

Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors.** We are delighted to have you join us at our service as we worship the newly-born Savior! Please take a moment after the service to introduce yourself to our pastor, Father Kirill. You are cordially invited to join us for the fellowship luncheon after the service. We would love to greet you and answer any questions.
- **Theophany and House Blessings.** The great feast of Epiphany on January 6 is preceded by a cycle of services that is a source of blessings and strength for the believer. On the feast itself, creation is renewed in the Great Blessing of Water. It is proper for our homes to be blessed every year with this Holy Water on the days following Theophany (in any case, we do not keep last year's water past January 6; please dispose of any remaining water by drinking of it or, if the quantity is too great, placing it under a plant that won't be trodden); please schedule your appointment with Fr. Kirill. You can just send a quick note with your time preferences!
- **Baptism Next Sunday.** We are keeping in prayer our catechumen Dylan Currie, who is taking as his heavenly patron the Holy Apostle James, as he prepares for baptism next Sunday at 9:00.
- **The 2024 Orthodox Gathering at the Walk for Life** is Saturday, January 20 at 11:30 am. We will have Divine Liturgy here at Holy Trinity that morning at 8:30 am. Full information: <https://www.oclife.org/walk>
- **Annual Parish Assembly.** Our annual parish assembly will be Sunday January 28 following Divine Liturgy during our fellowship time. Please plan to attend! If you would like to serve in an elected position or know more, please speak with Felicia Dunham or Fr. Kirill.

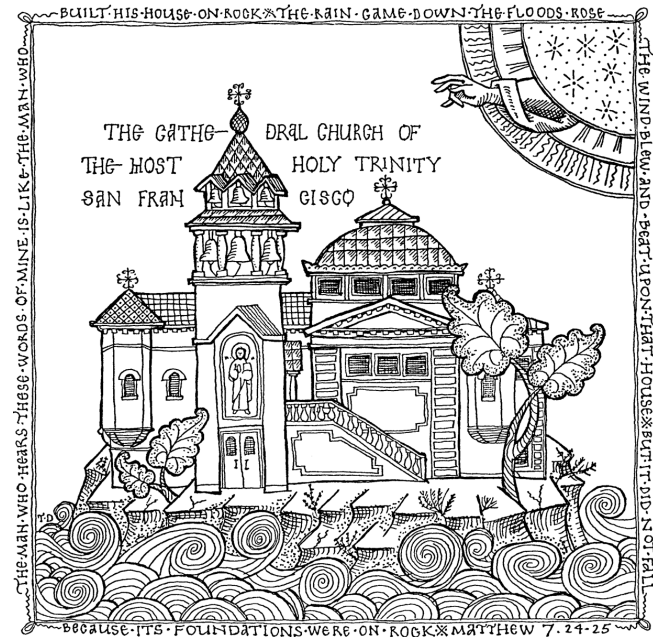
This Week at Holy Trinity

- Wed. Jan. 10:** 6:00 pm Vespers
Parking available this evening at St. Brigid's
- Thu. Jan. 11:** 7:00 pm Online Bible Study with Fr. James
- Sat. Jan. 13:** 4:30 pm Catechumen / Inquirer Class (*all welcome!*)
6:00 pm Vigil followed by Confessions
Parking available this evening at St. Brigid's
- Sun. Jan. 14:** **Leavetaking of Theophany**
9:00 am Baptism of Dylan James and Divine Liturgy followed by fellowship hour & Church School (K-8)
Parking available Sunday at St. Brigid's

Contact Fr. Kirill

Question? Want to talk? Or be on the email list?
FrKirill@holy-trinity.org • 415-673-8565

Holy Trinity Cathedral



Sunday, January 7, 2024

Most Reverend Benjamin,
Archbishop of San Francisco and the West

Very Reverend Dr. Kirill Sokolov, Dean

1520 Green Street
San Francisco, California 94123
holy-trinity.org

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of the West

We are delighted to be together with you in worshipping the Holy Trinity.
Welcome!

Today's Epistles

Acts 19:1-8

Ephesians 4:7-13

Today's Gospels

John 1:29-34

Matthew 4:12-17

31st Sunday after Pentecost.

Sunday after Theophany.

Synaxis of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.

(Nativity on the Old Calendar)

Tone 6.

Today's Gospel Readings

John 1:29-34

At that time, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water."

And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

Today's Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:12-17

At that time, when Jesus heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,

The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; the people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

The Theophany Continues

The Feast of Theophany, which is the core and climax of the Nativity season—the season of the Incarnation of God—is a feast of eight days. The hymns of the feast are prayed at the services every day during this time.

Father Alexander Schmemmann once wrote about this feast:

"The joy of Epiphany is in ... recovering faith that everything and everyone can always be washed, purified, renewed, reborn, and that regardless how dirty and clouded with mud our life has become, no matter what swamp we might have rolled in, we always have access to a purifying stream of living water, because humanity's thirst for heaven, goodness, perfection, and beauty is not dead. Indeed, this thirst alone makes us human beings. 'Great art Thou, O Lord, and marvelous are Thy works, and there are no words which suffice to hymn Thy wonders!'"

As a father in Christ, as your pastor, I'd like to encourage you to "hold firmly" (1 Corinthians 15:2 and many other passages) to *everything* that the Lord offers us through the rhythms of the Christian life, including the annual blessings of our homes.

This is also the traditional moment to remind us to orient our whole year around Pascha (Easter) Sunday May 5, not to mention Great Friday on May 3 (take the day off of work!). With Pascha being "late" this year it may take a little more focus to remember not to schedule stresses or vacations around the holy days. The whole of "Clean Week" (March 18-22) and Great and Holy Week (beginning Palm Sunday April 28) should be deliberately under-scheduled in our busy lives so that we can more fully immerse ourselves into what we really need. Oh! And our parish feast day, Pentecost, is June 23...
-Father Kirill



Many Years!

Wedding Anniversary

Anastasia & Misha Edel (Jan 9)

Birthday

Anne Kirueshkin (Jan 8)

Penelope Pickering (Jan 9)

Nameday

Belen (Tatiana) Pickering (Jan 12)

Welcome & Thank You!

Welcome guests and visitors!
Please join us for coffee and lunch
after the Divine Liturgy. We look
forward to saying hello.

Thanks to Tamara and Katherine S.
for preparing today's meal.

