ Vigil

Sunday After Theophany

5:30 PM For the Parish Family of OLPH

Sunday, January 7 ~ Sunday After Theophany

9:00 AM +John Zapko by Margie Zapko
Festal Anointing and Blessing with the newly
Sanctified Water Following the Divine Liturgies

2018 LOTTERY CALENDARS NOW ON SALE

Margaret Churilla now has the 2018 Lottery Calendars for sale at \$20.00 per calendar. Every night a possible winner based on 3 digit PA Evening Daily Number. Prizes vary from \$20 to \$200. Please sell some to your friends and families. This is an important fundraiser for the parish.



THANK YOU!!!

Thank you so much for your generosity and kindness shown to me during the Nativity Season. In the New Year may you be blessed with all the good things God has to give.

Please be assured of my prayers.

And I ask for a kind remembrance in yours.

Fr. Ed

Danube River Cruise

Plus Munich, Budapest and Krakow

With Fr. Ed

October 31 to November 13, 2018

Brochures Available in the Vestibule

See Fr. Ed for more details.

Special Cruise Information Webpage

<http://www.olphbyz.com/Pg/DanubeCruise.html>

RESERVATION DEADLINE EXTENDED

A Prayer for the New Year

O Master of all created things, You have established seasons and years by your power. Bless this New Year with Your bounty: Preserve this land and its people in peace, And save us through the prayers of the Theotokos.

A Message From Fr. Ed

My Dear OLPH Parish Family,

As we begin a new year, let us take time to plan and make Stewardship of time and talent a part of our lifestyle and Stewardship of treasure a part of our budget. Your giving to the parish should be planned and consistent. I ask you to think about your level of giving for 2018. Are you in a position to increase your gift in the coming year or do your circumstances require you to reduce your contribution? The important thing is that you think about your giving.

“Everyone must give according to what he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

(II Corinthians 9:7)

I also ask that as we begin the New Year you reflect on your stewardship of time and talent. What can you do for the good of OLPH? Talk with me and we will find something for you!

We have so much to do here at OLPH and the parish does need your contribution of time, talent and treasure.

I have been blessed by your warm welcome and I look forward to working with you to make OLPH realize its fullest potential.

You are in my prayers and I ask that you keep me in yours!

Fr. Ed





House Blessings - As you know, it is our tradition to have our homes blessed after the feast of Theophany on January 6. If you wish to have Fr. Ed come and bless your home, fill out and return the form below. Fr. Ed will contact you to arrange your house blessing.

Fr. Ed, I/We would like to have our home blessed

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

The best days of the week are: _____

The best time of day is: _____

If possible, this is the best date and time: _____

“MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER

FOR ALL PEOPLES.” - Isaiah 56: 7

If you are a visitor to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, we want you to know how welcome you are; whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another parish. We hope you find our worship true and reverent and our people here friendly and cordial. If you are seeking a spiritual home, we would be honored by your presence in our family. For more information about becoming a parishioner, please see Fr. Ed.



Please remember our Seminarian Tim Fariss during the Christmas Season he will be delighted to hear from you.

Tim Fariss

Byzantine Catholic Seminary
 3605 Perrysville Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15214

CANDLE DEDICATION FOR JANUARY

Tetrapod

In Memory of + Andrew Wislotsky and Joseph Kopcho our Fathers by Nadia Kopcho

Altar of Preparation

In Memory of the John Zapko

By Margie Zapko

Altar of Blessing

God's Blessings on the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Family



Special Thanks!

The wonderful people of OLPH donated over 50 gift packages to the Angel Tree

Thank you for your support of this very special program which benefits the Children's Home Society of New Jersey.

“Knight” at the Races

January 20, 2018

6:30 pm - 11:00 pm



The Crow's Nest
 1492 Woodbourne Road
 Levittown, PA

10 simulated horse races with the ability to live wager, buy a horse, or win the grand prize of \$250 with the Raffle Tickets we are selling. There will also be raffle baskets and a 50/50 drawing. Event Tickets are \$35.00 per person and includes buffet dinner, beer, wine and soda. Each event ticket holder will also be entered in one of the races to be held for a chance to win \$50.00 by being the winning horse in that race/heat. There will be a variety of raffle baskets as well. **For more information see Dr. Dan Tisak, Deputy Grand Knight.**



Fashenggy!

A Joint Celebration With the Parishes Of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Levittown

Assumption of the Virgin Mary - Trenton
 St. Nicholas - Roebling
 Sunday, February 11

at

Assumption of the Virgin Mary
 Trenton

A Fun-Filled Fantastic Celebration to Prepare Us for the Great Fast Luncheon and Party followed by the celebration of Forgiveness Vespers

What's Going to be Happening?

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

Followed by Food! Music! Dancing!

Then The Celebration of Forgiveness Vespers to Begin the Great Fast, More Details to Follow.

Transportation will be arranged from OLPH to Trenton.



St. Basil the Great

Celebrated January 1st

Very few of us realize that the beginning of the Church calendar does not start on January 1st. Actually, our Church calendar begins on September 1st. In our daily living, however, with our friends and neighbors and our society, our year begins on January 1st. This is a very important date in our Church since it marks the Feast Day of one of our greatest saints, St. Basil the Great.

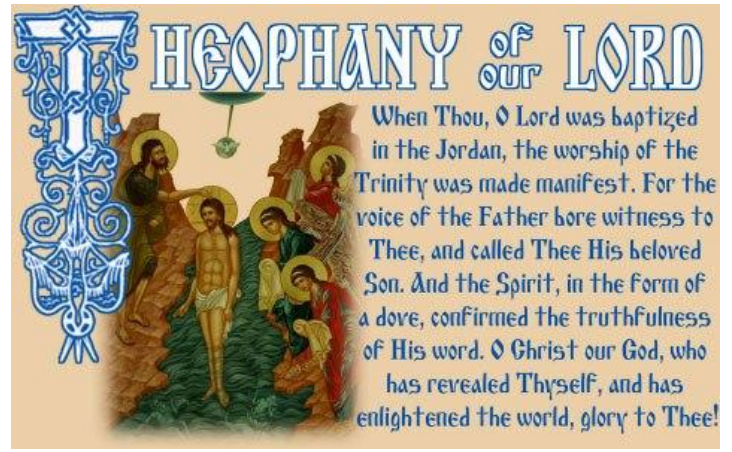
St. Basil was born in the year 330 AD in the city of Caesarea, Asia Minor. He was one of six children who all became saints in our Church. His brothers and sister became priests, bishops, and nuns. His parents were very devoted to the faith and gave their children a great spiritual heritage, which they cultivated in their lifetime. The family of St. Basil was the greatest Christian family of the 4th century. St. Basil studied in Constantinople and Athens. He studied with his best friend, St. Gregory, in the cultural centers of the world. St. Basil was one of the greatest writers and speakers of the Christian Church. Although his fame was spread over the entire Christian world of his day, he returned to his own home town and was ordained Bishop of Caesarea on June 14, 370 AD.

St. Basil was an authority on the monastic life. He formulated the rules and regulations for the monks of his day, and these rules still prevail in most of the Christian monasteries of the world. St. Basil prepared the Divine Liturgy that we love and know so well. Although the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is used 42 Sundays a year in our Church, it is based on the slightly longer Divine Liturgy of St. Basil. St. John merely shortened the lengthy prayers and made minor alterations in other prayers. The Liturgy of St. Basil is celebrated ten times each year: during the Lenten period, Christmas Eve, and on January 1st, the anniversary of his death.

St. Basil was indeed one of the greatest pillars of the Church. He loved children and always assisted the sick and the homeless. He was the first bishop to establish orphanages and hospitals and old age homes. He first directed the attention of the Church to these unfortunate victims of society.

Why was St. Basil given the name "Great"? Only a few people in the world were ever given the magnificent title, "Great"! Alexander the Great was so-called because he conquered the world, but St. Basil was called "Great" because he conquered the hearts and souls of men for Jesus Christ. His whole life was dedicated to Jesus and the message of Christianity. He had the humility of Moses, the zeal of Elijah, the piety of Peter, the eloquence of John the Theologian, and the dedication of Paul. He died in the Lord on January 1, 379 AD.

Reprinted from Lives of the Saints and Major Feast Days by Fr. George Poulos, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America, Department of Religious Education, 1974, p. 39.



The Feast of Theophany

is a celebration of an historic event, the Baptism of Christ. In addition, we celebrate all the different manifestations of God (Theophanies) to men in the Person of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. We celebrate in this Feast His mysterious union with humanity in the Church -- a union of faith and love, engendering men to a new spiritual life in Baptism. The event of the Baptism of Christ in the Jordan River (Mk. 1: 9-11) serves to reveal this union in a clear and special manner.

In accordance with the Gospel this is the first revelation of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit -- the Holy Trinity. The icon brings this revelation to us. At the top of the icon, the opening of heaven is symbolized by the segment of a circle. This circle signifies God's presence and witness at the event. Emanating from the circle are rays of light surrounding the Holy Spirit, depicted in the figure of a dove descending upon our Savior Who is being baptized in the Jordan by John. In this graphic manner, the Father and the Holy Spirit give testimony to the appearance of the Son of God in the flesh among mankind.

In this icon, we are immediately drawn to the Person of Christ. He stands in the waters of the Jordan. The iconographic imagery expresses that not just a part, but the entire body of Christ is immersed in the Jordan in token of His burial; for in Colossians we read: "in baptism you were not only buried with Him but also raised to life with Him because you believed in the power of God Who raised Him from the dead." (2: 12) The icon's illustration of the total immersion of Christ as well as His right hand blessing the waters signifies the sanctification and purification of the waters by Christ. No longer is water an image of death, but an image of birth into a new life which we share with Christ Who took upon Himself the sins of the world. In Christ we celebrate that all of creation is renewed.

A further illustration of our coming to share this new life in Christ is the symbol of Christ undergoing Baptism "clothed" in the nakedness of Adam, the Father of all mankind. Through Christ's sanctification of the waters, He enables us to be raised up with Him and to put on the robes of incorruptibility.

The role of John the Baptist is depicted by the placing of his right hand on the head of Christ -- a gesture which has always been an integral part of the sacramental ritual of Baptism. With his left hand, John makes a gesture of prayer, symbolizing the trembling awe which overwhelmed him at the sight of the divine manifestation. Present in the icon are Angels with their hands covered. Their heads are bowed as an indication of their role of service to God and their reverence for Him Whom they serve. The Icon of Theophany brings us visually and symbolically to the presence of the manifestation of God, the revelation of the Trinity, and the deep, spiritually rich significance of Baptism. In its presence we know that God does reveal Himself to us and that through our Baptism, established by the Baptism of Christ, we are made new in Christ.

Offertory – December 23,24,24,25 2017

	Saturday	Sunday	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Total
Regular	\$442.00	\$739.00	\$180.00	\$40.00	\$1401.00
Energy	0	0	\$25.00	0	\$25.00
Christmas	\$200.00	\$20.00	\$4,722.00	\$2,826.00	\$7,768.00
Candles	0	\$48.00	\$38.00	\$24.00	\$110.00
Total	\$642.00	\$807.00	\$4,965.00	\$2,890.00	\$9,304.00
Attendance	26	36	105	58	225

COOKBOOK RECEPIES COLECTED

'Tis the season for celebrating the birth of Jesus with family and friends around the table enjoying all our traditional foods. Please set aside those memorable recipes that keep your family and friends coming back for more year after year. Thank you! Our deadline for our church cookbook is the end of January 2018. We have a drop box in the church vestibule. Thank you again and may you enjoy your Holidays in good health!

