

Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

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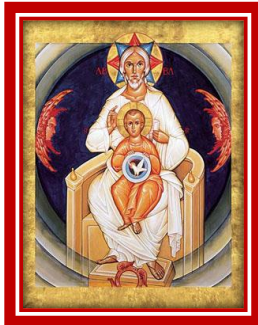
Parish Office: 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401

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November 5, 2017 + 22nd Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5

Divine Liturgy	Saturday, 5:30 PM · Sunday, 10:00 AM · Holy Days, 7:30 PM
Confessions	Saturday, 4:30-5:00 PM · Sunday, 9:00-9:30 AM
Collection	Last week: \$1,511.00 . God bless you for your continued generosity.
Sunday Readings	Galatians 6:11-18 + Luke 8:41-56 (<i>Lucan Leap for 24th Sunday</i>)
Sacramental Needs	Please call Fr. Deacon James 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401

Altar Lamp. During the month of November, the Altar Lamp burns before our Lord in the tabernacle for the family and friends of Randy and Karen Rapach.



The Light of the East ...

“The Savior gives his own glory to us. He raises slaves to the dignity of freedom. He crowns the human condition with honor that surpasses the power of nature. He brings to pass the voice of the psalmist: I said, you are god, and all of you are sons of the Most High. He gives us by his grace what we did not possess by nature, and permits us to call God Father.”

Saint Cyril of Alexandria

Adult Education. Fr. Deacon James continues his introduction to the *Pentateuch*, the first five books of the Old Testament, after the Divine Liturgy each Sunday. We encourage everyone to join us to learn more of the eternal Covenant and relationship which God has with His people.

Saint Nicholas Committee. Our annual Saint Nicholas celebration is just a little over a month away. We will be decorating the church for Christmas on **Saturday, December 2** with the Saint Nicholas luncheon after the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, November 10**. Please consider volunteering to be on the planning committee. We have only had a few volunteers so far and a lot

of hands are still needed to make our annual celebration a great success for everyone, especially our children. Please see Fr. Deacon James for details, our meeting date and to volunteer.

Let Us Pray. This coming week, November 5-11, is **National Vocation Awareness Week**. The Bishops of the United States have called for the Catholic Church to promote vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life. Let us join with Catholics across the country making this week one of fasting and prayer, entreating our Lord to send laborers into His harvest. Let us fervently pray that men and women will respond generously with open hearts and willing spirits to be open to God’s call to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and to care for His sheep and His holy Church. Let us also renew our prayers and support for those who are considering a response to our Lord’s call, especially those in our own parish.



Feast of Saint Michael, Archangel. This Wednesday, **November 8**, we celebrate the glorious feast of the Archangel Michael and all the heavenly bodiless powers.



The feasts of the Church are always challenging us to experience reality as something more than what our senses can perceive and what our minds can comprehend. With this Feast of St. Michael and all the bodiless powers of heaven, we are invited to enter a reality which extends beyond the physical including the parameters of time and space, to take those initial steps into a fuller reality — a richer reality — where we enter with the angels into a celebration of praising and worshipping the One Triune God.

The radiant Archangels, Michael and Gabriel stand directly before the fiery throne of God; they are illuminated by His light, and pass on the illumination and the knowledge of God’s mysteries to all the angelic powers. All the angels have a spiritual, immaterial, subtle, and immortal nature, free of all corruptibility. The Lord brought forth the angels from nothingness into being, sanctified them with His word, and for their steadfastness against evil confirmed them in the Holy Spirit; their nature is full of wondrous, ever-shining light, holiness, goodness, beauty, wisdom, power, immortality, and an ardent love for their Creator, for each other, and for mankind, over whose salvation they rejoice, and whom they wish to have as their eternal compatriots in the kingdom of eternal light and incorruptibility, peace and joy.

What humanly indescribable bliss awaits Christians who are loyal to God to the very end. To be worthy of eternal co-existence and blissful life with the angels in heaven, we must honor them, follow their example of holiness, modesty, love, absolute loyalty to God, and loftiness of thought; and we must live in abstinence, prayer, fasting, charity, mutual compassion and love. Let us use the small amount of time that we have here on earth to progress in Christian virtue in order to inherit that boundless rapture, and may the Lord grant it to us by the prayers of the Most pure Theotokos and the intercession of the honorable celestial Michael and all the bodiless powers, especially the radiant, lightning-like Michael and Gabriel, and our holy guardian angels. Amen.

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