



SAINT NEKTARIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY MISSAL FOR JANUARY 5, 2025

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



Forefeast of Theophany. 4th Mode.

Jordan River once turned back when Elisha struck its stream with his mantle in the wake of Elias's ascent; and the water was parted to the one side and to the other. And thus the fluid stream became a dry way for him, a symbol and truly a type of Baptism, by which we now pass over the streaming passage of the present life. And Christ appeared at the Jordan River to sanctify the waters.

Apolytikion of the Resurrection. 3rd Mode

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad: for the Lord has shown strength with his arm; he has trampled death by death; he has become the firstborn of the dead; he has delivered us from the belly of Hades, and has granted the world great mercy.

For St. Nektarios. 1st Mode.

Let us faithful show honor to that son of Selyvria, Aegina's protector, who appeared in these latter years: Nektarios, the virtue-loving saint, and God-inspired servant of the Lord. He pours forth abundant healings to those who pray and cry out with a reverent voice: "Glory to Christ, who glorified you! Glory to him for your miracles! Glory to him for all the cures that he works through you!"

As we joyfully commemorate the welcome arrival of your sacred Relics, holy Hierarch Nektarios, we call upon the grace of God in you, which sanctifies our bodies and our souls. You alleviate our suffering and you cure the

illnesses afflicting us. Glory to Christ, who glorified you! Glory to Him for your miracles! Glory to Him for all the cures that He works through you.

For the Holy Unmercenaries.

O HOLY Unmercenaries and wonderworkers, visit our infirmities; freely you received, freely give to us.

Kontakion of the Forefeast. 4th Mode.

On this day the Lord has come into the Jordan, and while standing in its streams, He turns to John and thus cries out: "Do not be frightened to baptize me, for I have come now * to save first-formed Adam's life."

APOSTOLIC READING - 2 Tim. 4:5 - 8

Timothy, my son, always be watchful, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

GOSPEL READING - Mk. 1:1 - 8

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare

the way of the Lord, make his paths straight — ' John was baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father, through Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets. In one, holy, catholic,

and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come.

COMMUNION PRAYERS

(Read aloud by the Congregation)

I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body and that this is truly Your precious Blood. Therefore, I pray to You, have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed, known and unknown and make me worthy, without condemnation, to partake of Your pure Mysteries for the forgiveness of sins and for life eternal. Amen. How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your saints? If I dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul and save me. Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these Holy Gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but for the cleansing and sanctification of soul and body and the pledge of future life and Kingdom. It is good for me to cling to God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation. Receive me today, Son of God, as a partaker of Your mystical supper. I will not reveal your mystery to Your adversaries. Nor will I give You a kiss as did Judas. But as the thief, I confess to You: Lord, Remember me in Your Kingdom.