

**Russian Orthodox Church of the  
Resurrection of Christ**

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**Schedule for the Week of January 21 - 27, 2018**

Sunday Jan 21	Sunday after Theophany / Попраснство Богоявления
Saturday Jan 27	5:30 PM Vigil
Sunday Jan 28	<b>Sunday of the Publican &amp; the Pharisee</b> <b>Нед. О мытаре и Фарисее</b> 8:15 AM Nocturns, Hours, Confessions 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия



О новое чудо! О неизреченная благодать!  
Христос совершает подвиг, а я получаю почестъ;  
Он воюет с дьяволом, а я оказываюсь победителем;  
Он змеиную голову сокрушает в воде, а я как бы  
настоящий борец увенчиваюсь.  
Он крестится, а с меня снимается скверна;  
На Него сходит Святой Дух, а мне подается оставление  
грехов;  
О Нем Отец свидетельствует как о Своем возлюбленном  
Сыне, а я становлюсь сыном Божьим ради Него;  
Ему отверзлись небеса, а я вхожу в них;  
Пред Ним Крещаемым является горнее царство, а я его  
получаю в наследственное владение;  
К Нему обращается голос Отца, и вместе с Ним я  
призываюсь;  
Отец благоволит к Нему, и меня также не отвергает.  
С своей же стороны я прославляю Отца,  
С небес давшего глас Свой, Сына, крещающегося на земле,  
и Духа сошедшего как голубя,  
Бога единого в Троице, Которому я и буду всегда  
поклоняться. Аминь. *(Святитель Иоанн Златоуст)*

## Holy Water

Holy Water is a great holy thing, and is close to us throughout our life (agiasma in Greek).

Sanctified water is an image of God's grace. It cleanses the faithful of spiritual defilements, it sanctifies and strengthens them in their struggle for salvation in God.

At the very beginning we are plunged therein in Baptism, when in the reception of this mystery we are immersed three times in the font, which is filled with holy water. In the mystery of Baptism, the holy water washes away the sinful impurity of a person; it renews and regenerates him into a new life in Christ.

Holy water plays an indispensable part in the consecration of churches and all those things which are used in the Divine services, and also in the blessing of homes, buildings, and other things. We are sprinkled with holy water in church processions, and during molebens.

“Holy Water,” as wrote the hierarch Dimitry of Cherson, “has the power to sanctify the souls and the bodies of all who make use of it.” When taken with faith and with prayer, it is able to cure our physical ailments. After hearing the confessions of pilgrims, the Venerable Seraphim of Sarov always gave them a sip from a cup of holy Theophany water.

The order of the Blessing of Waters, which is celebrated on the feast of Theophany, is called Great on account of the special solemnity of the rite, and it commemorates the Baptism of the Lord, in which event the Church not only recognizes the sacramental washing away of sins, but the actual sanctification of the nature of the waters themselves through the immersion within them of God in the flesh.

Theophany water is a holy thing which every Orthodox Christian should have in the home. It should be kept carefully in the holy corner near the icons.

Besides Theophany water, Orthodox Christians also often use water sanctified at molebens (the Lesser Blessing of Waters), which are served at various times throughout the year. It is appointed by the Church that this rite should be celebrated on the Day of the Procession of the honorable Wood of the Cross (1 Aug) and on the day of mid-Pentecost, when the Church recalls the words of the Savior to the Samaritan woman, which contain such a deep mystery: “Whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life” (John 4:14).

### **A prayer on Partaking of Prosphora and Holy Water**

O Lord my God, may Thy gift and Thy holy water be unto the enlightenment of my mind, unto the strengthening of my spiritual and physical powers, unto the health of soul and body, unto the subjugation of the passions and of my infirmities, through Thy boundless kindheartedness, and by the prayers of Thine All-immaculate Mother and of all Thy Saints. Amen. *(translated from “First Steps in Church” Moscow, 2004)*