After Elías had gone up to heaven, Eliseus threw his mantle in the Jordan River which separated, opening a way, a dry path between two walls of water where he could pass: a true symbol of our baptism by which we pass through this passing life. Christ has been at the Jordan River to sanctify the waters.

Kondakion: Paramony of Theophany

Today the Lord has been seen in the waters of the Jordan River. He has cried out to John, saying; “Be not dismayed at having to baptize Me, for I have indeed come to save Adam, the first man to have been created.”

Trisagion:

Prokeimenon: Psalm 27:9,1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Stichon: To you, O Lord, I have cried: O my God!

2 Timothy 4:5-8

My son Timothy be watchful in all things, bear with tribulation patiently, work as a preacher of the Good News, fulfill your ministry. As for me, I am already being poured out in sacrifice, and the time of my deliverance is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have completed the course, I have kept the faith. For the rest, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the just Judge, will give to me on that day: yet not to me only, but also to those who love his coming.

Alleluia: Psalm 66:1

May God have merciful to us and bless us.

May he cause his face to shine upon us and have mercy on us.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

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 you, who shall prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the desert, ‘Make ready the way of the Lord, make straight his paths,’” there came John in the desert, baptizing and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea went out to him, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and all were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “One mightier than I is coming after me, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Hirmos: Nativity

Liturgy Book p. 126
**SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS**

January 05 Elaine Manuele from St. Joseph Ladies Society
Elena and Sergei Badea

January 12 Elaine Manuele from Jame & Betsy Zaydon
Elena and Sergei Badea

January 19 Genevieve Kushmeder
Elena and Sergei Badea

January 26 Genevieve Zaydon from Family
Elena and Sergei Badea

**2019 WEEKLY COLLECTION**

December 29
Weekly Offering $ 953.00  
Candles $10.00  
Total: $ 963.00  
Thank you for your support!

**EVENTS IN JANUARY**

Sunday, January 5th  
Great Vespers 5:30 p.m.

Monday, January 6th  
**GREAT FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY**  
Divine Liturgy 5:30 p.m.  
Great Blessing of Water

Sunday January 12
40 day Memorial Elaine Manuele
Sunday, January 19th
Youth Religious Education
after the Divine Liturgy: Church Hall

**2020 Theophany House Blessings after the feast of the Theophany**

Sign-up sheet in the back of church or call rectory

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**HOUSE BLESSINGS AFTER THEOPHANY**

The Church teaches that we do not have two separate lives—a secular one and a spiritual one—but one human life, and that all of it must be holy. We must not be Christians for just a few hours on Saturday and Sunday, spending the rest of our life godlessly, that is to say, without God. The person who has united with Christ in the sacrament of baptism cannot be a part-time Christian, but must be faithful to Christ everywhere and at all times—in church, at work, at home, in relationships with other Christians, and in those with non-Christians—we must be faithful to Christ in the fullness of our life.

The Holy Church teaches us that a temple is not only a building in which we worship, but that we are temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 3:16); that the Body of Christ is not only that of which we partake at the Divine Liturgy, but that we are the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27). And just as the Gifts of the Eucharist are treated with reverence and kept in sanctified vessels in the altar, so should every Christian’s life be full of reverence and sanctity not only during a church service, but likewise outside the walls of the temple. A Christian’s home must become a small temple, work—labor for the glory of God, and family—a small Church.

The Church helps her children strive for holiness in their lives and brings sanctification to every Christian home—a small temple. The Church blesses the very foundation of a home in the same way that it blesses the foundation of a church, it blesses a new Christian home in the same way that it blesses a new temple, and yearly, after the blessing of a parish temple with the water of Theophany, the Church brings this holy water into the homes of the faithful. The prayers for the blessing of a temple are different from those for the blessing of a home, because the function of a home is different from that of a temple, but the sanctifying action of the Holy Spirit is one. And just as in the baptism of our Lord all of creation is washed clean and sanctified, every year after the feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 19, according to the secular calendar) Christians sanctify themselves and their homes with the water of Theophany.

The Church teaches us to sanctify everything: dwellings, places of work, all our pursuits, and the fruits of our labor. And just as a temple and sacred vessels, once sanctified and set aside for sacred use, can no longer be used for anything profane, in the same way a Christian washed in the baptismal waters, and his home, and all his works can no longer be the dwelling of sin and the works of satan, but only and always—the temple of the Holy Spirit and the fulfillment of the will of our Heavenly Father. This is why the Church blesses everything that can be found in a Christian home; and if something is not worthy of being blessed, then there should not be a place for it in the home of a Christian.
ST. JOSEPH THE BETROTHED

MELKITE GREEK- CATHOLIC CHURCH
130 St. Francis Cabrini Avenue * Scranton, PA 18504

melkite.scranton@gmail.com ♣ www.melkitescranton.org
Contact office: 570.343.6092 † stjosephscranton@gmail.com

PRAYER INTENTIONS


CLERGY:
Rev. Christopher Manuele, Presbyter

DIVINE SERVICES:
Wednesday:
Compline .................. 8:30 P.M
Saturday:
Great Vespers: ........... 3:15 P.M
Sunday:
Divine Liturgy: ........... 10:00 A.M.
Holy Days:
Eve: Great Vespers: .... 7:00 P.M.
Day: Divine Liturgy ... 5:30 P.M

HOLY MYSTERY OF CONFESSION:
Before Vespers at 3:00 P.M.; following any service; or by appointment.

HOLY ANOINTING OF THE SICK:
Following any service/call the Rectory.

HOLY MYSTERY OF CROWNING:
Call rectory at earliest convenience.

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL:
Meetings as scheduled.