

■ *A “Great” Fast Activity for Our Younger Members* — If you are looking for an activity our child can do as part of their observance of the Great Fast, consider having them participate in the Food Pantry Program by clipping manufacturer coupons from the newspaper each week, putting them in an envelop, and placing the envelop in the weekly food basket. Note that coupons need to be manufacturer coupons and not store coupons.

■ *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. 25... **2nd Sunday of Great Lent**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.

Mar. 4... **3rd Sunday of Great Lent/
Veneration of the Holy Cross**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.

Mar. 11... **4th Sunday of Great Lent**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.

DAYLIGHT SAVING
TIME BEGINS

■ *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.

■ *January Offerings* — Monetary offerings for the month of January were \$1,705, \$650, \$550, and \$520 for January 7, 14, 21, and 28, respectively. God bless you for your generosity.

In Your ineffable love for humankind,
O Christ our God, make us worthy of Your voice,
which we long to hear,
number us among those at Your right hand,
and have mercy on us.
Amen.

Liturgy Propers

2nd Sunday of the Great Fast
Memory of St. Gregory Palamas
First & Second Findings of the Head
of St. John the Baptist

February 25, 2018

Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Typica and Beatitudes

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 5 (p. 146)

Kontakion of the Second Sunday — Tone 4 (p. 222)

Prokiemenon of the Second Sunday — Tone 5 (p. 223)

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3

Alleluia of the Resurrection — Tone 5 (p. 148)

Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Magnification [In You O Woman...]

Communion Hymn: (For Sunday) 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 by Andy Haba for the blessed repose of +Andrea Haba-Gose. 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 servants in a place of light, joy, and peace where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning.”

— From the Litany for the Deceased



■ *Second Sunday of the Great Fast* — Today in the Byzantine Church is the Second Sunday of the Great Fast. Originally, St. Polycarp was commemorated on this Sunday. Now, Eastern Orthodox and some Byzantine Catholic Churches dedicate this Sunday to a major figure in fourteenth century Byzantium, St. Gregory Palamas, a monk, archbishop, and eminent theologian.

Once again we reassured, as we contemplate this man and reflect on his teachings, that we can attain salvation and behold the “Light of Wisdom” by becoming “partakers of the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:4). St. Gregory Palamas clearly teaches that, by cooperating with the God who makes all things possible, we can attain eternal life. Thus, our lenten efforts are confirmed, our resolve is strengthened, our frustrations at the end of the second week are overcome, and we are filled once more with the light of hope.

■ *Also Commemorated* — On this date, February 25, we commemorate the First and Second Finding of the Venerable Head of St. John, the Precursor.

The First Finding was by two monks in the home of King Herod. They brought the Head to Emmesia. The Second Finding was much later during the reign of Emperor Marcianus A.D. 431.

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."



Psalms 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

■ **Changes in Liturgy for the Great Fast** – During the Sundays of the Great Fast we pray the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great instead of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. The liturgies are very similar with the most notable differences being the singing of *The Typica* and *The Beatitudes* in place of the *First and Second Antiphons*. In addition, we sing *"In You, O Woman, Full of Grace"* in place of *"It is truly proper..."* The other major differences are in some of the prayers that the priest sings.

■ **The Great Fast Has Begun** – The Great Fast began at sundown last Sunday. The 40-day Great Fast (Lent) for the Byzantine Church symbolizes the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the desert, while the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is the fulfillment of the promise of manna.

In the Great Fast, we imitate Jesus our Lord, Who fasted for 40 days in the desert following His baptism. The Feast of Pascha was also the time for baptisms, and so the Great Fast was a time of preparation for baptism. Our observance of the Great Fast, therefore, is our renewal of our baptismal fervor.

■ **Abstinence/Fasting Guidelines** – The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat but allows the use of eggs and dairy products. All the faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to abstain. Abstinence is observed on all Wednesdays and Fridays during the season of the Great Fast.

The law of strict abstinence (fast) forbids the use of meat, eggs, and dairy products. All of the adult faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to observe strict abstinence. Strict abstinence is to be observed on the first full day of the Great Fast (February

12) and on Holy and Great Friday (March 30).

Pastors and administrators, for just cause, may grant to the individual faithful and to individual families dispensations or commutations of abstinence and strict abstinence into other pious practices.

■ **Lenten Services** – If There are no Lenten services scheduled for our mission except for Holy and Great Friday on March 30 at 7:30 p.m. Please avail yourself of Lenten services at Epiphany-Annandale (see schedule in bulletin) or St. Gregory of Nyssa in Beltsville (301-953-9323 or stgregorynyssa.net).

■ **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 third All Souls Saturday for 2018 is March 3.

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 **month of March** are available on the information table.

Thank you!