

(Continued from a preceding page.)

cially the powerless, the exploited, and the downtrodden. As many of us, Mary went through great suffering in her lifetime. Yet she remained the ever-supporting mother of Jesus. As we face many challenges in today's world, Mary continues to be our source of hope.

The Uniontown Pilgrimage has been held every Labor Day weekend since 1934. It was that year that the Sisters and pilgrims celebrated the blessing of the then newly acquired

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 sheet for the remaining Sundays in **July** is available on the information table. *Thank you!*

Monastery for the Sisters. In 1935, Pope Pius XI gifted the Sisters with a beautiful icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help requesting that they spread devotion to the Theotokos under that title.

The Pilgrimage is a source of ongoing renewal and provides for the diverse spiritual needs of the many pilgrims who frequent this major unifying event in the life of the Byzantine Catholic Church. Its participants include clergy and faithful from across the country.

The Pilgrimage offers the celebration of Divine Liturgy; opportunities for the Mystery of Reconciliation; Anointing of the Sick; Adult Enrichment Programs; activities for children, teens, young adults; and pastoral counseling. The Pilgrimage is the oldest and largest Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the United States. The Sisters welcome all people of faith to share in this special ministry and in its many blessings.

A prayerful welcome to our visitors and guests.

*Liturgy Propers*  
**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**SS. Cosmas and Damian,**  
**Wonderworkers, Unmercenaries**  
July 1, 2018  
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom  
Troparion — Tone 5 (p. 146)  
Kontakion — Tone 5 (p. 147)  
Prokiemenon — Tone 5 (p. 148)  
EPISTLE: Romans 12:6-14  
Alleluia — Tone 5 (p. 148)  
GOSPEL: Matthew 9:1-8  
Communion Hymn (p. 78)  
CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS

*Divine Liturgy Schedule*

<b>July 8...</b>	<b>Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</b> Mother of God School 10 a.m.
<b>July 15...</b>	<b>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Mother of God School 10 a.m.
<b>July 22...</b>	<b>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Mother of God School 10 a.m. <b>[Blessing of Vehicles]</b>

## Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered by Lou and Marie Shanks for the blessed repose of +David and +Eleanor Mueller. *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

■ **Today's Commemorations** — Today in the Byzantine Church is the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. On this date, July 1, the Byzantine Church commemorates Cosmas and Damian who were twin brothers born in Syria in the third century. They were also doctors, and they became known as "the holy moneyless ones" (unmercenaries) because they cared for the sick free of charge. The practice of accepting no money for medical care was their way of embodying God's providential love and care for his people.

The twin brothers were arrested during the persecution of Christians by Diocletian in A.D. 303. Soon after, the faithful brothers defied death by water, fire, and crucifixion before they were finally beheaded in Cilicia, along with their three brothers. They were buried in Cyrrhus, Syria.

Veneration to Cosmas and Damian began immediately. The faithful asked for their intercession, especially in matters of physical illness. In the sixth century, Pope Felix IV dedicated the basilica of Santi Cosma e Domiano at the Roman Forum, which was formerly a pagan temple. The basilica is a favorite of the faithful, especially for those seeking medical healing with the help of the intercession of the twin brothers.

SS. Cosmas and Damian are patrons of physicians, surgeons, pharmacists, barbers and twins.

## 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](http://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

- Jeff Sesok
- Ron Pytel.
- Lou Shanks.
- Rosemary Chisarick.
- Doris and Rich Fejka.
- Raymond Klimkosky.

### OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Yazmine Nickerson.
- 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 and Doris Kreger.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot
- Patricia Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

### SPECIAL INTENTION

- Elizabeth Basarab.
- Sally Pekarik.
- Fr. Conan Timoney.
- Fr. Lee Gross.
- Deacon Peter Turko.



## 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

■ **Mirovanije** – In commemoration of the Feast of the Prime Apostles Peter and Paul this past Friday, there will be anointing (*mirovanije*) and distribution of blessed bread at the close of today's Divine Liturgy. All are welcome to receive anointing and blessed bread. *Christ is among us! He is and shall be!*

■ **Why Peter AND Paul?** – On June 29, we celebrated the Feast the Prime Apostles Peter and Paul. So important is this celebration in the Byzantine Catholic and Orthodox Churches that it is marked by a preparatory fasting period – called the Apostles Fast – beginning on the Monday after the Sunday of all Saints and lasting until the eve of the feast.

One may ask why these two apostles are celebrated on the same day. Peter was one of the Twelve, whereas Paul was not. From the biblical evidence that we have we know that Peter's ministerial outlook was very different from Paul's. At the council of Jerusalem (A.D. 48), great problems had arisen in the Church from a large influx of Gentile converts, and these saints had different opinions as to how they should be received. Yet we find that not only are they celebrated on the same day, but even icons portray these two major apostles embracing each other.

Historically, the reason the Church combined the feast day of the two apostles into one was that they were both martyred in Rome on the same day. There is a very ancient tradition that claims that they were both executed during Nero's persecution, approximately A.D. 68. For this reason, probably from the fourth century onwards, the Church in Rome came to celebrate their feast day on June 29. Theologically speaking, the reason why the feast day of these two apostles was combined into one was to

show that even though their ministerial vision was not the same, both were necessary, and even complemented each other. Although the Apostle Paul was not one of the Twelve, he would claim that his ministry was considered equal if not superior to those ministers who had been appointed by Christ because he had suffered so much for Christ.

During their lifetime, these two great apostles of our Church disagreed greatly as to how to receive new members into the newly established Christian faith. St. Paul is said to have rebuked St Peter for duplicity in this matter. In Galatians 2.11, St. Paul tells us of a disagreement he had with St. Peter: "when Peter came to Antioch, I withstood him in the face because he was to be blamed." Peter believed that new members firstly had to fulfill the requirements of the Jewish law by being circumcised before they could become Christians whereas Paul was totally opposed to this.

What we can learn from this is that when the Church is ruled by the Holy Spirit, tensions of this kind can be overcome.

■ **Day of Penance** – As each Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord, each Friday is a commemoration of Holy and Great Friday and is observed with penance. One may abstain from meat or instead offer prayer of charitable works.

■ **Uniontown 'Otpust'** – The 84th Annual Pilgrimage (*otputst*) in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be held September 1 & 2. This year's theme will be "Mary, Hope of All Generations."

Throughout the centuries, Mary has been an icon of great hope to all generations, espe-

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