

HOLY TRINITY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 11, 2026
Sunday after Theophany

Contact Us

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Catholic Church

Office Hours

9am–5pm Tuesday–Friday

Weekend Services

5pm Saturday Vigil Divine Liturgy

9am Sunday Divine Liturgy

Confession

6–6:30pm Wednesday

4–4:30pm Saturday

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

Week at a Glance

Our return to God for His abundant gifts (1/4): \$2,492

Online giving: <https://holyltrinitysykesvilles.org/onlinegiving>

Sun, Jan 11 Sunday after Theophany

9am Divine Liturgy (N)

11am Divine Liturgy (Holy Trinity) followed by procession and blessing of the creek (social to follow)

Wed, Jan 14 6:30pm Vespers

Fri, Jan 16 6:30pm Paraklesis (N)

Sat, Jan 17 5pm Great Vespers

6pm Potluck and Adult Enrichment Presentation

Sun, Jan 18 Sunday of Zaccheus

9am Divine Liturgy

Coffee Social Bakers for January 18: Cathy Ovenshire, Michele Yamrick



Joanne Nemeth (January 14)

CANTORS' CORNER

Saturday	Sunday
<p><u>1/3</u> Cantor: Victor K. Propers: Start (104), "O Lord I have cried" and 3 stichera in tone 5 (143), closing hymn, "Now you may dismiss" (452)</p>	<p><u>1/4</u> Sunday before Theophany Cantor: Zeb B. Lector: Corey M. (2 Tim 4:5-8) Propers: Tone 5 (146), the rest of prefeast of Theophany (309ff), Cherubikon in "A"</p>
<p><u>1/10</u> Cantor: Victor K. Propers: Start (104), "O Lord I have cried" and 3 stichera in tone 6 (149), prokeimenon and all else from postfeast (317ff), closing hymn, "Now you may dismiss" (452)</p>	<p><u>1/11</u> Sunday after Theophany Cantor: Zeb B. Lector: Mike K. (Eph 4:7-13) Propers: Tone 6 (152), the rest is Sunday after Theophany (316ff), Cherubikon in "B"</p>
<p><u>1/17</u> Great Vespers Cantor: Zeb B. Propers in supplement</p>	<p><u>1/18</u> Sunday of Zaccheus Cantor: Victor K. Lector: Joseph C. (1 Tim 4:9-15) Propers: Tone 7 (156ff) Cherubikon in "C"</p>
<p><u>1/24</u> Cantor: Victor K. Propers: Start (104), "O Lord I have cried" and 3 stichera in tone 8 (159), closing hymn, "Now you may dismiss" (452)</p>	<p><u>1/25</u> Sunday of the Prodigal Son Cantor: Victor K. Lector: Corey M. (2 Tim 3:10-15)) Propers: Tone 8 (161ff), troparion for Sunday of Prodigal (215), Cherubikon in "A"</p>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ Dates to Remember

- Monday, February 2: Feast of the Encounter of Our Lord with the Elder Simeon
- Monday, February 16: Beginning of the Great Fast (Clean Monday)

✠ House Blessings in 2026

A sign-up sheet for house blessings will be posted in the narthex. House blessings will be offered on weekdays during the months of January. If you did not have a chance to get your house blessed last year, now is your chance to sign up. House blessings will be scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

✠ “Called by Name” Vocation Awareness Program

In the early years of the Church, individual Christian communities would often identify and nominate worthy members of their communities for service in leadership positions in the church, such as in the role of priest. In a similar light, following upon the travelling icon vocation program held in our church and nationwide, the entire Byzantine Catholic Church will be starting on Sunday, January 18, a program for vocation awareness known as “Called by Name.” This program has the purpose of identifying vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and monastic life within our parish community. More information on this program will be included in next week’s bulletin.

✠ *Life and Liturgy* Adult Catechesis Series

- Next Session: “The Design of the Church and God’s Design for Our Lives” on January 17.
 - 5pm Great Vespers
 - 6pm Potluck and Presentation
- Session Recordings
 - Parish website: [holytrinitysykesville.org/resources](https://www.holytrinitysykesville.org/resources)
 - YouTube: Search “Holy Trinity Byzantine Sykesville” and find the “Life and Liturgy Adult Enrichment Series 2025–2026” playlist
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhMUIKohjH84WPLgf3eWj1stcEvZr7d26&si=CLkimL6ToHBx-XXV>
- As a reminder, these sessions will take place on a monthly basis until June 2026. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather for beautiful liturgical prayer outside of the Divine Liturgy and to learn more about why we do what we do at church and how it relates to the rest of our lives.

✠ Standing Reminder

After Pentecost 2026, we will be celebrating Great Vespers or Vigil only on Saturday evening (no longer with Divine Liturgy). Until then, any change in the Saturday schedule is only on those dates when a session of *Life and Liturgy* takes place.

✠ Great Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord (January 6)

(Continued from last week)

The theme of “manifestation” or “revelation” is expressed in particular under the symbolism of light: in the words of the troparion of Theophany, Christ has “appeared and *enlightened* the world.” Thus, besides the title “Theophany,” January 6 is also known as the “Feast of Lights.” The Church celebrates on this day the illumination of the world by the light of Christ: “Light from Light, Christ our God has shone upon the world, God made manifest” (Matins for the feast); “You brought light to all things by your Epiphany” (*hypakoe* of the feast); “You who lie in darkness, leap for joy, for a great light has now appeared to you” (Matins for January 5).



Manifestation, illumination—with these two ideas there goes a third: renewal, regeneration, recreation. Christ’s baptism in Jordan renews our nature, for it is the prelude to our baptism in the font; and it renews and regenerates, not our human nature only, but the whole material creation.

To understand this idea of renewal, it is helpful to begin by asking a question which is, in fact, posed repeatedly in the texts for the feast. Why was Christ baptized? We are baptized

because we are sinful: we go down dirty into the water, and we emerge cleansed. But what need had Christ, who is sinless, to undergo baptism in the Jordan? To this, the liturgical texts answer: “Though as God he needs no cleansing, yet for the sake of fallen man He is cleansed in the Jordan” (Matins canon for the feast); “As man He is cleansed that I may be made clean” (Compline canon for January 5); “For the sake of sinful man.” In reality, it is not He who is cleansed in the Jordan but we ourselves. In taking manhood upon Him at His Incarnation, Our Lord assumed a representative role: He became the New Adam, summing up the whole human race in Himself, just as the first Adam summed up and contained all mankind in himself at the Fall. On the Cross, although sinless, Jesus Christ suffered and died for the sins of all humanity; and in the same way at His baptism, although sinless, He was cleansed for all men’s sins. When He went down into the Jordan, as the New Adam He carried us sinful men down with Him: and there in the waters He cleansed us, bearing each of us up once more out of the river as a new create, regenerate and reconciled.

In Christ’s baptism at the hands of John, our own baptismal regeneration is already accomplished by anticipation. The many celebrations of the Eucharist are all a participation in the single and unique Last Supper; and in a similar way all our individual baptisms are a sharing in the baptism of Christ—they are the means whereby the “grace of Jordan” is extended, so that it may be appropriated by each one of us personally. As an indication of the close connection between Christ’s baptism and our baptism, it may be noted that the prayer at the Great Blessing of Waters on Theophany is almost identical with the prayer of blessing said over the font at the sacrament of baptism.

Kallistos Ware, *Festal Menaion*

✠ Youth Events in 2026

Registration for the ByzanTEEN Rally will be opening soon. Details will be shared as soon as possible. As a reminder, our fundraising efforts for our youth typically go towards sending our youth to these events. Our archbishop has asked that the parishes share a donation form to help cover the costs of the rally—this year being sponsored by the Eparchy of Parma. Those forms may be found in the narthex for anyone interested. If you would prefer a more direct contribution, consider donating directly to our youth fund at Holy Trinity so that we may cover the costs of our own young members. In addition to this, the Youth and Young Adult Office of our eparchy has published a schedule for events for much of the rest of the year, see the next page.



The poster features a lighthouse on the left and a religious illustration of Jesus on the right. The background is a sunset over water. Text is overlaid in various colors and fonts.

EARLY BIRD
(BEFORE APRIL 1)
&
SIBLING DISCOUNT
\$350

Registration Opens **JANUARY 2026**

BYZANTEEN
RALLY
AGES 13 THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

“TAKE COURAGE!
I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD.”
JOHN 16:33

JULY 9-12 2026

FULL PRICE
\$380
AFTER APRIL 1

CLEVELAND OHIO

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT
EVENTS 2026
& more to come

FEB 7

SATURDAY
/TEENS

CALLED TO LOVE AND
TO DANCE

St. John Chrysostom
Byzantine Catholic Church
Pittsburgh, PA

FEB&MAR APR 11 ●

TUESDAYS
/YOUNG ADULTS

GREAT FAST BIBLE
STUDY

6:00 pm via Zoom

SATURDAY
/TEENS& YOUNG ADULTS

2026 ARCHEPARCHIAL
YOUTH AND YOUNG
ADULT GATHERING

With the metropolitan
archbishop William
Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic
Church, Sykesville, PA

MAY 16

SATURDAY
/TEENS

2026 SPRING
BYZANTEEN HIKE

Racoon State Park, PA

JUNE 8-20

13 DAYS
/YOUNG ADULTS

MISSION TRIP TO
ATHENS, GREECE

Athens, Greece

JULY 9-12

4 DAYS
/TEENS

BYZANTEEN RALLY

John Carroll University,
Cleveland, OH
Eparchy of Parma

AUG 8

SATURDAY
/TEENS

2026 BYZANTEEN
SPLASH BASH & MORE
AND BYZANTEEN RALLY
REUNION 😊

St. Nicholas Chapel, Beaver
& Seven Oaks Country Club
Swimming Pool, PA

SEP 12

SATURDAY
/TEENS

2026 FALL BYZANTEEN
HIKE & COOKOUT

Riverview Park and the
Chancery, Pittsburgh, PA

OCT 3

SATURDAY
/YOUNG ADULTS

2026 ARCHEPARCHIAL
YOUNG ADULT
PILGRIMAGE

Basilica and Shrine of Our Lady
of Lebanon, North Jackson, OH



The Office of Youth and
Young Adult Ministry
The Byzantine Catholic
Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

youth@archpitt.org

MYSTERIES OF THE CHURCH

Parish Membership: To be a parish member, you must (1) be registered in the parish; (2) demonstrate faithful and consistent participation in the liturgical life of the parish on Sundays and holy days; and (3) regularly offer time, talent, or treasure to the parish according to your ability. Parish membership is required for participation in the sacraments below (but exceptions may be made with Fr. Nate's discretion). All are welcome to become members after attending the parish for one year.

Contact Fr. Nate to register.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist): Contact Fr. Nate to schedule pre-baptism instruction. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics.

Mystery of Crowning: Contact Fr. Nate before setting a date or reserving your reception hall (at least six months before the desired wedding date). Pre-Cana program and three sessions with Fr. Nate are required. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the Byzantine Rite.

Mystery of Anointing and Visitation of the Sick: This mystery may be celebrated upon request for anyone navigating spiritual or physical challenges. If you or your loved one is homebound or hospitalized, notify Fr. Nate as soon as possible to ensure they can be visited.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Nate before setting the time and date of funeral. The deceased need not be a member in good standing. Cremation is discouraged but permitted within certain limitations.

Liturgy Intentions can be requested through the offertory envelopes provided or in person from Fr. Nate or Dcn. Luke. A liturgy may be requested with or without the conventional \$20 stipend, which is considered a donation not a requirement.