

## The Nativity of St. John the Baptist – June 24<sup>th</sup>

To render honor the saint who, according to Christ Himself, is the greatest of the prophets (Mt. 11:11), the Church instituted a special feast. The Gospels themselves are our sources for the life of St. John, and of these St. Luke's is the most complete, giving the circumstances of St. John's birth, ministry and death. The father of John the Baptist was Zachary, a priest of the course of Abia. His mother, Elizabeth, "was of the daughters of Aaron" (Lk. 1:5). St. Luke describes the birth of St. John in a most striking manner. Zachary and Elizabeth "were both just before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord. But they had no son, for Elizabeth was barren; and they were both advanced in years" (Lk. 1:6-7). But they prayed that their marriage be blessed with offspring and, St. Luke continues: "Now it came to pass, while he was officiating in the order of his course as a priest before God, according to the custom of the priest's office, that he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord to burn incense. A whole multitude of people were praying outside at the hour of incense. And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right of the altar of incense. And Zachary seeing him, was troubled, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said to him 'Do not be afraid, Zachary, for your petition has been heard and your wife Elizabeth shall bear you a son and you shall call his name John. And you shall have joy and gladness and many will rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great before the Lord; he shall drink no wine or strong drink, and shall be filled with Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he shall bring back to the Lord their God many of the children of Israel'" (Lk. 1:8-16). Zachary was somewhat slow to believe his message and in punishment for his incredulity was struck dumb until the promise was fulfilled.

Nothing can be said with certainty as to the date of the birth of St. John the Baptist. The Gospel suggests that he was born about six months before Christ.

The commemoration of St. John's nativity is one of the older, if not the oldest, feasts in honor of any saint found in either the Byzantine or Roman Liturgies. Ordinarily the Church observes the day of a saint's death because that day marks his entrance into heaven. St. John is an exception to this rule because he "was filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb," which means he was born without original sin. His nativity, therefore is already a day of triumph.

The Liturgy of the day repeatedly recalls St. John's miraculous birth. "O prophet and forerunner of Christ's coming, we who devotedly honor you are unable to fittingly extol you, for through your glorious and noble birth, your mother's childlessness was ended, your father's tongue was released and the incarnation of the Son of God was proclaimed to the world" (troparion). The kontakion refers again to the miraculous character of his birth: "She who was previously barren gives birth to the forerunner of Christ..."

—Basil Shereghy

Source: <https://stjosaphat.ab.ca/feasts-and-holy-days/nativity-st-john-baptist/>

### Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church

360 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

### Ss. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church

106 North Rogers Avenue, Endicott, NY 13760

June 21, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

**Administrator:**

**Very Rev. Fr. Steven Galuschik**

**Deacon:**

**Rev. Fr. Dn. Richard Terza**

**Mailing Address for both parishes:**

360 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

**Office Phone: (607) 203-1151**

**Office Email:**

**stnybyzantine@gmail.com**

**Confessions: (Holy Spirit)**

Sundays from 8:00am – 8:30 (Before Divine Liturgy)

**Parishes Website:**

<https://www.southernbyzantinecatholic.com>

**Bulletin:** [churchbulletin0@gmail.com](mailto:churchbulletin0@gmail.com)

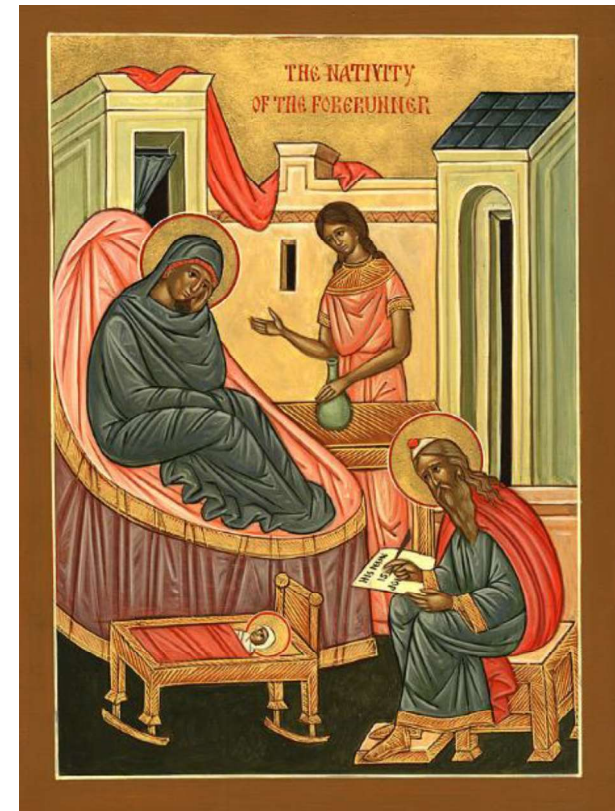
**On-Line Giving:** Please use the link below for on-line donations for Ss. Peter & Paul **OR** for Holy Spirit Church:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZA77/home>

You can also scan the QR code with your phone or you can visit the Parish website for a link!



**Thank you for your support of your Churches!**



**Birth of the Holy Prophet  
John the Baptist  
- June 24<sup>th</sup> -**

✠ **Liturgies for the Week of 6/20 – 6/28** ✠

SAT	Jun 20	<i>The Holy Martyr Methodius, Bishop of Patara (311)</i>		
--- No Divine Services ---				
SUN	Jun 21	<i>Fourth Sunday after Pentecost (Father's Day)</i>		
	9:00 am	Holy Spirit – <i>Living and Deceased Members of Holy Spirit and Ss. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches</i>		Apostol: Rom 6: 18-23 Gospel: Mt 8: 5-13
(Tone 3) Pg 135	11:00 am	Ss. Peter & Paul – <i>✠ Leonard Dudinyak by Joanne Dudinyak</i>		
MON	Jun 22	<i>The Holy Martyr Eusebius, Bishop of Samosata (379)</i>		
--- No Divine Services ---				
TUES	Jun 23	<i>The Holy Martyr Agrippina (275)</i>		
	6:30 pm	Holy Spirit – <i>Festal Great Vespers</i>		
WED	Jun 24	<i>The Nativity of the Holy Prophet, forerunner and Baptist, John (Solemn Holy Day)</i>		
--- No Divine Services ---				
THU	Jun 25	<i>The Holy Venerable Martyr Febronia (310)</i>		
--- No Divine Services ---				
FRI	Jun 26	<i>Our Venerable Father David of Thessalonica (540)</i>		
--- No Divine Services ---				
SAT	Jun 27	<i>Our Venerable Father Sampson the Hospitaller, The Holy Myrrh-bearer Joanna</i>		
--- No Divine Services ---				
SUN	Jun 28	<i>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</i>		
	9:00 am	Holy Spirit – <i>✠ William Metzlar by Marion &amp; Eugene Urda</i>		Apostol: Rom 10: 1-10 Gospel: Mt 8: 28 – 9: 3
(Tone 4) Pg 141	11:00 am	Ss. Peter & Paul – <i>Living and Deceased Members of Ss. Peter and Paul and Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Churches</i>		



**Candle Intentions:** Please see the sheet posted in the Church vestibule for the Candle Intentions and Sponsors for the Month of **✠ June.**



**Happy Birthday:** We'd like to wish a very Happy Birthday to:

*Peter Simkulet*, who will celebrate his Birthday this Saturday, **June 20<sup>th</sup>**  
*Elizabeth Holowonitch*, who will celebrate her Birthday this Tuesday, **June 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
*Susan Peterson*, who will celebrate her Birthday this Wednesday, **June 24<sup>th</sup>** !

May Our Lord and God bless them and grant them long life, good health, peace and happiness for  
**Many Happy and Blessed Years! - Na Mnohaja i Blahaja Lita!**



**Congratulations!** We would like to express our best wishes to:

*Walter & Marilyn Bielinski* who will Celebrate their **63<sup>rd</sup> Wedding Anniversary**, Monday, **June 22<sup>nd</sup>** ,  
*And to....*  
*Eugene & Sylvia Sibick* who will Celebrate their **69<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**, Monday, **June 22<sup>nd</sup>** !!

May Our Lord and God bless them and grant them long life, good health, peace, and happiness for  
**Many Happy and Blessed Years! - Na Mnohaja i Blahaja Lita!** †



**Happy Father's Day !** We'd like to wish a **Very Happy Father's Day** to all the Fathers of  
**Ss. Peter & Paul** and **Holy Spirit** Churches !!

May Our Lord and God bless you and grant you long life, good health, peace, and happiness  
**for Many Happy and Blessed Years! - Na Mnohaja i Blahaja Lita!**



**Stephen Dean**, the Cantor from Ss. Peter and Paul Church, is **hosting classes** to help anyone who is interested in learning more about singing the melodies of the Divine Liturgy in the Green Book, including the eight tones, Troparions, Kontikons, and even the Prokeimenon and Alleluias. Reading of music is not required, and everyone is welcome !

The Classes are **every Thursday** from **4:00 pm to 5:30 pm** at Ss. Peter and Paul Church !



**Holy Spirit Church 50/50 Raffle:** The Winner of May's 50/50 Raffle is **Marilyn Kumpon** 

Congratulations Marilyn! The total entered for May was \$100.00 and Marilyn won \$50.00 !!  
Marilyn, please contact **Daria Shierly** at [eagle27endwell@gmail.com](mailto:eagle27endwell@gmail.com) or 607-760-1892 regarding your winnings. **Thank you to everyone for your support !** †

