

St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral



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Rev. Fr. James Cairns, Pastor

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Protopresbyter Dr. Taras Chubenko, Pastor Emeritus



Epistle 2 Tim: 4:5-8

Tone 5

Gospel: Mk. 2:1-8

January 16th – 30th Sunday after Pentecost

Forefeast of the Theophany

TODAY'S SERVICES: Today's Greeter: TBD

Sun. 9:00am Divine Liturgy – 29th Sunday after Pentecost – Prophet Malachias (400 B.C.). Martyr Gordius at Caesarea in Cappadocia (314).

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK:

Tues. 7:00pm THEOPHANY EVE COMPLINES - Blessing of Water
Wed. 9:00am Divine Liturgy - THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Wed. 7:30pm Bible Study Class – cancelled this week
Sun. 9:00am Divine Liturgy – 31st Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Servers: Subdeacon J.D. Cairns, Qorey Carter, Ryan Fealy

Reader: Subdeacon Thomas Bodnar or Subdeacon J.D. Cairns

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR: John Happy Sr., Bill Stokes, Joan Nardi, Marci Pusillo, George Terebush, Pani Mary Ann, David Deli, Richard Hycuna, Diane Decibus Morgan, John Piropato, John Zelenak, Hilda Zuccaro, Thomas Zuccaro, Joseph Nardi, Olga Piropato, Nancy Grabie, Mary Wrubleski, Margaret York, Ronald York, Ann Holoob, Jeanette Stokes, Bruce Wadiak, Patty Tucker, Michelle Goldberg, Raymond Wizna, Catherine Ann Bylinski, Anna Muzyka, Kathleen Ward, Olivia Zazworsky, Andrew, Christopher, Sarah, Arthur, David, Alexander, Sophia, Joseph, John, Robert, Kirsten, John, David, Bill and Gloria & children Karina, Oskar, Tessa, Robert, Jacob, and Jonathan, remembering all the sick, the suffering, those in hospitals and nursing homes, and all the men and women in the **US Military**, especially **Vitaly Pacej**, who serve our country and all of us. Please keep them in your prayers daily, asking God's protection upon them all.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Karina Strashinsky, and all those celebrating birthdays or special intentions, may the Lord grant you all “Many Blessed Years, Mnohaya Lita!”

Adult Bible Study: Cancelled for this week. Next week we will be reading Exodus 6-10

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: February 27th will be our **Annual Parish Meeting**. A letter will be coming out in the next few weeks with proxy information and attendance RSVPs. Please take the time to return the RSVP as we need a definitive headcount for the brunch.

PLEASE DONATE: The Senior UOL will be hosting Coffee Hour, next Sunday January 23rd after Divine Liturgy. They are currently collecting, gently used and new stuffed animal toys that will then be sent over to the children living in the Donbas region of Ukraine. If you cannot make it next Sunday, please get your donation to a member of the Senior UOL before January 30th.

Did St. John the Baptist eat bugs?: The most commonly held view of John's diet, based on our text in Mark, is that he ate locusts, a migratory form of the grasshopper still commonly consumed by desert peoples in Arabia. Others have suggested the word translated “locusts” refers to the beans of the carob tree, commonly called “St. John's bread.” However, the Greek word translated “locusts,” (akris/ακρις) seems to clearly refer to a species of grasshopper. The problem is such eating of “flesh,” even if that of an insect, seems to contradict the sources that emphasize his ascetic vegetarian ideal. Somehow “locusts” seem out of place.

A possible solution to this confusion about John's desert diet is found in the fragments we have of the lost “Gospel of the Ebionites,” as quoted by the 4th--century Christian writer Epiphanius (Panarion 30.13.4-5), who hated the group but fortunately, nonetheless, can't resist quoting them—thus preserving some precious material. The Greek word for locusts (akris/ἀκρίδες) is very similar to the Greek word for “honey cake” (enkris/ἐγκρίς) that is used for the “manna” that the Israelites ate in the desert in the days of Moses. According to this ancient text was not locusts but these cakes cooked in olive oil. If this is the case then John would have eaten a cake of some type, made from a desert plant, similar to the “manna” that the ancient Israelites ate in the desert in the days of Moses. This “bread from heaven” is described as “like coriander seed, white, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey” (Exodus 16:31; Numbers 11:8). This kind of “pancake” baked in oil, and sweetened with honey, would then reflect and emulate the ideal holiness of the desert wanderings of Israel when the people had to look to God alone for “daily bread.”

ALL EMERGENCIES: PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CALL FATHER JAMES for any and all emergencies – for hospital, nursing home, or home visitations. PLEASE call his Cell number 732-619-3259, if necessary, please leave a voice message, Father will return your call. THANK YOU.