

(Continued from a previous page.)

the conversion and forgiveness of the perpetrators. *Lord have mercy! Hospodi pomiluj! Lord have mercy!*

■ **Pascha Meats** — If there is enough interest, Tonja Siemucha will again coordinate the delivery of Pascha meats. If you are interested in purchasing, please see Tonja during the next few weeks. Delivery would be around Palm Sunday. The meats would once again come from a butcher shop near Clearfield, Pa.

■ **Exhibit of Holy Sepulchre** — The “Tomb of Christ” exhibit at the National Geographic Museum details the restorations recently completed to the edicule, which contains and protects the empty tomb of Jesus Christ, at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

Visitors to the museum are shown stunning 3-D and virtual reality views of the Jerusalem and the church in iterations throughout time and what it looks like today following the restorations. The exhibit runs to August 15, 2018. For more information, go to www.nationalgeographic.org/dc/exhibitions/tomb-of-christ.

Divine Liturgy Schedule

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Feb. 11... | Cheesefare Sunday
(Sunday of Forgiveness)
Mother of God School
10 a.m. |
| Feb. 18... | 1st Sunday of Great Lent/
Blessing of Icons
Mother of God School
10 a.m. |
| Feb. 25... | 2nd Sunday of Great Lent/
Mother of God School
10 a.m. |

■ **Daily E-Mail Prayers** — Eastern Christian Publications, supplier of our Sunday bulletin covers, is now offering its daily e-mail prayer service for Morning and Evening Prayer, The Hours (1st, 3rd, 6th, 9th), and Daily Vespers (not Sundays or feast days) for **free**. Go to <http://ecpubs.com/byzantine-daily-office-bdo/> to sign up. This subscription includes all the changeable parts you need according to the our liturgical calendar in various PDF files viewable on any portable device.

*Lord, Jesus Christ,
Son of God,
have mercy on me,
a sinner!*

The Jesus Prayer

Liturgy Propers

**Forgiveness Sunday
Commemoration of the Expulsion
of Adam and Eve from Paradise
Cheesefare Sunday**

**St. Blaise, Bishop-Martyr
February 11, 2018
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 3 (p. 135)

Kontakion — Tone 6 (p. 218)

Prokiemenon — Tone 8 (p. 219)

Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4

Alleluia — Tone 6 (p. 219)

Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

Communion Hymns: Psalm 148:1 (p. 78)

CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered for Anthony Spin by Andy Haba. Eternal memory. *Vičnaja pamjat'.*

“O God of spirits and of all flesh, you trampled death and broke the power of the devil and granted life to Your world. Now grant rest, O Lord, to the soul of your departed servant in a place of light, joy, and peace where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning.”

— From the Litany for the Deceased

■ **Forgiveness Sunday** — Today in the Byzantine Church is Forgiveness Sunday, the last of the pre-lenten Sundays. We observe it also as the Commemoration of the Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise by contemplating our separation from God, our own expulsion from paradise. This Sunday is also known as Cheesefare Sunday, for, by tradition, no dairy products were eaten after sundown today until Pascha.

Today's services continually resound the theme of our separation from God as recorded in *Matthew 6:14-21*. We find ourselves cast out of paradise, sitting in darkness and apart from God Who is the source of Life and Light. We are weeping, We desire forgiveness. We seek mercy. And so we must ourselves forgive and be merciful. At the close of today's Divine Liturgy, we will pray the Rite of Forgiveness in which we ask for forgiveness from one another.

The whole of the Great Fast, as the whole of life, is a movement toward resurrection in paradise. We may enter in only if God forgives us our sins. And God will forgive us only if we forgive others. With forgiveness not only in mind, but in action, we enter the season of the Great Fast.

■ **Also Commemorated** — On this date, February 11, we commemorate St. Blaise, Bishop-Martyr. Very few facts are known about St. Blaise. It is believed he was a bishop of Sebastea in Armenia. He was martyred under the reign of Licinius in the early fourth

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Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church



Montgomery County Mission

*Mother of God Community School
20501 Goshen Road
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879
301-482-0282
www.eolmission.org*

Our community...

was established in October 1996 to meet the spiritual needs of Byzantine Catholics living in northern Montgomery County, southern Frederick County, and adjoining areas.

We celebrate our faith...

in a diverse community. We welcome all, regardless of ethnic or religious background who are committed to develop a deeper understanding of the Christian faith expressed in the Byzantine tradition and spirituality, and who wish to pray for and work towards the full communion of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches as sister Churches of the One Universal Church of Jesus Christ.

We continually resolve...

to gather in His Name, share the truth of our Faith, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone.

Please Remember

"Is anyone among you sick? ...the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up."

James 5:14-15 NKJV/OSB

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY

- Ron Pytel.
- Lou Shanks.
- Rosemary Chisarick.
- Doris Fejka.
- Raymond Klimkosky.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Paula and Tom Tate & Family.
- Christine Dennis.
- Peggy Winkelmann.
- Laura Hinkle.
- Doran Coady.
- Ann Tracy.
- Travis Waters.
- Bertha Bergan.
- Arlene Kollar.
- Jamee Kruse.
- Joseph and Nancy Dillmann.
- Paul and Mary Ellen Sorensen.
- Tony Tworkoski.
- Linda Oros.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert Kreger.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot
- Patricia Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

SPECIAL INTENTION

- Elizabeth Basarab.
- Sally Pekarik.
- Fr. Conan Timoney.
- Fr. Lee Gross.



Pray for Our Community

"Return, we beseech You, O God of hosts; Look down from heaven and see, and visit this vine and the vineyard which

Your right hand has planted, and the branch that You made strong for Yourself."

Psalm 80:14-15 NKJV/OSB



Food Pantry

Our community places a food collection basket near the information table as you enter the gymnasium. Don't forget those who are less fortunate. Nonperishable food items, diapers, baby food, and personal care items are always in demand. The Food Pantry Program, administered by St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church in Gaithersburg, supports the working poor of our area.



"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to Me. ...Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Matthew 25:35-36, 40 NKJV/OSB

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century. The legend of his life that sprang up in the eighth century tell us that he was born into a rich and noble family who raised him as a Christian.

After becoming a bishop, a new persecution of Christians began. He received a message from God to go into the hills to escape persecution. Men hunting in the mountains discovered a cave surrounded by wild animals who were sick. Among them Blaise walked unafraid, curing them of their illnesses. Recognizing Blaise as a bishop, they captured him to take him back for trial. On the way back, he talked a wolf into releasing a pig that belonged to a poor woman. When Blaise was sentenced to be starved to death, the woman, in gratitude, sneaked into the prison with food and candles. Finally Blaise was killed by the governor.

Blaise is the patron saint of wild animals because of his care for them and of those with throat maladies because, while in prison, he saved a boy from choking.

■ **Great Fast Begins** — The Great Fast (Lent in the Western Church) for the Byzantine Catholic Church begins today at sundown. Tomorrow, Monday, February 12, is the first full day of the fast and is observed by abstaining from all meat and dairy products.

During the Great Fast, all Wednesdays and Fridays are days of fasting from meat and meat products. Holy and Great Friday is a day of fasting from meat and dairy products.

Fasting/abstinence requirements may be mitigated for reasons of health and/or age. Please contact Fr. John at Epiphany Parish Office if you have questions or concerns.

■ **All Souls Saturdays** — If you would like to have a deceased individual or individuals remembered during the five All Souls Saturdays observed by the Byzantine Church during the liturgical year, please list their names and place them in the All Souls envelope found in your envelop packet, along with the requested donation, and place it in the collection basket. The envelopes will be forwarded to Epiphany-Annandale. You may specify particular names or just a family name (e.g., the deceased members of the Smith Family). The second All Souls Saturday for 2018 is on February 24.

■ **Next Sunday: Holy Images Blessing** — As is our tradition, we will bless personal icons and other religious items on the First Sunday of the Great Fast, February 18, also known as the Sunday of Orthodoxy (True Worship), which marks the restoration of the icons to the churches on March 11, 843, following the suppression of the Iconoclastic heresy.

■ **Pray for Our Suffering Church** — Many Christian clergy, religious, and laity have been killed by Islamic radicals. Please pray for all those afflicted by these barbaric acts and for

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In the Liturgy we pray "for those who serve and have served in this holy church." Until the happy day when we have our own temple (Grant it, O Lord!), we will need men and women to help with setup and takedown.

Signup sheets for the **remainder of February** are available on the information table.

Thank you!