

✠ ✠ "THE GOSPEL BEGINS AT THE JORDAN" ✠ ✠

These words of St. Cyril of Jerusalem cause us to focus on the time and place that our Lord stepped out from the background of 30 years of obscurity and into the forefront of mankind's consciousness. From the moment He emerged from the Jordan River after His Baptism by John, Christ embarked upon His divine mission to teach and save the world.

The Feast Day of **THEOPHANY** has a long and rich history among our faithful. Long before Christ's Birth was formally observed, early Christians celebrated the events that occurred along the banks of the Jordan with great solemnity. In addition to commemorating Christ's Baptism, this Feast Day places before us one of the most profound truths of our Orthodox Faith: the mystery of the Holy Trinity. The word "*Theophany*" literally means "*Manifestation of God.*" In one timeless moment, Father, Son and Holy Spirit were revealed to the world. As the Troparion for this magnificent day proclaims: "*The voice of the FATHER bore witness to You, calling You His beloved SON, and the SPIRIT in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words.*" Never had the world experienced such an event!

Traditionally, the "*Great Blessing of Water*" takes place during the celebration of Theophany. In the prayers of blessing, we are reminded that ". . . *today we have been delivered from darkness and illuminated with the light of the knowledge of God.*" The custom of blessing homes is still observed by many Orthodox during the season of Theophany. This pious practice further emphasizes our belief that Christ is the source of protection and guidance for our household.

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Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

Today thou hast appeared to the universe,
O Lord, and thy light hath been shed upon
us, who praise thee with knowledge, saying,
Thou hast come and appeared, O
unapproachable Light.

Ἐπεφάνης σήμερον τῇ οἰκουμένῃ, καὶ τὸ
φῶς σου Κύριε, ἐσημειώθη ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, ἐν
ἐπιγνώσει ὑμνούντάς σε. Ἦλθεσ ἐφάνης τὸ
φῶς τὸ ἀπρόσιτον.



BULLETIN OF ST GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CAPE COD

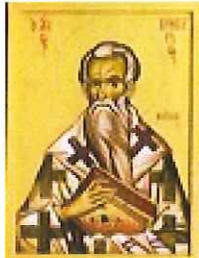
For the period of January 10th - January 16th, 2021

Orthros 8:30 - Divine Liturgy 9:45

Rev. Fr Timothy Curren, Proistamenos

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IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS



Sunday after Epiphany
Stewardship Sunday
January 10
Gregory of Nyssa

Saint Gregory, the younger brother of Basil the Great, illustrious in speech and a zealot for the Orthodox Faith, was born in 331. His brother Basil was encouraged by their elder sister Macrina to prefer the service of God to a secular career (see July 19); Saint Gregory was moved in a similar way by his godly mother Emily, who, when Gregory was still a young man, implored him to attend a service in honor of the holy Forty Martyrs at her retreat at Annesi on the River Iris. Saint Gregory came at his mother's bidding, but being wearied with the journey, and feeling little zeal, he fell asleep during the service. The Forty Martyrs then appeared to him in a dream, threatening him and reproaching him for his slothfulness. After this he repented and became very diligent in the service of God.

Gregory became bishop in 372, and because of his Orthodoxy he was exiled in 374 by Valens, who was of one mind with the Arians. After the death of Valens in 378, Gregory was recalled to his throne by the Emperor Gratian. He attended the Local Council of Antioch, which sent him to visit the churches of Arabia and Palestine, which had been defiled and ravaged by Arianism. He attended the Second Ecumenical Council, which was assembled in Constantinople in 381. Having lived some sixty years and left behind many remarkable writings, he reposed about the year 395. The acts of the Seventh Ecumenical Council call him "Father of Fathers."

MEMORIALS

40 Day + Alexandra Karacalidis

40 Day + Percy Vozeolas (1:00 pm)

4 year + Helen Athens

Today is Stewardship Sunday with blessing and cutting of the Community Vasilopita and Parish

Council receiving the Affirmation of Office.

Before you leave stop by the Sunday Pastry Table
and for a goodwill donation take home some pastries.

ST GEORGE broadcasts services live on the internet.
Your presence in the Church is subject to audio and video recording.

EPISTLE & GOSPEL READINGS FOR SUNDAY, January 10th

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:7-13.

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους 4:7-13.

Ἀδελφοί, ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ ἡμῶν ἐδόθη ἡ χάρις κατὰ τὸ μέτρον τῆς δωρεᾶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Διὸ λέγει, Ἀναβάς εἰς ὕψος ἠχμαλώτευσεν αἰχμαλωσίαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν δόματα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις. Τὸ δέ, Ἀνέβη, τί ἐστὶν εἰ μὴ ὅτι καὶ κατέβη πρῶτον εἰς τὰ κατώτερα μέρη τῆς γῆς; Ὁ καταβάς, αὐτὸς ἐστὶν καὶ ὁ ἀναβάς ὑπεράνω πάντων τῶν οὐρανῶν, ἵνα πληρώσῃ τὰ πάντα. Καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν τοὺς μὲν ἀποστόλους, τοὺς δὲ προφήτας, τοὺς δὲ εὐαγγελιστάς, τοὺς δὲ ποιμένας καὶ διδασκάλους, πρὸς τὸν καταρτισμὸν τῶν ἁγίων, εἰς ἔργον διακονίας, εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ· μέχρι καταντήσωμεν οἱ πάντες εἰς τὴν ἐνότητα τῆς πίστεως καὶ τῆς ἐπιγνώσεως τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, εἰς ἄνδρα τέλειον, εἰς μέτρον ἡλικίας τοῦ πληρώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

The Reading is from Matthew 4:12-17

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 4:12-17

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι Ἰωάννης παρεδόθη, ἀνεχώρησεν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ καταλιπὼν τὴν Ναζαρέτ ἐλθὼν κατώκησεν εἰς Καπερναοὺμ τὴν παραθαλασσίαν ἐν ὀρίοις Ζαβουλῶν καὶ Νεφθαλείμ, ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν διὰ Ἡσαΐου τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος· γῆ Ζαβουλῶν καὶ γῆ Νεφθαλείμ, ὁδὸν θαλάσσης, πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, Γαλιλαία τῶν ἐθνῶν, ὁ λαὸς ὁ καθήμενος ἐν σκότεινῷ φῶς μέγα, καὶ τοῖς καθημένοις ἐν χώρα καὶ σκιᾷ θανάτου φῶς ἀνέτειλεν αὐτοῖς. Ἀπὸ τότε ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς κηρύσσειν καὶ λέγειν· μετανοεῖτε· ἤγγικε γὰρ ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

Apolytikion for the Church in the Fourth Mode
Liberator of Captives and Defender of the Poor,
Physician of the Sick and Champion of Kings,
Oh Trophy Bearer and Great Martyr George
intercede to Christ our God that our Souls be saved.

Ὡς τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθερωτῆς, καὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστῆς, ἀσθενούντων ἰατρός,
βασιλέων ὑπέρμαχος, Τροπαιοφόρε
Μεγαλομάρτυς Γεώργιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ,
σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.