

Parish established in 1991 - Church blessed in October, 1997

OUR LADY OF WISDOM BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

2120 Lindell Road, Las Vegas, NV 89146 – (702) 873-5101

E-mail: OLOWIS@embarqmail.com – Website: www.OurLadyOfWisdom.net

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00am - 4:30pm

January 4th & 5th, 2014

Parish Served By:

Rt. Rev. Archimadrite Francis M. Vivona, S.T.M., J.C.L., Pastor

Rev. Archdeacon Stephen E. Casmus, M.A.

Rev. Subdeacon Paul F. Kilroy

Rose Watkins, Christodoulah

Kehaulani Harker, Matriarch – William Griffith, Patriarch

Toni Ritchey, Secretary – Claire Lynott, Finance Officer

Donna Logan, Prayer Line Coordinator (873-2378)

Liturgies and Services:

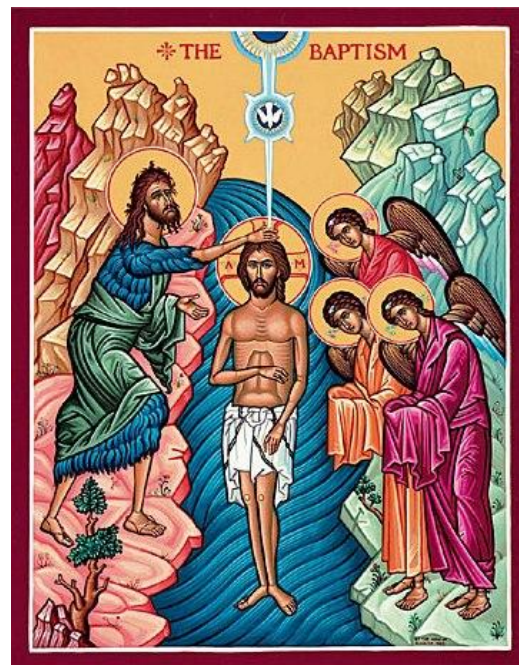
Vesper Divine Liturgy: Saturday, 5:00 PM

Third Hour – Sunday: 10:00 AM

Divine Liturgy – Sunday 10:30 AM

Third Hour – Monday-Friday: 9:00 AM

Confessions: 15 minutes before each Liturgy or by appointment



Theophany of Our Lord, Jesus Christ

Our Lady of Wisdom Mission Statement

Our mission is to foster a Catholic and Godly renewal with worship through the awe-inspiring Liturgy of the Byzantine Catholic Church; in order to bring the message of the Living Lord to the faithful and seekers of truth.

Parish Membership

The Family of Our Lady of Wisdom is open to any Catholic, and to anyone:

- who is interested in seeking the Lord Jesus Christ through His Word and Sacred Mysteries (Sacraments)
- who accepts the teachings of the Catholic Church
- who will help us form a community based on the Lord's love
- who is willing to grow as a Christian within the legitimate traditions of the Byzantine Catholic Church
- who acknowledges the authority of the Pope, Bishop and Pastor
- who will attend Liturgical Services on Saturday or Sunday, and on the Great Holy Days
- who is willing to support the growth of the Church by sharing their Time, Talent and Treasure (financial support)
- who will participate in the yearly Bishop's Appeal

For registration information, please contact the Parish Office.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 4 – Saturday before Theophany/Synaxis of the 70 Apostles

9:00am - Third Hour

5:00pm - Vigil Divine Liturgy Theophany & Blessing of Water
+Sarah Wika

Readings: 1 Tim 3:14-4:5; Mt 3:1-11

Sunday, January 5 – Sunday before Theophany

10:00am - Third Hour

10:30am - Divine Liturgy *+Rebecca Glantz*

Readings: 2 Tim 4:5-8; Mk 1:1-8; PM 1 Cor 9:19-27; Lk 3:1-18

Monday, January 6 – Theophany of Our Lord

Blessing of Water

9:00am - Third Hour

7:00pm - Divine Liturgy *+Daniel Wittig*

Readings: Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7; Mt. 3;13-17

Tuesday, January 7 – Synaxis of John the Baptist

9:00am - Third Hour

Readings: Acts 19:1-8; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday, January 8 – St. George, Dominica and Emilian

9:00am - Third Hour

7:00pm - Divine Liturgy *+Rev. Henry Zimmer*

Readings: Heb 5:11-6:8; Lk 21:5-7.10-11.20-24

Thursday, January 9 – St. Polyeuct, Martyr

9:00am - Third Hour

Readings: Heb 7:1-6; Lk 21:29-33

Friday, January 10 – St. Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop

9:00am - Third Hour

Readings: Heb 7:18-25; Lk 21:37-22:8

Saturday, January 11 – Saturday after Theophany

9:00am - Third Hour

5:00pm - Vesper Liturgy *+Richard Lewis Zavetz*

Readings: Eh 6:10-17; Mt 4:1-11

Sunday, January 12 – Sunday after Theophany

10:00am - Third Hour

10:30am - Divine Liturgy *+Howard and Dolores St. George*

Readings: Eph 4:7-13; Mt 4:12-17

Synaxis of 70 Apostles, whose names St. Dorotheus recorded. Our Venerable Father, **Theoktistus**, Hegumen-Abbot in Cucume of Sykeleia.

Theophany, or Holy Manifestation of the Divinity of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. One of the oldest feasts in the East, it has been traced back to the beginning of the 2nd century. The Western Rite Church accepted this great Feast Day from the Eastern Rite church in the 3rd century.

Synaxis of St. John, the glorious Prophet, Precursor, and Baptist, who baptized our Lord Jesus Christ in the River Jordan.

Our Venerable Father, **George**, the Chozebite, and **Emilian**, Confessor. They were martyred A.D. 820, in the reign of Nicephorus Gennicus. Our Venerable Mother, **Dominika**, of Carthage, who lived in the year A.D. 374, in the reign of Theodosius the Great. **SS. Juliana and Basilissa**, martyred A.D. 300, during the reign of Diocletian, Emperor.

St. Polyeucte, Martyr, suffered death A.D. 244, during the reign of the Decius or Valerianus. Eustratius, Venerable, endured death in the reign of Leo Iconomachus, Emperor.

Our Holy Father, **Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa**, consecrated in A.D. 372, brother of St. Basil the Great. Died A.D. 395. **Dometian**, Venerable, Bishop of Melite, died A.D. 570 in the reign of Justinus the Younger – Our Venerable Father, **Marcian**, Presbyter and Treasurer of the great Church of Holy Wisdom; died A.D. 489.

Our Venerable Father, **Theodosius**, Hegumen-Abbot, died in A.D. 485, in the reign of Leo and Anastatius, Emperors, at the age of 105.

St. Tatiana, Martyr, lived in A.D. 227, in the reign of Alexander. Her father, was a Soldier and Elder of the city; after many tortures, she died by the sword, along with her father.

SS. Hermylas and Stratonicus. Martyrs: Deacon of Singudunum (Belgrade) and his servant were tortured and drowned in the River Danube, A.D. 315, under Licinius, Emperor.

ST. GREGORY OF NYSSA

St. Gregory of Nyssa was a younger brother of St. Basil the Great. Having received an excellent education, in 372 he became Bishop of Nyssa, in Cappadocia. He was an ardent champion of Orthodoxy and, together with St. Basil, he fought against the Arian heresy. He suffered persecution at the hands of the Arian Emperor Valens (in 374) and only after his death in 378, was restored to the See. In 379, he participated in the Council of Antioch and was chosen to carry out an examination of Churches in Arabia and Palestine. On his return journey, he visited Jerusalem and the Holy Places.

In 381, St. Gregory was one of the chief figures in the Second Ecumenical Council, which was convened in Constantinople against the heresy of Macedonius, who taught incorrectly concerning the Holy Spirit. At this Council, on the initiative of St. Gregory, the Nicene Symbol of Faith (the Creed) was completed. Again in 394, he was present at a Local Council in Constantinople against Agapius.

He is considered to be the most philosophical of the Holy Fathers. He died peacefully in 396. His Head was transferred by Greek refugees in 1992 and, today, can be seen in the church of St. Eustathius in Perrissos, Athens, Greece.

++++ *Parish Information and Important Dates* +++++

THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD Vigil Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Water will be celebrated on Saturday, January 4th, at 5:00pm.

BLESSED JORDAN WATER - Please bring your own Holy Water bottles to fill with the Blessed Jordan Water of Our Lord's Baptism to bless your homes.

ROYAL HOURS will be celebrated on Sunday, January 5th, at 10:00am before the Divine Liturgy.

BLESSING OF HOMES will begin on Tuesday, January 7th. If you wish to have your home blessed, please call the parish office to make an appointment.

FEAST OF THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Christ is celebrated each year on January 6. The Feast commemorates the Baptism of Christ and the divine revelation of the Holy Trinity. At the Baptism of Christ, all three Persons of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—were made manifest. Thus, the name of the Feast is Epiphany, meaning manifestation, or Theophany, meaning manifestation of God.

The Biblical story of the Baptism of Christ is recorded in all four of the Gospels: Matthew 3, Mark 1:1-9, Luke 3:21-22, and John 1:31-34.

John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus and the one chosen by God to proclaim His coming, was preaching in the wilderness and was baptizing all who would respond to his message calling for repentance. As he was doing this, John was directing the people toward the One Who would baptize them with the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11).

The Scriptures tell us that Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. Initially, John would not do this, saying that Jesus should baptize him. Jesus said to John, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness (3:15). John consented and baptized Jesus.

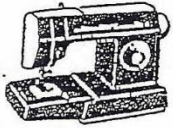


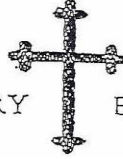
When Jesus came up from the water, the heavens opened suddenly and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him. The Bible records that the Spirit descended like a dove and alighted on him. When this happened, a voice came from heaven and said, "This is My Son, the Beloved, with Whom I am well pleased." This was the voice of God the Father.

Christ's Baptism in the Jordan was "Theophany," a manifestation of God to the world, because it was the beginning of our Lord's public ministry. It was also a "theophany" in that the world was granted a revelation of the Holy Trinity. All three Persons were made manifest together: the Father testified from on high to the divine Sonship of Jesus; the Son received His Father's testimony; and the Spirit was seen in the form of a dove, descending from the Father and resting upon the Son.

The theme of "manifestation" or "revelation" is also expressed in Scripture with the symbolism of light. In the hymn of the Feast we sing, "Christ has appeared and enlightened the world." Thus, January 6 is also known as the Feast of Lights. The Church celebrates on this day the illumination of the world by the light of Christ.

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!!



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