



HOLY GHOST ORTHODOX CHURCH

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

1510 East Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06608 ·

P.O. Box 55339, Bridgeport, CT 06610

The Rev. Dr. Mark Roosien · Pastor · (312) 961-6097

Website: <https://www.holyghostbpt.org>

President – Richard Kendall

(203) 521-3456, richard.kendall@sbcglobal.net

Barbara Dulin, Parish Council Secretary

(203) 452-0776 (h), moparbarb@gmail.com

JANUARY 5, 2025 – 28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3

EVE OF THEOPHANY

<u>Scripture Readings</u>	<u>Services</u>
<p>MONDAY, JANUARY 6 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 Mark 1:9-11</p> <p>TUESDAY, JANUARY 7 Acts 19:1-8 John 1:29-34</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8 Hebrews 5:11-6:8 Luke 21:5-7, 10:11, 20:24</p> <p>THURSDAY, JANUARY 9 Hebrews 7:1-6 Luke 21:28-33</p> <p>FRIDAY, JANUARY 10 Hebrews 7:18-25 Luke 21:7, 22:8</p> <p>SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 Ephesians 2:11-13 Luke 13:18-29</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, HAPPY 2025! <i>[No Bible Study]</i></p> <p>SATURDAY, JANUARY 4 Great Vespers.....4:00 p.m. Panikhida in loving memory of Nancy Kasper Savisky on her 1st anniversary of falling asleep in the Lord, from her family. (<i>Before Vespers</i>)</p> <p>SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 – 28th Sunday After Pentecost Eve of Theophany, Sunday before Theophany Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. Vespers for Theophany, Great Blessing of Water...10:30 a.m. Yolka.....11:30 a.m.</p> <p>MONDAY, JANUARY 6, Feast of Theophany Festal Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8 Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.</p> <p>SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 Great Vespers.....4:00 p.m.</p> <p>SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 – 29th Sunday after Pentecost After-feast of the Theophany, Sunday after Theophany Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. “Second Sunday” will feature Egg-Sandwich Sunday</p>
<p><i>All services will also be streamed online via Facebook Live as follows:</i> https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Ghost-Russian-Orthodox-Greek-Catholic-Church-681248091936330/</p> <p>Reminder: The schedule of services can be found on the front page of our website, holyghostbpt.org. The schedule is recorded on the Google Calendar of the church’s acct. You can add it to your own Google Calendar by clicking the + sign on the bottom right corner of the calendar window.</p>	

From St John Chrysostom, Homily on Theophany

There is not one Theophany, but two: the one that has already occurred, and the second - in the future - which will happen with glory at the end of the world. You will hear about both today from Paul, who in conversing with Titus, speaks thus about the present: “The grace of God has revealed itself, having saved all mankind, decreeing that we reject iniquity and worldly desires, and dwell in the present age in prudence and in righteousness and piety” - and about the future: “Awaiting the blessed hope and glorious appearance of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” [Titus 2:11-13]. And a prophet speaks thus about the latter: “The sun shalt turn to darkness, and the moon to blood at first, then shall come the great and illuminating Day of the Lord” [Joel 2:31]....

Why then is this day called Theophany? Because Christ made Himself known to all – not when He was born, but when He was baptized. Until this time He was not known to the people. And that the people did not know Him or Who He was, listen about this to John the Baptist, who says: “Amidst you stands Him of Whom you know not” [John 1:26]. And is it surprising that others did not know Him, when even the Baptist did not know Him until that day? “And I - said he - knew Him not: but He that sent me to baptize with water, about This One was said to me: over Him Whom you shall see the Spirit descending and abiding upon Him, He it is He Who baptizes in the Holy Spirit” [John 1:33].

1 Corinthians 9:19-27

(Epistle)

19

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more;

20

and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law;

21

to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law;

22

to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

23

Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.

24

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

25

And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

26

Therefore, I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus, I fight: not as one who beats the air.

27

But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

2 Timothy 4:5-8

(Epistle, Sunday Before)

5

But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

6

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

8

Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Luke 3:1-18

(Gospel)

1

Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene,

2

while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

3

And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins,

4

as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: "Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight.

5

Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth;

6

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

7

Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

8

Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

9

And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

Luke 3:1-18*(Gospel Cont'd.)*

10

So, the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?"

11

He answered and said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise."

12

Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?"

13

And he said to them, "Collect no more than what is appointed for you."

14

Likewise, the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."

15

Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not,

16

John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

17

His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire."

18

And with many other exhortations he preached to the people.

Mark 1:1-8*(Gospel, Sunday Before)*

1

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

2

As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.

3

The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight."

4

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

5

Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

6

Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

7

And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose.

8

I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

CHRISTMAS/END OF YEAR DONATION As we reflect on all the blessings God has given us, especially the gift of His Son Our Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas, consider making a generous gift to Holy Ghost Church. Holy Ghost's divine services, activities and outreach in Bridgeport and beyond—not to mention keeping the lights on! — depends on your joyful, self-giving generosity. Thank you for the rich generosity you have demonstrated all year. May God bless all of us this Christmas season and grant us a healthy and happy New Year.

CANDLE DESK DUTY

January 5 – LoveAnn Curran
January 12 – Tim Savisky

If you are unable to make your scheduled day, please switch with another member.

BLESSING OF WATER TODAY ... Please remember to bring your water containers!

NEW: COFFEE HOUR CLEAN-UP ROTA... We have implemented a new system for cleaning up after coffee hour in order to get more folks involved. There are three groups that will rotate from week to week, grouped alphabetically by last name: A-J, K-O, and P-Z. Each group will have a crew chief. There is a checklist downstairs of the tasks that must be done each Sunday. This week is A-J: **if your last name begins with A-J, please make sure to help clean up. Bob Denhup is today's crew chief.**

DONATIONS / CANDLES

- Donations to the Myrrh Bearers in loving memory of Mary Kasper:
The Savisky family, \$100
Frank & Carole Kaputa, \$50
Dave Lepesko, \$20
- Lampatki over Royal Doors and 2 large crosses in loving memory of Nancy Kasper Savisky on her first anniversary of falling asleep in the Lord, from her family.
- Donation to the General Fund from Andy Saperstein, \$30.

YOLKA! TODAY @ 11:30 AM!

“SECOND SUNDAY” ON JANUARY 12 ... will be ‘Egg, Sausage, & Cheese sandwich Sunday’ w/ tater tots, for \$8.00.

ANOTHER INFORMATIVE ‘ASK THE PRIEST SESSION!’



Questions from genealogy of Sunday’s Gospel, to the Julian calendar vs. the Gregorian calendar, to Altar differences between Orthodox and Catholic churches, resulted in interesting discussions!

Join us at the next one, scheduled for **January 26th**!

POINSETTIA PLANTS ... Plants may be taken home today. Thanks to all who donated toward / purchased plants.



HOUSE BLESSINGS AFTER THEOPHANY ... Fr Mark will be blessing houses after Theophany this year. Please fill out the sign up sheet in the basement if you would like your home blessed.

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ... is scheduled for January 19th.

DONATIONS REQUESTED... Regular Coffee, Decaf Coffee, and Candle lighters. Thank you!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, FEBRUARY 15, 2025 ... Never experienced a professional hockey game? This could be a great opportunity to meet with other Orthodox folks and have an enjoyable evening. In addition to the hockey game, there will be 2 guest speakers: Bishop John Abdalah and Rev. Peter Orfanakos from St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church in Orange. <https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Faithfamily808>

CHRISTMAS SERVICES (CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!)
Христос рождается! прославляйте Его!



Additional photos by Rich Kendall

PARISH METRICS (JANUARY 5 THRU JANUARY 11)

BIRTHDAYS

Patrick Kevin Quill, January 8th (15 years old)

God Grant him Many Years!

Многая лета!

ANNIVERSARIES

None Listed

DEPARTED FROM THE PARISH METRICS

JANUARY 5 – Sophie Plitnik, 1974 (69); Vladimir Green, 1950 (50); George Kasper, 1955 (75); Joseph Kranyak, 1975 (81); Olga Darak 1987 (69); Joseph Zigmont, 1978 (88); Vera Musick, 2018; Nicholas Reut, 2019 (101)

JANUARY 6 – Alexander Beskid, 1922 (16 months); Anna Dirga, 1929 (58); Feodora Ivanoff, 1975 (78); Laura Sidorwich Sirois, 1980 (63); Mary Dutkanych, 1988 (86); Sonya (Sophie) Tropenko Jankura, 1996 (81); Valentina Prusaczyk, 2005 (75); Anna L. Szalay, 2011 (95)

JANUARY 7 – Thomas Adashkewich, 1917 (45); Susan Lison, 1933 (55); John Lemachko, 1958 (46); Catherine Cherpak, 1962 (72); Paul Beloblosky, 1971 (78); August G. (Constantine) Costeines, 1981 (67); John Wesnak, 1996 (87); Anna Zinovenko, 2003 (94)

JANUARY 8 – Zinovia Zinko Zamoida, 1959 (63); Vikenty Woliak, 1961 (68); Olga Philipenko Babey, 1985 (77); Zenaida Howie, 1988 (76); Ruth Ann Wallick, 2007 (83)

JANUARY 9 – Sophia Font, 1919 (8 months); John Tzeplick, 1922 (2); Kondraty Turko, 1937 (56); Anna Zinko Premak, 1958 (63)

JANUARY 10 – Nadezda Markevich, 1922 (9 months); Thomas Latish, 1944 (60); Nicholas Babey, 1959; Joseph Matlyak, 1973 (74); Paraskeva (Betty Ann) Oroz, 1982 (57); Alexander Zavatsky, 1982; George G. Kasper, 1988 (78)

JANUARY 11 – John Shtefik, 1901 (4 months); John Jankura, 1902 (2 hours); Tekla Terentieff, 1937 (52); Joseph Burdock, 1960 (63); John Yerich, 1991 (80)

Memory Eternal!

Вечная память!



(Beautiful, festive flowers provided & arranged by Debbie Rapaport. Thank you Debbie!)