Circumcision of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia
Emmelia, Mother of Basil the Great, Gregory of Nyssa, Makrina, and Peter of Sebaste
Gregory, Bishop of Nanzianzos, Father of Gregory the Theologian
Peter the New Martyr of the Peloponnesos
Theodotos the Martyr; Righteous Theodosios of Triglia
Telemachos the Martyr; Fulgentius, Bishop of Ruspe

4th Mode + Eothinon 7

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE – NEW YEAR’S DAY
JANUARY 1, 2023
Orthros 8:30 am + Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Welcome to all our visitors worshipping with us today!
We’re glad you’re here! Please join us at our Fellowship Coffee immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Visit the Welcoming Committee table to meet fellow parishioners and learn more about our community.

Please silence all mobile devices while in the Holy Sanctuary. Thank you.
Special Hymns at Liturgy:

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Τὸ ψαλλόν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἁγγέλου μαθοῦσα αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόψειν ἀπορρίψασα, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχῶμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσάλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἤγερθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Apolytikion for Circumcision of Jesus Christ in the First Mode

Our human form hast Thou taken on Thyself without change, O greatly-compassionate Master, though being God by nature; fulfilling the Law, Thou willingly receivest circumcision in the flesh, that Thou mightest end the shadow and roll away the veil of our sinful passions. Glory be to Thy goodness unto us. Glory be to Thy compassion. Glory, O Word, to Thine inexpressible condescension.

Μορφήν αναλλοιώτως ανθρωπίνην προσέλαβες, Θεός ών κατ' ουσίαν, πολυεύσπλαγχνε Κύριε, καί Νόμον εκπληρών, περιτομήν, θελήσει καταδέχεσθαι σαρκικῆν, ὡς παύσης τὰ σκιώδη, καί περίέλης τὸ κάλυμμα τῶν παθῶν ἡμῶν, Δόξα τῇ αγαθότητι τῇ σῇ, δόξα τῷ εὐσπλαγχνίῳ σου, δόξα τῇ ανεκφράστῳ Λόγῳ συγκαταβάσει σου.

Apolytikion for Basil the Great in the First Mode

Thy sound hath gone forth into all the earth, which hath received thy word. Thereby thou hast divinely taught the Faith; thou hast made manifest the nature of all things that be; thou hast adorned the ways of man. O namesake of the royal priesthood, our righteous Father Basil, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἔζηλθεν ὁ φθόνος σου, ὡς δεξιμένην τὸν λόγον σου, δι' οὗ θεοπρεπῶς ἐδοξιμάτισας, τὴν φύσιν τῶν ὄντων ἐτράνωσας, τὰ τῶν ἄνθρωπων ἡθαι κατεκόσμησας, Βασίλειον Ἑράτευμα, Πάτερ ὅσιε, Χριστὸν τὸν Θεὸν ἴκετες, δωρήσασθαι ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.
Apolytikion of the Church
On this day when our salvation is crowned for eternity and the revelation of the mystery of the ages. The Son of God becomes on this day the Virgin’s Son, with Gabriel proclaiming the tidings of God’s Grace. And we also join in the cry unto the Theotokos singing: Hail to You who are filled with grace; the Lord is with You.

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ’ αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριήλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἠμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν, Χαίρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Third Mode
Now the Lord of all that is doth undergo circumcision, in His goodness cutting off the sins and failings of mortals. He this day doth give salvation unto the whole world; and the hierarch and bright daystar of the Creator now rejoiceth in the highest, Basil the wise and divine initiate of Christ.

Ο τῶν ὅλων Κύριος, πειριτομὴν υπομένει, καὶ βροτῶν τὰ πταίσματα, ως αγαθός περιτέμνει, δίδωσι, τὴν σωτηρίαν σήμερον κόσμῳ, χαίρε δὲ, εν τοῖς υψίστοις καὶ ὁ τοῦ Κτίστου, Ιεράρχης καὶ φωσφόρος, ο θείος μύστης Χριστοῦ Βασίλειος.

Matins (Orthros) Gospel
John 20:1-10

On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying and the napkin, which had been on His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached
the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not know the scripture, that He must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

**Epistle Reading**

St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 2:8-12.

RETHREN, see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness of life in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

**Gospel Reading**

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Luke 2:20-21, 40-52

At that time, the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he
was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days, they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, an

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Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 2:20-21, 40-52

τὸ καιρὸ ἐκεῖνῳ, ὑπέστρεψαν οἱ ποιμένες δοξάζοντες καὶ κίνοντες τὸν Θεόν ἐπὶ πᾶσιν οἷς ἤκουσαν καὶ εἶδον καθώς ἔλαλήθη πρὸς αὐτούς. Καὶ ὅτε ἐπλήσθησαν αἱ ἡμέραι ὡκότω τῶν περιτεμεῖν τὸ παιδίον, καὶ ἐκλήθη τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦς, τὸ κληθὲν ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀνγέλου πρὸ τοῦ συλληφθῆναι αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ κοιλίᾳ. Τὸ δὲ παιδίον ἦδοξαν καὶ ἐκραταιώτατο τνεύματι πληροῦμενον σοφίας, καὶ χάρις Θεοῦ ἦν ἐπὶ αὐτό. Καὶ ἐπορεύοντο οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ κατ᾽ ἐτος εἰς Ἰερουσαλήμ τῇ ἐορτῇ τοῦ πάσχα. καὶ ὅτε ἐγένετο ἐτῶν δώδεκα, ἀναβάντων αὐτῶν εἰς Ἰεροσόλυμα κατὰ τὸ ἐθος τῆς ἐορτῆς καὶ τελειωσάντων τὰς ἡμέρας, ἐν τῷ ὑποστρέφειν αὐτοὺς ὑπέμεινεν Ἰησοῦς ὁ παῖς ἐν Ἰερουσαλήμ, καὶ οὖν ἐγνώ Ἰωσήφ καὶ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ. νομίζαντες δὲ αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ συνοδίᾳ εἶναί ἢλθον ἡμέρας ὅδον καὶ ἀνεξήτουν αὐτὸν ἐν τοῖς συγκεκριμένοις καὶ ἐν τοῖς γνωστοῖς καὶ μὴ εὑρόντες αὐτὸν ὑπέστρεψαν εἰς Ἰερουσαλήμ ἡτούντες αὐτὸν. καὶ ἐγένετο μεθ᾽ ἡμέρας τρεῖς εὕρον αὐτὸν ἐν τῷ ιερῷ καθεζόμενον ἐν μέσῳ τῶν διδασκάλων καὶ ἄκουόντα αὐτῶν καὶ ἐπερωτόταν αὐτοὺς ἡξίσταντο δὲ πάντες οἱ ἄκουόντες αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τῇ συνέσει καὶ ταῖς ἀποκρίσεσιν αὐτοῦ. καὶ ἠδόντες αὐτὸν ἐξεπλάγησαν, καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ ἐπεί τέκνων,
Circumcision of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (January 1)

Since the Mosaic Law commands that if a woman give birth to a male child, he should be circumcised in the foreskin of his flesh on the eighth day (Lev. 12:2-3), on this, the eighth day from His Nativity, our Savior accepted the circumcision commanded by the Law. According to the command of the Angel, He received the Name which is above every name: JESUS, which means "Savior" (Matt. 1:21; Luke 1:31 and 2:21).

Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia (January 1)

Saint Basil the Great was born about the end of the year 329 in Caesarea of Cappadocia, to a family renowned for their learning and holiness. His parents' names were Basil and Emily. His mother Emily (commemorated July 19) and his grandmother Macrina (Jan. 14) are Saints of the Church, together with all his brothers and sisters: Macrina, his elder sister (July 19), Gregory of Nyssa (Jan. 10), Peter of Sebastia (Jan. 9), and Naucratius. Basil studied in Constantinople under the sophist Libanius, then in Athens, where also he formed a friendship with the young Gregory, a fellow Cappadocian, later called "the Theologian." Through the good influence of his sister Macrina...
(see July 19), he chose to embrace the ascetical life, abandoning his worldly career. He visited the monks in Egypt, in Palestine, in Syria, and in Mesopotamia, and upon returning to Caesarea, he departed to a hermitage on the Iris River in Pontus, not far from Annesi, where his mother and his sister Macrina were already treading the path of the ascetical life; here he also wrote his ascetical homilies.

About the year 370, when the bishop of his country reposed, he was elected to succeed to his throne and was entrusted with the Church of Christ, which he tended for eight years, living in voluntary poverty and strict asceticism, having no other care than to defend holy Orthodoxy as a worthy successor of the Apostles. The Emperor Valens, and Modestus, the Eparch of the East, who were of one mind with the Arians, tried with threats of exile and of torments to bend the Saint to their own confession, because he was the bastion of Orthodoxy in all Cappadocia, and preserved it from heresy when Arianism was at its strongest. But he set all their malice at nought, and in his willingness to give himself up to every suffering for the sake of the Faith, showed himself to be a martyr by volition. Modestus, amazed at Basil's fearlessness in his presence, said that no one had ever so spoken to him. "Perhaps," answered the Saint, "you have never met a bishop before." The Emperor Valens himself was almost won over by Basil's dignity and wisdom. When Valens' son fell gravely sick, he asked Saint Basil to pray for him. The Saint promised that his son would be restated if Valens agreed to have him baptized by the Orthodox; Valens agreed, Basil prayed, and the son was restored. But afterwards the Emperor had him baptized by Arians, and the child died soon after. Later, Valens, persuaded by his counsellors, decided to send the Saint into exile because he would not accept the Arians into communion; but his pen broke when he was signing the edict of banishment. He tried a second time and a third, but the same thing happened, so that the Emperor was filled with dread, and tore up the document, and Basil was not banished. The truly great Basil, spent with extreme ascetical practices and continual labors, at the helm of the church, departed to the Lord on the 1st of January, in 379, at the age of forty-nine.

His writings are replete with wisdom and erudition, and rich are these gifts he set forth the doctrines concerning the mysteries both of the creation (see his Hexaemeron) and of the Holy Trinity (see On the Holy Spirit). Because of the majesty and keenness of his eloquence, he is honored as "the revealer of heavenly things" and "the Great."
Saint Basil is also celebrated on January 30th with Saint Gregory the Theologian and Saint John Chrysostom.
Rest from labor.

The Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (January 6)

About the beginning of our Lord's thirtieth year, John the Forerunner, who was some six months older than Our Savior according to the flesh, and had lived in the wilderness since his childhood, received a command from God and came into the parts of the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins. Then our Savior also came from Galilee to the Jordan, and sought and received baptism though He was the Master and John was but a servant. Whereupon, there came to pass those marvelous deeds, great and beyond nature: the Heavens were opened, the Spirit descended in the form of a dove upon Him that was being baptized and the voice was heard from the Heavens hearing witness that this was the beloved Son of God, now baptized as a man (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22). From these events the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great mystery of the Trinity were demonstrated. It is also from this that the present feast is called "Theophany," that is, the divine manifestation, God's appearance among men. On this venerable day the sacred mystery of Christian baptism was inaugurated; henceforth also began the saving preaching of the Kingdom of the Heavens.

Synaxis of John the Holy Glorious Prophet, Baptist, & Forerunner (January 7)

Today we celebrate the Synaxis in honor of the most sacred Forerunner, since he ministered at the Mystery of the Divine Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Rest from labor. Fish allowed.
Parish News and Events

Sunday, January 8, 2023 – Sunday after Epiphany

Orthros 7:45 am / Divine Liturgy 9:00 am
Sunday Church School 11:15 am – 12:15 am

*Philoptochos Vasilopita Celebration, following Divine Liturgy*

Please make plans to join us on Sunday, January 8th for our annual Vasilopita Sale and Auction benefiting St. Basil’s Academy. Over the years, our parish has been at the forefront in supporting the Academy, and we hope to continue this blessed tradition. For those who are able, please consider making a Vasilopita, and bring it to church on the 8th to be auctioned off.

If you have questions, please contact Eleni Kyriazis (713) 771-6810, Martha Stefanidakis, (281) 469-0986, or Helena Johnson (713-859-5568. For more information about St. Basil’s Academy, please visit their website:  [https://sbagoa.org](https://sbagoa.org)
METROPOLIS OF DENVER YAL SNOW CONFERENCE

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE
FEB. 9-12TH | MIDWAY, UT
The Metropolis of Denver is hosting a YAL Snow Conference in Midway, Utah during the weekend of Feb. 9-12th. Enjoy a weekend of snow and spiritual nourishment, while spending time with your parea.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION
NOW OPEN
Early Bird: Oct. 31st-Nov. 20th ($350)
Regular Registration: Nov. 21st-Dec. 18th ($375)
Late Registration: Dec. 18th-Jan. 17th ($400)
Last Day to Register: Jan. 17th

SNOW CONFERENCE THEME
Disconnect and Reconnect with Christ

BOOK YOUR ROOM
Book your room at the Zermatt Resort in Midway, Utah. Visit the Zermatt website or call 1-800-334-6001 for booking information.

REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE
Register for the snow conference before early bird registration ends. Follow the link below to learn more about registration information.

PLAN YOUR TRANSPORTATION
Purchase your flight, hotel, and transportation before early bird registration ends. The area is remote, so plan for a winter adventure.

For more information visit the link
WWW.LINKTR.EE/YALMETROPOLISOFDENVER

+ 10 +
Registration for this event closes 01/17/2023

Are You a Junior or Senior in High School?

Join one of our four sessions:
- Boston 1: June 9 - 19
- Boston 2: June 23 - July 3
- San Francisco: July 5 - 15
- Chicago: July 22 - August 1

Fill Your Summer With What Counts,
Explore What Is Next

CrossRoad Summer 2023 Applications Are Now Open!
Priority Application Deadline is January 18, 2023

https://www.CrossRoadInstitute.org
Today at the Cathedral

Sunday, January 1, 2023 – Circumcision of Christ
Orthros 8:30 am / Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

This week at the Cathedral

Thursday, January 5
Eve of Theophany
8:30 am – Vesperal Divine Liturgy & Lesser Blessing of the Waters

Friday, January 6
Holy Theophany & Great Blessing of the Waters
8:30 am – Orthros
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 7
Synaxis of John the Baptist
8:30 am – Orthros
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy