



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH Parish Newsletter

New Parish Center: 20937 Ashburn Rd., #110, Ashburn, VA January 2022

ΤΑ ΦΩΤΑ * THE FEASTS OF LIGHT * 26 DECEMBER, 6 JANUARY, 2 FEBRUARY

JANUARY—DAY 10 HOURS (THE DAYS ARE GETTING LONGER), NIGHT 14

- 2 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Ellmore**
- 6 Thu ↓ **THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (MARK 1.9+)**
- 9 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Hawkins**
- 16 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Krisa**
- 23 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Matyuf**
- 30 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Morrow**

Our Annual Parish Business Meeting follows.

FEBRUARY—DAY 11 HOURS, NIGHT 13

- 2 Wed ↑ Feasts of Light 40th Day: Feast of the Encounter of the Lord
- 6 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy (Zacheus)—**Coffee Hour: Mosholder**

Alternate Date: Parish Business Meeting

Regarding our Annual Parish Business Meeting.

We will hold our Annual Business Meeting on the last Sunday of January. (February 6 will be the snow date.) This year we will meet on the Sunday, January 30. We will hear a financial report for the Covid years, approve a budget, and elect a Parish Council. Then there is the matter of who will look after palms and flowering branches as well as flowers for the Holy Week. We will do our best to keep things simple and brief.

From the Washington Post.

U.K.'s top archbishop [=Anglican] says getting a coronavirus vaccination is a moral issue: 'It's how we love our neighbor'

By Jaclyn Peiser

As the omicron variant spreads rapidly worldwide in the lead-up to Christmas, the Church of England's most senior cleric offered an unwavering pronouncement: Getting a coronavirus vaccination and booster is a moral issue.

"Vaccination reduces ... my chances of getting ill, [which] reduces my chances of infecting others — it's very simple," Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby said in an interview with the British station ITV on Tuesday.

"Go and get boosted; get vaccinated. It's how we love our neighbor."

The archbishop's statement comes as scientists in Britain are pushing Prime Minister Boris Johnson to order tougher restrictions as covid cases continue to climb. In the past seven days, over 600,000 new cases were recorded in the U.K. — an increase of more than 50 percent, according to The Washington Post's covid tracker. On Monday, Johnson said he had no plans to implement new rules.

Masks are required in England in most indoor public spaces and on public transit, including taxis. But they are optional in restaurants, pubs and gyms. The rules vary in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. About

77 percent of Britain's population has received at least one dose of a coronavirus vaccine, The Post's data shows.

Welby is one of several religious leaders in the U.K. teaming up with the government to push people across faiths to get vaccinations and boosters. But last week, the archbishop said in a radio interview that parishioners should still go to church on Christmas and wear a mask.

"I would say it's a necessity; the worship of God is a necessity," Welby said, according to Church Times, adding that Anglican houses of worship tend to be "large, cold, and [drafty]," making them "not great places for spreading infections."

For months, religious leaders have used their positions to advocate for vaccinations. In August, Pope Francis urged Catholics to get vaccinated, calling it an "act of love." Some rabbis, evangelical church leaders and imams have also worked to debunk misinformation about vaccines and endorse them as safe and lifesaving.

In his interview with ITV's Julie Etchingham, Welby, who has been archbishop of Canterbury since 2013, acknowledged he may get blowback for calling vaccination against the coronavirus a moral issue.

"I'm going to step out on thin ice here and say yes, I think it is," Welby said. "A lot of people won't like that ... but it's not about me and my rights to choose, it's about how I love my neighbor."

Etchingham then asked whether it is a sin for someone to refuse vaccination if they are in good health and have no medical reason to avoid taking it. But Welby dodged the question, focusing more on the religious argument for getting the jab.

"Loving our neighbor is what Jesus told us to do," Welby said. "It's Christmas. Do what he said."

HAPPY NEW YEAR!