

AFTERFEAST OF THE THEOPHANY - ST. GEORGE THE CHOZEBITE

Resurrection Troparion – TONE 8:

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One. / To burial of three days hast Thou submitted / That Thou mightest free us from our passions./ O our Life and Resurrection, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

Troparion of the Feast of Theophany – TONE 1:

When Thou, wast baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, / the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; / for the voice of the Father bear witness to Thee, / calling Thee His beloved Son. / And the Spirit in the form of a dove / confirmed the certainty of the word. / O Christ our God, Who hast appeared // and hast enlightened the world, glory be to Thee.

From the Book “300 Sayings of the Ascetics of the Church”:

“Amma Theodora said: A certain monk, afflicted by many sorrows, said to himself, “Leave this place.” With these words he began to put his sandals on his feet, and suddenly he saw the devil in the form of a man sitting in the corner of his cell. The devil was also putting on his sandals. He said to the monk, “Are you leaving here because of me? Well then, wherever you go, I will be there before you.”

(St. Ignatius Brianchaninov, Patericon)

Schedule of services for the following week:

- + Friday – Jan. 26 - Paraklisis from 6:30 pm
- + Saturday – Jan. 27 - Liturgy from 8:30 am – St Sava of Serbia
- + Saturday – Jan.27 – Vespers from 6 pm.

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

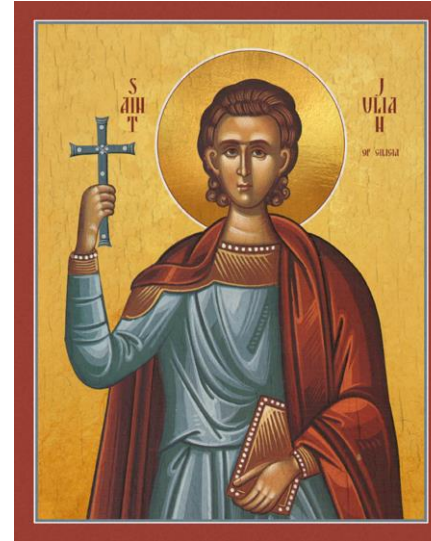
Epistle: Eph. 4: 7-13.
Gospel: Matthew 4: 12-17.

In Our Prayers: Anna Marie Slovesko, Peter and Monica Mikheil, Jovanka Ebling, Noah Martinez, Helen Gingrich, Ruth Yovanovich, Joan Babinski, Amanda Rahalewich, Robert Sentz, Jared Worley, Aida Aguirre.

May God remember the souls of the departed servants: Miroslav Pantelich, Gregory Anstine, Jan Zaprudnik, Nenad Pantlich, Tracy Stanovic, Thomas Vrcharich. William Yovanovich, Dorothy Kerestter, Dragoljub (Donald) Maransky, John Gingrich, Antony Vrcharich, Eleonore Clay, Bob Sentz.

Those that need special care: Lillian Sentz.

From the Synaxarion... THE HOLY MARTYRS JULIAN AND BASILISSA



Julian and Basilissa were of noble and wealthy parents. United in marriage, they vowed to live chastely as brother and sister. They distributed all of their property to the poor and both were tonsured. Julian founded a monastery and Basilissa founded a convent. Julian had about ten-thousand monks and Basilissa about a thousand nuns. When a terrible persecution began under Diocletian, Basilissa implored God that none of her nuns would become frightened of the tortures and would not fall away from the Orthodox Faith. The Lord heard the prayers of His worthy handmaiden and, over six months, received unto Himself all the nuns, one by one, and finally their abbess, Basilissa. Before her death, Basilissa had a vision of her nuns from the other world. All of them appeared to her radiant and joyful as angels of God and beckoned their spiritual mother to come to them as soon as possible. Unlike Basilissa's convent, Julian's monastery was set ablaze by the persecutors, and Julian was inhumanly tortured and reposed amidst the most difficult sufferings. During his tortures, the Lord watched over him and strengthened him, so that he heroically endured, preserved his Faith, and glorified the name of Christ. Beheaded with Julian were Celsus and Maronilla, the son and the wife of the tormentor Marcian, who--witnessing Julian's heroism in suffering and torture--were themselves converted to the Christian Faith. Also beheaded were twenty Roman soldiers, seven brothers from that town, the presbyter Anthony, and a certain Anastasius, whom Julian, at the time of his torture, resurrected from the dead by prayer. All suffered

honorably for Christ and became citizens of the Heavenly Kingdom in about the year 313 A.D.

THE VENERABLE GEORGE THE CHOZIBITE



George lived an ascetical life in the seventh century in the Choziba Monastery in Jericho on the road from Jerusalem, the monastery where the Venerable John the Chozibite first led an ascetical life.

SAINT DOMNICA During the reign of Emperor Theodosius, Domnica, unbaptized, came from Carthage to Constantinople with four other pagan maidens. Patriarch Macarius baptized them and gave his blessing to them to live as nuns. With great zeal, St. Domnica gave herself up to a life of asceticism and did not waver in that zeal until her death in extreme old age. She reposed in the Lord in about 474 A.D. She was so enlightened by the Holy Spirit that she was able to discern events in the future and work miracles through prayer.

SAINT GREGORY, BISHOP OF OHRID. Gregory was a devout teacher and shepherd of Christ's flock. He reposed in the year 1012 A.D. In one of the inscriptions in the Church of St. Sophia in Ohrid, he is referred to as "Gregory, the all-wise."

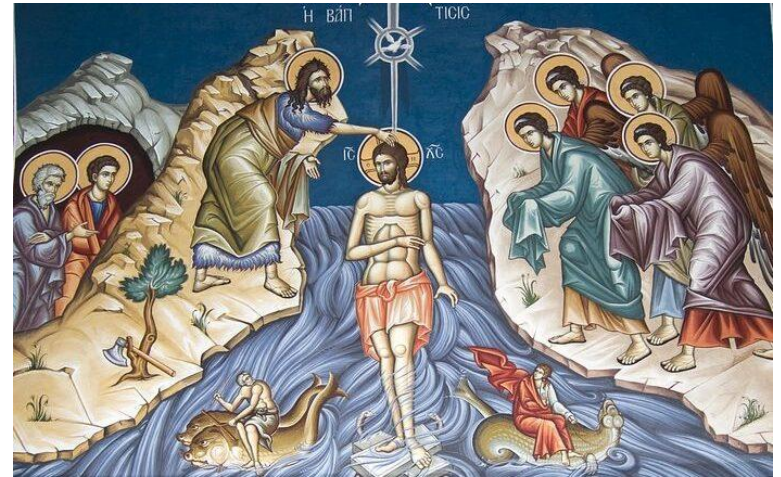
REFLECTION

On one of the stones in the Church of St. Sophia, the following words were engraved: "Wash your sins, not only your face." Whoever entered this glorious church read this inscription and remembered that the Christian Faith requires of him moral purity: purity of the soul, purity of the heart and purity of the mind. Inasmuch as the complete spiritual man is concentrated in the heart of man, the Lord also said: *Blessed are the pure in heart* (Matthew 5:8). Total external cleanliness does not help at all in gaining the Kingdom of Heaven. Oh, if only we would invest as much effort in washing ourselves from sins as we invest daily in washing our faces, then God would truly be seen in our hearts as though in a mirror!

CHURCH BULLETIN

JANUARY 21/ 8, 2024

AFTERFEAST OF THE THEOPHANY - ST. GEORGE THE CHOZEBITE



HOLY RESURRECTION OF CHRIST SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

120 East Weidman Street
Lebanon, PA 17046

Parish Priest - Fr. Borjan Vitanov

Phone: 240-367-2130

e-mail: o.borjan@gmail.com

holyresurrectionofchrist.com