

## Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors.** We are delighted to have you join us at our service today in worshipping the Holy Trinity. 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.
- **Today.** We asked the Lord to bless the Harmon family (Gabriel, Jenna, Clarissa, and Miles) as catechumens today. Please welcome them as they continue their journey to fullness of communion in the Orthodox Church.
- **Blessings of Homes.** If you did not bring a container for holy water today, please do so by next Sunday. We Christians are engaged in a struggle to reclaim fallen nature for the Kingdom of God – let's start by reclaiming our own homes and receiving the blessing of the Jordan River. Appointments can be made with Fr. Kirill (see the "This Week" e-mail for details).
- **Annual Parish Meeting.** Please mark your calendars to stay for our parish's annual business meeting on Sunday, January 27, following the Divine Liturgy. It will begin during the Fellowship Meal. Our attendance is part of our stewardship of all that the Lord has entrusted to us. If you would like to serve in an elected position or would like to know more, please speak with Fr. Kirill or Lay Vice President Felicia Dunham.
- **Miracle-Working Icon of St. Anna.** On Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM, a prayer service to the miracle-working Icon of St. Anna (normally residing at St. Tikhon's Monastery) will be held at Christ the Saviour Church (490 12<sup>th</sup> Ave). A poster with details is on our bulletin board.

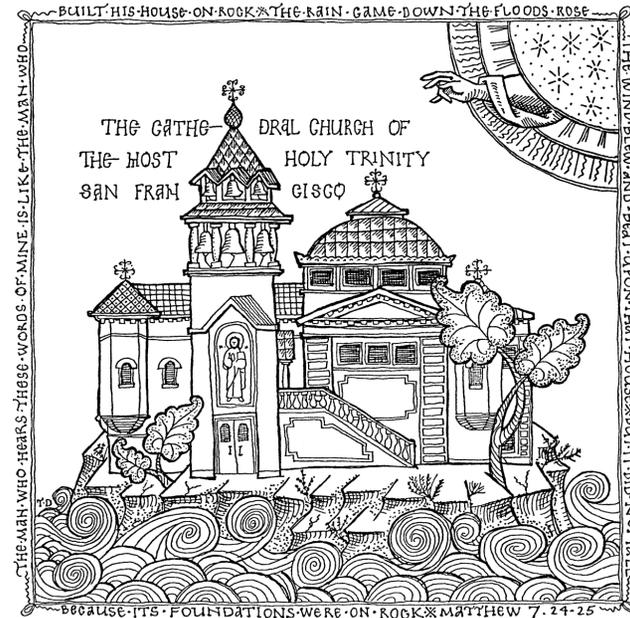
## This Week at Holy Trinity

- Wed. Jan. 9:** 6:00 pm Vespers (followed by parish council meeting).
- Sat. Jan. 12:** 6:00 pm Vigil & Confessions.
- Sun. Jan. 13:** 10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
followed by fellowship meal and special monthly  
Church School (both age groups).  
*Parking available at St. Brigid's.*

## Contact Fr. Kirill

*Have a question or would like to chat?*  
FrKirill@holy-trinity.org • 415-673-8565

# Holy Trinity Cathedral



Sunday, January 6, 2019

Most Reverend Benjamin,  
Archbishop of San Francisco and the West

Very Reverend Dr. Kirill Sokolov, Dean

1520 Green Street  
San Francisco, California  
[holy-trinity.org](http://holy-trinity.org)

Orthodox Church in America  
Diocese of the West

**Today's Epistle**

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

**Today's Gospel**

Matthew 3:13-17

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.****The Holy Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ****Tone 7****Today's Epistle Reading***Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7*

Titus, my son: the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all mankind, instructing us to renounce godless ways and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for Himself a people of His own who are zealous to do good.

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not by reason of good works that we ourselves did, but according to His mercy by the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit, which He poured out upon us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that justified by His grace, we may be heirs in the hope of eternal life.

**Today's Gospel Reading***Matthew 3:13-17*

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

**The Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

Theophany is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (Mt.3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by Saint John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit

descended upon the Son in the form of a dove. From ancient times this Feast was called the Day of Illumination and the Feast of Lights, since God is Light and has appeared to illumine "those who sat in darkness," and "in the region of the shadow of death" (Mt.4:16), and to save the fallen race of mankind by grace.

The origin of the Feast of Theophany goes back to Apostolic times, and it is mentioned in The Apostolic Constitutions (Book V:13). In the ancient Church it was the custom to baptize catechumens at the Vespers of Theophany, so that Baptism also is revealed as the spiritual illumination of mankind. Saint John of Damascus said that the Lord was baptized, not because He Himself had need for cleansing, but "to bury human sin by water," to fulfill the Law, to reveal the mystery of the Holy Trinity, and finally, to sanctify "the nature of water" and to offer us the form and example of Baptism.

On the Feast of the Baptism of Christ, the Holy Church proclaims our faith in the most sublime mystery, incomprehensible to human intellect, of one God in three Persons. It teaches us to confess and glorify the Holy Trinity, one in Essence and Undivided. It exposes and overthrows the errors of ancient teachings which attempted to explain the Creator of the world by reason, and in human terms.

The Church shows the necessity of Baptism for believers in Christ, and it inspires us with a sense of deep gratitude for the illumination and purification of our sinful nature. The Church teaches that our salvation and cleansing from sin is possible only by the power of the grace of the Holy Spirit, therefore it is necessary to preserve worthily these gifts of the grace of holy Baptism, keeping clean this priceless garb, for "As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ" (Gal 3:27).

**Many Years!****Wedding Anniversary**

Misha and Anastasia Edel (Jan 9)

**Birthdays**

Taylor Seraphim Warren (Jan 6)

Anne Kirueshkin (Jan 8)

Samuel Strelkoff (Jan 11)

**Thank You**

Please join us downstairs for our fellowship meal! Thanks to Dr. Sally Wei for preparing yesterday's meal and for all those who brought something for today's lunch.