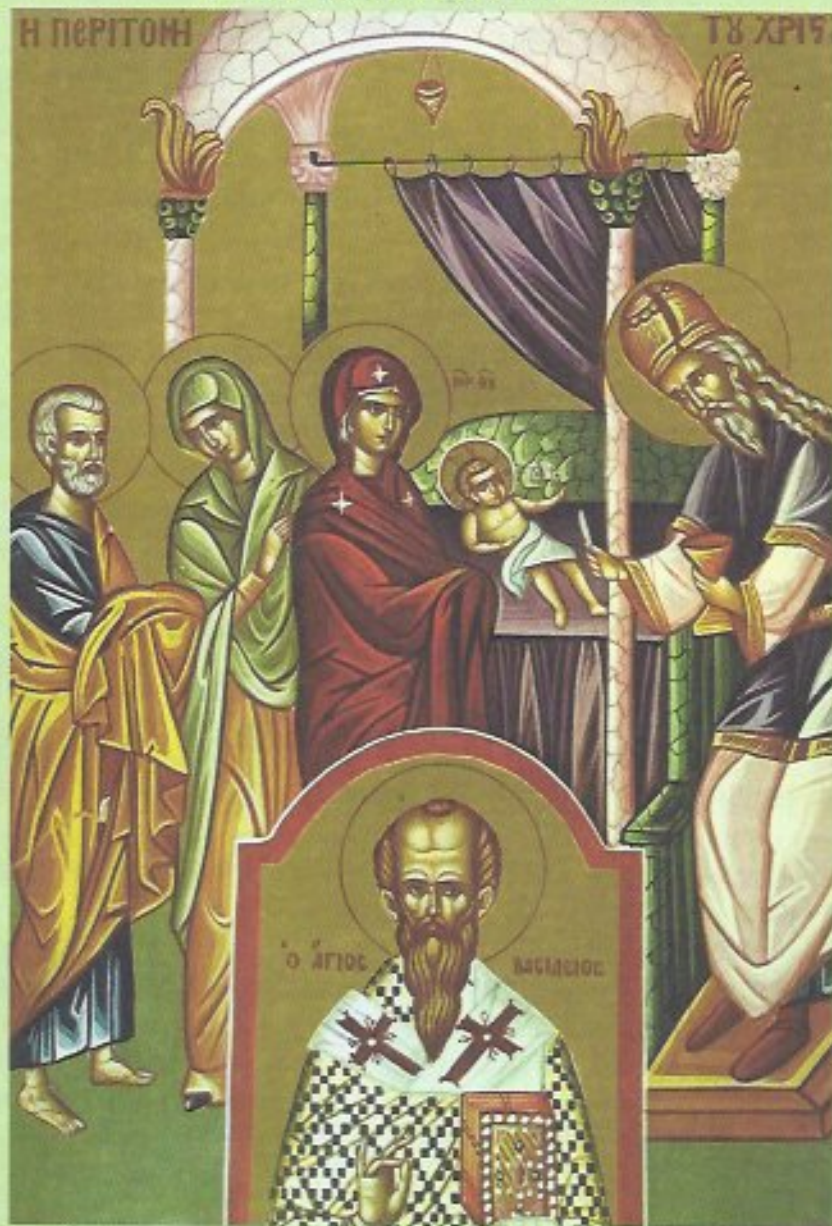


CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD
SAINT BASIL THE GREAT



Icon of the Circumcision -- January 1st

HOLY GHOST UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

315 Fourth Street, West Easton, Pennsylvania 18042

Rectory (610) 252 – 4266 cell: 717-554-2994

Website: www.holyghost-ukrainian-catholic.org dan.troyan@yahoo.com

Archpriest Fr. Daniel Troyan – Pastor

January 1-8, 2017

Sunday Before Epiphany:

Epistle: 2 Timothy 4-5-8

Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

SATURDAY 6:00PM (English) +Walter Kiniuk – Pearl Kiniuk

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY: Feast of Circumcision of our Lord, Feast of St Basil the Great, NEW YEAR'S DAY 2017

9:30AM (Ukrainian) For the People

11:00AM (English) +Joseph & Stella Bodnar - Loretta & Dan Bodnar

All daily Divine Liturgies celebrated at 9:00AM .

MONDAY +Walter Kiniuk – Pearl Kiniuk

TUESDAY No Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY + Kathy Kisner – Sharpless Family

THURSDAY FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY : Blessing of Water

5:30PM 80th Birthday Intention Wilhelmina Wichryk- Leah, Tony & Adam

FRIDAY 7:30PM Sviatay Vechir : Holy Supper

10:00PM Divine Liturgy for Old Christmas Eve

SATURDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 6:00PM (English) +For the Parishioners

SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY : January 8, 2017

9:00AM (Ukrainian) +Joseph & Stella Bodnar – Dan & Loretta Bodnar

11:00AM (English) +William Holowathy – Helen & Elizabeth Terlesky

COLLECTION – \$5156.00 Thank you for your generosity and support

Christmas Bake Sale: \$376.00 Pyrohy \$54.00

Christmas Caroling: \$1010.00

Eternal Light & Altar Candles : In celebration of 80th Birthday Wilhelmina Wichryk – Leah, Tony, Adam & families

Please remember to pray for the sick and all those who have requested our prayers

Helen Terleski

Teodozia Sroka

Catherine Kutzler

Olga Turczyn

Mae Kulczykcki

Sophie Troyan

Jean Lakomski

Michael Trusz

Melvene Thatcher

Peg Hutnik

Richard Suter

Martha Charon

Olga Bryksa

Julian Trusz

Michael Sidlar

Timothy Kohutka

Joseph Bodnar

Lillian Opp

Frank & Betty Maitzki

Sarah Shanks

Kim Lightcap

Gregory & Dot Neff

Stephen Terleski

Robert Leiby

Margaret Dashe

Helen Potak

Anna Drozd

Olga Trusz

Mary Heverling

Frieda Lubosky

Barbara Hacker

Estelle Troyan

THE CHAPEL SCHEDULE

- Every Monday at 7:00AM there is a meeting of **Alcoholics Anonymous**
- The **Ukrainian American Veterans Post 42** meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at 7:00PM for their business & Post meeting. All veterans are encouraged to join this fine group of men.
- Thursday evenings at 5:30PM beginning in February **Adult Religious Education**.
- 12:00-1:00PM Sundays: **Religious Education classes for youth**. November through December will be practice for Christmas and Caroling.
- **Grief Support Group**. There is an open support group which will meet the last Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:00PM beginning in January. **Facilitator:** Paul La Chance PhD (there is no fee for the group and is open to everyone from older teens to adults)

CHAPEL/HALL RENTAL

Anyone interested in renting the chapel for a shower or family get together please contact the church office. There is a \$99.00 insurance fee necessary for all non-church functions, plus a \$100.00 donation for non-parishioners, \$50.00 for parishioners. There is a contract available at the rectory office.

NEW GROUP STARTING

There is an interest in a **Grief Support group** which will be facilitated by Paul LaChance PhD as a community outreach from our church. It is designed to support older teens and adults who are mourning the loss of a loved one. This is an open group. New members are welcome to any session. All faiths and creeds are invited. There is no fee for the group meetings. If you are currently in counseling you are encouraged to speak with your counselor if group counseling would be beneficial. Please contact Paul LaChance at 908-235-8489 for more information.

AN OLD CALENDAR CHRISTMAS

Most of our churches in Ukraine still celebrate Christmas on the Julian Calendar which is 13 days later than our Gregorian Calendar. We will be celebrating an Old Calendar Christmas Liturgy in Ukrainian on **January 6, 2017 at 10:00PM** in our church. **There will be a Sviatii Vecher or Holy Supper in the church hall that evening at 7:30PM.** Please register in the vestibule of the church if you would like to attend. There is no fee. Free will offerings can be placed in the basket.

REDNER'S TAPES

Please be aware that when participating in the Redner's Register Tape Program you must use your Redner's Card when purchasing and all of the tape must be submitted to be valid for the rebate. Thank you for your support of this project.

BEST PEROGIE IN LEHIGH VALLEY

We would like to thank the staff and judges of the Lehigh Valley Live who was responsible for naming our Holy Ghost Church as *the winner of the best perogie* in the Lehigh Valley. We also congratulate St John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church who won the *People's Choice Award* for best Perogie in the Lehigh Valley. [Check Lehigh Valley live.com](http://Lehigh Valley live.com) for the full article

ST JOSAPHATS ANNUAL NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

St Josaphats in Bethlehem is having their annual New Years Eve Party on Saturday January 14 from 7:00PM – 12 midnight. Buffet, Beer, Wine & Dancing \$25 Per person. No tickets sold at the door. For reservations contact Walter Zagwoski at 610-533-4108.

CHRISTMAS GREETING: Early Christians would have a way of identifying themselves as believers by how they addressed people they would meet. We continue that tradition in greeting other believers with :

During the time from Pentecost to Christmas:

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to him forever! Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na veeki!

From Christmas to Epiphany:

Christ is Born ! Glorify Him! Christos Razhdayetsha! Slaveete Yeho!

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSINGS

Anyone wishing their homes blessed for 2017, please sign the form in the vestibule of the church, Fr Dan will call you to set up a time for visitation. Those who on the sick and shutin list will be visited with the sacrament of Holy Communion as well as house blessing. Fr Dan will be blessing homes from January 7 through January 14. Please note if day or evening visit is more convenient. Thank you

MONASTERY VISIT

Fr. Dan will be away from the parish from January 15- February 10, 2017. He is going to the Monastery of the Transfiguration in California for a retreat and time of discernment. Please keep him in your prayers during this time. During his absence please contact Ted Veresink in the event of an emergency 610-573-3055. Fr George Worschak will be serving the Divine Liturgies during his absence.

CHRISTMAS HYMNALS are located next to the bulletins in the back of the church. Please join with us during this time of the celebration of the birth and revelation of God to us as the Holy Trinity . Christ is Born!

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY
CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST -

Holy Father Basil the Great Archbishop:

Troparion (8):

You came down from on high, O Merciful One, and accepted three days of burial to free us from our sufferings. O Lord, our life and our resurrection, glory be to You.

Troparion (1):

O Jesus, enthroned on high together with Your eternal Father and Divine Spirit, You condescended to be born on earth of a maiden and virgin mother. And on the eighth day, You were circumcised. Glory be to Your most noble decision; glory be to Your plan of salvation; glory be to Your condescension, O Lord; You alone love mankind.

Troparion (1):

Your voice resounds throughout the world which has accepted the lessons so well taught by you. You have given explanation to divine truths. You have clarified the nature of created things. You have made a rule of life for men. By your royal priesthood, O venerable father Basil, intercede with Christ to save our souls.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion (4):

O venerable and heavenly inspired Basil, you were a firm foundation of the Church by giving to all a lasting treasure and impressing them with your teachings.

Now and for ever and ever: Amen.

Kontakion (3): The Lord of all endures circumcision and His goodness purifies the sins of men and grants salvation to the world today. Therefore, Basil, the priest and torchbearer of the Creator, the divine mystic of Christ, rejoices on high.

Prokimenon (6):

Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

Verse: To You, O Lord, I call; my God, be not deaf to me.

Prokimenon of St. Basil (1):

My mouth shall utter wisdom, and my heart be a lesson in wisdom.

Epistle: Reading of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (Col 2,8-12)

Brethren: See to it that no one captivate you with an empty, seductive philosophy according to human tradition, according to the elemental powers of the world and not according to Christ. For in him dwells the whole fullness of the deity bodily, and you share in this fullness in him, who is the head of every principality and power. In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not administered by hand, by stripping off the carnal body, with the circumcision of Christ. You were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

Alleluia Verses:

Verse: O God, be gracious to us and bless us. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

.Verse: May Your face shed its light upon us and have mercy on us.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel: (Mk 1,1-8)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'" John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the holy Spirit."

It is truly right... (Or the Hirmos of the Feast):

In you, O Woman Full of Grace, the angelic choirs and the human race -all creation -rejoices. O Sanctified Temple, Mystical Paradise, and Glory of Virgins! He, Who is our God from before all ages took flesh from you and became a child. He made your womb a throne, and greater than the heavens. In you, O Woman Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. All praise be to you!

Communion Verse:

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest.

The just man shall be in everlasting remembrance. An evil report he shall not fear.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST BASIL THE GREAT: January 1, 2017

There are books in the pews for the celebration of the Liturgy of St Basil the Great which we celebrate 6 Sundays during the year: the Feast of St Basil the Great today is one of them. The prayers and anaphora of St Basil present a beautiful, poetic expression of salvation history to remind us of the great plan of salvation which God includes us. Please follow along with the prayers during the Liturgy. They are most edifying. Christ is Born!

HAVE A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR! HAPPY 2017!!

MNOHAYA LITA!

PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION TODAY

Our annual Parish open House and Christmas Celebration will be held today January 1, 2017 in the Chapel from 12:30-4:00PM. It is an opportunity for us to gather together as a community and enjoy some food and fellowship. We will be serving the traditional pork and Sauerkraut as well as other Christmas foods. We hope you can join us.

CHRISTMAS CAROLLING

Special thanks to the men and women and children of our parish who went caroling to the sick and shut-ins and to those who had requested carolers. A total of \$1010.00 was collected. We thank our carolers for their maintaining this tradition of bringing the good news of Christ's birth in song! Special thanks: Oksana & Ivan Savkanitch, Victor ,Oxana,& Matthew Patskan, Vasilli Michtchak, Yuriy Shevtsiv, Ihor Bagli, Ihor Mirchuk, Fr Dan, Joann Fulmer, Chrissy, Mikayla,& Zachary Mattis, Sherry, Emily and Sara Bellfy, God bless you and Happy New Year!

CHURCH ENVELOPES 2017

The church envelopes are in the back of the church on the table to the left. There are a total of 85 registered families in Holy Ghost Church. If you are not listed in the parish please contact Fr Dan at the rectory or fill out the parish registration form on the table by the envelopes. Thank you for your continued support of our church. May God bless you for your generosity and dedication to Him and his Ukrainian Catholic Church in West Easton.

Church calendars have not yet arrived. They will be distributed later.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION CARD IN THE FRONT OF YOUR ENVELOPE BOX. THIS HELPS US TO MAINTAIN UPDATED RECORDS. Thank you.

SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to thank all those who sent cards and gifts to me during this Christmas season. Your thoughtfulness and generosity is greatly appreciated. Brother Timmy also says thanks for his treats and toys! God bless all of you ! Merry Christmas! Christ is Born! Glorify Him ! & Happy New Year

Love and Prayers, Fr Dan & Brother Timmy.

PYROHY SALE

We will have our first pyrohy sale in 2017 January 10-11. Order forms are in the vestibule of the church. You can place an order by calling 610-252-4266. Pyrohy are \$6.00 a dozen and can be picked up after 12 noon on Wednesday January 11. Thank you.



THE FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY: The Baptism of our Lord in the River Jordan

This observance commemorates Christ's baptism by John the Forerunner in the River Jordan, and the beginning of Christ's earthly ministry. The Feast of Theophany is the culmination of the Christmas Season, which starts on December 25 and ends on January 6. In mystic commemoration of this event, the Great Blessing of Water is performed on this day, and the holy water so blessed is used by the local priest to bless the homes of the faithful.

The feast is called *Theophany* because at the baptism of Christ the Holy Trinity appeared clearly to mankind for the first time—the Father's voice is heard from Heaven, the Son of God is incarnate and standing physically in the Jordan, and the Holy Spirit descends on Him in the form of a dove.

This feast is also sometimes referred to as *Epiphany* but that name more properly refers to the Western Christian feast falling on that same day and commemorating the visit of the Magi to the child Jesus. The term *epiphany* does appear in some of the service texts for this feast, however.

Originally, there was just one Christian feast of the shining forth of God to the world in the human form of Jesus of Nazareth. It included the celebration of Christ's birth, the adoration of the wise men, and all of the childhood events of Christ such as his circumcision and presentation to the temple as well as his baptism by John in the Jordan. There seems to be little doubt that this feast, like Pascha and Pentecost, was understood as the fulfillment of a previous Jewish festival, in this case the Feast of Lights. The Armenian Apostolic Church still keeps January 6 as a feast of both Christ's Nativity and baptism.

The services of Theophany are arranged similarly to those of the Nativity. (Historically the Christmas services were established later.)

The Royal Hours are read and the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is served with Vespers on the eve of the feast. The Vigil is made up of Great Compline and Matins. On the morning of the feast, the Divine Liturgy is served.

The Liturgy of the feast begins with psalms of glorification and praise instead of the three normal Antiphons. And the baptismal line from Galatians 3:27 replaces the Thrice-Holy.

For as many as been baptized into Christ have put on Christ: Alleluia.

The Gospel readings of all the services tell of the Lord's baptism by John in the Jordan River. The epistle reading of the Divine Liturgy tells of the consequences of the Lord's appearing which is the divine epiphany.

Since the main feature of the feast is the blessing of water. It is prescribed to follow both the Divine Liturgy of the eve of the feast and the Divine Liturgy of the day itself. But most local parishes do it only once when most of the parishioners can be present. The blessing verifies that mankind, and all of creation, were created to be filled with the sanctifying presence of God.

In connection with the feast, it is traditional for the priest to visit all the homes of the faithful for their annual house blessing using the water that has been blessed at the Theophany services.

BLESSING OF HOMES:

The Family is a Small church

The family is considered, by our faith, to be a small church. The family table is the home altar where the members gather each day to receive their daily bread from God with thanksgiving in the name of Christ.

Sanctification of the home

The sanctification of the home takes place with prayer and the sprinkling of holy water. The priest, or head of the house,, asks God to have mercy on the home, to rid it of every evil and to fill it with every blessing. Everyone of the house, prays together for the living and the dead of the family, and all who live and have lived in the house. They all sing the hymn of salvation and process from room to room while the priest/elder blesses the house.

Traditions of the ceremony differ according to local custom, but these general guidelines can be observed:

- A candle with an icon and some holy water should be placed in a suitable place, such as kitchen or dining room table, or a home altar.
- Also, a list of first names for whom prayers are to be offered, including members of the family and all those living in the house. The list should have a clear distinction between the living and the dead.

The ceremony

When the priest comes, all who are present in the house should gather around the icon with the candle. They should, if they are able to join in, say the Trisagion Prayers and sing of the Troparion of the Feast of Epiphany. Then a family member leads the priest through the house with the candle. As he goes, he sprinkles holy water, and prays for a blessing upon each room and the activity that goes on there. When they have gone through the entire house, the family gathers again around the table and the priest blesses each person present.

PRAYER OF HOUSE BLESSING FOR THEOPHANY

"At your Baptism in the Jordan O Lord, the worship of the Holy Trinity was revealed, for the Father's voice bore witness to You by calling you His beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed these words, O Christ our God, who appeared and enlightened the world, Glory be to you!"

Troparion of the Feast of Theophany

O God our Savior, the True Light

Who was baptized in the River Jordan by John

To renew all people by the waters of rebirth,

Who condescended to enter under the roof of Zacheus

To bring salvation to him and all his house

Keep safe and protect from all harm and injury

Those who dwell here

Grant them Jordan's blessing, purification of soul and body,

And all their prayer petitions for health, salvation and life everlasting.

For you are blessed together with your eternal Father and your

Life Giving Spirit , Now and forever Amen

**This Home is blessed by the sprinkling of this holy water, in the Name of
+ The Father and of the +Son and of the +Holy Spirit Amen.**

May God grant you many healthy happy and blessed years!

NEBO EE ZEMLYA

1) Heaven and earth
Heaven and earth
Now sing in triumph
Angels and people,
Angels and people,
Join in celebration:

(2) In Bethlelem, In Bethlehem
the joyous proclamation
Mary the virgin, Mary the Virgin,
Gave birth to the Savior:
(Refrain) Christ the Lord is born.....

(Refrain) Christ the Lord is born, come and behold him,
Choirs of Angels singing, Christ the King they're greeting
Shepherds celebratin, Wise men contemplating
The wondrous story they're retelling

NOVA RADEEST STALA

There was great Rejoicing
On that Christmas morning
(2) Over the Manger, softly glowing
The bright star was shining

Nova Radist Stala
Yako ne Buvala
(2) Nad vertempom
Szveesdai yasna
Sveetlo zaseeyala



**JAMMIN'
TO THE
CAROLS.**

Christ was born in glory
Of the Virgin Mary
(2) Let us humbly, like the shepherds
Kneel in adoration



V VEFLEYEMI NOVYNA

In the town of Bethlehem
Mary's Son is born a King
(2) Born to bless us,
Born to save us
And to lead all men to God the Saviour

In a cave at Bethlehem
Bed of straw His royal throne
(2) Mary wondered, Joseph Pondered
How the Child was the Son of God
The Savior

V Veffleyemee novena,
Deeva Sina porodila
Porodila blahodatniy
Neporochnaya Diva Mati
Maria



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If you wish to join Holy Ghost Church and become a member of our parish family, please contact Fr. Dan at the parish rectory to register with us.

Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Communion. Classes are required for parents and godparents prior to sacrament. Please contact the parish office

Marriages: Couples wishing to be married must be registered in the parish and attending Pre-Cana classes. One year notification is required.

Anointing of the Sick/Visitation of the Sick: Anyone wishing to be visited with Holy Communion and/or anointed for healing, please contact Fr. Dan at the parish office.

Confession: Regular confession helps us in our journey of faith.

Confessions will be held

Saturday's from 5:15PM-5:45PM Sunday from 10:15AM-10:45AM

The Mystery of the Lord's Baptism

The Gospel tells us that the Lord went to the Jordan River to be baptized and that He wished to consecrate Himself in the river by signs from heaven. Someone might ask, "Why would a holy man desire baptism?" Listen to the answer: Christ is baptized, not to be made holy by the water, but to make the water holy, and by His cleansing to purify the waters which He touched. For the consecration of Christ involves a more significant consecration of the water.

For when the Savior is washed all water for our baptism is made clean, purified at its source for the dispensing of baptismal grace to the people of future ages. Christ is the first to be baptized, then, so that Christians will follow after Him with confidence.

I understand the mystery as this. The column of fire went before the sons of Israel through the Red Sea so they could follow on their brave

journey; the column went first through the waters to prepare a path for those who followed. As the Apostle Paul said, what was accomplished then was the mystery of baptism. Clearly it was baptism in a certain sense when the cloud was covering the people and bringing them through the water.

But Christ the Lord does all these things: in the column of fire He went through the sea before the sons of Israel; so now, in the column of His body, He goes through baptism before the Christian people. At the time of the Exodus the column provided light for the people who followed; now it gives light to the hearts of believers. Then it made a firm pathway through the waters; now it strengthens the footsteps of faith in the bath of baptism.

Saint Maximus of Turin

For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit
www.ecpubs.com