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**We are each of us angels with only one wing...
And we can fly embracing each other...**

Luciano DeCrenzenzo

January 4, 2026 – Sunday before Theophany; Octoechos Tone 5; Synaxis of the Seventy Holy Apostles; Our Venerable Father Theoctistus, Hegumen of the Curomo Monastery in Sicily.

Intentions this Sunday

Saturday at 4:15pm: Parishioners; Sunday at 9:30am: Parishioners; Sunday at 11am: Parishioners.

First Antiphon

Shout to the Lord, all the earth,* sing now to His name, give glory to His praise.* *Through the prayers of the Mother of God,* O Saviour, save us.*

Say unto God, “How awesome are Your works!* Because of the greatness of Your strength Your enemies will flatter You”.* *Through the prayers of the Mother of God,* O Saviour, save us.*

Let all the earth worship You and sing to You,* let it sing to Your name, O Most High!* *Through the prayers of the Mother of God,* O Saviour, save us.*

Glory. Now. Only-begotten Son.

Third Antiphon

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord,* let us acclaim God, our Saviour. *Son of God, risen from the dead,* save us who sing to You: Alleluia.*

Let us come before His face with praise,* and acclaim Him in psalms.* *Son of God, risen from the dead,* save us who sing to You: Alleluia.*

For God is the great Lord,* and the great king over all the earth.* *Son of God, risen from the dead,* save us who sing to You: Alleluia.*

Entrance

Come, let us worship* and fall down before Christ.* *Son of God, risen from the dead,* save us who sing to You: Alleluia.*

Troparia and Kontakia

Troparion, Tone 5: Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word,* co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,* and born of the Virgin for our salvation.* For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death* and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Troparion, Tone 4: Make ready, O Zebulon,* and prepare

Перший антифон

Восклікніте Господіві, вся земле,* співайте ж імені Його, віддаите славу в хвалі Йому! *Молитвами Богородиці,* Спасе, спаси нас.*

Скажіте Бóгові: як страшні ділá Твої!* У множестві сили Твої леститимуть Тобі вороги Твої. *Молитвами Богородиці,* Спасе, спаси нас.*

Вся земля нехáй поклоніться Тобі і співáє Тобі,* нехáй же співáє імені Твоєму, Всеви́шній!* *Молитвами Богородиці,* Спасе, спаси нас.*

Слава. І нині. Єдинорóдний Сýну.

Третій антифон

Прийдіте, возвáдуємся Господéві, восклíкнім Богу, Спасителеві нашому. *Спасу нас, Сýну Бóжий,* що воскрéс із мéртвих, співáємо Тобі: Алилúя.*

Ідім перéд лицéм Його з ісповíданням, і псалмáми восклíкнім Йому. *Спасу нас, Сýну Бóжий,* що воскрéс із мéртвих, співáємо Тобі: Алилúя.*

Бо Бог – великий Госпóдь і цар великий по всій землі. *Спасу нас, Сýну Бóжий,* що воскрéс із мéртвих, співáємо Тобі: Алилúя.*

Вхідне

Прийдіте поклонімся* і припадім до Христá.* *Спасу нас, Сýну Бóжий,* що воскрéс із мéртвих, співáємо Тобі: Алилúя.*

Тропарі й кондаки

Тропар воскресний (г. 5): Собезнача́льне Слóво Отцó і Дóхові,* від Дíви нарóджене на спасіння наše,* оспівáймо, вірні, і поклонімся,* бо благоволів плóтту зíйті на хрест* і смерть перетерпіти, і воскресíти умéрлих* слáвним воскресінням Своїм.

Тропар (г. 4): Готуйся, Завулоне, красуйся, Нефталіме,*

yourself, O Nephtali;* O river Jordan, stop and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized.* O Adam, rejoice with the first mother, Eve,* and do not hide yourselves as before in paradise.* For having seen you unclothed* Christ has appeared to clothe you with the first robe.* He has appeared to renew all creation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and forever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 4: Today the Lord stood in Jordan's current telling John: * Do not be afraid to baptize Me,* for I have come to save Adam, the first man.

Prokeimenon

Tone 6: Save Your people, O Lord,* and bless Your inheritance.

Repeat: Save Your people, O Lord,* and bless Your inheritance.

verse: Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence.

Repeat: Save Your people, O Lord,* and bless Your inheritance.

Epistle 2 Timothy 4:5-8

Alleluia, Tone 8

verse: God, be merciful to us and bless us.

verse: Make the light of Your face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

Gospel Mark 1:1-8

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

Йордане ріко, стань, * радісно прийми Владику, що йде хреститися. * Веселися, Адаме, з праматір'ю, * не скривайтесь, як колись у раю, * бо той, що бачив вас нагими, явився, * щоб зодягнути в первісну одежду. * Христос явився, хотячи оновити всю твар.

Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові. I нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.

Кондак (г. 4): У струях днесь Йординових був Господь, * каже Йоанові: * Не бійся мене хрестити, * я бо прийшов спасти Адама первозданного.

Прокімен

(г. 6): Спаси, Господи, людей твоїх і благослови насліддя твоє.

Всі: Спаси, Господи, людей твоїх і благослови насліддя твоє..

Стих: До Тебе, Господи, взиватиму, Боже мій, щоб не відвертався Ти мовчкі від мене

Всі: Спаси, Господи, людей твоїх і благослови насліддя твоє.

Апостол 2 Тим. 4, 5-8

Алилуя (г. 8)

Стих: Боже, ущедри нас і благослови нас.

Стих: Просвіти лице твоє на нас і помилуй нас.

Євангеліс Мк. 1, 1-8.

Причастний

Хваліте Господа з небес,* хваліте Його во вишніх.* Алилуя, алилуя,* алилуя.

A Personal Note from Fr. Michael

Over the past month, Alessandra and I have received a number of personal Christmas greetings, cards, and gifts. We are deeply thankful for your warmth and prayers and are grateful that the Lord has put all of you into your lives.

With hope for all of you many further blessings as this Christmastime continues and in the New Year.

Sincerely,
Fr. Michael

Liturgical Schedule

Monday, Jan 5 Eve of Theophany	<i>Aliturgical. The Divine Liturgy is not served on this day.</i>	4pm	Ninth Royal Hour and Great Blessing of Water	<i>Strict Fast. Abstention from meat and eggs (and, traditionally, dairy) and foods that contain these ingredients.</i>
Tuesday, Jan 6 The Holy Theophany of Our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ	Titus 2:11-15; 3:4-7 Matthew 3:13-176	10am	Festal Divine Liturgy	
Wednesday Jan 7 Synaxis of the Holy and Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John.	Acts 19:1-8 John 1:29-34			
Thursday, Jan 8 Our Venerable Father George the Chosebite	James 1:19-27 Mark 10:17-27			
Friday, Jan 9 The Holy Martyr Polyeuctus.	James 2:1-13 Mark 10:23-32			
Saturday, Jan 10 Saturday after Theophany	Ephesians 6:10-17 Matthew 4:1-11	4:15pm 5:30pm	Divine Liturgy (English) Great Vespers	Intention: Parishioners
Sunday, Jan 11 Sunday after Theophany	Ephesians 4:7-13 Matthew 4:12-17	10am	Divine Liturgy (English/Ukrainian) followed by Great Blessing of Water	Intention: Parishioners

Other Events This Week

Monday, January 5 at 11am: Senior Exercise Class

Wednesday, January 7 at 11am: Senior Exercise Class

Sunday, January 11: Parish Jordan Supper after the Divine Liturgy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. We welcome our guests and visitors. Thank you for worshiping with us!
2. JORDAN MEAL: Our annual parish Jordan meal will take place on Sunday, January 11th after the Divine Liturgy. If you plan to attend, please let the office know so we can prepare the appropriate amount of food. z
3. STRICT FAST DAY THIS WEEK: Eve of Theophany on Monday, January 5. Just like Christmas Eve, this is a day of strict fasting—we abstain from meat and eggs (and dairy, traditionally) and foods that contain these ingredients. Furthermore, like Christmas Eve, the traditional observance (though not required) is to eat nothing at all until sundown.
4. HOLY DAY THIS WEEK: The Theophany of Our Lord on Tuesday, January 6th. Divine Liturgy at 10am. The Church expects us to treat this holy day like a Sunday—attend Church, avoid unnecessary work. This is the greatest and holiest feast day that doesn't have to fall on a Sunday (it's even greater and more solemn than Christmas). Please...treat it accordingly. Can't come Tuesday morning? We have festal services on Monday evening.
5. THEOPHANY HOUSE BLESSINGS AVAILABLE as of January 6th until February 2nd. Please contact Fr. Michael to arrange.
6. New office hours effective this week: Tuesday and Wednesday from 11am-3pm; Thursday and Friday from 10am-2pm.

Outreach to Homebound Parishioners: Know of someone who might like a priest's visit? Contact the office or Fr. Michael to arrange.

PRAYER LIST OF SICK, SHUT-INS, AND DEAR ONES FAR AND NEAR: Lorraine Wilson, Msgr. Anton Szymychalski, Fr. Jaroslaw Lazoryk, Wanda Duczmal, Debbie Bromeley, Antoinette Blunt, Katherine Pasternak, Walter Borowicz, Pat Stratichuk, Betty Pauliuk, Doris Lebel, Jo-Anne Stone, Denise Jacques, Phil Marinelli, Theresa Barsanti, Patty-Ann Bellerive, Jim Parniak, Connie Sampson, Fr. Oleh Yuryk, Fr. John Barszczyk, Dorothy McIntyre, Andrea Stone Pietramale, Lynn Dunne, Fr. Andrew Kormanik, Ray Robinson, Hunter Stone, Gavin Stone, Gerard Dosko, Anderson Knight, Jann, Ron Barsanti, Peter Harlow, Larisa Pochmursky, Elizabeth Cepecawer, MaryAnn & Art Spadoni, Paul Taillefer, Erin, Dave Kowalyk, Mary Romanchuk, McGill Perry, Tammy Zalewski, Fernando Mannarino, Dave Redfern, Ora, Irene O, Paul M, June, Bob, Dustin Wenmany, Tracey Burmaster, Mel Stanghetta, Norna Martynuck, Sylvie B, Bill McConnell, Anastasiia Pavliuk, Wanda Featherston, Roger McMillan, Clark Hutton, Gerry, Moira O'Pallie, Chris Applejohn, Barb and Gerry, Olena Hankivsky, David Bell, Andre Tessier.

Lord, Jesus Christ, You Who travelled throughout Galilee healing the sick, enabling the blind to see and the lame to walk, bring healing to Your people who need it this day. Grant relief to the ones who suffer pain and physical torment. Give peace to those whose minds are tortured by mental illness and anxiety. Comfort those who are alone in their suffering; may Your people reach out to them and to all the needy this day. Send Your grace to the caregivers that they may be gentle and effective agents of Your loving mercy. May our sufferings be joined with Yours to bring healing throughout the world. Amen

DONATIONS – December 24/25, 2025

Collection: \$315; Building Fund: \$340

Christmas Offerings: \$2,170; Greetings to Mrs. Pochmursky from the Pinders: \$50

Special (Laptop): \$1,000

DONATIONS- DECEMBER 28, 2025

Collection: \$290; Building Fund: \$25; Christmas: \$65

In Memory Of: Conrad, Panas, Cembal & Zuke Families: \$200; Isadore & Nell Pacholok: \$40

THANK YOU!!

“On Call Priest”

A priest is available in the city for emergencies 24/7 at 705-256-6675.

Why Two Water Blessings?

Our parish has for many years offered the Great Blessing of Water on the Sunday after Theophany followed by the communal meal. You will have noticed that there is another water blessing being offered on Monday, January 5th—the eve of Theophany.

Why?

There are two main reasons. First, the Church appoints two water blessings at Theophany. The first blessing is on the eve of the Feast and the second is on the day of the Feast, though this second blessing is often transferred to the following Sunday in parish practice (like in our parish). By offering the first water blessing on Theophany Eve, we are moving towards a more complete observance of this great and holy Feast.

The second reason is more practical. The feast is on Tuesday and the main parish water blessing is on Sunday. That leaves nearly a whole week of the feast of Theophany without Theophany water! By having the first water blessing on Monday evening when the Church calls for it, the parish has Jordan water to be taken home by the faithful or used in house blessings for the whole of the feast.

Given personnel available, the water blessing on Monday evening will be slightly toned down compared to the complete rite to be taken the following Sunday, but the whole (and incredibly beautiful) blessing prayer will be offered.

A Shared New Year's Reflection From Fr. Anton Szymchalski, pastor from 1985-1997 (Facebook posting December 30/25)

PRAYING YOU WILL SEE

*the blessing
of GOD's plans*

UNFOLDING FOR YOU IN THE
new year.

Dear Friends and [Parishioners]:

As we welcome in this New Year, we have a wonderful opportunity to look forward, rather than behind us, and to commit ourselves to drawing even closer in our relationship with Christ. Our world is still in pain. Our brothers and sisters in Ukraine still suffer oppression. Our brothers and sisters in much of Israel and the Middle East wake up to bombing, destruction and death daily, and many throughout the world are still experiencing conflict. In our own communities we witness homelessness, poverty, domestic violence and much confusion. Amid all this darkness there is a light. We proclaimed Christmas Eve "The Light of Christ has come into the world", and "God is with us". This New Year may you seek that light in your own lives. The light of God's love which, when we allow it to shine in us, brings to the world hope and peace. There are many this year who will be facing challenges, loss and at times a sense of desperation and hopelessness. It is in these times that the light of Christ helps to give us perspective in all our situations. For where Christ is, even during turmoil, there is peace. We know that we are not alone, and that God is always with us to share in our joys and sorrows. Look around and see Him in those around you; those pick up the phone and call to give encouragement, or to see how you are doing. Those, who take the time to come and visit and share themselves and their time with you. Those, whom we see in our communities reaching out to those in need. This is really the goodness that permeates our world. The light is stronger than the darkness. Love always trumps hate. We are a "new creation in Christ", by virtue of our Baptism we have died with Him that we might rise with Him. As God's children we do not give into despair, we do not allow others negativity to have power over us...we believe that "all things work out for good for those who love God" as Paul tells us in his letter to the Romans.

In this New Year my prayer for you is simple:

Loving God, look upon Your children and in this New Year fill their hearts with Your love, hope and peace. Teach them to stop looking outward to find You, but rather to look inward. As they discover You in their hearts, they will see Your face in all. Amid the chaos and uncertainty of this world give them peace. For those who are ill and suffering, I pray You be with them, that they may draw strength from You. For those who sorrow I pray You give them comfort and consolation. For those who are struggling day to day to make ends meet, I pray You give them patience and hope in better days ahead. For those who have lost their faith, I pray they feel Your presence once again and know that you have always been there enveloping them in Your love. And I pray also for myself Lord, and undeserving servant called to serve, that I may be an even greater witness to Your love and mercy in a world where brokenness seems to be everywhere. Thank You, Lord, for the gift of each other. May we draw strength from one another in times of trial. May we learn to love more in times of challenge. May we be quick to forgive and move on when we are betrayed or hurt and may we always be the mirror that reflects Your light in darkness.

Amen

A heartfelt thank you to all for your love and generosity this Christmas!

TO ALL OF YOU MY DEAR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS....A BLESSED AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FILLED WITH PROMISE. GOD BLESS!!!

With all my love and prayers; Fr. Anton