

January 3, 2010 – 30th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5. Sunday before Theophany. Holy Prophet Malachi (ca. 400 B.C.). Martyr Gordius at Caesarea in Cappadocia (4th c.). Ven. Genevieve of Paris (5th c.). **Epistle:** 2 Timothy 4:5-8. **Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8.

Next Sunday, Jan. 10 – 31st Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday after Theophany – Tone 6. Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13. **Gospel:** Matthew 4:12-17.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S (Jan. 3, 2010)

TODAY

11:15 PM Coffee Hour and Church School

TUESDAY

9:00 AM Royal Hours
1:00 PM Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil
6:00 PM Vigil of Theophany

WEDNESDAY (Feast of Theophany)

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy & Great Blessing of Water
4:00 PM Mahoning River Blessing
6:00 PM Great Vespers (Gathering of St. John)

THURSDAY (Gathering of St. John)

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy & Brunch

SATURDAY

6:00 PM Great Vespers

SUNDAY (Jan. 10)

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: Sun. after Theophany
11:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Class

As a result of giving food for Christmas, our **FOOD PANTRY** is once again severely depleted. Please help restock our Pantry by donating non-perishable food items as you are able: pasta and sauce, dry mixes, canned goods, cereals, etc. Glory to Jesus Christ!

HOUSE BLESSINGS 2010

House Blessings for parish households will begin the afternoon of January 7, 2010. Fr. Jonathan will stop in homes in specific areas of town according to the following approximate dates:

NE Warren January 7-11
SE Warren/Niles January 12-15
SW Warren/Austintown/Canfield January 16-20
NW Warren/Champion January 21-25
Cortland January 26-30
Howland/east to Sharon February 1-6

Please notify Fr. Jonathan to schedule your House Blessing at a specific time when you know you and your family will be home together. Fr. Jonathan will try to call from the cell phone prior to his visit, even if he's only a few minutes away. If your phone number has changed, please let Fr. Jonathan know ASAP to update that information.



MAHONING RIVER BLESSING

(January 6, 2010; 4:00 PM)

Once again on the Feast of Theophany, we will gather at the Mahoning River (behind the Warren Amphitheatre downtown) to bless the waters. The Blessing will begin at 4:00 PM to allow for children to attend after school.

The River Blessing has become our annual custom to ask God's blessing and guidance upon our town, its leaders, and all who reside here. Christ is baptized, and we with Him!

The Friend of the Bridegroom

"He Must Increase and I Must Decrease" (John 3:29-30)

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church
Orthodox Church in America

2220 Reeves Road NE Warren, Ohio 44483
Church Phone: 330-372-3895 www.stjohnswarren.com
General Office Hours: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (TThF)

Fr. Jonathan H. Cholcher, Rector...330-980-0134 (Cell)
Pastoral Emergencies 10 PM - 7 AM ... 330-469-2907
Judy Reed, Sisterhood/Repasts...Home: 330-793-5145
Cell: 330-519-5730
John Tutoki, Hall Coordinator.....330-469-9531

Saturday: Vespers at 6:00 PM Sunday: Liturgy at 9:30 AM
Feast Day Liturgy – 9:30 AM Sunday School (after Liturgy)

GENERAL INFORMATION

12-27-09: 120 (attendance); **\$6,496.00** (collection; including 12/25).
01-03-09: candle commemorations – Theotokos: ----; Altar: ----; Christ: blessed memory of George Tutoki, Jr..

Please Pray for:

Living: Vera (Campbell, at home); **Linda** (Keriotis); **Chariessa** (Stitchik, sister of Mark Malacky); **Lillian** (Motil, cousin of Pauline Struble); **Charles & Ed** (co-workers of Diane Cholcher); **Kerya** (Brisbine); **Melanie** (Smith, cousin of Vera Campbell); **Aaron** (Meterko); **Helen** (Stan); **Maryann** (Lalli) & **Craig** (Parana, friends of the DiGiacobbes); **Raymond** (Flannery); **Linda** (Cuckovich).
Departed: Jason (Tutoki; d. 11/25/09); **Mary** (Wainwright; d. 11/28/09, aunt of Karen and Norman George); **Archbishop Job** (d. 12/18/09).

This Month's Charity – January 2010:

[charity envelope or baskets after Liturgy]

Monastery of St. John the Theologian (in Hiram, OH)

COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

- Jan. 6** **Theophany; Mahoning River**
Blessing (by the Warren Amphi-theatre; 4:00 PM)
- Jan. 7** **Gathering of St. John the Baptist**
(patronal feast day; Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM followed by brunch); *House Blessings begin*
- Jan. 18** **Altar Servers Rally** at St. Michael's in Broadview Heights, OH
- Feb. 2** **Feast of the Meeting of Christ in the Temple**



SPIRITUAL FORMATION:

1) Church (Sunday) School & Bible Class:

for all ages, following Divine Liturgy – adults are studying the Divine Liturgy.

2) Path to Salvation Class:

Tuesdays following Vespers (about 6:30 PM) – currently studying the Life and Feasts of the Theotokos;

3) Classic Literature Reading Group:

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM, at Borders Café (near the Eastwood Mall) – currently reading *Siddhartha*, by Hermann Hesse; engaging the culture with the Faith!

4) St. John's Society (for teens):

most Sundays at 6:00 PM, for fellowship, mutual education, service, and encouragement!

+ **Charity of the Month - December:** \$702 was given thus far for **St. Mary of Egypt Orthodox Monastery** in Cleveland, Ohio. Thank you to all who contributed for St. Mary's. And may God continue to bless their work.

+ Our **annual Parish Meeting** will take place on Sunday, **February 21, 2010**. At that meeting we will review events of the past year, adopt a fiscal budget for 2010, and consider the work God has placed before us for the coming year and beyond.

+ **Compact Disc of Christmas Music** – St. John's Choir recorded Christmas music which will be available on a compact disc sometime around this Christmas season. If you would like a copy of the CD, speak with our Choir Director, Vadim Stehnach, to reserve one.

+ **Charity of the month, January, 2010: the Monastery of St. John the Theologian in Hiram, Ohio.** Please continue to give as you are able to our charity of the month using the Charity envelope in your envelope packet and after Liturgy in the basket collections.

+ ALTAR SERVERS' RALLY – Monday, January 18, 2010, at St. Michael's Church (Broadview Heights, Ohio):

- All Altar Servers are encouraged to attend!
- Sponsored by the Cleveland Deanery.
- For further details, contact Fr. Jonathan, who is also the coordinator for the event.

+ Our next bishop? – a new bishop for the Midwest Diocese will be chosen by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America upon the recommendation of candidates from our Diocese. In the meantime, a *Locum tenens* (acting Bishop) will be appointed from the Holy Synod. Pray for our leaders!

+ PROJECT MEXICO TRIP:

St. Nicholas Church in Mentor, Ohio, is sponsoring a team for Project Mexico this coming summer, June 22-29, 2010. *Space is available for four or five additional persons to join them on the trip, High School age or older.* This is an excellent opportunity for some of our young people to engage in mission work as the team will visit St. Innocent Orphanage and build a home for a family in the Tijuana, Mexico, area (south of San Diego, CA). See Fr. Jonathan for more details.

+ Orthodox Christians for Life is chartering a bus for the 2010 March for Life in Washington D.C.. The bus of Orthodox Christians from the Youngstown-Pittsburgh area will leave early on the day of the March - Friday, January 22, 2010 – and return late the same day. If interested in going, see Fr. Jonathan, or contact Jim Tsikouris at 330-519-1122 (jamestsikouris@live.com).

The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight. (Mark 1:3)