

SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THEOPHANY (EPIPHANY) 2012 FROM HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH

The Royal Hours & Typika are served on the morning of Thursday, January 05. They may each be offered in the following order:

- Consecutively, starting at 9:00 AM in the following manner: start the First Royal Hour with “Blessed is our God”, and OMIT the Dismissal at the end of each Hour (except the last), and OMIT the section between “Blessed is our God” to right before “Come let us worship” in the Third, Sixth and Ninth Hours. **SIMPLY PUT, OMIT THE BOXED PORTIONS OF THE TEXT.**
- At their usual times (6:00 AM, 9:00 AM, Noon and 3:00 PM), with the Ninth Royal Hour and Typika being served at 3:00 PM, followed immediately by the **Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great.** Alternatively, the Vesperal Liturgy may be celebrated in the early evening hours.

On the morning of Epiphany Day, January 06, we serve Festal Orthros and **Festal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.**

Our Holy Orthodox Tradition calls for TWO “**Services of the Great Blessing of the Waters.**” The first one is performed in the Vesperal Divine Liturgy on Thursday after “Blessed be the Name of the Lord” inside the church, either at the baptismal font or on top of a table where a bowl of water is placed. The second one is performed on Friday in Orthros after the Great Doxology OR in the Festal Divine Liturgy after “Blessed be the Name of the Lord” outdoors at a large body of water, such as a fountain, river, lake or ocean. More commonly, only the first Great Blessing is performed at the church, and can be done in Orthros or either Liturgy. The Diocese has provided the complete Text for the indoor blessing; the text for the outdoor blessing can be found in *The Liturgikon*, pgs. 453-458.

If there is a pastoral need to reschedule any of these services, contact His Eminence, Archbishop JOSEPH directly to discuss your particular situation.

We have added rubrics for the Priest to cense at the beginning of each Royal Hour Service. He performs the Great Censing of the entire church at the First and Ninth Royal Hours, and the Small Censing from the Beautiful Gate (Holy Doors) – like he would before the Great Entrance in Divine Liturgy – at the Third and Sixth Royal Hours.

Please be sure to print the proper Theophany Texts for 2012, as found at:

http://www.antiochianladiocese.org/service_texts_great_feast.html.