



St. Nicholas

MAIN STREET
JACOBS CREEK, PA.

Orthodox Church

SIXTH STREET
MONONGAHELA, PA.

WWW. ORTHODOXMON.ORG

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January 6, 2019

Mon: Sunday of the Holy Fathers – Eve of the Nativity

JC: Great Feast of the Epiphany – Baptism of our Lord

This Week:

TODAY – 7 p.m. **GREAT COMPLINE
& MATINS**

MONDAY – *Nativity of our Lord*
10 a.m. **DIVINE LITURGY**
& *social hour*

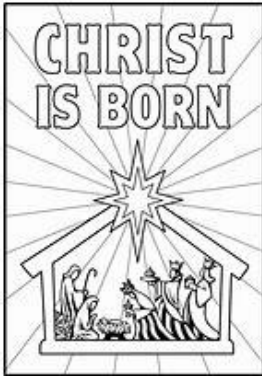
SATURDAY – 12:30–3:30 Blessing of
Homes (Jacobs Creek)

Strict fast Today is a day of strict fasting for all who are celebrating Christmas tomorrow.

No fasting is permitted the rest of this week for Monongahela faithful as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

See the bulletin board to bring a covered dish for our Epiphany Holy Supper on Friday, January 18.....and...

..... to request Father to visit your home for the Epiphany Blessing of Homes. Saturday & Sunday, January 19-20.



Special Christmas Gifts

Altar candles & 2 Poinsettias

Lilas Soukup

*In honor of Donald & Lilas Soukup
In memory of Michael & Lilas Sewchok*

Wine & Theotokos, St. Nicholas, St. John the Baptist Vigil Lamps

Alex Prokop

In memory of Alex Kay Prokop

Prosfora & Incense

Mary Ann Kelch

Poinsettias

Mary Ann Kelch (3)

*In memory of John & Mary Yarina
Christine Deutsch, Ellen Brawdy*

Judy Kruppa (2)

In memory of Steve & Ann Kruppa

Open house at the Pehanich home is next Sunday. All are welcome.

Special collection will be taken up tomorrow at the Christmas Divine Liturgy for our *Charity Fund*. Funds are used to help people in need, primarily in the Mon Valley.

Christmas Isn't Complete Until We Receive the Eucharist

The more I hear the Christmas story, the more I'm convinced that it's a theological argument for the Eucharist. The Christmas story is about how the eternal Logos (Word of God) enters into creation, by means of the Holy Spirit, and takes on flesh (this action is called *the Incarnation*). Through the Incarnation of Christ, humanity is transformed.

We are recreated!

We are deified.

We are saved!

The "story" of the Eucharist is the same. It's about how the Holy Spirit again enters into creation and transforms the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. God came into our world through Christ, just as he now comes into our world through the Eucharist.

So, you're saying the Christmas story is also about how bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ? Yes!

There are a few keywords in the Christmas story that point to the Eucharist. For example, the Savior is born in Bethlehem, which means "*House of Bread.*" Interesting... After he is born, Christ is laid in a manger, which is a feeding trough, which is to say that He was born to nourish His people.

- *Father Dustin Lyon*

