

John the Baptist and Forerunner

For the Church, John was a prophetic and tragic figure. He is called the 'Baptist' because he baptized those who came to him; he is called the 'Forerunner' because he went before Christ and prepared His way, making His paths straight, in accordance with the words of the prophet: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness ... make his paths straight (Mark 1:3). In the Old Testament, he is prophesied as "the voice of him that cries in the wilderness," in the passage from Isaiah quoted above. In other texts, he is referred to as 'the voice of the Word', 'the lamp of the Light', 'the friend of the Bridegroom', 'the morning star before the Sun'.

John began his work at the age of 30, in the fifteenth year of the reign of the Emperor Tiberius (27 or 29 AD). To begin, he journeyed

around the southern part of Judah, near the river Jordan, preaching and prophesying. The central theme of his preaching was repentance: he called upon men to repent and to change their ways of thinking, so that they would be ready to receive the teaching of Christ, their Savior – "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:2).

At the same time, he was severe in his rebuking of evil and sin. Another element of his teaching was that of the practical form – how each of us should love our fellow brothers and sisters.

As we anticipate the coming Great Fast in a few weeks, are we prepared to repent and change our ways, and rebuke evil and sin as Saint John taught?

SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD



Icon of Saint John the Baptist

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator

Father Mykola Dziurakh – Parochial Vicar

Sunday – January 12, 2025

Христос Рождається! Славимо Його! * Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Confessions are available before the Divine Liturgies

All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>

Saturday January 11 5:30 p.m.	Great Vespers
Sunday January 12 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Sunday after Theophany (For the Parish) (Thanksgiving for the protection of Taras in the battle of Pokrovsk)
Wednesday January 15 9:00 a.m.	(+Olena Chalupa from Family)
Thursday January 16 9:00 a.m.	(Deceased of the Nagurney-Medwid Family from Irene)
Friday January 17 9:00 a.m.	(+John Fedack from Ruth)
Saturday January 18 5:30 p.m.	Great Vespers
Sunday January 19 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	(For the Parish) (+Wolodymyr and +Julia Hetmansky from Family)

FIRST CONFESSION CLASSES TO BEGIN SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

We will soon start our preparation classes for children intending to make their First Confession in 2025. Classes will be held on Sundays between the English and Ukrainian liturgies (approx. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM), beginning on January 26. First Confessions will be celebrated on Lazarus Saturday (April 12, 2025). No class will be held on February 16 (President's Day weekend). All children must attend Divine Liturgy with their families on a weekly basis during their preparation for the sacrament. If you have children of First Confession age in your family (age 7+), please contact Olya Mulvey by email at olya.kroytor@gmail.com to register or learn more.

CATECHISM CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-5 BEGINNING JANUARY 26

Catechism classes will be held from 10:15-11:15 am on Sunday. Please mark these dates for the first semester: January 26, February 9, 23, March 9, 23, April 6, 27, May 4, 18

Prayer List

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Valarie Balthis, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Terry Boyle, Taisia Bullard, Mary Connors, Veronica Cosio, Darlene Dossick, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Lindsey Fedyk, Ferne Fisanich, Myroslava Futey, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, Vanessa Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Daniel Horeczko, Boris Hlynsky, Nila Iwaskiw, Sarah Kelt, LTJG Lydia Kowalskyj USN, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Mr. Marko, Michael Joseph Little, Melissa Martin, Paul Marynowych, Michele Pretka Litvak, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Patricia Pylypec, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Roman Rusynko, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell,, Teresa Sherwood, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Stefania Szahaj, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Anne Woroniak, Rose Wilson, Fr. George Worschak, and Paul Yarrish.** If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.