

## CALENDAR OF WEEKLY EVENTS

### JOIN US TODAY FOR THE ANNUAL VASILOPITA CELEBRATION

**Sunday, January 7, 2018** *St. John the Baptist*

**Memorials:**

Barbara K. Valavanes (2yrs), John Tsofilias, Gloria Vulopas (40 day, sister-in-law of Christine Speros), Maritsa Valudes, James Moshos, Angelo & Catherine Poneris, Nicholas & Anthi Hondras, Helen & Mark Mamalakis, Peter & Vasilias Passas, Anastasia Pitsakis, Gust & Bessie Diamantoni, Sevastos & Evangelia Diamantoni, James & Euterpie Gramaticas, Angelo Manolas, George S. Georgallias (30 yrs), Kenneth Myers, LEMONIA MYLONAS, John, Spyros, Kiriaka, Peter, Evangelia, John, George, Argyro, Stamatia, George, Christos, Kiriaki, Nicholas, Marianthi, George, Michael, Chrisanthi, Paul, Gerasimos, Maria, Jerry, Stamatis.

8:15 AM Orthros  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy  
10:35 AM Sunday School  
\*\* 11:30 AM Vasilopita

**Monday, January 8, 2018**

*House Blessings: Fruitville Pike Area*

**Tuesday, January 9, 2018**

10:00 AM Women's Bible Study with Presvytera Pearl  
6:30 PM Philoptochos meeting

*House Blessings: School Lane Hills & Marietta Ave. Area*

**Wednesday, January 10, 2018**

5:45 PM Greek School

*House Blessings: North of King Street, South of Walnut Street, East of Queen Street*

**Thursday, January 11, 2018**

9:30 AM Women's Orthodox Fellowship Study

*House Blessings: Millersville & Washington Boro*

**Friday, January 12, 2018**

GOYA Tournament-Pittsburgh

*House Blessings: Abbeyville Road Area, School House Road Area, Columbia Avenue Area*

**Saturday, January 13, 2018**

7:00 PM Vespers (Readers)

*House Blessings: Landisville Area, Silver Springs & Marietta*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**House Blessings:** If you wish to have your home blessed, please sign up in the breezeway, or call the church office to schedule a time on the day the priest will be in your area.

**\*\*Annual Vasilopita:** The Philoptochos Society's Annual Vasilopita Luncheon immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Join us for a wonderful meal and entertainment by our dance groups. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 10yrs. All proceeds go to Saint Basil's Academy.

**Hellenic Culture Committee Apokriatiko Dance:**

Saturday, February 3 at 6:30 pm in the Philoptochos Hall. Tickets: Adults-\$30, Children-\$15, children 10 & under are free. Dinner & Music by DJ Leo.

**Coffee Fellowship Donors Needed:**

For the following dates: Sunday, January 21, and Sunday, February 18 & 25.

**Service & Out-Reach Committee** Winter Clothing & Blanket collection for needy & homeless. Basket is placed in Breezeway for gently used or new items.

**2017 & 2018 Stewardship:** If you have not made your Church Stewardship Commitment for 2018 or if you have not fulfilled your 2017 Stewardship commitment, please make it today by completing a form in the Narthex and placing it in the Stewardship Box on the table. Thank you.



**WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS**

We welcome our non-Orthodox friends and neighbors at all the liturgical services with a reminder that Holy Communion may be received only by prepared Orthodox Christians. Please sign the Visitor's Registry in the Narthex if you wish to be contacted by the priest.

*Father Hector Firoglanis, Pastor*

*Father Alexander Veronis, Pastor Emeritus*

*Annunciation Church Webpage: [www.annunciationorthodox.org](http://www.annunciationorthodox.org)*



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
LANCASTER, PA



**SUNDAY, January 7, 2018**

*Synaxis of John the Baptist*

**Orthros: Plagal Second**

**Epistle: Acts 19: 1-8**

**Gospel: John 1: 29-34**

**Gospel: John 20: 19-31**

**Page: 963 (Holy Bible)**

**Page: 919 (Holy Bible)**

### THE GREAT WATER BLESSING OF THEOPHANY

Epiphany, one of the oldest and most important Feast days of the Orthodox Church, commemorates the manifestation of the Holy Trinity which took place at the Baptism of Christ in the Jordan River. Recognizing rich meaning in this event, Orthodoxy believes that when Christ was baptized, it not only marked the beginning of its public ministry and revealed the Trinity, but also signified that the entire creation is destined to share in the glory of redemption in Christ. Through His baptism, the Lord revealed the value of the created world and He redirected it toward its Creator. Creation is good and it belongs to God.

The Great Blessing of Water is held on the eve of the Feast of the Epiphany and on the day itself, following the Divine Liturgy. The Blessing not only remembers the event of Our Lord's baptism and the revelation of the Holy Trinity but also expresses Orthodoxy's belief that creation is sanctified through Christ. The Blessing affirms that humanity and the created world, of which we are a part, were created to be filled with the sanctifying presence of God. After the solemn blessing, the Holy Water is distributed to the faithful and is used to bless homes during the Epiphany season.

In addition to the Great Blessing of Water, there is a Lesser Blessing of Water service which can take place at anytime. Usually, it is celebrated when a home is blessed, on the first day of the month, the beginning of the school year, and beginning of new responsibilities.

*Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald, <http://www.goarch.org/ourfaith/ourfaith7113>*

**1. RESURRECTION APOLYTIKION  
(Plagal Second Mode)**

When the angelic powers were at your tomb,  
then they that guarded You become as dead.  
and Mary stood beside the grave  
seeking Your immaculate body.  
You devastated Hades and were not tried by it.  
You met the Virgin and granted life to us.  
O Lord, Who are risen from the dead, glory to You.

**2. Hymn of St. John (Tone 2)**

The memory of the law is not taken away by the  
testimony of the Lord Himself; it has been shown to  
the Most Holy Prophets that the holy baptized are  
proclaimed to be the preached. Against the truth of  
the truth, rejoice, I pray you, all that is manifested in  
the flesh, the good news of the world, and give you  
the great pleasure.

**3. APOLYTIKION OF THEOPHANY (Tone 1)**

When you, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,  
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest,  
for the voice of the Father bore witness unto You,  
calling you His beloved Son,  
and the Spirit in the form of a dove  
confirmed the truthfulness of His word.  
O Christ, our God, Who has revealed Himself  
and has enlightened the world. Glory to You!

**4. HYMN OF OUR CHURCH (4th Mode)**

Today is the beginning of our salvation,  
and the revelation of the mystery of ages.  
The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin.  
And Gabriel proclaims this gift from God.  
Together with him we cry out to You, O Theotokos:  
“Hail thou full of grace, the Lord is with you.”

**5. KONTAKION (Tone 4)**

On this day Thou hast appeared unto  
the whole world, and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord,  
is signed on us who sing Thy praise and  
chant with knowledge: Thou hast now come,  
Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable.

**1. ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΜΟ ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ ( Ηχ. ΠΛ. Β΄)**

Αγγελικαί δυνάμεις επί το μνήμα σου,  
και οι φυλάσσοντες, απενεκρώθησαν  
και ίστατο Μαρία εν τω τάφω, ζητούσα  
το άχραντον σου σώμα.  
Εσκύλευσας τον άδην, μη πειρασθείς υπ' αυτού,  
υπήντησας τη παρθένω, δωρούμενος την ζωήν.  
Ό αναστάς εκ των νεκρών, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

**2. ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ ΤΟΪ ΑΓΙΟΥ ( Ηχ. Β΄ )**

Μνήμη δικαίου μετ' έγκωμίων, σοι δε άρκέσει ή  
μαρτυρία τοϋ Κυρίου Πρόδρομε· άνεδείχθης γάρ  
όντως και Προφητών σεβασμιώτερος, ότι και έν  
ρείθροις βαπτίσαι κατηξιώθης τον κηρυττόμενον.  
Όθεν τής άληθείας υπεραθλήσας, χαίρων εύγγελίσω  
και τοίς έν άδη, Θεόν φανερωθέντα έν σαρκί, τον  
αίροντα την άμαρτίαν τοϋ κόσμου, και παρέχοντα  
ήμιν τό μέγα έλεος.

**3. ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΩΝ ( Ηχ. α΄)**

Έν Ιορδάνη βαπτιζομένου σου Κύριε,  
ή τής Τριάδος έφανερώθη προσκύνησις,  
τοϋ γάρ Γεννήτορος ή φωνή προσεμαρτύρει σοί,  
άγαπητόν σε Υιόν όνομάζουσα,  
και τό Πνεϋμα έν είδει περιστεράς,  
έβεβαίου τοϋ λόγου τό άσφαλές.  
Ό έπιφανείς Χριστέ ό Θεός,  
και τον κόσμον φωτίσας δόξα σοί.

**4. ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΝΑΟΥ ( Ηχ. δ΄)**

Σήμερον τής σωτηρίας ήμών τό Κεφάλαιον,  
και τοϋ άπ' αιώνος Μυστηρίου ή φανέρωσις·  
ό Υιός τοϋ Θεοϋ, Υιός τής Παρθένου γίνεται,  
και Γαβριήλ την χάριν εύαγγελίζεται.  
Διό και ήμείς συν αύτῷ τή Θεοτόκω βοήσωμεν·  
Χαίρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ό Κύριος μετά σοϋ.

**5. ΚΟΝΤΑΚΙΟΝ ( Ηχ. δ΄)**

Έπεφάνης σήμεραν τή οίκουμένην,  
και τό φῶς σου Κύριε, έσημειώθη έφ' ήμᾶς,  
έν έπιγνώσει ύμνούντάς σε.  
Ήλθες έφάνης τό Φῶς τό άπρόσιτον.

**ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΕΙΣ – ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ, 7 Ιανουαρίου**

**Ελάτε σήμερα στη γιορτή της Βασιλόπιτας.**

**Κυριακή, 7, Ιανουαρίου Αγίου Ιωάννου του Βαπτιστού**

**Μνημόσυνα:** Βαρβάρας Κ. Βαλαβάνη (2 χρ), Ιωάννου Τσοφλία,  
Γλόριας Βουλοπού (40 ειμερών νύφη Χριστίνας Σπένσερ) Μαρίτσας  
Βαιλούδη, Δημητρίου Μόσχου, Αικατερίνης & Αγγελου Πονειρού,  
Νικολάου & Ανθης Χόνδρα, Μάρκου & Ελένης Μαμαλάκη,  
Παναγιώτου & Βσιλίας Πασσά, Αναστασίας Πιτσάκη, Κωνσταντίνου  
& Βασιλικής Διαμαντώνη, Σεβαστού & Ευαγγελίας Διαμαντώνη,  
Διμητρίου & Ευτέρπη Γραμάτικας, Ευάγγελου Μανωλά, Γεωργίου  
Γεωργαλή (30 χρ), Κέν Μάγιαρς, Λεμονιάς Μυλωνά, Ιωάννου,  
Σπύρου, Κυριάκας, Παναγιώτου, Ευαγγελίας, Ιωάννου, Γεωργίου,  
Αργυρός, Σταματίας, Γεωργίου, Χρίστου, Κυριακής, Νικολάου,  
Μαριάνθης, Γεωργίου, Μιχάλη, Χρυσάνθης, Αποστόλου,  
Γεράσιμου, Μαρίας, Ντζέρι, Σταματίου.

8:15 πμ.....Ορθρος

9:30 πμ.....Θεία Λειτουργία

10:35 πμ .....Κατηχητικό Σχολείο

\* 11:30 πμ.....Γιορτή Βασιλόπιτας

**Δευτέρα, 8 Ιανουαρίου, 2018**

*Αγιασμοί στα σπίτια: Fruitville Pike Area*

**Τρίτη, 9 Ιανουαρίου, 2018**

10:00 πμ.....Κύκλος Μελέτης Αγίας Γραφής

Γυναικών με την Πρεσβυτέρα Παναγιώτα.

6:30 μμ.....Συνάντηση Φιλοπτώχου

*Αγιασμοί στα σπίτια: School Lane Hills & Marietta Ave. Area*

**Τετάρτη, 10 Ιανουαρίου, 2018**

5:45 μμ.....Ελληνικό Σχολείο

*Αγιασμοί στα σπίτια: North of King Street, South of Walnut  
Street, East of Queen Street*

**Πέμπτη, 11 Ιανουαρίου, 2018**

9:30πμ.....Κύκλος Πνευματικής Μελέτης Γυναικών.

*Αγιασμοί στα σπίτια: Millersville & Washington Boro*

**Παρασκευή, 12 Ιανουαρίου, 2018**

*Αγιασμοί στα σπίτια: Abbeyville Road Area, School House  
Road Area, Columbia Avenue Area*

**Σάββατο, 13 Ιανουαρίου, 2018**

7:00 μμ.....Εσπερινός (Αναγνώστες )

*Αγιασμοί στα σπίτια:Landisville, Silver Spring, & Marietta Areas*

\* **ΓΙΟΡΤΗ ΒΑΣΙΛΟΠΙΤΑΣ ΦΙΛΟΠΤΩΧΟΥ:** Μετά την Θεία  
Λειτουργία με γεύμα και παρουσίαση προγράμματος από τα  
χορευτικά μας συγκροτήματα. Τα εισιτήρια είναι \$ 8.00 για  
Μεγάλους και \$3.00 για παιδιά 10 ετών και κάτω. Όλα τα  
έσοδα είναι για βοήθεια της Ακαδημίας Αγίου Βασιλείου.