

OUR SPIRITUAL CIRCUMCISION

A circumcision is a cutting of the flesh; circumcision according to the letter, as St Cyril describes it, is also a cutting, but of the heart. It is the removal of something, often painful, so that we can be fitting members of Christ by “the sharp surgery of faith and by ascetic labors.” The sharp knife of faith removes from our hearts its reliance on whatever we trust for our security other than the true God. In the Roman Empire Jews trusted in the Law of Moses and pagans trusted in the gods and goddesses of the state. In our day it may be our family, our job, our culture or our political and economic systems that we feel will take care of us. People continually find that any of these can fail them drastically if they put the confidence in them that is

due to God alone. The surgery of ascetic labors is the way we deal with our pride, our greed, our lust and the like: often particularly painful as it is a surgery we face daily. St. Paul described this dynamic as “...the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh” (Col 2:11). Elsewhere he catalogued these sins as “... your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry” (Col 3:5). Lest we feel too confident in our “sinlessness,” he continues the list with “anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language” and lying (Col 3:8-9). Of these we continually need to be circumcised.

OUR OBLIGATION AS A MEMBER OF ST NICHOLAS PARISH

1. Be registered
2. Attend liturgical services regularly on Sundays and Holy Days
3. Contribute to the support of the Church—both Eparchial Appeal and Parish through use of the Sunday Tithing envelopes! Membership in the parish gives the parishioners the right to have their children receive the Holy Mysteries of Christian Initiation, be Married in church and be buried from the church. Be sure we have your updates on your address and phone.

	Up Coming Events Mark your Calendar
Sun Dec 25	The Birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ 10:00 am Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great
Sun Jan 1	Circumcision of our Lord & Sunday before Theophany of our Lord 10:00 am Liturgy of St Basil the Great
Thur Jan 5	Theophany of our Lord Holy Day of Obligation (Blessing of Water) 7:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy
Mon Jan 9 thru Fri Jan 13	Canon Law Conference for All Clergy in Las Vegas <i>Priests will not be available</i>
Sun Feb 5	Deadline for submitting list of Deceased for All Souls Saturdays

Saint Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church

9112 Oleander Avenue

Fontana, CA 92335

Web Site stnicholasfontana.org

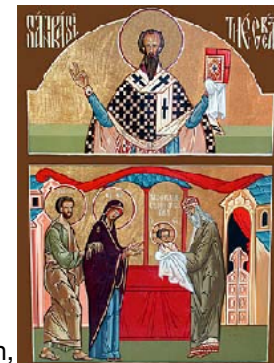
Served by Fr. Stephen G Washko.

714-533-6292

fontanastnicholas@gmail.com

Fr. James Lane in Residence

Parish Advisory/Finance Council John Coffman,



Circumcision of our Lord & Feast of St Basil the Great JAN 1, 2023

THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD *Holy Day of Obligation* You may bring your own bottles of water for the blessing just place them around the tub.

THURSDAY JANUARY 5

7:00 PM *Vesper/Liturgy of St Basil the Great for our parish members and friends*

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR +GLORIA BRISSETTE

Will take place at St Nicholas of Myra Church

Friday January 6, 2023

10:30 am **VISITATION**

11:30 am **THE GREAT PARASTAS SERVICE**

2:30 pm **INTERMENT SERVICE**

at Joshua Tree Memorial Park

60121 Twentynine Palms Highway

Joshua Tree, CA 92252

THE LUNCHEON will take place on a Sunday after the Liturgy

Eternal Memory and Blessed Repose

+**HOLY FATHER POPE BENEDICT** fell sleep in the Lord Saturday morning. Kindly remember him in your prayers.

SPECIAL THANK YOU who helped to make the church shine for the Joy of Our Lord's Birth.



DIVINE LITURGIES AND INTENTIONS

PEOPLE'S BOOK FOR THE DIVINE LITURGY

- <https://mci.archpitt.org/servicebooks/DivineLiturgies.pdf>

- THIRD HOUR BOOK

- https://mci.archpitt.org/sheetmusic/general/Third_Hour.pdf

VESPER BOOK - <https://mci.archpitt.org/servicebooks/Vespers.pdf>

U-TUBE SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY

[youtube.com/@stnicholasofmyra](https://www.youtube.com/@stnicholasofmyra)

Special Web site resource for the preparation for the Birth of Our Lord. <https://godwithuson-line.org/wp-content/uploads/Nativity-Fast-for-the-Domestic-Church.pdf>

31 SATURDAY Leave-taking of Christmas & Saturday after Christmas, p. 289

9:30 am Liturgy Special Intention

HEBREW SCRIPTURES FOR SUNDAY

Genesis 17:1–14, Proverbs 8:22–30, Proverbs 10:31–32, 11:2-12

1 SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY. CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST. OUR HOLY FATHER BASIL, THE GREAT, ARCHBISHOP OF CAESAREA IN CAPADOCIA, P. 305

9:00 am Confession available behind the Altar

9:40 am The Third Hour

10:00 am Divine Liturgy for our parish family and friend

Panachida Service for +Pope Benedict 16th

2 Monday, Prefestive Day for Theophany & Holy Father Sylvester, p. 310 & 372

9:30 am +Nabor Villalobos by Irma Villalobos

3 Tuesday Prefestive Day for Theophany & Holy Prophet Malachi, p. 310 & 366

9:30 am +Souls in Purgatory

4 Wednesday Prefestive Day for Theophany

9:30 am **OFFICE OF READINGS** for the Theophany of our Lord.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS: We join with the Saints in heaven to pray for those in need. Request Prayers: abc-c72069@gmail.com

Cho Mary Sabol,
Special Intentions:
Fr James Lane, Pat Mathis, Enedina Lopez, Lora Carson Lopez, Sophia Gaydus, Victor & Patricia Olmos Family, John Phillips, Martha Yniquez, Paul Basay, Margaret Geluso, Edward Lopez, Lupe Nevaré, Beatriz Perez, for RAIN/SNOW, for the people of Ukraine.

5 Thursday HOLY THEOPHANY-Holy Day of Obligation

7:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy of St Basil the Great

For our parish family and friends

6 Friday Funeral Service for +Gloria

10:30 am Visitation

11:30 am The Great Parastas Service

2:30 pm Internment Service at Joshua Tree Memorial

7 SATURDAY AFTER THEOPHANY & THE SYNAXIS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

9:30 am Liturgy +The Priest Charles

Hebrew Readings for Sunday Isaiah 9: 1-7, and Jonah 3:1–10

8 SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY, p. 316 & Tone 6, p. 152

9:30 am Confession

10:00 am The Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great

For our parish family and friends.

Mirovanije-Holy Anointing with the distribution of the Blessed Bread

Our Stewardship of God's Gift to Us

Sunday December 25 Christmas Liturgy Attendance: 19 souls

Tithes: \$376.00

Candles: \$26.00

JANUARY 1ST. Ochrid Prolog

1. THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

The eighth day following His birth, the Divine Child was presented in the Temple and circumcised according to the Law existing in Israel since the time of Abraham. On this occasion, He was given the name Jesus, which the Archangel Gabriel announced to the All-Holy Virgin Mary. The Old Testament circumcision was the proto-type of the New Testament baptism. The circumcision of our Lord shows that He received upon Himself the true body of man and not just seemingly, as was later taught of Him by heretics. Our Lord was also circumcised because He wanted to fulfill the entire Law which He Himself gave through the prophets and forefathers. In fulfilling the written Law, He replaced it with Baptism in His Holy Church as was proclaimed by the Apostle Paul: "For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation" (Galatians 6:15). (In the cycle of the liturgical calendar of the Church, this Feast of the Lord's Circumcision has neither a Pre-feast nor an Post-feast).