

# St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America  
His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York &  
Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop THOMAS, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland & MidAtlantic  
**The Very Reverend Father Samuel Haddad, Pastor**

211 South Heber Street & POB 5026 & Beckley, WV 25801  
Parish (304) 252-5821 - Cell (304) 541-8550 (use this to contact Fr. Samuel)

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[www.orthodoxbeckley.org](http://www.orthodoxbeckley.org)

Tone 5

January 4, 2026

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## FOREFEAST OF & SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

SYNAXIS OF THE SEVENTY HOLY APOSTLES; VENERABLE THEOKTISTOS OF SICILY

Today's Reader: Sdn. Matthew

**Next Sunday– January 11, 2026**

*Reader:* Shaina Benefield

*Commemorations/Bread Offering for the Holy Oblation:* The Benefield Family

*Coffee Hour Luncheon next Sunday is in honor of:* Bishop THOMAS & Dn. Matthew

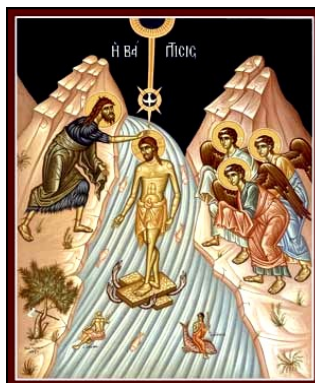
**Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered for** Archpriest John & Khouria Loukia and family, Valerie, Mike. All members of the Volosin, Maragos, Orenzuk, Evans & Hultink families, Tyle, and all members of the Greco, Comer, Heuhn, Morris, Stratton families.

**It is offered in loving memory of** All departed members of the Volosin family, All departed members of the Morris and Stewart families, Peggy, Mike, Mike, Anna, All the departed members of the Comer and Harcharic families.

*"the Disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11:26)*

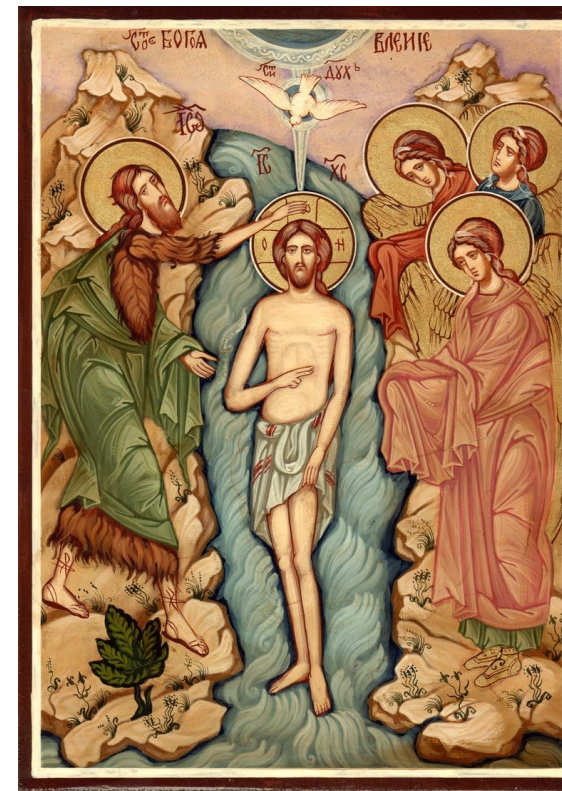
Please note that **Holy Communion is reserved for members of the Holy Orthodox Church** who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession. However, all are welcome to partake of the blessed bread at the dismissal.

Please join us during our fellowship at the Coffee Hour immediately after the Divine Liturgy.



## Important Announcements . . .

**VERY IMPORTANT!** We will celebrate the Feast of Theophany with an evening Divine Liturgy on Monday, January 5th at 6:00 pm (see bulletin insert). **BRING YOUR EMPTY HOLY WATER BOTTLES SO THAT YOU CAN TAKE HOME THE BLESSED WATER.**



## "Blessings Box" Collection Update



Beloved in Christ,

This year, we are collecting non-perishable food for our new **BLESSING BOX!** PLEASE KEEP BRINGING FOOD so that we may continue to stock our shelves and have food to stock adequately. We need to continue our efforts in providing food for those who are truly Hungry. God bless everyone for your holy efforts!

## FOREFEAST OF & SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

SYNAXIS OF THE SEVENTY HOLY APOSTLES; VENERABLE THEOKTISTOS OF SICILY

### Troparion of the Resurrection, in the Fifth Tone

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

### Troparion of the Forefeast, in the Fourth Tone

Be thou ready, Zabulon; prepare thyself, O Nephthalim. \* River Jordan, stay thy course and skip for gladness to receive \* the Sovereign Master, Who cometh now to be baptized. \* O Adam, be thou glad with our first mother, Eve; \* hide not as ye did of old in Paradise. \* Seeing you naked, He hath appeared now \* to clothe you in the first robe again. \* Christ hath appeared, for He truly willeth to renew all creation.

### Troparion of St. Nicholas, in the Fourth Tone

Thy righteous acts have manifested thee to thy flock as a model of faith, a reflection of humility, and a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Nicholas. Therefore, through humility thou hast achieved exaltation, and through poverty riches. Intercede thou with Christ to save our souls.

### Kontakion for the Forefeast, in the Fourth Tone

In the running waters of \* the Jordan River, \* on this day the Lord of all \* crieth to John: Be not afraid \* and hesitate not to baptize Me, \* for I am come to save Adam, the first-formed man.



## Epistle

II Timothy 4:5-8

*Prokeimenon:* O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

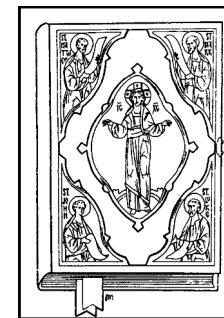
*Verse:* Unto Thee will I cry, O Lord my God.

Timothy, my son, always be steady, 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, and 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.

## Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness, 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 strap 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."





## Calendar: January - February 2026

1/4/2026	130 pm	Choir Practice
1/5/2026 (Mon)	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Royal Hours of Theophany Festal Divine Liturgy for Theophany Great Blessing of Water
1/10/2026 1/11/2026	5:00 pm 9:25 am 10:30 am	Great Vespers with Bishop THOMAS presiding  Orthros, Bishop THOMAS Presiding Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Bishop THOMAS presiding and the Ordination of Sdn Matthew to the Holy Diaconate  Banquet in Honor of Bishop THOMAS and Dn. Matthew
1/14/2026 (Wed)	6:00 pm	Divine Liturgy for the Leave-taking of the Feast of Theophany
1/18/2026 (Sun)	1:30 pm	Parish Council Meeting
2/2/2026 (Mon)		Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord (Celebration of the Feast will be transferred to Sunday, Feb 1)
2/14/2026 (Sat)	1:00 pm	Wedding of Nathaniel Keith and Grace Sparks Reception to Follow (See invitation in this Bulletin)



Calendar for the Week of January 4, 2026	Saints of the Day
<b>Sunday—January 4, 2026</b> 9:25 am - Orthros 9:30 am - High School 10:00 am – Youth Ministry 10:30 am - Divine Liturgy After Liturgy- Junior & Youngsters Church School 1:30 pm Choir Practice	The Seventy Apostles; Theoctistus the Righteous
<b>Monday— January 5, 2026</b> 9:00 am Royal Hours of Theophany 6:00 pm Festal Divine Liturgy Theophany Great Blessing of Water	Theopempus & Theonas; Syncretice the Righteous
<b>Tuesday—January 6, 2026</b>	The Feast of Theophany
<b>Wednesday—January 7, 2026</b> Fast 5:00 pm Daily Vespers	John the Baptist
<b>Thursday—January 8, 2026</b>	Dominica the Righteous; George the Rhozibite
<b>Friday—January 9, 2026</b> Fast	Dolyeuctus the Martyr
<b>Saturday—January 10, 2026</b> 5:00 pm Great Vespers With Bishop THOMAS presiding	Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa; Domitianus, Bishop of Malta
<b>Sunday—January 11, 2026</b> 9:15 am Orthros—Bishop THOMAS Presiding 10:30 am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy & Ordination of Sdn Matthew to the Holy Diaconate  Banquet in Honor of His Grace, Bishop Thomas & Deacon Matthew	Theodosius, Head of Monasteries
<p><b>Please note</b> that Confessions are heard at the time noted above in the coming week's schedule, or by appointment by calling Fr. Samuel at: (304) 541-8550.</p>	

2026 Schedule of Services for  
**The Feast of Theophany**  
The Baptism of  
Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ



**Monday, January 5th, 2026**

9:00 AM ~ Royal Hours of Theophany

6:00 PM ~ Evening Divine Liturgy  
for the Feast of Theophany  
Followed by the Great Blessing of Waters

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Bring your Holy Water Bottle  
So that you can take the newly blessed water  
For use in our home

**God Grant You Many Years**  
**Corey Sparks!**



**Know that we love you and will miss you greatly as you deploy to Washington DC! The work that you will do there is blessed and deeply respected as you serve your country and all of us.**

**We will pray for you! That God will send His Angels to protect you and to give you strength and wisdom.**

**Come Home Soon! Indeed, you will receive a hero's welcome!**

Join us for the  
holy matrimony of

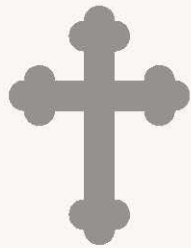
**Nathaniel**

and

**Grace**

Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> 2026, at 1pm

211 South Heber St, Beckley, WV 25901



Reception to follow



**RSVP**

by email or text

your response is requested by January 14th, 2026  
nathaniel.keith@icloud.com or 304-663-9477  
please include your name, and name of guests