



THE PROTOMARTYR



*A Weekly Bulletin of St. Stephen Cathedral,
Orthodox Church in America*

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JANUARY 10, 2010

**Glory to Jesus Christ
31st Sunday after Pentecost**

**Glory Forever!
Tone 6**

31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Sunday After the Theophany. Afterfeast of the Theophany. St. Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa (4th c.). St. Dometian, Bishop of Melitene (601). St. Marcian, Presbyter, of Constantinople (5th c.). Ven. Paul, Abbot of Obnóra (Vologdá—1429). Ven. Macarius, Abbot, of Pisma (14th c.). Bl. Theosebia the Deaconess, sister of Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory of Nyssa (385). Ven. Antipas the Athonite (1882). St. Theophan the Recluse, Bishop of Tambov (1894).

EPISTLE: Ephesians 4:7-13 (Sunday After)

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-17 (Sunday After)

Schedule of services and events of the upcoming week:

Saturday, January 16

Great Vespers 5:00 PM
Confessions

Sunday, January 17

Sunday of Zacheus
Divine Liturgy 10 AM

Novogodny Ball at Radisson Trevoze

Blessing of Homes: As it is a custom, after the feast of Theophany a priest visits the faithful blessing their homes. Please get in touch with Fr. Victor to arrange for the time of pastoral visit and blessing of your house.

To prepare for the priest's visit to bless your home:

- Make a list of the first names of those family members you wish to pray for when the priest arrives, with the living and the deceased in separate columns.
- On your dining room table or family altar, place a lit candle, a Theophany icon or icon of Christ, and a wide bowl (to hold the holy water). Be sure your prayer list is there as well!
- Turn on a light in each room, so the priest can see where he is going.
- Turn off all TVs, stereos, and computers.

Everyone in the house when the priest arrives should gather around the table/icon corner and join in the singing of the litany responses and troparion. The children may lead the priest around the house with a lit candle.

73rd Annual Novogodny Ball sponsored by our St. Stephen OCF of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America will be held on Sunday evening January 17, 2010 at the Radisson Hotel Philadelphia Northeast. Please see the bulletin board for details & contact Lisa Lelo at Lmlelo@verizon.net or Paul Fedoronko at (610) 328 - 6911 for additional information and for reservations.

January Charity Collection: is dedicated to help us meet our \$1000 yearly pledge to Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards (FOS). Please be generous in helping our Orthodox Church in America by funding various aspects of its ministry in our country.

CHAPTER MEETING: ST. STEPHEN'S ORTHODOX CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP: St. Stephen's OCF, Chapter #82 of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA), will hold a chapter meeting on Saturday, January 23, following Vespers. Topics to discuss will include the recent 73rd annual Novogodny Ball which was held on Sunday, January 17, and the ever popular ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS. It's been too long since our last regularly scheduled meeting so all members are strongly encouraged to attend. The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, a 75 year old national organization of active Orthodox Christians, is officially recognized by the Orthodox Church in America. If you are even a little bit curious or would like to join us in fellowship, please come to our meeting. You will be welcomed.

St. Stephen's OCF dues are now due. Please see Larry Skvir.

Dance Practice for the Novogodny Ball: will take place on Sat. Jan. 16 at 2 PM. Come to St. Stephen Auditorium to learn the folk dances in preparation for the Novogodny Ball.

March For Life Trip: on Friday, Jan. 22 many citizens of our country will gather in Washington DC for Annual March for Life in witnessing to sanctity of all human life, especially of those unborn. Every year Orthodox Church is represented by a number of bishops, clergy and faithful. This year His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah made a special appeal to the faithful of our Church to show their support by coming to the capital of our country on that day. The clergy of our Diocese have been able to arrange for a bus that will be going from Scranton area with a stop in Harrisburg. If there is anybody from our parish who is interested in coming to March for Life, please let Fr. Victor know. We will consider car pool either to Harrisburg or DC from Philadelphia.

Teen Winter Retreat 2010: will be held on Feb. 12 - 14 at Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton, PA. Students from grades 7 through 12 are invited. Tuition fee is \$100 per person and Jan 22 is the deadline for registration. For more information please contact Fr. Victor or Kim Metz at 610-554-1079.

St. Stephen Shirts: orders for St. Stephen Cathedral polo shirts are now being taken. The shirts are gray with red lettering and are available in Small, Medium, Large, and Extra Large. The cost for each shirt is \$25. Please stop downstairs to see a sample and place your orders with Nina Rapak.