

**January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (15<sup>th</sup> of Luke) - Tone 5  
Forefeast of the Theophany | Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles**

## Scripture Readings

2 Timothy 4:5-8 (Epistle 298)

But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 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.

Mark 1:1-8 (Gospel 1)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight.'" John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

## Forefeast of Theophany

The third day of the Forefeast of Theophany falls on January 4. The hymns today compare the Feast of the Nativity with the coming Feast of Theophany. *"There shepherds saw the Child and were amazed; here the voice of the Father proclaims the only-begotten Son."*

## Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles

The Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles was established by the Orthodox Church to indicate the equal honor of each of the Seventy. They were sent two by two by the Lord Jesus Christ to go before Him into the cities He would visit (*Luke 10:1*).

## Many Years!

### birthdays

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Kelsey Hlatki
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Margo Wilkinson
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Logan Bourg
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Tammy Christensen
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Michael Hunter
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Sheahan Bourg
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Fr. David Lowell
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Litsa Osburn
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Jeremy Gardner
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Rowelin Dawson

## Calendar

- Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Festal Vespers  
— Monday 6:30p
- Jan 6<sup>th</sup> Theophany Services  
— Tuesday TBA
- Jan 7<sup>th</sup> Slavonic Liturgy  
Old Calendar Nativity  
Holy Theophany, Colo Spgs  
— Wednesday 9:00a  
— Potluck Meal 10:30a
- January 7<sup>th</sup> Moleben & Adult Class  
— Wednesday 6:30p
- Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Vespers  
— Saturday 6:30p
- Jan 11<sup>th</sup> Divine Liturgy  
— Sunday 9:30a
- Jan 19<sup>th</sup> Continental Divide  
Water Blessing / Fellowship  
— Monday 10:30a

## House Blessings

As we celebrate the great feast of Theophany and participate in the blessing of the waters by our Lord, we joyfully continue the beautiful Orthodox tradition of house blessings. Fr. George warmly invites every household in our parish to schedule a visit for the blessing of your home in the coming weeks.

Our homes are meant to be “little churches,” places where we pray, show love, and welcome Christ into our daily lives. Having your home sprinkled with holy water from the Theophany water blessing and filled with the prayers of the Church renews this sacred calling and brings great grace to all who dwell there.

This cherished tradition has been part of our Orthodox faith for generations! Please reach out soon to Fr. George to arrange a convenient time—let us faithfully uphold this joyous custom together and open our doors to receive the Lord’s abundant blessings!

## Annual Meeting

Dear parishioners, please join me in extending a profound and heartfelt thank you to our current Starosta, Treasurer, and Secretary, along with the entire parish council, for their extraordinary dedication and tireless service—especially throughout this past year when we navigated so many challenges without a full-time priest. Your steadfast leadership has kept our parish strong, united, and full of hope, and we are deeply grateful for all you have done.

As we prepare for our annual meeting date TBA, I warmly invite each of you to attend this important voting gathering and to prayerfully consider serving in the open positions on the parish council and executive board. Your gifts, perspective, and willingness to serve are truly needed as we continue building a vibrant future together. Whether you feel called to one of these roles or simply want to support those who do, your presence will make a difference. Let us come together with gratitude and enthusiasm.

If you have an interest in serving, please let Fr. George know.

### Troparion | Tone 5 (Resurrection)

*Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.*

### Troparion | Tone 4 (Forefeast)

*Prepare, O Zebulon, and adorn thyself, O Naphtali! River Jordan, cease flowing, and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized! Adam, rejoice with our first Mother, and do not hide yourselves as you did of old in Paradise; for having seen you naked, He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment. Christ has appeared to renew all creation.*

### Troparion | Tone 3 (Apostles)

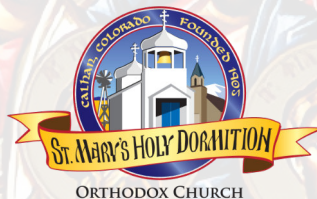
*Holy Apostles of the Seventy entreat the merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!*

### Kontakion | Tone 3 (Resurrection)

*Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, and we cry to Thee: “O Lord, save us!”*

### Kontakion | Tone 3 (Apostles)

*O faithful, let us praise with hymns the choir of the seventy disciples of Christ. They have taught us all to worship the undivided Trinity, for they are divine lamps of the faith.*



## Prayer List

### living

Met. Tikhon, Abp. Benjamin, Bp. Vasily, Fr. Andreas, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Zechariah, Fr. Dennis, Fr. Silouan, Mother Cassiana, Combs Family

Dee, Harold, Libbie and the Infant Lawrence, Toni Dell, Tyler, David, Victor, Kyla, Tony, Diane, Betty, Muriel, Child Gerhard & Meryl, Tammy, Litsa, Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Lindy, John, Alicia, Patricia, Danny, Jerry, Roberta, Wendy, Judy, Michael, Jill, Beverly, Infant Dominic, Joseph, Jackie Joan, Trisha, Lee, Carol, Ethan, infant AdaLynn, Naulvet, Leilah, Austin, Brian, Josh, Mother Magdalena, Kodiak, Miriham, Cheri, infant Gus, April, Madalyn, Makenzie, MaKiya, Hannah, Haylee, Keith, Samantha, Christina, Jake, Jetlyn, Lauren, Bob, Georgianna, Clint, Murl, Carolyn, Millie, child Charlotte, Cathy, Michael.

**Departed:** Gavin

**Those with child:** Mka. Lindsey

**Those who are confined:** Basil, Hannah, Theodore

## Commemorations

Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles, Venerable Theoctistus, Abbot at Cucomo, in Sicily, Repose of Saint Eustathius I, Archbishop of Serbia, Saint Aquila, Deacon, of the Kiev Caves, Confessors Zosimus the Hermit and Athanasius the Commentariusius (Superintendent of Prisoners), Anchorites, of Cilicia, Saint Nikephoros the Leper, Venerable Euthymius and twelve other Monks, martyred at Vatopedi, Venerable New Martyr Onuphrius of Hilandar (Mount Athos), Holy Fathers of the Shio-Mgvime Monastery, Metropolitan Symeon of Smolensk

## Coffee Hour

Today's coffee hour will be the first of the newly restructured Fellowship Teams. The Fellowship Teams and schedule are posted in the hall. Please see Carrie Guy if you need to make any changes. You are all invited to join us next door following liturgy for food and fellowship!

## Theophany Services

Fr. George will serve a festive vespers for Theophany on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Liturgy and the Great Blessing of the Water will occur on the following day, January 6<sup>th</sup>. Fr. George would like your feedback as to what time you'd prefer to have this liturgy, we will discuss this following liturgy this morning.