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ing 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.

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!*

<i>Divine Liturgy Schedule</i>	
<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>
<b>July 29...</b>	<b>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Mother of God School 10 a.m.

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.

■ **Theosis in Action** — The Eparchy of Passaic has begun a new Young Adult ministry titled "Theosis in Action." The mission of this new ministry is "to serve Byzantine Catholic young adults from the Eparchy of Passaic and beyond as well as inquirers of goodwill by providing them with resources to grow in their faith and opportunities for fellowship as they navigate through adulthood."

Through social media and in-person events, Theosis in Action will help young adults spread the light of Christ in this secular world, inspiring this generation to learn about, defend, and proclaim their faith. The Facebook page is: [www.facebook.com/theosisinaction](http://www.facebook.com/theosisinaction).

The organization is headed by two young adults within the eparchy, both of whom are the children of deacons serving in our eparchy.

*Liturgy Propers*

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**St. Procopius, Great-Martyr**  
**July 8, 2018**

**Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**  
Troparion — Tone 6 (p. 152)  
Kontakion — Tone 6 (p. 152)  
Prokiemenon — Tone 6 (p. 153)

**EPISTLE: Romans 15:1-7**  
Alleluia — Tone 6 (p. 153)

**GOSPEL: Matthew 9:27-35**  
Communion Hymn (p. 78)

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

## Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered for the good intentions of the members of our Mission Community. *Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!*

■ **Today's Commemorations** — Today in the Byzantine Church is the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost. On this date, July 8, the Byzantine Church commemorates St. Procopius, who was born in Jerusalem of a Christian father and pagan mother. At first, his name was Neanias.

Following his father's death, the mother raised her son completely in the spirit of Roman idolatry. When Neanias matured, Emperor Diocletian took a liking to him and brought him to his palace for military service. When this nefarious emperor began to persecute Christians, he ordered Neanias to go to Alexandria with a garrison of soldiers to exterminate the Christians. But, on the road, something happened to Neanias similar to that which happened to Saul [Paul] on the road to Damascus.

Instead of going against the Christians he, with his soldiers, turned against the Agarians who were attacking Jerusalem. He entered Jerusalem as a victor and declared to his mother that he is a Christian. Being brought before the court, Neanias removed his commander's belt and sword and tossed them before the judge thereby showing that he is only a soldier of Christ. After great tortures he was cast into prison where the Lord Christ, again, appeared to him, baptized him, and gave him the name Procopius.

One day, 12 women appeared before his prison window and said to him: "We too are the servants of Christ." Accused of this they were thrown into the same prison where St. Procopius taught them the Faith and particularly about how they would receive

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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](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."*

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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the martyr's wreath. For that reason, in the marriage ritual of the betrothed, St. Procopius is mentioned. After this, the 12 women were brutally tortured. Witnessing their suffering and bravery, the mother of Procopius also believed in Christ and all 13 women were slain.

When St. Procopius was led to the scaffold, he raised his hands toward the east and prayed to God for all the poor and misfortunate, orphans and widows, and especially for the Holy Church that it may grow and spread and that orthodoxy shine to the end of time. And to Procopius there was a reply from heaven that his prayers were heard, after which he joyfully laid his head under the sword and was crowned with the glorious wreath of immortality on July 8, A.D. 303.

■ **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.

■ **Blessing of Vehicles** — Wheeled vehicles (cars, trucks, bicycles, etc.) will be blessed next Sunday, July 22, following Divine Liturgy in commemoration of the Feast of St. Elias, which falls annually on July 20.

Elias was a prophet of the Old Testament who lived in the ninth century before the Coming of Jesus Christ. The Troparion of his feast calls him "a pillar of prophets, and the "second Forerunner of the coming of Christ."

Because, as Scripture tells us, he was taken to heaven in a fiery chariot, the Jewish people felt that he did not die as mortals do and that some day he would return to earth to "restore

the tribes of Israel" (Ecclus. 48:10).

Icons depicting Elias usually show him in a chariot drawn by fiery horses heading heavenward and his cloak or mantle falling earthward into the outstretched arms of Elisha his companion and disciple, signifying the transfer of his power and authority of a prophet. To learn about Elias and the miraculous events that surrounded him, read *Kings I* and *Kings II*

■ **Uniontown 'Otpust'** — The 84th Annual Pilgrimage (*otrust*) 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, especially 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 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



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