

SAINT HILARY OF POITIERS – JANUARY 13

Saint Hilary, the great opponent of Arianism, was born around 320. He was raised as a pagan but converted to Christianity as an adult. He became Bishop of Poitiers in 350. When the emperor Constantius II attempted to impose Arianism on the western Church, Saint Hilary led a vigorous opposition to his efforts. Because of his outspoken criticism, he was exiled to Phrygia in 356. There he became such a defender and champion of Orthodoxy that the emperor decided it would be less trouble to allow him to return to his diocese.

Saint Hilary continued to fight against Arianism until his death in 368. His holy relics still rest in the cathedral bearing his name at Poitiers in France.

The Afterfeast of the Theophany

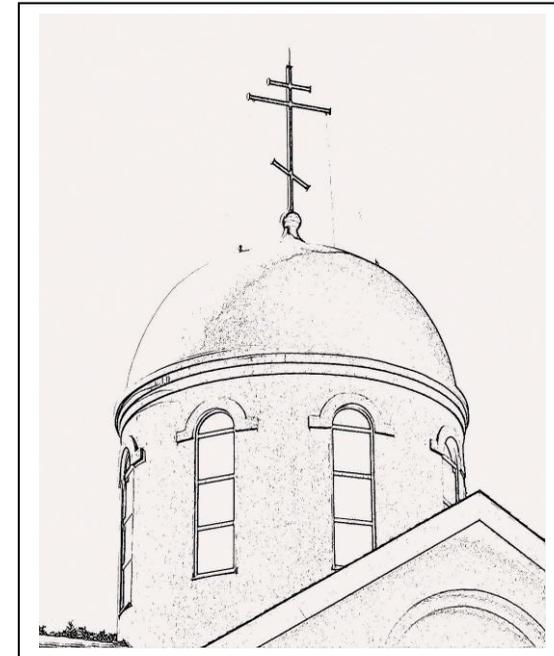
The seventh day of the Afterfeast of Theophany falls on January 13. Many of the Church's hymns during this period rejoice in the manifestation of God (Theophany) at Christ's baptism in the Jordan. The voice of the Father is heard, the Son enters the water, and the Holy Spirit appears in the form of a dove.

A “Thank You” From Your Diocese

Vital work within our diocese has again been supported financially thanks to the contributions of our Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors (DDBs). During 2018, DDBs provided \$185,860.00 for mission parish funding, seminarian scholarships, and a host of programs intended to support and enhance parish ministries and outreach. The voluntary, sacrificial efforts of our DDBs provide much-needed programs and events that would otherwise be impossible to accomplish. Our sincere gratitude is extended to our DDBs, who have made a significant contribution to the Glory of God and the building-up of the Body of Christ in New York and New Jersey. An appreciation dinner for the DDB's of our NJ deanery will take place later afternoon on Sunday, February 23, at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Bayonne.

The Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors program is an essential vehicle for funding the activities and programs of our diocese. Please consider participating in the program. Brochures are located by the bulletin board in the parish hall or at the diocesan website at www.nynjoca.org.

WEEKLY



BULLETIN

Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery. The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: Rejoice O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you!

Troparion of the Annunciation to the Theotokos

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey of the Orthodox Church in America

360 Van Zile Road, Brick, New Jersey 08724

Phone: (732) 458-9032

Email: gjbretton@gmail.com

Fax: (732) 295-0007

Website: www.occa-brick.org

Very Rev. Fr. Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

Very Rev. Fr. Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Fr. Deacon Alexander Smida, *Deacon*

Tara Paxton, *Senior Warden*

Matthew Hascha, *Choir Director*

January 13, 2019

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Afterfeast of the Theophany. Sunday after Theophany.

Tone 8. Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonicus of Belgrade (ca. 315). Ven. Irenarchus, Recluse, of Rostov (1616). Ven. Eleazar of Anzersk Island (Solovétsky Monastery—1656). Martyr Peter of Anium, at Hieropolis (ca. 309-320). St. James (Jacob), Bishop of Nisibis (350). St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers (4th c.). Ven. Maximus Kavsoakalyvites (Mt. Athos—1320).

Today's Readings:

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

Upcoming Service Schedule:

Sunday – 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Saturday - 7:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday – 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Next Sunday's Readings:

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

Gospel: Luke 18:35-43



*The Theophany of
Our Lord*

Coffee Hour Teams:

Today – TEAM E (Bass, Petrides)

Next Sunday – TEAM A (Pasick, Stavrou)

Keep up on OCA news by visiting www.oca.org, diocesan news by visiting www.nynjoca.org, and parish news by visiting www.occa-brick.org.

Welcome to our visitors who have joined us today for worship and prayer. We invite you to stay with us after today's services for an Agape Coffee Hour in our Parish Hall. Please sign our guest book before you leave, tell your friends and family members about us, and bring back one or two of them on your next visit!

Special Prayers

We pray for **all** our parish family members, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are: **Betty James, Olga Kornafel, Deryl Tczap, Reader John Economou, Meni Mari, Tom Collins, Tom Kopec, Walter Romanofsky, Alan Diaz, Cathy Diaz, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Ron Madensky, Dorothy Studier, Helen Ciurczak, Pauline Barnowsky, Elba Cinciarelli, and Catherine Ratushnuk.**

Annunciations

TODAY – The **Church School will not meet today**. Also, during next Sunday's Annual Meeting, **a movie** will be shown to the church school children in one of the church school rooms.

TODAY - 2019 Parish Wall Calendars are located in the narthex and in the parish hall.

THIS SATURDAY – Father Gary will be demonstrating his method of making **prospora** (aka church bread). The session will begin at 1:00pm in the parish hall kitchen. All are welcome. Nothing needs to be brought

NEXT SUNDAY, January 20 is the date set by the Parish Council for the **Annual Parish Meeting**. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend and participate. Copies of the **financial reports** are available today in the narthex and the parish hall. **Other reports** will be distributed electronically during the upcoming week and will be available at the meeting. After the meeting, a **light luncheon** will be served in the Parish Hall.

As you plan your **parish giving for 2019**, please plan **intentionally**. Remember that we are called to give cheerfully according to our means and guided by our Faith. Please treat your giving as a response to God's love for you. Respond abundantly!

The **blessing of homes** has begun. A **sign-up sheet** is located in the church narthex. Please indicate days and times that are most convenient for you to have Father Gary come and bless your home. Alternatively, you may **email Father Gary** with your request for a houseblessing.

Holy Water may be drawn from the font located in the middle of the church through today. After then, additional water can be obtained by request of Father Gary. Please **bring your own containers** if possible!

Parish teens should be aware that there is a **Diocesan Teen Retreat** to be held from March 22-24, 2019 at a new venue this year: Camp Shiloh in Hewitt, NJ! Camp Shiloh offers excellent accommodations, plenty of activities (zip line, low ropes course, rock wall climbing), a huge gymnasium, and many opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors with hiking, campfires, etc. Steve Christoforou (Be the Bee) will be the guest speaker. More information and registration materials will be available shortly.

OUTREACH

- **Food Pantry donations** are *always* accepted. Place non-perishable food items in blue bin in the narthex
- **Clothing donations** are accepted on the last Sunday of each month. Place donations next to the food pantry bin.