



Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

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December 4, 2016

Divine Liturgy
Confessions
Collection
Capital Campaign

Saturday, 5:30 PM · Sunday, 10:00 AM · Holy Days, 7:30 PM
Saturday, 4:30-5:00 PM · Sunday, 9:00-9:30 AM
November 26-27, 2016: **\$1,517.00**. God bless you for your generosity.
Pledges to Date: **\$9,108.00** · Received to Date: **\$5,873.00**



Thought for the Week...

"Let us pray and prepare for His coming ... to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, in a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another."

Saint Teresa of Calcutta



Come one come all! This **Saturday, December 3, at 9:30 A.M.**, in preparation for Saint Nicholas and Christmas, we will be cleaning and decorating the church with boughs of holly and wreaths of gladness! We need lots of volunteers and strong arms to climb the ladders, to hang the trimmings, to set up the holiday finery and to arrange the festive halls! Let's get together as a great Christian family to beautify our Father's house and to set up for the celebrations ... the more the merrier. Refreshments will be provided.

Saint Nicholas Celebration. Our annual parish Saint Nicholas luncheon will be in the narthex on **Sunday, December 11 following the 10:00 A.M. Liturgy.** As has been our custom, **there will not be a vigil Divine Liturgy on Saturday, December 10.** Please be sure to sign up on the food sheets on the information table in the narthex so we are sure to have enough items for everyone to share. Please see **Julie Leggin** or **Shirley Spontak** to volunteer to



help and make this a most memorable occasion for all. And remember Saint Nicholas promises to be here with his special goodies for our little ones! Let's make this a great family celebration!

'Tis the Season... Our Lord taught us, *"Truly I tell you, whatever you do to these, the least of my brethren, you have also done to me"* (Matthew 25:40). There are so many in our world today who are hungry, lonely, suffering, in pain and struggling ... the children, the sick, the aged, the homeless, the captive. Let's this year give our Lord a huge Christmas present on His birthday by contributing to the parish holiday outreach ... whether it be a toy or treat for a child, a can of soup or a box of rice for the hungry, a warm sweater or pair of socks for the homeless, or some Kleenex and hand lotion for the aged in nursing homes. In the narthex are receptacles to collect these items so we can give them to the less fortunate in Jesus' name this Christmas.



Angel Tree: to share God's love and bless those in need and aged who are in a nursing home; please take a snowflake from the tree which shows a special need and bring your gift to the church.

Toys for Tots: to bring a Saint Nicholas gift to a less fortunate child of God; this U.S. Marine Corps initiative requires that toys must be new and in their original packaging and left unwrapped.

Mary and Martha Food Drive: to provide holiday food baskets for needy families; please only bring non-perishable or canned items and dry goods.

Reminder: Sunday the 18th is the last day we can collect in order to ensure delivery for Christmas.

Our heavenly Father has been so generous to each of us so let's also be generous in charity to the forgotten and least of God's children at this joyous time of our Lord's Incarnation.

Akathist to the Mother of God. To prepare for the Lord's coming, a wonderful devotion which we can say together at home in our families is the **Akathist to the Theotokos**. If you would like a copy of this beloved Byzantine hymn of praise, please see Deacons Michael or James.

Memory Eternal. Father Deacon Michael and his brother Steven extend their deepest gratitude and appreciation to the parish family for their friendship, support and prayers over the many years for their beloved mother, +Rose, who fell asleep in the Lord November 20, 2016. Rose was a member of the parish for 35 years and active until her illness 5 years ago. *Vičnaja pamjät.*

Special Request for Parents. We are truly blessed to have so many children among us; they are indeed the future of our Church. In consideration of all at Liturgy and those who volunteer to clean the church, we are asking parents not to allow children to bring food into the sanctuary as it is damaging the carpeting and very difficult to clean up. If children become a little rambunctious, as all our blessed little ones do from time to time, please do not allow them to freely come and go down the aisles, which is disruptive to the Liturgy. And finally, please help us out and be sure to clean up after your children in the narthex and the Saint Nicholas play room. Thank you.

Together in the Holy Trinity ... One Faith, One Church, One Future!