

Synaxis of the Mother of God

The day after many of the Church's Feast Days is called the Synaxis - such as the day after the Nativity of the Theotokos, when the righteous Joachim and Anna are commemorated; or the day following the Feast of Theophany, when we honor Saint John the Baptist, etc.

The Feast of the Synaxis of the Mother of God dates back to very ancient times. In the IV century, some Holy Fathers, such as Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus (May 12), were already preaching about it. On the second day of the Nativity, the Christian Church gives glory and thanksgiving to the Most-holy Theotokos, who gave birth to our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. This feast is called “the Synaxis” because on this day all of the faithful gather to glorify her, the Most-holy Theotokos, and to solemnly and universally celebrate a feast in her honor.

On the second day of the feast, the Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos is celebrated. Combining the hymns of the Nativity with those celebrating the Mother of God, the Church points to Mary as the one through whom the Incarnation was made possible. His humanity—concretely and historically—is the humanity He received from Mary. His body is, first of all, her body. His life is her life. This feast, the assembly in honor of the Theotokos, is probably the most ancient feast of Mary in the Christian tradition, the very beginning of her veneration by the Church. Six days of post-feast bring the Christmas season to a close on December 31. At the services of all these days, the Church repeats the hymns and songs glorifying Christ’s Incarnation, reminding us that the source and foundation of our salvation is only to be found in the One who, as God before the ages, came into this world and for our sake was “born as a little Child.”



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Anyone wishing to be a member of the parish, contact Fr. Andriy

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Our Weekly Bulletin

**100th Anniversary Celebration**  
Mark your calendars  
**October 4, 2026**  
Bishop Bohdan has confirmed the date  
that he will be with us to celebrate  
the 100 years of the founding of our parish.  
**280 days or 40 weeks**

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Divine Liturgies and Services for the Week		
Sunday, Dec 28	Sunday after Christmas	
Dec 29	No Liturgy	
Dec 30	No Liturgy	
Dec 31	No Liturgy	
Jan 1	No Liturgy	
Jan 2	No Liturgy	
Jan 3	No Liturgy	
Sunday, Jan 4	Sunday before the Theophany	✠ Steve Deaskevich from Dolly Powell

*If you are looking for a closer relationship with Jesus Christ  
and are looking for a home, you are welcome to be part  
of our kid friendly family in Christ. You have found your way home.*

Sunday after the Nativity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

Galatians 1:11-19Matthew 2:13-23

*Troparion (Tone 4)*  
When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation, they proudly told the apostles: “Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen, granting to the world great mercy.”

*Troparion of the Nativity (Tone 4)*  
Your Nativity, O Christ our God, made the light of knowledge dawn on the world: Through it, those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Dawn from on high.

*Kondakion of the Saint (Tone 2)*  
O Joseph, announce to David, the ancestor of God, the news of the miracle: You saw a virgin giving birth. With the shepherds, you gave praise and with the Magi, you worshipped; they too were warned by an angel. Pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

*Kondakion (Tone 3)*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
  
Today the divine David is filled with gladness; Joseph along with James offers praises for having received a crown through their kinship with Christ they rejoice and sing of the One who inexpressibly was born on earth, crying out, “O Gracious One, save those who worship You”  
*Kondakion (Tone 3)*  
now and forever and ever. Amen.

The Virgin today gives birth to Him who is a bove all being; the earth offers a cave to Him whom no one can approach; Angels with shepherds give Him glory, while Magi make their way with a star, for to us is born a little Child, the pre-eternal God.

*Prokeimen (Tone 4)*  
God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel.

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

*Alleluia of the Nativity*  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia  
Lord, remember David and all his meekness.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia  
How he swore an oath to the Lord, and vowed to the God of Jacob.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

*Communion Verse*  
Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest.  
The Lord has sent deliverance, to His people. Alleluia. (3)

All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is born of the Virgin!

<b>Weekly Collection</b> - December 21, 2025 - \$403.00			
Sunday - \$ 280.00	Holy Day - \$5.00	Improvements - \$10.00	Candles - \$5.00
Diocesan - \$20.00		Misc. - 63.00	Flowers - \$20.00
December 25, 2025 - \$1,675.00			
Christmas - \$1,635.00		Seminary - \$40.00	
Thank you for your generosity.			

PARISH NEWS

**Christmas Dinner** - The Annual Christmas dinner will be January 4th. Please bring a covered dish and a dessert.  
**Blessing of Water** - Water will be blessed on January 11th . Bring your containers for water.  
**Blessing of Houses** - Father Andriy will bless houses in the Ebensburg area on January 11th.  
**World Marriage Day** - A special Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Feb. 14th at 11:00AM in our parish. There will be a Divine Liturgy, renewal of vows, photos followed by a lite luncheon in our church hall. Please complete and return the below form no later than Sunday, January 11, 2026  
**Pyrohy Pinching Days** - Get your pinching fingers ready for January 23 and January 30.  
**Pyrohy Sales** - Once again our parish we be selling pyrohy for Lent. Orders are due by January 21. Tell your friends and family to come and buy our pyrohy.

Prayer List	Millie Deskevich, Connie Butkus, Kathy Ott, Sarah Kelt, Gary Maurer, Jeremiah Hunt, Margaret Reighard, Mary Catherine Hoover, The Fernandez family, Jennifer Maurer, Breanna Borlie, Tom and Kris, Joe Gomes, Thomas, Richard Shonk, Ryder McDermitt, Steve Helsel, Patricia Dragani, Eugene, Sonya Kohan, Kevin Rogers, Darla Tishok, the Williams family, Patty Hunt, Pat Bodenski, Wendy Haggerty, Angel and Walt Wooden, Marian Blem, Ken Urgolitus, Jason Jones, Sarah Wilson, Lori Sedlock, Helen Farster, Bekka Facemire. <i>To add or remove a name, place your request in the collection basket.</i>
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Joke of the Day	A man is recovering from a minor surgery when a nurse comes in to check on him. “How are you feeling?” she asks. “I’m okay,” he says, “but I didn’t like the four-letter word the doctor used during surgery.” “What did he say?” the nurse asks. “Oops.”
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