



St. John Chrysostom Church

A Mission of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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January 2016 SJCC News

My Joy in the Lord,

May you enjoy a blessed 2016.

With the beginning of the year, it is time for house blessings. Sometimes we look on them as just a custom and blessing of our home, but it is much more than that. Our Lord began His ministry by being baptized and we begin the New Year with a “baptism” of our selves, our homes, and, sometimes, our places of work. This blessing with Holy Water is supposed to symbolize a new beginning, a new effort – to be better Christians, better spouses, better parents, better children, better people. This blessing of a new effort used to be done three times a year – at Theophany, at Pascha, and at the Elevation of the Cross. The prayers that I lead at your house have nothing to say about your physical structure, other than a place where you spend most of your lives. They speak mostly of you, of your health and salvation. At the end, when we venerate the Cross and are sprinkled with Holy Water, this action becomes the symbol that we will follow our Lord into a new ministry and a new life that He will show us throughout the year. This “house” blessing – whether of an actual house or of one room or even part of a room – represents our dedication to be His people at all times and in every place.

With love, in Christ,

Fr. Seraphim

“The Mind of the Orthodox Church: How our theology and our ecclesiology has been expressed over the centuries. Session 2 from 400 to 1400” will start again on January 27, every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, for 13 weeks. Please feel free to bring your dinner and/or snacks to share during these sessions. Come whenever you can, even if you can't come for the entire time or every week.

Prayer Circle: If you wish to be part of the Prayer Circle or would like more information, please contact Alexandra Gisetti at alexandra.gisetti@gmail.com.

Sunday School for our Young Ones – every Sunday during Coffee hour.

House Blessings will begin on January 6 and continue until everyone has been visited. If the time I put down for you does not work for you, please let me know and I will reschedule. When I come to your home for a house blessing, please a small bowl for the Holy Water and a candle out on a table or other flat surface near an icon where we can gather and pray. I will bring the Holy Water and everything else. A reminder, I will be happy to have some tea, juice, or water with you after the blessing, but I'll skip the coffee. Thank you. **(Schedule on the last page!)**

Parents: Bringing smaller children to the Royal Hours on Theophany Eve may be boring for them as the services are monastic and not meant for the youngest ones. Also, please note that the Theophany Eve Vespertal Liturgy is a long one with the Blessing of Water. (I expect it will take 2+ hours.) Judge appropriately about bringing your small ones to this service.

Parishioner Celebrations

**NOTE: If you don't see your day listed OR see your day listed on the wrong day
PLEASE let Fr. Seraphim know – as soon as possible**

January

01/02	Namesday	Seraphima Rahe
01/06	Birthday	Donald Wallace
01/14	Namesday	Bethany Cheaqui
01/17	Birthday	Nathan Berry
01/17	Birthday	Larissa Spencer
01/22	Namesday	Timothy Spencer
01/29	Anniversary	Rebecca & Michael Ogden
01/29	Anniversary	Chris & Dawn Dovey

February

02/03	Birthday	Dana Berry
02/03	Birthday	Masha Gisetti
02/11	Birthday	Christopher Cheaqui
02/21	Birthday	Ken Fredricksen
02/21	Birthday	Michael Ogden
02/22	Birthday	Manda Baker
02/23	Anniversary	Donald & Angela Wallace
02/26	Birthday	Leah Kacere

PROSPHORA Baking Schedule

REMINDER: PLEASE make sure that you bring ONE (and only one) prospora with names for commemoration -this includes both living and departed, if some of the living or departed are not Orthodox, I want them anyway - to church at least the night before the date on which it is due. You can bring it up to three weeks before and we'll freeze it until the date, but don't try to bring it that morning. I usually start the Proskomedie early and need the prospora to be there. If it's not there by the night before, I will defrost a spare to use. Thank you for your consideration.

January

3	Don Wallace
10	Bethany Cheaqui
17	Larissa Spencer
24	Chris & Dawn Dovey
31	Masha Gisetti

February

7	Christopher Cheaqui
14	Open
21	Manda Baker
28	Open

We will always need prospora. I will be happy to come to your house and bake them with you if you're not sure how to do it.

Schedule of Services and Events

January

2	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
3	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	Sunday before the Theophany
			Coffee Hour & NO Sunday School	
5	Tue	9:00 am	Royal Hours	Theophany Eve
		6:30 pm	Vesperal Liturgy with the Blessing of	Water
6	Wed	6:30 pm	Liturgy	Theophany
9	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
10	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	Sunday after the Theophany
			Coffee Hour & Sunday School	
16	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
17	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	
			Coffee Hour & Sunday School	
23	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
24	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	
			Coffee Hour & Sunday School	
27	Wed	6:30 pm	<u>The Mind of the Church (Session2)</u>	
30	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
31	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	
			Coffee Hour & Sunday School	

February

2	Tue	6:30 pm	Liturgy	Meeting of our Lord
3	Wed	6:30 pm	<u>The Mind of the Church (Session2)</u>	
6	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
7	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	
			Coffee Hour & Sunday School	
10	Wed	6:30 pm	<u>The Mind of the Church (Session2)</u>	
13	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
14	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	
			Coffee Hour & Sunday School	
17	Wed	6:30 pm	<u>The Mind of the Church (Session2)</u>	
20	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
21	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	
			Coffee Hour & Sunday School	
24	Wed	6:30 pm	<u>The Mind of the Church (Session2)</u>	
27	Sat	5:00 pm	Vespers	
28	Sun	9:00 am	Liturgy	
			Coffee Hour & Sunday School	

House Blessing Schedule

Baker, M	Thu	7	5:00 PM
Baldwin, C	Thu	7	10:00 AM
Berry, N & D	Sat	9	2:00 PM
Cheaqui, C & B	Mon	11	3:00 PM
Dovey, C & D	Tue	12	7:30 PM
Fiscus, J	Thu	7	2:00 PM
Fiscus, J	Thu	7	7:00 PM
Fox, J & M	Fri	8	6:30 PM
Gisetti, A & J	Fri	8	4:00 PM
Gisetti, Alexandra	Sun	10	8:00 PM
Gisetti, Anna	Wed	6	8:30 PM
Gray-Kurtz, T & S; Gray, V.	Sun	10	1:00 PM
Higgins, R	Sat	9	11:00 AM
Kacere, Leah	Sat	9	12:30 PM

Kinsey, R	Thu	7	12:00 PM
Lewis, Don	Fri	8	1:00 PM
Mikita, D	Sat	9	10:00 AM
Mikita, J & J	Fri	8	10:00 AM
Ogden, M & R	Wed	6	12:00 PM
Rahe, D	Mon	11	8:00 PM
Rahe, S & J	Fri	8	8:30 PM
Spencer, J & L	Thu	7	8:30 PM
Spencer, T	Fri	8	11:30 AM
Veselak, C	Mon	11	5:00 PM
Waisanen, B & M	Sun	10	6:00 PM
Wallace, D & A	Sun	10	4:00 PM
Yakubik, K	Sun	10	8:00 PM