GENERAL SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Feast-Day Liturgy at 9:00am
Sunday Liturgy at 10:00am
Vespers Service on Saturdays: 5:00pm
Vespers Service on the eve of a Feast-Day: 5:00pm

Schedule of Upcoming Church Services

- Friday, January 26 Vespers at 5:00pm
- Saturday, January 27-St Sava
 Divine Liturgy at 9:00am
- Sunday, January 28-St. Sava Celebration
 Divine Liturgy at 10:00am

WISDOM OF THE HOLY FATHERS

Whoever prays for those who hurt him lays the demons low; but he who opposes his affronter is bound to the demons. +St. Mark the Ascetic, Homilies, 1.45

Whoever does not fight the one who despises him, neither in word not in thought, has received true knowledge and demonstrates a firm trust in God.

+St. Mark the Ascetic, Homilies, 2.119

We have such a law: If you forgive, it means that God has forgiven you; but if you do not forgive your brother, it means that your sin remains with you.

+St. Silouan the Athonite, Writings, VII.9

ST. GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*905 E. Joliet Street*Schererville, IN 46375*

Parish Priest: V. Rev. Radovan Jakovljevic

Office: 219/322-3355; Fr Radovan's Cell: 847/219-2969; Home: 219-515-2589

January 21, 2024 Sunday after Theophany

Epistle Reading: Eph. 4:7-13 Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:12-17

Liturgical Message

Theophany is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (Mt.3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by Saint John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the form of a dove. From ancient times this Feast was called the Day of Illumination and the Feast of Lights, since God is Light and has appeared to illumine "those who sat in darkness," and "in the region of the shadow of death" (Mt.4:16), and to save the fallen race of mankind by grace.

In the ancient Church it was the custom to baptize catechumens at the Vespers of Theophany, so that Baptism also is revealed as the spiritual illumination of mankind.

The origin of the Feast of Theophany goes back to Apostolic times, and it is mentioned in The Apostolic Constitutions (Book V:13). From the second century we have the testimony of Saint Clement of Alexandria concerning the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, and the night vigil before this Feast.

The Church shows the necessity of Baptism for believers in Christ, and it inspires us with a sense of deep gratitude for the illumination and purification of our sinful nature. The Church teaches that our salvation and cleansing from sin is possible only by the power of the grace of the Holy Spirit, therefore it is necessary to preserve worthily these gifts of the grace of holy Baptism, keeping clean this priceless garb, for "As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ" (Gal 3:27).

On the day of Theophany, all foods are permitted, even if the Feast falls on a Wednesday or Friday.

Source: https://oca.org/saints/lives/2019/01/06/100106-feast-of-the-theophany-of-our-lord-and-savior-jesus-christ

NEXT SUNDAY



