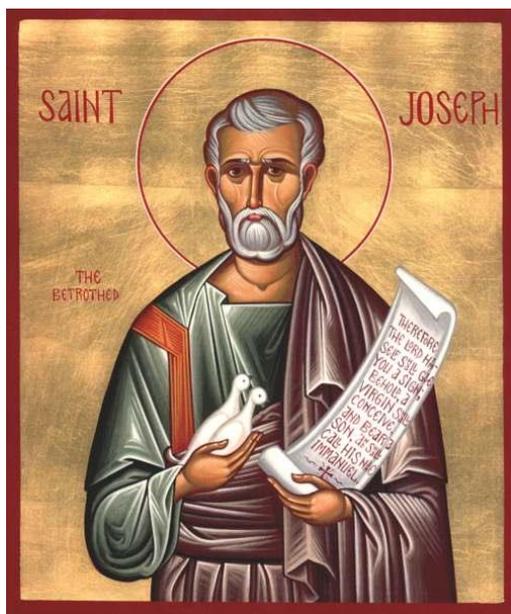




SAINT INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

January 6, 2019
The Holy Theophany of Our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ



7301 Rivoli Road, Macon, GA 31220
478-994-1648, www.st-innocent.org
Priest Theophan Buck

Troparion and Kontakion

Tone 1 Troparion of the Feast

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son; and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself// and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Tone 4 Kontakion of the Feast

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord, and the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us. Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises. Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, // O unapproachable Light.

(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Epistle and Gospel Readings

Epistle: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³ looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

⁴ But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ¹⁴And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. ¹⁶When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. ¹⁷And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

About Holy Water (St. John of Shanghai)

On Theophany, that is, the Day of the Lord's Baptism, every year a great miracle is performed. The Holy Spirit, coming down upon the water, changes its natural properties. It becomes incorrupt, that is it does not spoil, remains transparent and fresh for many years, receives the grace to heal illnesses, to drive away demons and every evil power, to preserve people and their dwellings from every danger, to sanctify various objects whether for church or home use. Therefore Orthodox Christians with reverence drink Holy Water - a great *Agiasma* (holy thing), as the Greeks call it.

One should always have at home enough Theophany water so that it will last the whole year, and make use of it at every need; in cases of illness, leaving on a journey, whenever one is upset, students when going to examinations. They do well who daily, before eating any kind of food, drink a little Holy Water. It strengthens the powers of our soul - if it is done, of course, with prayer and reverence, and one does not merely expect from it a mechanical result.

Every priest should take care to bless a sufficient quantity of water for his church, so that it will be on hand for the course of the whole year for every need and to be given out to those who ask for it; and parishioners should provide for themselves at Theophany with Holy Water for the whole year and even so that it can be kept for future years.

Many Years!

Birthdays	3	Sandra Olsen
	5	Steven Giles
	6	Alexander Gratigny Olga Uchakin
Anniversaries	12	Ray and Patti Lanier

Announcements for Sunday, January 6, 2019:

- After Liturgy, we will proceed to Amerson Park for the blessing of the Ocmulgee River and Church Picnic.
2551 North Pierce Drive, Macon, GA 31204.
 - **12:15 p.m.** – Blessing of the water
 - **12:30 p.m.** – Picnic
- If you would like to have your house blessed, please sign up for one of the following Saturdays:
 - Saturday, January 19 -Warner Robins area
 - Saturday, January 26 - Macon areaIf you sign up for one of the days above, Fr. Theophan will contact you the week before to let you know a time frame for his visit.
- On Saturday, January 12, we will have Family Church School. Please sign up via Realm.
 - **4pm** – Church School
 - **6pm** – Great Vespers
 - **7pm** – Fellowship
- Confessions are heard either before or after any church service and on Sundays from **9:20-9:40am**.

We welcome all visitors to our Divine Liturgy this morning.

There are green service booklets in the entrance area of our Church that will help you follow along with the service if you like. While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the cross and receiving the Holy Bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

Please join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall!