The Holy Prophet-King David, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, and Saint James the Brother of the Lord are commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, their commemoration is moved to December 26.

At an early date, some churches in the East began to commemorate certain important figures of the New Testament at the time of Theophany, and later during the Nativity season. In Syria, for example, Saint Stephen (December 27), Saints James (April 30) and John (September 26), and Saints Peter and Paul (June 29) were commemorated near the end of December.

In Jerusalem, the saints mentioned above were combined with a feast that the Jews of Hebron celebrated on December 25 or 26 in honor of the Old Testament Patriarch Jacob. Later on, the Christians substituted Saint James (October 23) for Jacob, and then the commemoration of the Brother of the Lord became associated with his ancestor King David. In time, Saint Joseph was linked with Saints David and James.

Saint Joseph had four sons from his previous marriage: James, Judah, Joses, and Simon (or Symeon), and three daughters: Esther, Martha, and Salome, who was the mother of Saint John the Theologian.

# St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

2220 Reeves Road NE Warren, OH 44483 www.stjohnswarren.org

Friend of the Bridegroom: "He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:30)



Sunday, December 29th, 2024

**Sunday, Dec 29<sup>th</sup>** 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after PNTCST/Tone 2. Holy Righteous Ones 9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by Parish Photo & Ugly Sweater Christmas Party

**Tuesday, Dec 31<sup>st</sup>** "Unfading Flower" Icon of the Mother of God 6:00 pm Great Vespers with Litya

Wednesday, Jan 1<sup>st</sup> The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm AA Meeting

Saturday, Jan 4<sup>th</sup> Forefeast of the Theophany 5:00 pm Great Vespers Followed by Game Night

**Sunday, Jan 5<sup>th</sup>** 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday after PNTCST/Tone 3. Eve of Theophany 9:30 am Youth Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour

# Attendance/Stewardship December 22<sup>nd</sup>

Attendance: 66 Adults and 36 Children 102 Total Weekly Stewardship Offerings: \$2,105.00 Weekly Candle Offerings: \$110.00 Charity of the Month (Saint John's Monastery): \$----Other Receipts \$61.00 YTD Budget Inflows: \$173.839.87 YTD Budget Outflows \$188,824.24 YTD Surplus/deficit -\$14.984.37

#### **Prayer Corner**

Fr. Dcn. John Tutoki Sbdcn Joseph (Clyde)

Sbdcn George Kaschack Sarah Crivella

Patty DiGiacobbe
James Sr. & Karen Livermore
Cassandra, Patrick, Elizabeth, Patrick
Laura & Roy
Soltis Family

James Livermore Jr.
David Campbell
Renee & Anna
Greg, Clara, Jeanie
Dawn & Bradley Cyhan

Azouria John Keaty Walter Toles Nicky Cole

John & Joan Buranich (Eleanore Krenitsky's Brother & His Wife)

Rachel Derr (Denise Higgin's Goddaughter) Vladimir (Harry Krenitsky's Friend)

The Faculty, Teachers, and Students of Holy Trinity Orthodox Academy

The Suffering Christians in Ukraine, Russia, & the Middle East

Newly Departed: Steve Weller (12/20) & Gary Altamara (11/27) [Fr. Brian's Uncle]

**Catechumens:** Lucian & Lilianna Vasil, Kayla, Donald, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Robert, Timothy, Melissa, Ian, Christohpher, & William Cunningham, Matthew Rose, Nicky Lewis, Alexander Mackey, Tristan & Colleen Beil

Birthdays: Orrin Henry, James Lee & Zoe Stan (31st) & David Campbell (Jan 3rd)

Anniversaries: John & Susanna Verhovnik (Jan 4th)

#### **Candle Commemorations**

Theotokos For the Health & Blessing of the Sterchak & Sochka Families

Altar For the Memory of Barb Datish

Christ For the Memory of the Popp & Stehnach Families

#### **Announcements**

#### **End of Year Donation**

As our parish comes to the close of the year and is facing a budget shortfall of about \$15,000 please prayerfully consider if you or a loved one would like to give an end of year tax deductible gift to our beloved parish to help make up the difference. May Christ our true God bless each of us for our loving charity towards His Church, and for the good stewardship over all the things He has given us!

### **Church Calendars**

Are available at the candle stand if you haven't already grabbed one. Special thanks to Pete Rossi & Sons for generously donating them to our parish!

# River Blessing

After Divine Liturgy at 2:00pm on January 12<sup>th</sup> we'll gather at the Warren Amphitheater as we did last year to bless the Mahoning River. Afterwards we'll gather at Mocha House for a free cup of hot chocolate and fellowship!

# **House Blessings**

The Calendar with times to sign up to have Fr. Brian come and bless your house is on the easel next to the candle stand. When Great Lent begins house blessings will continue, but by appointment only.

# <u>UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY, CONCERT, & PARISH PHOTO</u>

Will all be following the Divine Liturgy today!

# Charity for the Month of December: Saint John's Monastery in Hiram

St. John the Theologian Monastery is a small monastic community of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, located in northeastern Ohio. The Monastery supports itself through the sale of church goods to be found on this website, and seeks to live a quiet life of prayer and common labor for the sake of Christ and His Holy Church.

# Youth Ministry Training in Florida

There will be youth ministry training in Florida from February 5th-8th and our parish would like to send one or two people to attend. If you are interested, please see the flier and Michael Stan for more details!