



# THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH OF ST. TIMOTHY

*“Following Christ and His Apostles — Into His Church and Their Faith.”*

*January 1<sup>st</sup> — 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006*

## FEAST OF CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST & ST BASIL THE GREAT

*Tone 3*

*Eothenon 6*

**“Let us now lay aside all earthly cares . . .”**

*~ Please, no cell phones (leave them in the car, at home, or turn them off)*

*~ Please, no talking or visiting during the Divine Liturgy (especially during Holy Communion)*

# Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

**\*\* Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great \*\***

### HYMNODY

**First Antiphon Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

**Second Antiphon Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, circumcised in the flesh; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

**Apolytikion (Troparion) of the Resurrection (Tone 3):** Let the Heavens rejoice! Let the Earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the

firstborn of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, and has granted the world great mercy.

**Apolytikion of St Basil the Great (Tone 1):** Thy fame has gone out into all the earth, we have learned the faith by hearing thy voice. Thou hast explained the nature of created things; thou hast given a noble rule of life for men. O Basil, righteous father and royal priest, entreat Christ God to grant us great mercy.

**Apolytikion of the Circumcision of Christ (Tone 1):** Thou reignest from the throne of fire in heaven, O Jesus, with the Eternal Father. By the Holy Spirit, Thou wast pleased to be born on earth, from the virgin maiden, Thy mother; and be circumcised as an eight-day old child. To fulfill the law and make its shadow cease. Glory to Thy most gracious counsel. Glory to Thy saving providence. Glory to Thy condescension, O only Lover of mankind.

**Apolytikion of St Timothy:** O holy Apostle Timothy, master of unction measured in all thy deeds, clothed with an upright conscience as befits a priest, thou has drawn ineffable truths from Paul the vessel of election; thou hast kept the faith and completed a course equal to his. Intercede with Christ God to save our souls!

**Kontakion of the Circumcision of Christ (Tone 3):** The Lord of all accepts to be circumcised; thus in His mercy He circumcises the sins of mortal men. Today He grants the world salvation, while Basil the Bishop, searcher of Christ’s mysteries, rejoices in heaven as the radiant star of the creator.

### READINGS

*Those who need may sit during the Epistle*

**EPISTLE READING ~ Colossians 2:8-12: Brethren . . . 8** See to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. **9** For in him the whole fulness of deity dwells bodily, **10** and you have come to fulness of life in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. **11** In him also you

were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; **12** and you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

During the Gospel, all are to stand and there is to be no moving around  
**GOSPEL READING ~ St Luke 2:20-21, 40-52: Let us attend! . . . 20** And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. **21** And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. . . . **40** And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. **41** Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. **42** And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; **43** and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, **44** but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; **45** and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. **46** After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; **47** and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. **48** And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." **49** And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" **50** And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. **51** And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. **52** And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

### EVENTS OF THIS WEEK

**\*\* No Fasting through January 4<sup>th</sup> \*\***

#### **Today, January 1<sup>st</sup>:**

\* Hala "Emily" Abughazaleh [N] (*St Emily*)

#### **Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

\* Carolyn "Seraphima" Small [N] (*St Seraphim of Sarov*)

#### **Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>:**

\* Royal Hours of Theophany; 9:00 AM

\* Vespertal Liturgy of Theophany; 10:00 AM

\* Lesser (1<sup>st</sup>) Blessing of Water

\* Orthros; 7:00 PM

\* Divine Liturgy; 8:00 PM

\* Great (2<sup>nd</sup>) Blessing of Water

#### **Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> ~ the Feast of Theophany:**

\* House blessings begin (*sign-up on bulletin board in the refectory*)

#### **Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>:**

\* John Abu-Dawood [N] (*Synaxis of St John the Forerunner & Baptist*)

**\*\*\* NO FASTING THROUGH JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> \*\*\***

### **SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE FROM THE HOLY FATHERS, AND FROM OUR FATHER BISHOP JOSEPH**

"Those who have realized how dangerous and evil is the life they lead, the devil succeeds in keeping in his power mainly by the following simple but all powerful suggestion: 'Later, later; tomorrow, tomorrow.'"

*~ St Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain*

"Whatever good work a man undertakes, if he perseveres in it, he will attain rest. But prayer is warfare to the last breath."

*~ St Agathon*

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We are not called to be ritual; we are called to be holy. We are not called to be religious; we are called to be prayerful. This is what we are called to be — a holy nation, a royal priesthood.

Your Father in Christ,

**\* Bishop JOSEPH**