

3820 Moores Lake Rd. Dover, FL 33527 "Christ is Baptized - In the Jordan"

In case of emergency: Call Father Harry Linsinbigler, (813) 406 - 2620. If there is no answer, leave a message. Then call Pani Carrie at (813) 451-9829.or text Father Brian Delp at (813) 763-5226.



Church Motto: "Cling to What is Good" - Romans Theme: "Balance"

Schedule:

Sunday, January 5:

9:45am 1 year Memorial Joshua Barton 10am - Forefeast of Theophany Great Blessing of Waters Divine Liturgy Monday, January 6: 10 am Feast of Theophany Liturgy of St. Basil theGreat Sunday, January 12: 10:00 - Divine Liturgy Wednesday, January 15: 7:00 Vespers, Bible Study, the Fellowship Hall Sunday, January 19: 10:00 – Divine Liturgy Wednesday, January 22: 7:00 pm, Vespers Bible Study, the Fellowship Hall. Sunday, January 26: 10:00 - Divine Liturgy Sunday, February 2: 10:00 Divine Liturgy Presentation of the Lord in the Temple Zacchaeus Sunday **Parish Council:** President: Ellen Flynn - (863) 242-4865 Vice President: Paula Karagounis – (813) 838-4554 Secretary: Rebecca Delp - (813) 763-5225 Treasurer: Ryan Becker - (813) 965-1881 Financial Secretary: Natalie Brennan - (508) 272-0395

Announcements:

Please remember to respect Father Harry's days off from work. Which are Monday and Tuesday. Unless you have an emergency do not call, text, email or visit on those days. The church grounds are closed during these two days.

Wedding Announcement: Elisabeth Linsinbigler to John Ghobrial February 22 at 2pm. All are invited to the ceremony. Reception will be by invitation.

Reader's Schedule:

Jan. 5	Subdn Peter	Linda
Jan. 12	Derek	Arlene
Jan. 19	Linda	Subdn Peter
Jan. 26	Arlene	Ellen
Feb. 2	Ellen	Derek

When writing checks to the church, please make them out to Holy Protection.

Counter Schedule:

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Volunteers Needed:

The council is looking for members willing to help as a counter once a month. You would assist a council member count and reconcile the day's offerings. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please see a council member.

Prayer Corner:

Please send prayer requests to Rebecca Delp by text at (813) 763-5225, email at delp10290@ yahoo.com or message Rebecca on Facebook.

Living: Please pray for the ailing: Mike, Stella, Amanda, Darla, Bruce, Arlene, Laura, Trevor, Rick, Nicole, Martha, Tim, Vilma, Dan, John, Sherrie, Chuck, Rick, Tony, Michelle, Jana, Erin, Cynthia, Petya, Denise, Keith, Kassey, Clay, Alyssa, Lola, Chris, Andrea, Archie, Robert, Celina, Christina, Robert, Soccorro, Eli, Paula, Laura, Kyle, Sally, Avi, Rebeka, Barbara, Susan, Joseph, Rebekah, Pani Sue, Father Frederick, Lynn, Tiffany, Matthew. Michelle, Anton, Carter, Samantha, Jacob, Leigh, Richard, Kathy, Konstantin, Tina, Anthony, Patricia, and Tom.

<u>Reposed</u>: Please pray for the departed: John, George, Pavel, Subdeacon John, Jack, Nathaniel, PJ, Dorothy, Thomas, Kristy, Pani, Fr. Anastaje, Archbishop Vsevelod, Metropolitan Constantine, Harry, Mary, Marie Mary, Helen Men's Book Club is to have a men's, Jeannette, Betty, Joe, Lucy, George, Fr. Martin, Sue, Vera, Michael, Ertelle, Cletus, Joshua, Sara, Dawn, Stacy, Jean, Marie, Brent, Erica, Kathy

Fellowship:

We will continue having a "Theme" of the week. If you have a suggestion place it in the box in the hall, on the dessert table.

Themes:

Jan. 5 - Potluck Fasting Celebrate 2025 Jan. 12 – Ukranian Potluck Jan. 19 – Breakfast for Lunch Jan. 26 – Italian Potluck Feb. 2 – Meat Lovers Potluck The Fellowship Hall is in need of the following items:

- Coffee
- Plates, all Sizes
- Forks
- Small spoons
- Individual Bags of Chips (variety)
- Individual Granola Bars
- Individual Puddings
- Large Bags of Tortilla Chips/ Potato Chips
- Jars of Salsa

Christian Education:

Bible Study:

A Bible Study meets on the first and third Wednesday evenings of the month in the Fellowship Hall after 7:00 pm. Vespers. All are welcome to attend.

Youth Christian Education:

Classes are going well with the children meeting weekly in the back of the church or working outside on a project. Notice their beautiful hanging on the church hall window. The teens meet twice a month focusing on the ten commandments and reviewing prayer and feast days. They will meet January 12 and January 26th.

Ministries:

Men's Book Club:

Meetings are planned for the second and fourth weeks of every month (opposite weeks of the Bible Study. Recently they went to the Men's Monastery in Ocala and worked on repairing the graves damaged by the storms. Glory to God for their work.

If any of the men in the parish want to join please text or call Alex (786) 439-9180 or Calaam (863) 257-9023 for more information about the time, location, or date.

Communications:

Father Brian Delp is leader of the Communications Ministry, which includes the church website, Newsletter, and videos of the Liturgy on U-tube. If you would like to join this ministry, contact Father Brian during Fellowship.

Connections:

Jacob Beyea is leader of the Connections Ministry where he welcomes parish members and new guests to the Liturgy. He gives a newcomer a Liturgy Book and answers any questions they may have. Contact Jacob during Fellowship if you would like to join this ministry.

Outreach Ministry:

There is usually a project every one or two months. Ideas and suggestions are welcome. If you would like to join this ministry, see Arlene Tonjes or Rebekah Becker during the Fellowship. Due to the needs from the recent hurricane, we are still collecting for church repairs. You can place your donations in the basket as you enter the church.

During December we collected canned goods and related items for the food bank in Plant City. They were most appreciative. In January we will be taking a respite and then look forward to Souper Bowl Sunday when we collect for the homeless and those in need.

On Stewardship and the Christian Life

By Father Frederick Watson

"A Simple Plan"

"Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; ... put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, (see) if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." (Malachi 3:10 RSV)

One of the continuing themes of the Old Testament Scriptures is that of covenant. A covenant is an agreement, something like a contract. A covenant binds two parties to a certain plan that each agrees to carry out. A professional athlete, for example, signs a contract with the team for which he or she will play. The athlete agrees, as his or her part of the contract, to use the abilities and skills he or she has to help the team win, to follow the rules of the team, and to carry out requests that the team officials make from time to time. In return the contract requires the team to pay the athlete a certain amount of money,

to offer protection to the athlete, as the team is able, from injury, and to keep the athlete employed with that team for a definite amount of time. This is a form of a covenant.

God made a covenant with His Old Testament people. Going all the way back to our Holy Forefather Abraham, God said simply, "*I will be your God, and you will be my people.*" From that simple covenant, the contract was filled in with many things for which God's people were responsible, and those things for which God was responsible.

Part of that covenant between God and His people was the tithe (the people agreed to return 10% of what God had given to them back to Him). The Holy Prophet Malachi lived hundreds of years after Abraham and that first simple covenant. The Prophet lived hundreds of years after the covenant was made again with Moses on Mt. Sinai when Moses received the Law of God in the form of the Ten Commandments. Late in the life of God's Old Testament people Malachi is still working to get God's people to be faithful to what they had agreed to as their part of the contract.

For the Holy Prophet it was simple: Give your tithes and offerings, fill the storehouse of God, and then see what happens. And what will God do? He will as He always did. He will do as He did at the Red Sea. He will do has He did at Jericho when the walls came tumbling down. He will do as He did in the Promised Land, a land given to His people, a land overflowing with milk and honey. Give your tithes and offerings, the Prophet said, and test the Lord: He will pour down for you an overflowing blessing.