

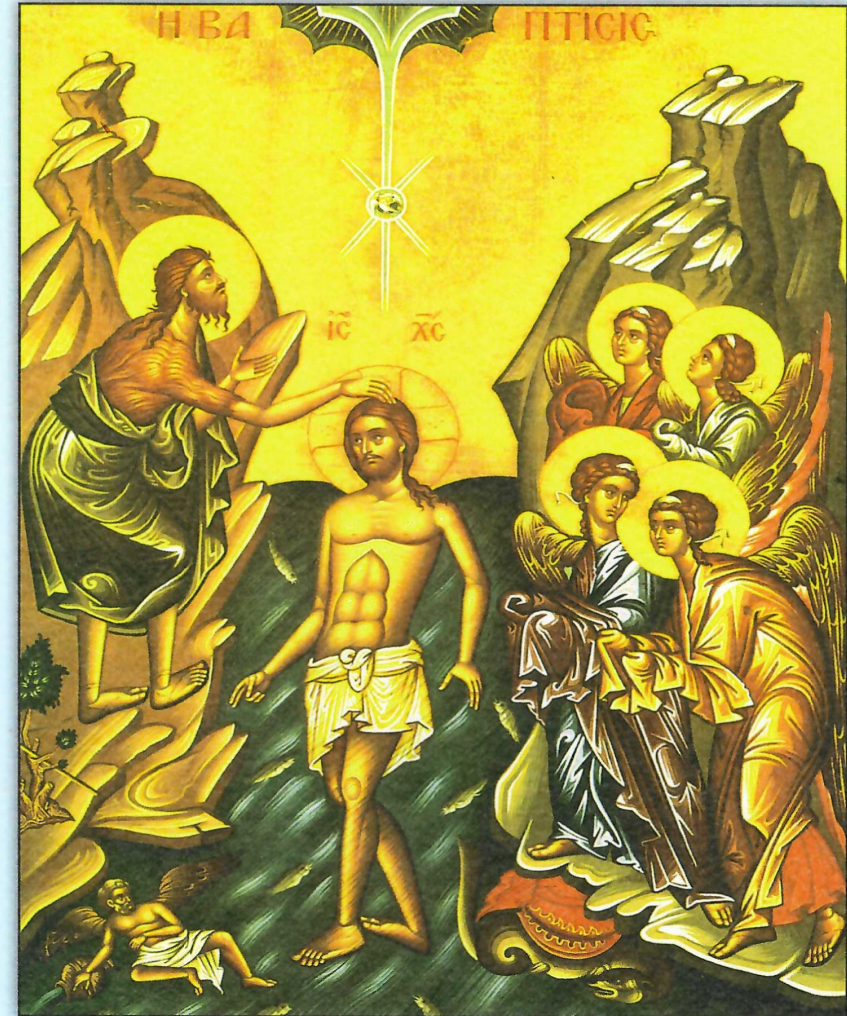
The Christ

Now, in the mystery of Christ's Baptism in the Jordan River, we again encounter and represent the truth of the Lord's incarnation and His manifestation as the Christ. Jesus' Baptism is in fact His definitive manifestation as the Messiah or Christ to Israel, and as the Son of the Father to the entire world. Here we find the dimension of the Epiphany which was His manifestation to all nations. The Father's voice from heaven shows that Jesus of Nazareth is the eternal Son and the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove shows the Trinitarian nature of the Christian God. The true and unique God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, shows Himself in Christ, through Him, with Him and in Him.

The Baptism in the Jordan returns to the great Christmas theme of "Christification", Jesus of Nazareth's spiritual anointing, His presentation

as the Anointed One par excellence, the Messiah or the One sent by the Father for the salvation of mankind. The Spirit that descended on Jesus shows and seals in an incontrovertible way the "Christification" of Jesus' humanity that the Word had already fulfilled from the first moment of His miraculous conception by Mary. Jesus, from the very beginning, was always the Lord's Christ, He was always God. Yet, His one, true humanity, that which is perfect in every way, as the Gospel records, constantly grew in natural and supernatural perfection. "And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and with men" (Lk2:52). In Israel at 30 years of age, one reached full maturity and therefore could become a master. Jesus came of age and the Spirit, descending and remaining on Him, definitively consecrated His whole being as the Christ.

SUNDAY BEFORE EPIPHANY



Icon of Theophany -- January 6th

ST. HARALAMBOS SUNDAY BULLETIN

January 4, 2026

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY

Orthros 9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy immediately following the Orthros.

JANUARY

SUN JAN 4	†Sunday Before Theophany Vasilopita Sunday School Vasilopita Boys Basketball Practice	9:00 a.m.
MON JAN 5	†Eve of Theophany Royal Hours Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil	9:00 a.m.
TUE JAN 6	†Theophany Divine Liturgy Great Blessing of the Waters Orthodox Book Study Greek School Computer Meeting	9:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
WED JAN 7	†Synaxis of Saint John The Baptist Boys Basketball Practice	9:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.
SUN JAN 11	†Sunday After Theophany JOY Meeting JR GOYA Meeting Boys Basketball Practice	9:00 a.m.
TUE JAN 13	Orthodox Book Study Greek School	4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.
WED JAN 14	Boys Basketball Practice	6:30 p.m.
FRI JAN 16	GOYA BB Tournament	
SUN JAN 18	†12th Sunday of Luke Boys Basketball Practice	9:00 a.m.
TUE JAN 20	Fr. Nick's Bible Study Greek School	3:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.
WED JAN 21	Boys Basketball Practice	6:30 p.m.
THU JAN 22	Hellenic Beginner Dancers Hellenic Intermediate Dancers Hellenic Training Seniors Dancers Hellenic Senior Dancers Dancers/Parents Meeting Alumni Dance Practice	4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
SUN JAN 25	†15th Sunday of Luke GOYA Meeting Boys Basketball Practice	9:00 a.m.
TUE JAN 27	Orthodox Book Study Greek School	4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.



ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

January 4, 2026

TEAM D



TODAY'S MEMORIALS

40-Day Memorial ~ Elaine Vallos

5yr Memorial ~ Dean Pagonis

18yr Memorial ~ Rosalie Forinash

The Prosforo and wine are sponsored
by the families.



BIBLE STUDY WITH FATHER NICK

JANUARY 20TH
3:30 P.M.-4:30 P.M.



VASILOPITA SUNDAY TODAY, January 4, 2026

Please join us for our traditional
Vasilopita, today on Sunday, January 4th
in the Krassas Event Center following
church services.

Sponsored by their families
in loving memory of:

Sheriff George Papadopoulos - 45 years
Betty Papadopoulos - 18 years
Niove Fasoulas - 6 years
Rosalie Forinash - 18 years

58th Annual - Daughters of Penelope

Debutante's Ball

Saturday, April 18, 2026

Doors Open - 7:30 pm

Presentation - 8:30 pm

Alex D. Krassas Event Center

251 25th Street NW

Canton, OH 44709

Tickets: \$25 each

Please contact Frances Pantelides at (330) 284-3929

Ticket Chairperson or

debsball@gmail.com

to purchase your tickets.

PAN-ORTHODOX OUTDOOR BLESSING OF THE WATERS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6 (EPIPHANY)

NOON

STADIUM PARK, SHELTR #5
STADIUM PARK DR. NW



The Stark County Orthodox
Clergy Brotherhood

SAVE THE DATES!

2025-26 Canton Greek Fish Fry

January 30th - Drive Thru Only

February 20th - Dine In & Drive Thru

March 20th - Dine In & Drive Thru

Interested in volunteering?

Contact Peter Volas @ 216-312-4255

ORTHODOX BOOK STUDY GROUP

Join us for a spiritual book study and
fellowship starting in January 2026!

Every Tuesday ~ in the Tri-Room
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

If you would like to participate, please
contact the church office @ 330-454-7278.

2026 STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

For those parishioners using envelopes, the 2026
Stewardship Envelopes are now available for
pickup in front of the Bookstore.

PLEASE NOTE: The envelopes are arranged
in alphabetical order by LAST NAME,
not by envelope number.

Please begin using your 2026 Stewardship
envelopes on January 1, 2026.



Are you a Stark County High School
Senior, female, single and of Greek descent
or an active member of the Maids of Athena
or is your parent(s) an active member, in good standing
of the Daughters of Penelope or the Order of AHEPA?

Join us for the
58th Annual Daughters of Penelope
Debutante's Ball
April 18, 2026

Please RSVP to Debutantes Ball Chairperson,
Marcia Bournelis at (330) 309-3428 or Protocol
Chairperson, Mary Griveas at (330) 268-9069
if interested.

January 4, 2026: Pre-Theophany; Synaxis (collective celebration) of the Holy Seventy Apostles; The Righteous Theoktistos (+800); Righteous Onophrios the Younger, Neomartyr (+1818); Appolinaria (+502); Dorotheos the monk.

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Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον Ἦχος πλ. α΄

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν· ὅτι ἠυδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγεῖραι τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

Προεόρτιον Ἦχος δ

Ἑτοιμάζου Ζαβουλών, καὶ εὐτρεπίζου Νεφθαλείμ. Ἰορδάνη ποταμέ, στήθι ὑπόδεξαι σκιρτῶν, τοῦ βαπτισθῆναι ἐρχόμενον τὸν Δεσπότην. Ἀγάλλου ὁ Ἀδὰμ σὺν τῇ Προμήτορι· μὴ κρύπτετε ἑαυτοὺς, ὥς ἐν Παραδείσῳ τὸ πρὶν· καὶ γὰρ γυμνοὺς ἰδὼν ὑμᾶς ἐπέφανεν, ἵνα ἐνδύσῃ τὴν πρώτην στολήν. Χριστὸς ἐφάνη, τὴν πᾶσαν κτίσιν, θέλων ἀνακαινίσει.

Τοῦ Ναοῦ

Ὡς στῦλος ἀκλόνητος, τῆς Ἐκκλησίας Χριστοῦ, καὶ λύχνος ἀείφωτος, τῆς οἰκουμένης σοφέ, ἐδείχθης Χαράλαμπες· ἔλαμψας ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, διὰ τοῦ μαρτυρίου. ἔλυσας καὶ εἰδώλων τὴν σκοτόμαιναν μάκαρ· διὸ ἐν παρρησίᾳ Χριστῷ. Πρέσβευε σωθῆναι ἡμᾶς.

Κοντάκιον Ἦχος δ΄

Ἐν τοῖς ρείθροις σήμερον τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, γεγονὼς ὁ Κύριος, τῷ Ἰωάννῃ ἐκβοᾷ· Μὴ δειλιάσης βαπτίσει με· σῶσαι γὰρ ἤκω, Ἀδὰμ τὸν πρωτόπλαστον.

.....
Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode pl. 1

As the Father and Spirit are unoriginate, so the Word, who was born from the Virgin for us. Let us praise Him, O believers, and let us worship Him. For our salvation He was pleased to be crucified in the flesh, and to undergo death, and to resurrect the dead, by His glorious resurrection.

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.

Hymn of the Church

As a pillar unshaken of Christ’s holy Church, and lamp ever-burning to all the world you emerged, O wise Haralambos; in all the world you shined, with the martyrdom you suffered, you dispelled the dark night, of the idols, O blessed; whence, with courage do intercede, to Christ that we may be saved.

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.”

January 4, 2026 Sunday Before Epiphany
2 Timothy 4:5-8



Epistle

The reading is from Paul’s Second Letter to Timothy.

Timothy, my son, always be watchful, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill 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.

January 4, 2026 Prayer of the Gospel
Mark 1:1-8



Gospel

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

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 and 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.”