

# Holy Trinity St. John the Theologian



Fr. Mike Downs



January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>4</b> 8:45 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy	<b>5</b> 9 am Royal Hours, 10:30 am Vespel Liturgy & Blessing of Waters 	<b>6</b> 8:45 am Orthros 10 am Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Waters, 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study	<b>7</b> 8:45 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis 	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 8:45 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 4:00 p.m. Blessing of the Waters	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 5:30 pm Men's Bible Study	<b>14</b> 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis 	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 



Strict Fast



Fish Allowed



Dairy Allowed



Wine and Oil Allowed

## Welcome Visitors

We extend a warm welcome to visitors worshipping with us today. We would like to remind you that Holy Eucharist is reserved for those who have been baptized or chrismated in the Orthodox Church and have prepared themselves to receive the Eucharist. All visitors are welcome to receive the blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

## Prayer List

Please keep the following individuals in your daily prayers:  
Collier, Dora, Anna, Matt, John, Joey, Anastasia, Despene, Emmanuel, Georgios, Vasilios, Rachel, Hannah, Evelyn, Delbert, Peter, Chuck, Martha Ann, Will, Lynn, Regina, Nan, Cory, Liddell, Thomas, Lori, and Sharon.

To add names to our community prayer list for 40 days of prayer, submit them to [frmike@holytrinityjackson.org](mailto:frmike@holytrinityjackson.org) or call the church office.

## Weekly Collections

Below are the General Fund collections for last week:

12/22 - 12/28 = \$2,579.50.

## Parish Council Leads/ Greeters

The parish council leads serving as greeters for this Sunday are Michaele Glisson and Jonathan Hontzas.

## Extra Services

On Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. we will have the Royal Hours for Theophany. At 10:30 we will have the Vespers Liturgy followed by the Blessing of the Waters.

On January 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. we will have a Divine Liturgy for Theophany followed by the Blessing of the Waters.

On Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. we will have a Divine Liturgy for St. John the Baptist, and at 5:30 p.m. we will have a Paraklesis.

On Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 we will have the Blessing of the Waters at the reservoir.

On Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. we will have Paraklesis.



## Blessing of the Waters

On Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. we will have the Blessing of the Waters along with our neighboring Orthodox parishes. This will be at the usual location, although Crab's Seafood has

closed. We will hope to see everyone there as we continue this annual tradition.

## House Blessings

Beginning on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be doing house blessings. An email will be sent out shortly with a calendar so that everyone can sign up to have one done at a convenient time.



## Theophany

About the beginning of our Lord's thirtieth year, John the Forerunner, who was some six months older than Our Saviour according to the flesh, and had lived in the wilderness since his childhood, received a command from God and came into the parts of the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins. Then our Saviour also came from Galilee to the Jordan, and sought and received baptism though He was the Master and John was but a servant. Whereupon, there came to pass those marvellous deeds, great and beyond nature: the Heavens were opened, the Spirit descended in the form of a dove upon Him that was being baptized and the voice was heard from the Heavens hearing witness that this was the beloved Son of God, now baptized as a man (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22). From these events the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great mystery of the Trinity were demonstrated. It is also from this that the present feast is called "Theophany," that is, the divine manifestation, God's appearance among men. On this venerable day the sacred mystery of Christian baptism was inaugurated; henceforth also began the saving preaching of the Kingdom of the Heavens.

### Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode Pl. 1.

Let us the faithful give praise and worship to the Logos, \* Coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, \* born of the Virgin for our salvation; \* For of His own good will He consented \* to ascend the cross in the flesh and He endured death and raised the dead \* by His glorious resurrection. (p. 99)

### For the Forefeast. Mode 4.

O Zabulon, prepare, and be ready, Nephthalim. \* Jordan River, hold your course, and exultantly receive \* the Master who is coming to be baptized. \* Adam leap for joy with Eve the Foremother. \* No longer hide yourselves, as once in Paradise; \* for having seen you naked He has appeared \* to clothe you in your former vesture. \* The Christ has appeared, wishing to renew \* the entire creation.

### Of the Parish Church Mode Pl. 4.

O blessed are you, o Christ our God. Who by sending down the Holy Spirit upon them, made the fishermen wise and

through them illuminated the world, and to you, the universe was ever drawn all glory to You, o Lord.

### **Of the Parish Church Mode 2.**

Apostle beloved of Christ God hasten to deliver a defenseless people, for He who allowed you to recline on his breast will allow you bowing in intercession. Implore Him o Theologian to disperse the adversary, and grant us His peace and abundant mercy.

### **Kontakion Mode 4.**

To the flowing streams today \* of River Jordan \* comes the Lord and cries aloud \* to John the Baptist, and He says, \* "Be not afraid to baptize me now; \* for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

### **St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 4:5-8**

TIMOTHY, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry.

For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

### **The Gospel According to Mark 1:1-8**

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 shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."